

**TRA's**  
**No Name**

# GAZETTE

**For Northrop Grumman & TRW Legacy Retirees**

VOL. XXXV NO. 6

Our 35th Year

November/December 2023

## Please Check Your Membership Status

Please check your membership status by looking at the mailing label on this issue and checking the "Paid Thru" year. If it says 2023, then your membership will expire next year. Consider getting a jump on the year by renewing your TRA membership today.

**TRA membership is a real bargain at just \$10.00 per year.** The No Name Gazette newsletter provides you with happenings at Northrop Grumman, the Mail Pouch, special articles with information about our members, and sign-ups for and articles on special events for our members. We publish the newsletter six times a year. You will also receive a Member Directory, with listings of all our members. Your dues also support the operation of our web site with its articles, news, and member forums.

We plan to have a full slate of activities and events in 2024, so be sure to not miss out.

You have two choices on how to renew: on-line or by mail. To renew on-line, go to our web site, [www.tra-spacepark.org](http://www.tra-spacepark.org), and follow the prompts. We process your renewal dues securely through Paypal. You do not need a Paypal account - you can pay your dues on-line with a credit card.

To renew by mail, please cut out or copy the form below, fill out the requested information, and mail to TRA with your check.

Finally, renewals for more than one year are welcome because they reduce our in-house paper shuffle. So, consider renewing for four years to save time and stamps.

**Please include a note for the Mail Pouch about what you are doing.** And don't forget to spread the word about TRA to new retirees and encourage them to join. Thank you for your support!

### HAPPENINGS AT NORTHROP GRUMMAN

#### Northrop Grumman Selected to Deliver Nearly 40 More Data Transport Satellites for Space Development Agency's Next Generation Low-Earth Orbit Constellation of Connectivity

The Space Development Agency (SDA) awarded Northrop Grumman an agreement with a total potential value of approximately \$732 million to design and build 38 data transport satellites. These satellites will support Tranche 2 Transport Layer - Alpha (T2TL-Alpha), the latest iteration of SDA low-Earth orbit Proliferated Warfighter Space Architecture (PWSA).

This Alpha announcement follows an August 2023 award to Northrop Grumman of 36 satellites as part of Tranche 2 Transport Layer - Beta (T2TL-Beta); Alpha and Beta satellites are designed to inter-operate on orbit.

This contract includes supporting ground elements and five years of operations and sustainment with the satellites scheduled to launch starting December 2026.

Northrop Grumman was previously awarded a contract for Tranche 1 Transport Layer 1 (T1TL), which similarly provide low latency, high volume data transport supporting U.S. military missions around the world.

*Happenings - to Page 5*

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  Check if new address

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership No. (from mailing label): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  Check if new address

Annual dues are \$10 per year. I would like to renew for:

\$10 for one year  \$20 for two years  \$30 for three years  \$40 for four years

Mail with a check payable to "TRA" to the following address: TRA, P.O. Box 1276, Redondo Beach, CA 90278

**And, please, include a note for the Mail Pouch about yourself, your family, and your doings!**

## TRA for Northrop Grumman Retirees

The Retirees Association (TRA) welcomes the retirees and the spouses of retirees of Northrop Grumman and TRW.

### 2023 Officers

Dena Bouskos	President
Mary Ann Chory	Vice President
Janis MacRae	Secretary
Joyce Komatsu	Treasurer

### 2023 Directors-at-Large

Charles Clendening, Marcy Morrison,  
Michael Narigon, Jim Nelson, Pam Overton, Carol Schamp,  
Steve Smith, Stephanie Sundius, Jack Trost

**Email Coordinator:** Jim Nelson

**Membership/Facebook Coordinator:** Stephanie Sundius

**Website Coordinator:** Steve Smith

The No Name Gazette is the official publication of TRA. It is published six times a year.

### Publication Staff

**Editor:** Michael Narigon

**Contributor:** Bob Marohn, Pam Overton, Carol Schamp

**Copy Editors:** Kim Lewis, Carol Schamp

## Contacting TRA

### By Email:

TRA@tra-spacepark.org - Your email questions will be routed to the appropriate source. Also, if we have your e-mail address, we can notify you of information of interest to our TRA members. Send us an email to get added to the TRA email list.

### By Web or on line:

Our website is at www.tra-spacepark.org. It is an excellent source for the latest news, lists of the new retirees, travel details, party photos (more than get into the NNG), forms of all sorts, personal photographs, and much more.

### By Mail:

TRA, P.O. Box 1276, Redondo Beach, CA 90278

### By Phone:

We are still having difficulty with our phone voice mail. If you need to phone, call 310-813-7745 during our office hours from 10AM to 2PM on Wednesdays.

