

**TRA's**  
No Name

# GAZETTE

**For Space Technology & Mission Systems Retirees**

VOL XIX, NO.3

April/May, 2007

## It's our Big Summer Annual Party— Saturday June 2

### HAPPENINGS AT NORTHROP GRUMMAN

Reported by Frank Warren

#### Information Technology Sector (NGIT)

- McLean, VA — NGIT has been awarded a task order with a \$267 million ceiling by the U.S. Army to develop Defense Knowledge (DKO) the largest portal task order ever awarded in the federal government. DKO is the single enterprise service portal, serving as the entry point for all U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) and authorized users to access DoD and government internets supporting operations, missions and critical support processes for forces worldwide.
- McLean, VA — NGIT has been awarded a task order to help maintain a secure and accessible information technology operating environment for the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD). With this contract, NG becomes a primary provider of systems and technologies, and IT infrastructure support services to the highly classified OSD operating environment.
- NGIT has been awarded a task order by the General Services Administration's Federal Systems Integration and Management Center (GSA FEDSIM) to reduce fraudulent enlistments in the military through the use of an electronic security program.

#### Electronic Systems Sector (NGES)

- Baltimore, MD — NGES has been awarded an \$874.6 million fixed-price contract from the United States Postal Service (USPS) to provide 100 Flats Sequencing Systems (FSS) designed to further automate the flats mail system which includes large envelopes, catalogs and magazines. Flat mail (packages) is a labor-intensive category to process and deliver due to variations in size and thickness.

*Continued on Page 5*

June is almost here, and with it comes our Annual Meeting and Reunion on Saturday, June 2, 2007. This year's speaker will be Dr. Bob Burnett, retired Executive Vice President of TRW. His topic will be *The Good Old Days; Systems Engineering, Then and Now*.

And there is more: meet old friends, have a fine lunch, and reminisce over photos from the past from the TRA Archives. As in the past, there will be the Art and Craft folks (see sign-up form on Page 4) and information tables from Northrop Grumman Benefits, TRA Travel Committee, Western Federal Credit Union, TRA Archives, and TRA Membership.

Members of TRA may bring a spouse or one other guest. As in the past, the meeting will be held at the S Building Forum and Patio Cafe, from 11 to 3. Meal tickets will be issued when you sign in at the door. No one will be served without a ticket.

Attendees unable to negotiate the stairs down to the patio level may use the elevator access through the East Entrance to the building if they bring a valid ID and identify that need on their reservation form.

It takes a lot of planning to provide all this, so PLEASE send in your reservation form now. You can either register by mail or by e-mail. Send e-mail reservations to [summer@trwretirees.org](mailto:summer@trwretirees.org) and provide name, full address, membership number (from mailing label), number attending, and elevator access info if needed.

Thanks, *Alice Lord, Activities Coordinator*

#### **Reservation Form — TRA's Annual Meeting**

Saturday, June 2, 2007 from 11 to 3 in the S Building Forum at Space Park

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

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Membership No. (from mailing label on back page): \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending: (limit 2 adults): \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I will need elevator access to the patio

Detach and mail to TRA, P.O. Box 1276, Redondo Beach, CA 90278

## TRA for Northrop Grumman Retirees

TRA (The Retirees Association) welcomes the retirees of both the Space Technology and the Mission Systems Sectors of Northrop Grumman, as well as the Heritage TRW retirees. The No Name Gazette is our official publication. Our offices are in Building E2 at Space Park

### 2007 OFFICERS

Darrell Ausherman ..... President  
Ira Green ..... Vice President  
Jack Williams ..... Treasurer  
Rose Marie A. Keidel ..... Secretary

### 2007 DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

Bob Beach  
Budd Cohen  
Bob Crowe  
Les Hromas  
George Lee  
Lee Leventhal  
Alice Lord  
Betty Stover

## Contacting TRA

### By Mail:

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

### By Phone:

310-813-7745 (Our office is staffed only a few days a week. Please leave a message and we will get back to you.)

### By E-mail:

[TRA@tra-spacepark.org](mailto:TRA@tra-spacepark.org) Your e-mails will be routed to the appropriate source. And, if we have your e-mail address on file, we send out special alerts at infrequent intervals. To get on the TRA e-mail list, just send us a brief e-mail requesting to be added to it.

### By Web Page:

Our web page is at [www.tra-spacepark.org](http://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. Come in and browse.

