

VOL. XXXVII NO. 1 Renewal

Our 37th Year

January/February 2025

# **Please Renew Your Membership**

This is a reminder that your membership has expired. If you have already sent in your renewal, thank you and don't worry. We will get your membership information updated for the next news-letter.

**TRA membership is a real bargain at just \$10.00 per year.** Your membership is a way to reconnect with your former co-workers. 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. Your dues also support the operation of our web site with its articles, news, and member forums. We also plan to print a new membership directory this summer.

You have two choices on how to renew: online or by mail. To renew online, go to our web site, **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 online with a credit card using the PayPal guest account option.

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. New members receive two years of membership for their first year's dues payment. Thank you for your support!

## 2024 TRA Expenses

Here is how your dues were spent in 2024. The majority of TRA funds were used for printing and mailing the newsletter, directory, and renewal postcards. The balance of your dues goes toward hosting events and running the organization. This includes insurance, web software and administrative expenses.

Web Software 4%	Administration 6%
Liability Insurance 5% Events 7%	
	Newsletter & Directory 79%

Member Name:		
Street Address:		Check if new addres
City:	State:	Zip:
Membership No. (from mailing label):	Phone:	
E-mail Address:		Check if new addres
Annual dues are \$10 per year. I would like to renew for:		
□ \$10 for one year □ \$20 for two years □ \$30 for	or three years 🛛 🔲 \$40 for four y	vears
Mail with a check payable to "TRA" to the following add	lress: TRA, P.O. Box 1276, Redon	do Beach, CA 90278



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# **Thank You for Being a Member**

Thank you for having your membership paid up for 2025. You can always check your membership status by looking at your mailing label and checking the "Paid Thru" year. Being paid up saves us from having to remind you to renew your membership.

Also, please send a note to the Mail Pouch (e-mail: **mailpouch@ tra-spacepark.org**) about what you are doing. And don't forget to spread the word about TRA to new retirees and encourage them to join. New members receive two years of membership for their first year's dues payment. Thank you for your support!

## Free Concerts with 65-Piece Professional Orchestra

by Carol Schamp

For 57 years the Peninsula Symphony Association has been providing completely free, outstanding classical music concerts to the entire South Bay community. No reservations are required, seating is open and parking is free. The concerts are held at the Redondo Union High School Auditorium on Pacific Coast Highway, 631 Vincent St. It has excellent acoustics, comfortable seats and ramps/wheelchair access. If you Uber, be sure the driver drops you off at the west (PCH) end of the RUHS campus, between Vincent St. on the south and Diamond St. on the north.

The next concert will be "Tchaikovsky and More..." on Sunday, February 16th, 2025, at 5:00pm, with one intermission, ending approximately at 7 pm. Other concerts this season:

- Sunday, March 2nd, 1:30pm. Young Artist Competition Finals.

- Sunday, April 27th, 5:00pm. Mozart, Salieri and Hummel. Trumpet Soloist

- Sunday, June 22nd, 5:00pm. Music of the Spheres (John Williams, Haydn, etc.)

The Peninsula Symphony Music Director and Conductor is the talented David Cubek, a student of the Venezuelan Il Systema music program, of which Gustavo Dudamel, leader of the LA Philharmonic Orchestra, was a student. Maestro Cubek is also the Orchestra and Choir Director at the Claremont Colleges.

If you need more information: www.pensym.org, or call (310) 544-0320 or e-mail music.pensym@verizon.net. Enjoy!

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# Northrop Q3 Sales Up 2%; Record Backlog of \$85B Posted

Northrop Grumman generated \$10 billion in sales during the third quarter of 2024, up 2 percent from the same period last year, and posted \$11.7 billion in Q3 net awards with a record backlog of \$85 billion. Year-to-date sales rose 6 percent and Q3 net earnings totaled \$1 billion with a diluted earnings per share of \$7, up 13 percent from the prior-year period.

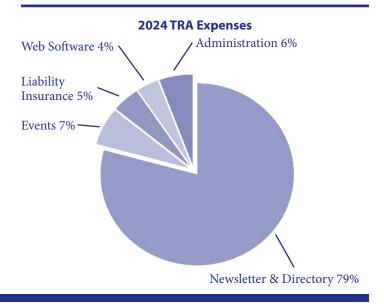
Space systems revenue for the quarter dropped 3 percent to approximately \$2.8 billion due to the winding down of work on the restricted space and Next Generation Interceptor programs.

