VOL XVI, NO. 3 MAY/JUNE 2004

Annual Meeting Set for Saturday, June 5

NGST Team Enters Vehicle in DARPA Grand Challenge

And what a challenge it proved to be! The Grand Challenge from the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) was to develop a completely autonomous off-road vehicle to navigate by itself from Barstow, California to Primm, Nevada, a distance of 142 miles and 229,000 GPS points. These vehicles would need to 'hit" the GPS points along the way, while other sensors on board would help the unmanned vehicles to avoid obstacles. No human intervention would be allowed. The prize was to be \$1 million for the first vehicle to complete the journey in less than ten hours.

Fourteen vehicles were entered, from a huge Oshkosh truck to a motorcycle. The team from NGST had a custombuilt, off-road, six-wheeled vehicle. The pre-challenge favorite was a four-wheeler from Carnegie Mellon University, a world leader in robotics technology. Their vehicle, a modified military Humvee, left first, quickly traversed 7½ miles, became bogged down, and spun its tires until they caught on fire. Virginia Tech entered a modified golf cart. UC Berkeley used a motorcycle. Other schools represented were Cal Tech, University of Florida, University of Alaska, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, and Virginia Tech.

Continued on Page 7



NGST's entry into the DARPA challenge at rollout in the parking lot at Space Park

Summer is almost here, and with it comes our Annual Meeting and Reunion on Saturday, June 5, 2004. This year's management speaker will be Dr. John S. Foster, Jr. Dr. Foster retired from TRW as Vice President, Science & Technology, in 1988, and is currently a consultant to Northrop Grumman. 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 Arts and Crafts folks (see signup form on Page 6) 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 he 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 their TRW Retirees ID and identify that need on their reservation form.

But it takes a lot of planning to provide all this. So PLEASE send in your reservation form now. You can either mail it in or sign up on our web page at www.trwretirees.org. Please 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 5, 2004 from 11 to 3 in the S Building
Forum and Patio Cafe
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

The No Name Gazette is published seven times a year, and is the official publication of the TRA, with offices in Bldg. E2, Room B114.

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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@trwretirees.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.trwretirees.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.

Important Phone Numbers for Retirees

Medical Insurance

Aetna U.S. Healthcare 800-468-4522

Merck-Medco Rx Service 800-841-3398

Northrop Grumman (TRW) Retiree Relations Administrator One Space Park, S/1480 Redondo Beach, CA 90278 800-537-7694

Northrop Grumman Employee (and Reitree too) Benefits Services 800-859-4567 Menu Option 1 — Stock Savings Menu Option 2 — Medical

Mellon Trust Bank

For lost 1099's and/or lost or late Annuity Checks: 800-854-9349

TRW Retiree Meetings Around the U.S.

GROUP	MEETING LOCATION	TIME & DATE	PROGRAM	CONTACT
TRA	Bldg.S Park Patio Cafe, Space Park	See notice on Page 5.	Business Meeting followed by Forum (2:15 p.m.)	All Members Welcome
ATD Boys of '92	Alpine Village, Torrance, CA	First Monday in November	Social and Nostalgia	Don Brown, Sandy Friedfeld, Bob Traylor 310-541-1917 sandjol@aol.com
Brevard Retards	Various Locations in Brevard, NC	1st Tues. 8 a.m. 3rd Tues. 5 p.m.	Social	Al & Daughn Connarn 828-884-4993 fingers5555@hotmail.com
Central Coast Chapter	Various Locations in the Central Coast Area	2nd Monday 10 a.m.	Social	John Mason 805-771-9560 jmason@aol.com
D.C.	Frederick, MD		Sporting Events	Lew Schneider 301-984-0977 scribblew@starpower.net
Huntsville	Papa Lovetti's Buffet, Sparkman & University	2nd Tuesday 11:30 a.m.	Social	Jim Troy 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	Howard Setzer, 703-830-1358 hsetzer@cox.net
OFC	Various Restaurants in South Bay	2nd Thursday 11:30 a.m	Social	John Lipscomb 310-322-6811 jfl@pcmagic.net
Ogden	Cracker Barrel Restaurant Layton, UT	1st Thursday Breakfast	Social	Fred Zeuthen 801-476-0656 fzeuthen@earthlink.net
San Bernardino	Elks Club, San Bernardino		Social plus programs of interest	Elliot J. Livingston 909-793-5447
SE Chapter	Sarasota, FL	April 13-15, 2004	Social	Jack Wiles 321-255-1510
San Diego Chapter	Event Dependent	3rd Tuesday	Social or Board Mtg	Jim Denton 858-385-0150 jandc_denton@msn.com
Temecula Valley	Various Locations in Area	Quarterly for Lunch	Social	Judy Lebovitz 909-461-0065 jlebo6720@aol.com
TRW Retirees of the Desert	Elmer's Steak House Indio, CA	Every Tuesday 1:00 p.m.	Social and Nostalgia	Joe Clopton 760-342-8171 joeclopton@aol.com