### For Membership:

TRA Membership is open to all NGST & NGMS retirees at \$7 per calendar year. First year free. Application on web page or call Betty Stover: 310- 370-0109

# TRW Retiree Meetings Around the U.S.

GROUP	MEETING LOCATION	TIME & DATE	OTHER INFO	CONTACT
TRA	Bldg. S Park Patio Cafe, Space Park	3rd Thurs. Monthly	Business Meeting 1:30 p.m. E2, Rm 1200.	No reservations needed. All Members Welcome
ATD	Alpine Village, Torrance, CA	November, 2007.	Social and Nostalgia	Don Brown, Sandy Friedfeld, Bob Traylor 310-541-1917 or sandjol@aol.com
Brevard Retards	Various Locations in Brevard, NC	1st Tues. 8 a.m. 3rd Tues. 5 p.m.	Social	Al & Daughn Connarn 828-554-4993 aconnard@yahoo.com
Central Coast Chapter	Various Locations in the Central Coast Area	2nd Monday Various times	Social	George Zaiser 805-929-6672 geohnip@aol.com
D.C.	Frederick MD		Sporting Events	Lew Schneider 301-984-0977 scribblew@verizon.net
Huntsville Chapter	Barnhill's Buffet University Drive, Huntsville	2nd Tuesday 11:30 a.m.	Social	Jim Troy 256-534-7136 troys@comcast.net
Las Vegas	Various Locations in Las Vegas Metro Area	Last Tuesday 11:30 a.m.	Social	Carol Noblet 702-889-6773 fiftysumthn@aol.com
Northern Virginia	Squire Rockwell Restaurant Fairfax, VA	3rd Friday 11:30 a.m.	Social	Bill Gehrke 703-759-0527 wgehrke@att.net
Ogden	Cracker Barrel Restaurant Layton, UT	1st Thursday Breakfast	Social	Fred Zeuthen 801-476-0656 fzeuthen@earthlink.net
San Bernardino	Norton AFB Golf Club	October	Social plus programs of interest	Joe Daruty 909-792-8022 jdaruty@aol.com
SE Chapter	Clarion Hotel KSC, Merritt Island, FL	April 22-25, 2007	Social/Tours	Robert Baris 803-648-3142 sailwithme@peoplepc.com
San Diego Chapter	Event Dependent	3rd Tuesday	Social or Board Meeting	Jim Denton 858-385-0150 JWDenton@sbcglobal.net
Temecula Valley	Various Locations in Area	Quarterly for Lunch	Social	Judy Lebovitz 951-461-0065 jlebo6720@aol.com
TRW Retirees of the Desert	Elmer's Steak House Indio, CA	Every Tuesday 1:00 p.m.	Social and Nostalgia trwdesertretirees.blogspot.com	Joe Clopton 760-342-8171 joeclopton@dc.rr.com
The Ventura County Romeos	Du-Pars Thousand Oaks, CA	1st Tuesday 12:00 noon	Social	Fred Blaich 805-499-0012 harrison_stroud@hotmail.com

# TRAVel News

## MESQUITE, ZION & BRYCE

May 6-10

\$492 dbl. \$597 sgl. 3 nts at deluxe Oasis (in Mesquite), 1 nt Best Western in Zion. 4 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 4 dinners including BBQ and hayride. See the fabulous show, "Twisting the Night Away." R/T deluxe motor coach. Ddl April 6. Betty Addis 310-379-6988

## PALA CASINO

May 16

\$15 pp. Includes R/T deluxe motor coach, driver's tip, snacks, water, and \$5 gambling card. Lunch buffet available. Deadline May 1, 2007 Sue Anderson, 310-371-5316

## PECHANGA RESORT & CASINO

June 15

\$4.00 pp. Includes R/T motor coach, driver tip, snack and water, and \$5.00 gambling card. Lunch buffet available. Ddl June 1. Betty Addis, 310-379-6988

## MAMMOTH LAKES, LAKE TAHOE & RENO

June 24-29

1 nt Mammoth Lakes Holiday Inn, 3 nts Silver Legacy (Reno). 1 nt Bishop. Cruise Lake Tahoe, Virginia & Truckee Railroad ride, tour Virginia City/Mammoth Lakes/Manzanar/Alabama Hills. Visit Donner Museum. 4 Breakfasts, 2 lunches and 2 dinners. R/T motor coach, baggage handling and driver tip. \$699 dbl. \$899 sgl. \$50 deposit to hold space. Refundable until May 8. Tom Tucknott, 310-530-4992