Northrop reaffirmed its full-year 2024 sales guidance, forecasting revenue in the range of \$41 billion to \$41.4 billion.

The company raised the lower end of its 2024 segment operating income guidance and increased its mark-to-market-adjusted earnings per share by 75 cents to \$25.65 to \$26.05.

"Based on the strength of our year-to-date results and our positive outlook for the future, we are once again raising our 2024 guidance. Sales remain on target for 5% growth this year and the deliberate actions we are taking to improve margin rates have resulted in further expansion this quarter," Board Chair, President, and CEO of Northrop Grumman Kathy Warden said.

"As we look toward 2025, our outlook includes continued top line growth, margin rate expansion and greater than 20% free cash flow growth," added Warden.



## **TRA for Northrop Grumman Retirees**

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

#### 2025 Officers

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

#### 2025 Directors-at-Large Charles Clendening, Reggie Jue, Marcy Morrison, Jim Nelson, Pam Overton, Carol Schamp, Debra Simmons, Steve Smith

*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 Contributors: Pam Overton, Carol Schamp, Stephanie Sundius 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:

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:

If you need to phone, call 310-813-7745 to reach our voice mail. Our office hours are 10 AM to 2 PM on each non-board meeting Wednesday.

#### For Membership:

TRA Membership is open to Northrop Grumman and TRW-legacy retirees at \$10 per calendar year. New members receive two years membership for their first dues payment. 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	4 November 2025, 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
Huntsville Chapter	Various Locations	2nd Tuesday, 11:30 AM	Lunch and Social	Jim Troy 850-797-0044 jtroy28x@gmail.com
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	Judy Lebovitz 951-461-0065 judylebovitz@gmail.com
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

## Election Results for 2025 Officers and Board of Directors

Thanks to all of our members who took the time to vote. The 2025 Officers are Dena Bouskos, President; Jack Trost, Vice President; Janis MacRae, Secretary; and Joyce Komatsu, Treasurer.

Newly elected Directors-at-Large are Reggie Jue, Jim Nelson, and Pam Overton. Carry-over Directors-at-Large elected in 2024, who are on the second year of their term in 2025 are: Charles Clendening, Marcy Morrison, Carol Schamp, Debbie Simmons, and Steve Smith. Mary Ann Chory will serve as Immediate Past President.

Ballots were received from 12% of our members: 55% by mail and the remainder from online voting. We are always looking for volunteers to help run the organization. If interested, contact TRA.

### **Event Photographer Needed**

TRA is looking for a photographer to take photos during our member events. These photos get published in the NNG and on the TRA website for the interest of our members.

If you like photography, have a camera (even a phone camera), and can attend our events we want to talk to you. Please get in touch by contacting TRA.

## Hello 2025!

by 2025 TRA President Dena Bouskos



Another year is "in the books" and we begin a new chapter ... 2025. I hope your holidays were filled with family and friends. Many thanks to the hard working TRA Board members (especially Mary Ann Chory, 2024 President) and archives staff who volunteer their personal time to keep TRA and the archives running so well.

In this coming year we will be planning social gatherings at lunch time in the spring, summer and at holiday time. The No Name Gazette (NNG) will be arriving in your mailbox every other month with the latest news and happenings. Michael Narigon, the NNG editor, is always looking for articles of interest and our members want to hear what you're doing. Just drop us a line to tell us what keeps you busy. We are planning more Zoom events on a number of topics. Please tell us what topics you think would be interesting to you. You can contact the board by email: TRA@ tra-spacepark.org, with suggestions or questions for us.

I also hope you check our website: www.tra-spacepark.org for the latest happenings, and you can always join our Facebook group, which has over 3000 members.

One favor I would like to ask each of you, please help us recruit new members to TRA. Unfortunately we do not get a list of upcoming retirees from the company, so new retirees often do not know about TRA. They can join on our website.

Wishing you a healthy, happy, and bright year ahead!

## **New TRA Members**

Debbie Alamares LeRoy Bersley La Quinta, CA Carson, CA

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

## **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. Northrop Grumman has changed their benefits web site (now at northropgrumman.com/who-we-are/totalrewards-benefits) to make it unusable for retirees. So, contact the NGBC by phone.

#### Northrop Grumman Benefits Center (NGBC) 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 AT NORTHROP GRUMMAN

## NRO Hits Milestone with More Than 100 Satellites in Low Earth Orbit

The U.S. National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) has expanded its next-generation satellite constellation to more than 100 spacecraft, the agency said.