### For Membership:

TRA Membership is open to Northrop Grumman and TRW-legacy retirees at \$10 per calendar year. The application is available on the website.

## TRW/NG Retirees Meetings Around the U.S.

E-mail or call the contact to make sure the event is occurring before you go. Changes from last issue are marked in **bold**.

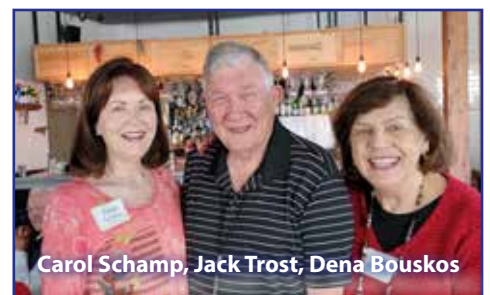
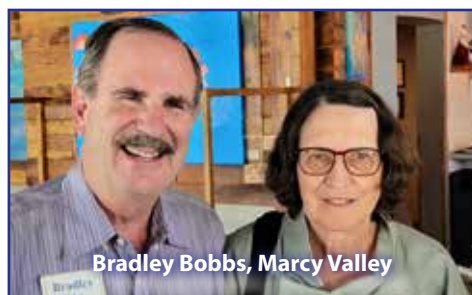
If you have a group that you would like to have listed here, please contact us by email at tra@tra-spacepark.org.

GROUP	MEETING LOCATION	DATE & TIME	OTHER INFO	CONTACT
TRA Board Meeting	Zoom	3rd Wednesday, 9:30 AM, Monthly except December	Decisions, planning and actions on archives, events, NNG, coordination with NG	All members welcome. Contact TRA to receive meeting link
ATD Friends & Colleagues	Lido di Manhattan, 1550 Rosecrans Ave, MB, CA	TBD November 2024, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Social, Nostalgia, Lunch	Jack Trost, Dena Bouskos, Cindy McCully 310-377-2194 cschamp@aol.com
Beach Cities Get-together	Grunions Restaurant, 1501 N Sepulveda Blvd, MB, CA	Last Monday, Even months, 11 AM to 2 PM	Social	Allen Parker 310-780-0712 777allendsp@gmail.com
Central Coast Chapter	Various Locations in the Central Coast Area	Various days: contact Zaiser for details	Social	George Zaiser 805-473-2105 gzais34@icloud.com
Controls Systems (& Friends) Breakfast	Mimi's Cafe, 25343 Crenshaw Blvd, Torrance, CA	1st Wednesday, 8:50AM	Social	Michael Narigon 424-200-2971 mnarigon@gmail.com
Houston Chapter	Baybrook Denny's, 19212 Gulf Fwy, Friendswood, TX	3rd Tuesday, 8:30 AM	Social	Gary Dinsmore 281-461-6270 samngary@att.net
<b>Huntsville Chapter</b>	<b>Various Locations</b>	<b>2nd Tuesday, 11:30 AM</b>	<b>Lunch and Social</b>	<b>Jim Troy 850-797-0044 jtroy28x@gmail.com</b>
Northern Virginia	Zoom	2nd Friday, 11:30AM	Social	Jim Miller 703-483-5448 jmiller158@gmail.com
Utah	Layton Cracker Barrel	1st Thursday, 8:30 AM	Breakfast Social	Charles Vono 801-745-5879 charlesvono@comcast.net
Temecula Valley	Various Locations	2nd Wednesday, 11:30 AM	Social	Sue Marbut 951-723-1157 dnsmar@verizon.net
The Mountain Folks	On hold due to Covid-19		"We do have fun!"	Carl Winkelman 303-693-0034 winkelman@att.net
TRIN	Zoom	2nd Thursday, 1:00 PM	Investment info based on monthly newsletter reviews	Bob Eshbaugh 310-376-5880 eshonnet@yahoo.com



# ATD Friends and Colleagues Luncheon, November 7th, 2023

The annual ATD Friends and Colleagues luncheon met at the Lido Di Manhattan Restaurant in Manhattan Beach. These photos are by Carol Schamp. To see all of her photos got to [www.tra-spacepark.org](http://www.tra-spacepark.org).





## TRW's Jerry Elverum and Bob Van Vooren Honored by U.S. Space Force

by Bob Marohn

The U.S. Space Force Space Systems Command honored TRW's Jerry Elverum and Bob Van Vooren for their contributions to military space at a ceremony held at Los Angeles Air Force Base (LAAFB) on September 7th. They were recognized and honored as Air and Space Force pioneers for their contributions to military space. Presiding over the ceremony was Lt. General Michael Guetlein, Space Systems Command Commander.



*Lt. General Guetlein Addressing Honorees and Supporters*

Elverum was selected for his invention of the deep-throttling pintle rocket engine design first used in the Apollo Lunar Module Descent Engine.