= TRAvel News UPCOMING TRIPS AND EVENTS

YOSEMITE

June 13-16, 2004

A 4-day deluxe coach tour which includes 3 nights at the Chukchansi Resort Casino just outside of Yosemite Park. The Sugar Pine Railroad will take us through Yosemite Park to the Valley Floor Tour. Another day we'll go to historic Mariposa for a tour of Mother Lode Country. \$318.00 pp dbl, \$430.00 sgl. A \$50 deposit is required with the balance due by 5/10/04. A \$60 refund (\$30 gaming pkg & \$30 food credit) will be given by Chukchansi Resort. Tom Tucknott, 310-530-4992

UTAH EXPERIENCE + MESQUITE NV June 27-30, 2004

Three nights at Deluxe Oasis Resort & Casino, R/T deluxe coach, 3 breakfast buffets, 2 dinner buffets, Oasis Steak Fry & Hay Ride, Tuachan Theater in St. George (Guys & Dolls), visit to Zion National Park. ddl 5/24/04. \$258.00 pp dbl, \$303.00 pp sgl. Betty Kay Addis, 310-379-6988

BARONA VALLEY RANCH CASINO

July 14, 2004

R/T deluxe coach, Bingo, Slots, "21" and other table games, dining and food court available. Includes driver's tip, snacks and water. \$4.00 pp, ddl 7/1/04. Sue Anderson, 310-371-5316

NEW ENGLAND FALL FOLIAGE W/TAUCK October 6-16, 2004

This 10-day trip features relaxing multi-night stays in Boston, Coastal Maine, Quebec City, and Montreal. Begin with colonial New England and Maine's Acadia National Park, then discover Canada's charming, old-world cities & the spectacular Laurentian Mtns. The most comprehensive N/W vacation. \$2350 pp dbl, \$3150 pp sgl. \$400 deposit refundable until 5/30/04. Jay Seidman 818-343-5171

FIVE-DAY BRANSON ADVENTURE

October 15-19, 2004

Four-Star Radisson Hotel, breakfasts and dinners, R/T air, transfers and baggage handling. Shows include: Andy Williams, Glenn Campbell, Shoji Tabuchi, Yakov Schmirnoff, and Branson Belle Cruise. \$1299 pp dbl, \$1530 pp sgl. Jay Seidman 818-343-5171

October 2004

PONY EXPRESS: Jim Addis, 310-379-6988

PACHUNGA CASINO: Betty Kay Addis, 310-379-

6988

November 11

MAGIC CASTLE: Sue Anderson 310-371-5316

November 23, 2004

PALM SPRINGS FOLLIES: Buddy Greco Give Them What They Want! Betty Kay Addis, 310-379-6988

November 2004

LAS VEGAS: Tom Tucknott, 310-530-4992

SPECTACULAR BALI & BEYOND

March 6-14, 2005

Eight-day (6 night) tour of Bali visiting many out-of-the-way places. Excellent beach hotel with breakfast and all-day tour. \$1038 pp dbl. Optional tours to Lombok (4-day/3-night) at \$362.00 pp dbl, and Singapore (4-day/3-night) at \$205.00 pp dbl. My wife and I have led tours to these islands many times and you are in for a spectacular treat. (Hy Chase, 310-274-1548 (phone & fax), echase2734@aol.com

SMOKING IS NOT PERMITTED ON ANY OF OUR BUSES

Because it is unlawful to furnish alcoholic beverages to bus passengers, we serve only soft drinks.