Early on December 17th, SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket successfully launched the latest mission, NROL-149, from Vandenberg Space Force Base in California. This marks the sixth deployment in the agency's new proliferated architecture program and its final launch for 2024.

The latest launch follows on the heels of NROL-126, which took off on November 30, demonstrating a rapid pace of deployment for the intelligence agency's ambitious space program. The NRO's proliferated architecture is made up of imaging satellites built by SpaceX and Northrop Grumman.

The NRO, responsible for developing and operating U.S. spy satellites, is moving away from traditional large, expensive satellites toward a more distributed network of smaller spacecraft.

## **TRA Holiday Party**,

We had a great crowd at the Embassy Suites in El Segundo for our Holiday Party. Photo



















Mary Alyce Elwell, Dena Bouskos, Mary Ann Chory

INNERSTER BOOMER



oan Looman



**Toni Crichton** 







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## **December 7, 2024**

s by Stephanie Sundius. To see all her photos of this event, visit www.tra-spacepark.org.



































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## TRA Holiday Party, December 7, 2024























Our December Controls Systems & Friends Breakfast. Front row, l-r: Bob Cash, John Wider, Carol Schamp, Fred Koehler. Back row, l-r: Tom Coffey, Michael Narigon, Debbie Simmons, George Reppucci, Bob King, Al Frew.

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#### Happenings - From Page 3

# Northrop Grumman's Missile-Warning Satellites for Next-Gen Polar Program Advance to Manufacturing

Northrop Grumman has been awarded a contract extension for Phase 2 of its Next-Generation Overhead Persistent Infrared Polar (NGP) program from the U.S. Space Force's Space Systems Command. The multi-year award supports space vehicle (SV) manufacturing, assembly, integration, testing, and launch of two NGP satellites. Both NGP SV will operate in Highly Elliptical Orbits (HEO) to detect and track ballistic and hypersonic missiles over the Northern Hemisphere.

The NGP Phase 2 award moves the program into manufacturing, assembly, integration and testing of the space vehicles and ground systems.

The award follows successful completion of the program's Ground Critical Design Review and Program Critical Integration Review this summer.

Using advanced infrared sensors, NGP will provide coverage of the North Polar region to address a wide range of missiles that adversaries continue to amass, test, field, and modernize. The fastest path for missile threats to the homeland is via routes in the Northern Hemisphere, and NGP will guarantee these threats will be detected and responded to.

James Flynn, program manager, NGP, Northrop Grumman: "Phase 2 confirms NGP is on schedule to deliver 24/7 resilient missile warning coverage of the Northern Hemisphere and highlights our commitment to preserve an important component of the space-based nuclear command, control and communications architecture. Our higher-resolution threat detection technology and unprecedented wideband communications will provide warfighters and combatant commands with more resilient space capabilities, and strengthens the nation's missile defense, technical intelligence, and battlespace awareness missions to counter emerging and advanced missile technologies."

NGP will succeed the legacy Space-Based Infrared System (SBIRS) HEO hosted payload program and will have the advanced capability needed to pinpoint targets anywhere in the Northern Hemisphere, offering protection in the most contested environments. Once a threat is detected, NGP's resilient communication system will transmit data to ground stations, allowing for faster and more informed decisions.

## Air Force Going 'Line by Line' to Bring Down Sentinel Nuclear Missile Costs

The U.S. Air Force "underestimated" the complexity of building a sprawling network of launch centers and other ground infrastructure for its next nuclear missile, which led to severe projected cost overruns, the service's acquisition chief said.

Most of the Air Force's and industry's attention was initially focused on the missile portion of the LGM-35A Sentinel intercontinental ballistic missile, and the program "really neglected the complexity of the ground infrastructure," Andrew Hunter, the Air Force's assistant secretary for acquisition, technology and logistics, said at the Defense News Conference in Arlington, Virginia.

The Air Force wants to replace its arsenal of roughly 450 aging Minuteman III nuclear missiles, which are nearing the end of life, with the Northrop Grumman-made Sentinel. But the projected future costs of Sentinel's infrastructure — which include building new launch control centers across the Plains region, refurbishing

### **IN MEMORIAM**

George Breshears, December 6, 2024. Otto S. Brock, November 30, 2024. Paul Ingerson, November 29, 2024.

Sarah Jane Nieman, 71, November 23, 2024. Sarah spent over 35 years at TRW/NG and was appreciated and respected by many friends and coworkers. She was a Senior Business Manager on several critical Defense Satellite Development programs at TRW.