SpaceX adapted that design for their Merlin rocket engines used in the SpaceX Falcon rocket that has revolutionized the launch vehicle industry. SpaceX dramatically lowered launch costs and is a driver for other launch vehicle manufacturers to develop competitive low-cost systems. Lower launch costs are enabling the Space Force to implement space system military strategies that would not have otherwise been possible.



*Lt. General Guetlein and Jerry Elverum by Wall Of Honor*

Van Vooren was selected for his invention of zero-momentum satellite attitude control systems that enabled the Vela Phase-2 Satellites to plug a gap in the Nation's ability to fully monitor space and the atmosphere for Soviet nuclear tests. The Vela system ensured compliance with the Cold-War-era Nuclear Test Ban Treaty.

His attitude control system design was later a key element of the Defense Support Program, which monitors the Earth for strategic intercontinental and tactical theater missile launches.



*Van Vooren's sons by his picture that will be permanently displayed at LAAFB*



*Elverum Family By Wall*

Elverum was accompanied by family members. Van Vooren, having passed away shortly before his selection, was represented by his two sons. Bob was informed of his nomination before he passed away and expressed great pleasure just to know he had been nominated.

In addition to Space Systems Command, the Schriever Wall of Honor is also sponsored by the Air & Space Forces Association Schriever Chapter 147 Los Angeles. It is located in the Space Complex courtyard between the buildings at LAAFB in El Segundo.

General Bernard A. Schriever is generally accepted as the father of military space - including strategic missiles, satellites and launch vehicles. TRW and Aerojet pioneers preceding Elverum's and Van Vooren's selection for the Wall Of Honor include Dr. Simon Ramo, Dr. Ruben Mettler, Dr. John Jamieson, Dr. Richard DeLauer, Dr. Adolf Thiel and Ms. Edna Sugihara.



*Schriever Wall of Honor At LAAFB Space Complex*

### Benefit Contacts for Retirees

The Northrop Grumman Benefit Center (NGBC) is where you can report a change of address, report a death, or apply for a pension. See the "myRetirement" menu item on the NGBC home page for retiree services.

**Northrop Grumman Benefits Center (NGBC)**  
 www.benefits.northropgrumman.com  
 Phone: 800-894-4194

Fidelity administers pension payments and the Northrop Grumman savings plan.

**Fidelity NetBenefits**  
 www.netbenefits.com/northropgrumman

Via Benefits handles Medicare supplemental insurance and open enrollment.

**Via Benefits (a Tower Watson Company)**  
 www.viabenefits.com  
 Phone: 855-832-0976 (M-F 8AM-9PM Eastern)

A small number of TRW retirees receive their medical benefits through the Northrop Grumman Benefits *Service* Center. This center is staffed by Benefits Outsourcing Solutions, Inc. Their number is 800-410-6605.

Metlife administers your life insurance if, after you retired, you continued your coverage under the Northrop Grumman group plan.

If you were employed by TRW and retired before January 1, 2006, you may be eligible for an insurance benefit, payable on your death. Metlife also administers this benefit.

**Metlife**  
 www.metlife.com  
 Phone: 800-638-6420

*Happenings - from Page 1*

Northrop Grumman's approach to the PWSA contracts is to combine their satellite technology and mission experience with strategic commercial partnerships to move at the pace the military environment demands.

Blake Bullock, vice president, communication systems, Northrop Grumman, said: "Northrop Grumman, in partnership with our industry teammates, is fully committed to the Space Development Agency's vision of fielding a next-generation, low-Earth orbit architecture connecting and protecting our warfighters wherever they serve. Our Northrop Grumman team is bringing our deep Military SATCOM experience to this mission, and we're executing on our commitments."

Northrop Grumman provides both space vehicles and ground systems for the SDA PWSA, a next-generation constellation in low-Earth orbit. PWSA has two major lines of effort: The Transport Layer, which is designed to provide low-latency, high volume data connectivity supporting U.S. military missions around the world; and the Tracking Layer, which is designed to detect, track and ultimately target hypersonic and ballistic missiles.

Both layers are designed to inter-operate in space using a common data standard allowing satellites made by various manufacturers to communicate seamlessly with one another. Taken together, these satellites are designed to connect elements of an integrated sensing architecture, and the network they create will

### IN MEMORIAM

**Linda Alley**, 82, September 7, 2023. Linda worked at TRW for 35 years and made many great friends while excelling as an Administrative Assistant.

**Cassandra Basgall**, September 18, 2023.

**Paul Garcia**, September 3, 2023. Paul worked for TRW in the M3 plating shop for many years.

**Kenneth Goldman**, 92, June 10, 2023. In 1959 he joined TRW's Space Technology Laboratory where he spent 32 years working on satellites in thermal control and system engineering.