## MOZART'S MUSICAL CITIES

July 19-30

11 day tour of Salzburg, Vienna and Prague. 15 meals (9 Br and 6 D). \$3799 ppdo, \$4499 sgl. and includes R/T air (LAX), land tour and insurance. Extra nights available in Prague. Hy Chase, 310-274-1548, Echase2734@aol.com

July 2007

Dead Sea Scrolls (San Diego), Tom Tucknott, 310-530-4992

August 11-18, 2007

7 Day Three Rivers Cruise, \$2248.254; \$3523.25 with air. Jay Seidman 818-343-5171

September 10-23, 2007

Alaska Cruise/Tour-14 day, \$2244-3194, Jay Seidman, 818-343-5171

October 2007

Redwoods and Skunk Train Tom Tucknott, 310-530-4992

November 2007

Las Vegas Tom Tucknott, 310-530-4992

December 6-23, 2007

South America Sampler, Jay Seidman, 818-343-5171

We would appreciate it if you would contact the identified coordinator for more information and /or comments and/or suggestions.

**Smoking or alcoholic beverages are not permitted upon our buses.**

**The Travel Committee meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 11 a.m. in E2/1200.**

**Call Betty at 310-379-6988.**

## Important Contacts for Retirees

### Northrop Grumman Benefits Center

www.benefits.northropgrumman.com

Select "Retiree Connection"

Or by phone: 800-894-4194

Here you can get help on health benefits, pensions, savings, and report a death. It's all voice activated, so just listen to the instructions and answer the first few questions to get to a representative.

### Express Scripts (Rx)

www.express-scripts.com

1-800-655-1971

### Savings Account Line

800-676-7211

### Northrop Grumman Benefits Services(Space Park)

800-537-7694

One Space Park, S/2451  
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

## Medical Payment Vouchers to Continue Unchanged

In response to an inquiry by TRA, the Northrop Grumman Benefits Center has informed us that the medical payment voucher system will continue unchanged for the remainder of 2007.

For retirees that have their medical premiums deducted from their retirement annuity, vouchers are not needed. Others who took the retirement cash-out must send in monthly payments along with Northrop Grumman (NG) issued vouchers. NG said last year that in July 2007, they were going to implement a more advanced system so that retirees could auto-pay these premiums through their bank. At that time they issued vouchers for just January through June.

Now the Benefits Center has indicated that they hope to have the more flexible system available in 2008. They will be mailing the remaining six vouchers for 2007 (July through December) in May or June.

## 50 Years in Space

50 years ago The Ramo-Woodridge Corporation formed the Space Technology Laboratories (STL). STL became one of the country's premier space electronics companies, posting a number of technological "firsts." In recognition of Dr. Ramo's achievements at STL and throughout his career, the Space Foundation on April 11 presented him with its highest honor, the General James E. Hill Lifetime Space Achievement Award.

"We have been successful because we employ the best and brightest and then apply advanced technology and systems engineering expertise to solve the really complex technological problems for our customers, resulting in systems that deliver high performance and great value -- systems that live beyond their specified design goals," said Alexis Livanos, corporate vice president and president of Northrop Grumman Space Technology. "This has always been our trademark — our DNA — and it will continue to distinguish our company from the competition going forward."

The company kicked off its 50 Years in Space celebration in March with a ceremony featuring tributes to Dr. Ramo from Ronald D. Sugar, chairman and chief executive officer of Northrop Grumman; Livanos; and Dr. Jean-Lou Chameau, president of California Institute of Technology. As part of the observance, the street serving as the main entrance into Space Park was renamed Simon Ramo Blvd. in Dr. Ramo's honor.

Northrop Grumman's history in space is a litany of space and defense breakthroughs, beginning as NASA's first contractor, responsible for building and launching Pioneer 1. Since then, the company has delivered more than 200 satellites to government customers, establishing a solid reputation for performance.

Space milestones include:

- ✓ The first NASA spacecraft built by an industrial partner (Pioneer 1 1958)
- ✓ The first digital spacecraft telemetry system (for Explorer VI - 1959)
- ✓ The first three-axis controlled spacecraft (Orbital Geophysical Observatory 1964)
- ✓ The first global commercial communication satellite system (Intelsat III 1969)
- ✓ The Lunar Module Descent Engine, which landed the first astronauts on the moon (1969)
- ✓ The first close-up pictures of Jupiter (Pioneer 10 1973)
- ✓ The first close-up pictures of Saturn (Pioneer 11 1979)
- ✓ The first man-made object to leave the solar system (Pioneer 10 1983)
- ✓ The first Tracking and Data Relay Satellite, one of the largest and most complex communications satellites of its day. (See story on Page 5)
- ✓ The first Defense Support Program (DSP), which has now exceeded 22 satellites and 36 years of operation, demonstrating exceptional longevity — nearly four times the design life requirement.
- ✓ The first fully functional Very High Speed Integrated Circuit, a breakthrough in microelectronics technology (1983) and the first aerospace company to insert gallium arsenide chip technology into consumer wireless communication systems.