The Travel Committee meets on the 2nd Thursday of every month at 1:00 p.m. in Bldg. E2/B114 . The meeting is open to everyone.

HAPPENINGS AT NORTHROP GRUMMAN

Reported by Andrew W. Bair<u>den</u>

NORTHROP GRUMMAN (NG)

➤ On March 17, NG dedicated its space gyroscope manufacturing facility to Dr. David D. Lynch, the "Father of the Hemispherical Resonator Gyro" This gyro, which utilizes changes in vibration patterns on a thin-walled glass shell to detect when it is moved, supports space missions extending to 15 years and beyond on space-craft applications including communications, earth sciences studies, and deep space exploration.

SPACE TECHNOLOGY (NGST)

- ➤ Goddard Space Flight Center and NG have been awarded the National Space Club's 2004 Nelson P. Jackson Aerospace Award for a system that has enhanced earth-to-space communications for more than 20 years. The Tracking and Data Relay Satellite System (TDRSS), built by NGST, is a communications signal relay system, transmitting voice, television, and digital and analog data between user satellites and their control centers on Earth. The system is capable of transmitting and receiving data from customer satellites over their entire orbit, compared to 15 percent previously provided by ground stations, greatly enhancing the productivity of space assets. When the first satellite was launched in 1983, it was the largest and most sophisticated communications satellite ever built.
- ➤ NGST successfully demonstrated electrical performance capabilities of the downlink phased array antenna for the Advanced Extreme High Frequency military satellite communications program, reaching a key company development milestone toward providing increased battlefield connectivity and protection for U.S. armed forces.
- ➤ Jananda I. Hill, a software engineer with Space Technology sector, has received the Black Engineer of the Year Award (BEYA) in the category of Most Promising Engineer of the Year. Hill, 30, is the seventh Northrop Grumman Space Technology employee to win a BEYA award. She is a senior member of the Ground Systems technical staff in NGST Production and Supply Chain organization.
- ➤ A 12-meter (40-foot) diameter AstroMesh furlable mesh reflector and boom support system, built by NGST's Astro Aerospace unit, was successfully deployed aboard the MBSAT satellite recently. AstroMesh reflectors provide large diameter antennas with accurate surfaces that result in enhanced ground performance in a lightweight package. Astro Aerospace is based in Carpinteria, CA.

MISSION SYSTEMS (NGMS)

- The Air Force has selected NG to build a national military command and control system for Bulgaria. Under the contract, Mission Systems sector will develop, integrate, test, install, and support the command and control system for the Bulgarian National Military Command Center and will train Bulgarian soldiers to use the system.
- ➤ NG has finalized a memorandum of understanding with the Romanian government to pursue a variety of defense and domestic activities. The memorandum allows NGMS to establish a collaborative relationship for exploring joint opportunities related to Romania's national defense, homeland security, and public administration.
- ➤ The U.S. Army, Europe, has awarded NGMS a contract to continue providing linguist support services in Europe. The 42-month contract has a total potential value of \$97 million. The contract's six-month base period is valued at \$9.5 million with three additional one-year options. Under this contract, referred to as Balkans linguist support, NGMS will recruit, screen, and train translators fluent in Serbo-Croatian, Albanian, Arabic, Bulgarian, Hungarian, Macedonian, Romanian, Russian, and Slovenian to serve as interpreters for commanding officials, military intelligence units, political advisors, military patrols, and police units.