**E. Doyle Harris**, 89, May 7, 2023. Project Engineer, Systems Engineering.

**Robert M. Hession**, passed away in 2022.

**John A. Love**, January 27, 2023. John (and his wife Bobbie) retired from TRW in 1991 and lived out his retirement in Hawaii.

**Robert "Bob" Myer**, 90, September 2023.

**Robert Earl Mitchell**, 82, September 6, 2023. Bob retired from a 20-year career spanning TRW, Inc., beginning in its ESL division and continuing into the TRW Space & Defense sector, later acquired by Northrop Grumman Corporation. He held various Director and Division-level positions in Finance, Business, and Operational Administration, including F&B Director for Marv Stone in E&TD and Ed Nowacki in Programs.

**Clarence Eugene Peterson**, 96, August 25, 2023. At TRW Space & Defense, Clarence directed hardware manufacturing on satellite and spacecraft programs until he retired in 1992.

**Brian Rasmussen**, 59, September 15, 2023.

**Joseph Edward Stein**, 93, July 24, 2023. For more than 30 years (1959-1992) he worked as an aerospace engineer at TRW, enjoying a rewarding career working on satellite communications, including a year-long trip around the world.

**Charles Ulrich**, February 10, 2022.

**Jack Vedell**, 85, October 9, 2023. Throughout his career, Jack had diverse work experiences. In the aerospace industry, he had the opportunity to work with Convair, Salk Institute, and TRW/Northrop Grumman. He retired from Northrop Grumman in 2005. He was an avid golfer and a long-time member of the TRW Golf Club.

The first step in notifying Northrop Grumman of a retiree's death is to call the Northrop Grumman Benefits Center. If the deceased was a member of TRA, please notify TRA whether you want the NNG continued or you want to be removed from future mailings.

If you know of a person that should be included in the "In Memoriam" column, please inform us by either email or mail to the TRA office. As a minimum, we request the name of the deceased, date of death, and the name of the person submitting the information. If more information is available and desired, include age, position and years at NG/TRW, any notable programs, and special skills.

deliver persistent, secure connectivity, serving as a critical element for Joint All Domain Command Control.

To date, SDA has announced awards to Northrop Grumman for 132 satellites.

*Happenings - to Page 6*



**P.O. Box 1276  
Redondo Beach, CA 90278**

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**The next NNG will be  
mailed in January 2024!**

*Happenings - from Page 5*

## **Northrop Grumman Elects Robert Fleming Corporate Vice President and President, Space Systems**

Northrop Grumman announced that its board of directors has elected Robert Fleming corporate vice president and president, Space Systems sector, effective October 9, 2023. Fleming will succeed Tom Wilson, who has chosen to take a new role in the company for personal reasons.

“Rob brings proven leadership experience running complex businesses in the aerospace and defense industry,” said Kathy Warden, chair, chief executive officer and president, Northrop Grumman. “Building on Tom’s leadership in growing our space portfolio, I’m confident Rob will lead this team to continue innovating and delivering for our customers and shareholders.”

Fleming is currently vice president and general manager of the Strategic Space Systems division in the Space Systems sector. Previously, he led the Space Systems strategy and business development organization. In his nearly 18-year career with Northrop Grumman, he has led different businesses and functions in many of the company’s sectors. He began his career as an aerospace systems engineer.

He holds a bachelor’s and a doctorate degree in electrical engineering from the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa, is a graduate of the Harvard Business School General Management Program and holds a Master of Business Administration from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. Fleming also serves in the U.S. Navy Reserve.

## **Space Force Planning \$8 Billion Satellite Architecture for Nuclear Command and Control**

The Space Force is gearing up for a major procurement of strategic communications satellites that provide nuclear-survivable communications for the U.S. military and national command authorities. The Space Systems Command expects to issue a request for proposals in early 2024 for the Evolved Strategic Satellite Communications System (ESS) constellation.

The ESS satellites are intended to augment and eventually replace the Advanced Extremely High Frequency (AEHF) network of nuclear-hardened satellites made by Lockheed Martin, with payloads supplied by Northrop Grumman.

Boeing and Northrop Grumman were selected in 2020 to build ESS satellite prototypes, which are still in development and will be evaluated in a side-by-side competition.

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## **New TRA Members**

Chris Miller	Manhattan Beach, CA
Dale Mircheff	Torrance, CA
Peggy Nelson	Timnath, CO
Kirk Olsen	Rancho Mirage, CA
Sheri Ulrich	Newberg, OR

We hope these new members will send a note to us at [mailpouch@tra-spacepark.org](mailto:mailpouch@tra-spacepark.org) telling us a little about themselves and where they worked at Northrop Grumman/TRW.