## IN MEMORIAM

### Retiree Name

Marolyn O. Dunlap

Alfred G. Liefke

William Sebastian

Wayne R. (Woody) Wood

### Date of Death

March 6, 2007

April 5, 2007

February 8, 2007

January 25, 2007

The first step in notifying Northrop Grumman of a retiree's death is to call the Benefits Service Center at 800-894-4194, Option 1. For many retirees, there is a Burial Benefit which will be paid to the beneficiary upon proper notification of death.

The above names were submitted by TRA members. If you know of a deceased retiree that should be included in the "In Memoriam" column in future NNGs, please submit the following by mail or e-mail to the TRA office: name of the deceased; date of death; and name of person submitting the information.

## 13th Art & Craft Show June 2

Show your fellow retirees your long hidden artistic talent. BR (Before Retirement) you were too busy earning a living; to follow your artistic pursuits, but look what you have accomplished since you retired. Come share it with us at the very popular Art & Craft Show, held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting on Saturday, June 2nd. This exhibition and sale provides a venue for TRA's talented to showcase their creations.

Easels and display tables will be available to satisfy display requirements. As usual, there will be no cost to the exhibitor.

If you plan to exhibit your work, please return the application form. Artist-Exhibitors must be paid-up TRA members or their spouses, and may exhibit only their own work. No third party exhibitions or sales, please. Once your application form is received, you will be contacted for information on your needs for display space or other special requirements. June is right around the corner so call Bob Rupkey at 310-515 2669 to make sure your space is reserved.

### Artist-Exhibitor Application

I would like to exhibit my work at the Art & Craft Exhibition in conjunction with the TRA Annual Meeting on June 2, 2007.

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

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership No. (From mailing label): \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach a brief description of the material you would like to display.

Detach and mail to TRA, PO Box 1276, Redondo Beach, CA 90278



### Si Ramo Honored

Northrop Grumman honored Si Ramo to initiate its *50 Years in Space Celebration*. (See story on Page 4.) L. to r., Si Ramo, Dr. Jean-Lou Chameau, president of California Institute of Technology, and Ronald D. Sugar, chairman and chief executive officer of Northrop Grumman;

## HAPPENINGS

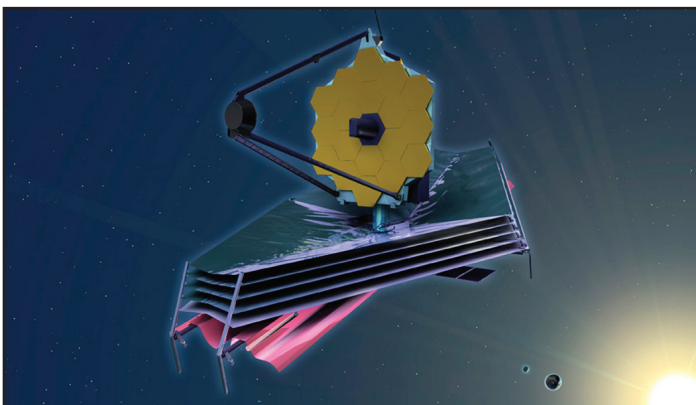
*Continued from Page 1*

### Integrated Systems Sector (NGIS)

- San Diego, CA — The U.S. Air Force has awarded NGIS a \$287 million for the next production lot (Lot 5) of RQ-4 Global Hawk unmanned aerial systems. The Global Hawk system can survey vast regions to bring real-time imagery intelligence to the warfighter in any weather, night or day.

### Space Technology Sector (NGST)

- Washington — NGST served as the 2007 Industry Partner to the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) for the 5th Annual U.S. Missile Defense Conference and Exhibition held during March 19-22 at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington



NGST's James Webb Space Telescope

## All Six TDRS Satellites Still Operating!

Six Space Technology communication satellites in the Tracking and Data Relay Satellite System (TDRSS) have set a new standard for long life and reliability, enhancing earth-to-space communications for nearly a quarter of a century.