**Victor Spector**, May 1, 2024. Victor joined TRW in 1972. He was an Attitude Control Systems engineer and Technical Fellow, co-authoring several technical papers and two patents.

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.

existing silos for the new missiles and replacing about 7,500 miles of copper cable connecting the facilities with modern fiber optics — have skyrocketed.

The Pentagon originally expected to spend \$77.7 billion on Sentinel, but the program is now likely to cost about \$160 billion if it stays on its current course. The projected cost overruns alarmed lawmakers and Pentagon officials and incurred a process known as a critical Nunn-McCurdy breach.

After a review announced in July, the military decided Sentinel was too important to cancel but must be restructured to bring those costs back down. But the Pentagon said even a "reasonably modified" version would still probably cost \$140.9 billion, or 81% more than the original estimate.

The Air Force is now going "line by line" through Sentinel's requirements to look for places to bring its costs down, Vice Chief of Staff General Jim Slife said, and the "exhaustive" process will take months.

"The undersecretary (Melissa Dalton), Mr. Hunter's team and I are deeply, deeply involved in looking at our requirements (and) making sure that we revalidate all the requirements," Slife said. The Air Force needs to "trace every single one of them back to either presidential guidance, or departmental guidance for things like safety, security, surety, survivability — all the things that you would want in a system that you're going to rely on to keep the nation safe," Slife said.

Finding places to cut costs is challenging, Slife said. Sentinel's top-level requirements — the big-picture blueprint of what it needs to do — were fairly straightforward, he said.

But the "derived requirements" that spell out how Sentinel will do its job "actually can become problematic," he said. Those can include spelling out how many facilities will be needed to carry out Sentinel's mission and how much concrete those facilities will need to build and how large a workforce they will require, Slife said.



The next NNG will be mailed in March.

PRSRT STD U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 234 Torrance, CA

**By** Pam Overton

# THE MAIL POUCH

**♦♦** From **Dave Vandervoet**. Since retiring in 2010, I keep busy maintaining the 3 vacation rental houses I have in Hanalei Bay, Kauai. You probably recognize the name Hanalei as it is mentioned in the Peter, Paul, and Mary song "Puff, the Magic Dragon." Puff is formed by the mountains at the edge of the bay. Hanalei Bay was scored the second best beach in the State of Hawaii by the Hawaii magazine. I have Post-Polio Syndrome from polio that I had in 1952 (before the vaccination) and my legs are slowly getting weaker. It is hard for me to imagine now that 40 years ago I ran marathons. I'm just hoping to outlast Milstar Flight 6. +++ From Mike Carl, LaQuinta, CA. I retired 10 years ago from NGAS, after working for TRW/NGAS for 53 years. I began work for TRW in 1961 after graduating from UCLA with my MBA degree. My work included being a Director of Business Management and supporting senior management. It was great working for NGAS and during my time there - "People were our most important asset." I hope this company still recognizes and supports how important employees are in ensuring that the company is still outstanding! **\*\*\*** From **Pat Roberts**, Henderson, NV. We are still here in Henderson, Nevada, loving our summers of swimming, golf for Mike in many months, and Pat still volunteering at the Clark County Museum. We still bake bread for fun! Our lemon tree produces hundreds of fruit to distribute all over our neighborhood during these early winter months! **\*\*\*** From **Jon Rowe**, Costa

Mesa, CA. At 75 years old and counting, I am still working fulltime in the electronics industry after retiring from a 30-year career at TRW in 2007. I returned to Space Park sporadically as an on-call contractor for 3 years, retired again for about a year, then jumped back into aerospace for 3 years as a contractor working at Parker Aerospace on the fly-by-wire flight control systems for the Airbus A220 passenger jet and Gulfstream G650 business jet. When my contract at Parker ended with a layoff, I spent some time collecting unemployment, looking (not very seriously) for work. I got a call for an interview at a professional audiovisual equipment manufacturer, Extron Electronics, and despite my best efforts to torpedo the interview, was hired. I am going on 8 years there. I keep thinking about hanging it up for good, but - darn it - the work is stimulating, interesting, and keeping me mentally sharp as I age. So, I keep putting off pulling the plug. Maybe 2025 will be the year, but don't hold your breath.

#### **Mail Pouch Items**

People always mention how much they love hearing from other retirees in the Mail Pouch. It is easy to send in a brief note about what you are up to. Contact us by e-mailing the Mail Pouch at **mailpouch@tra-spacepark.org** or by mail to Mail Pouch, P.O. Box 1276, Redondo Beach, CA 90278.