Expected to collectively provide service for somewhere between 42 to 60 years, the constellation is approaching 102 years of operation without a single satellite being retired from service, based on the 10-year planned life of each satellite. Pioneered by the company's Space Technology sector, the six TDRSS satellites number among the 26 successful geosynchronous spacecraft built by TRW in the last 25 years, all of which are still operating.

The oldest satellite in the TDRS system has been in operation for nearly 24 years. It is still supporting missions, including one that was never envisioned for TDRSS. The satellite relays wideband data from National Science Foundation researchers at the South Pole to their headquarters in the United States. Against all odds, the satellite dramatically survived a nearly catastrophic launch vehicle failure that required several months of thrusting with one-pound thrust attitude control motors to reach the correct orbit. When it was launched in 1983, TDRS Flight 1 was the largest and most sophisticated communications satellite ever built.

A communication signal relay system, TDRSS transmits voice, television, and digital and analog data between users' satellites and control centers on Earth. The system is capable of transmitting and receiving data from customer satellites over their entire orbit, greatly enhancing the productivity of space assets. In total, the six TDRSS spacecraft have logged more than 37,000 mission days on orbit, delivering more than 800,000 hours of service.

In 2004, Space Technology and NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center received the prestigious National Space Club's Nelson P. Jackson Aerospace Award for the TDRSS program. The award is presented annually to recognize exceptional teamwork between government and industry in the missile, aircraft and space fields. The 2004 award marked the seventh time Space Technology has won and/or shared the Jackson Aerospace Award.

TRW designed, fabricated, tested and launched the original TDRSS spacecraft; performed ground and spacecraft systems integration; and provided the original ground terminal software. Goddard Space Flight Center's Mission Services Program Office is responsible for planning, development, and implementation of NASA's worldwide near-Earth space communications networks, including the management of the operations and development of the TDRSS and the rest of the Space Network. The ground station complex is located in White Sands, New Mexico.

The No Name Gazette is published six or seven times a year, and is the official publication of TRA. Al Hausrath, Editor, Bob Crowe, Frank Warren, Contributing Editors, Athena Christe, Karin Petersen and Lee Rathbone, Copy Editors.



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Redondo Beach, CA 90278

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**The next NNG will be  
published in June**

## **THE MAIL POUCH**

**Sorted and Delivered by Bob Crowe**

◆◆◆**Al Connarn** has published another issue of his TRA y' ALL CRIER, the TRA SE Chapter newsletter filled with great information on those who settled on the ridges and valleys in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North and South Carolina and Tennessee. Noteworthy fillers this issue include "time flies like an arrow and fruit flies like a banana" and "when you've seen one shopping centre you've seen a mall."◆◆◆**Bill Harrison** notes from Hemet, CA that he is still kicking although at 86 he admits to slowing down a bit. "After my wife passed away 10 years ago I still do my own housework and yard."◆◆◆Why renew your TRA membership? **H. Lucy Beeson** explains it from Bakersfield, CA along with \$21. "I enjoy reading about TRW/Northrop Grumman and all the people I once knew. I don't think there is anyone left that will remember who I am, but I think about you all often."◆◆◆**Charles Miller** writes from Sedona, AZ that he and his wife are still living in the same house they retired to in 1979. the population has doubled and the traffic has increased but "we'll probably stay here!" At almost 90 years of age, they have to hire work that needs doing but they have a rose garden that's the envy of the neighborhood and their Beagle Betsy won't let them forget when it's time to walk◆◆◆

Bob Crowe is recovering from vascular surgery. His full column should be back with the next issue of the NNG.

## **HELP FOR SENIORS**

When you discover a service or advice that might be helpful to our members, write it up and send it to us. Walter Sterling of Oceanside, California, continues with his second contribution:

### **California Department of Insurance**

I had an insurance problem with Celebrity Cruises and our insurance carrier CSA. The basic problem was that CSA was not going to pay for the Norovirus infection medical expenses incurred aboard the Celebrity Summit. Medicare does not usually cover medical services aboard international carriers. CSA wanted me to submit the medical bills to our secondary carrier and then depending on their reply resubmit it to CSA. This after a month of back and forth phone calls and letters. I decided to get some help from the California Department of Insurance located at 300 S. Spring St., Los Angeles, CA 90013 (213)897-8921

I sent a form letter with all the necessary information to the above address. Two days later the insurance Claims Adjuster called me and offered to send all the necessary forms and information to the proper carriers if I would just Fax a letter authorizing them to do this for me. What a relief this was to me.