10th Arts & Crafts Show June 5

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 Arts & Crafts Show, held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting on Saturday, June 5th. This exhibition and sale provides a venue for TRA's talented members 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 he 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 Arts and Crafts Exhibition in conjunction with the TRA Annual Meeting on June 5, 2004.

Name:				
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,				

Readout Ads

CA 90278

Way back, during those working years, we made use of the Readout to buy, sell, and rent. Later, with the establishment of an in-house network, the Readout became digital, and was not accessible from home computers. Some of us overcame this difficulty by using a cooperative employee to place our ads.

Now comes word that this contact is too busy to handle our advertising needs. Please do not call her. The TRA has been informed that the Readout is strictly for employees, and does not have the staff to handle items from retirees.

Upcoming TRA Meetings

May 20: TRA Board Meeting, no Forum Speaker

June 5: TRA Annual Meeting June 17 No TRA Board Meeting

July 15 TRA Board Meeting, and Forum Speaker. TRW Retiree Bill Dean will describe FIRST, a Robotics competition. See article on Page 6 for more

details.

Investment Group Meets Monthly

TRIN (An acronym for *TRW Retirees Investment Network*) invites all TRA members to their regular monthly meeting to be held in the Presentation Room in E2 at Space Park on April 30th. Speaker Dave Wright of Sierra Fund will give a view of how to select investments for our future. TRIN has been meeting for over 10 years on the last Friday of the month. It is hosted by LeRoy Herold and attended by retirees who wish to exchange views and learn more about investing. Contact LeRoy at Lmherold@aol.com to receive notices of the meetings.

IN MEMORIAM

NAME

Russell H. Baldwin
James P. Brown
Leo M. Finegold
Lowell M. Frazier
Christina J. Grubbs
Anthony Helbling Jr.
Carol Elise Jeffrey
Margaret Keaveny
John Maraggio
John Dugan O'Keefe
Setsuo A. Okumura
Evelyn V. Sala
Lawrence F. Schumaker
Edward B. Thornley
Wallace C. VanDeren

DATE OF DEATH January 07, 2004

July 1, 2003 November 25, 2003 December 1, 2003 December 16, 2003 October 13, 2003 October 20, 2003 February 14, 2004 October 30, 2003 January 18, 2004 October 14, 2003 December 3, 2003 November 07, 2003 January 12, 2004 November 09, 2003

The first step in notifying Northrop Grumman of a retiree's death is to call the Benefits Service Center at 800-859-4567. For many retirees, there is a life insurance policy which will be paid to the beneficiary upon proper notification of death.

Listed deaths are from official records.

JULY FORUM SERIES

See a Real Robot in Action

Cooperative Effort of Southern California Engineers and Students at CAMS Build "Basketball Playing" Robot

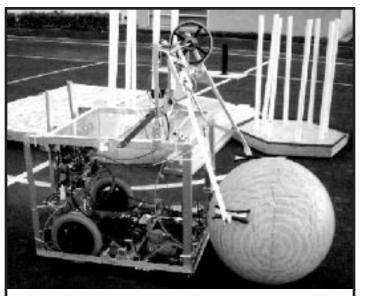
At our July 14 Forum meeting, TRW retiree Bill Dean will bring both the students and their robot for a demonstration and discussion of robotics. Their robot is designed for the FIRST Robotics competition, the brainchild of Dean Kamen, the inventor of the Segway Personal Transporter. FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) releases a new set of game rules each year, establishes a tight deadline, and distributes these to the over 900 teams world-wide.

CAMS (California Academy of Mathematics and Science) is a comprehensive public, four-year high school located on the campus of California State University, Dominguez Hills. The school's mission centers on increasing the nation's pool of college graduates in the fields of mathematics and science. Its students come from any of 11 Southern California school districts. In 2003, the Academy received over 930 applications for 167 openings.

TRA members Bill Dean and Bob Walquist were instrumental in the team's organization. The mentors and students work well together to solve the many engineering problems. By splitting up into sub-teams, the tasks are further defined. These sub-teams are strategy, drive, electronics, pneumatics, media, programming, and administrative, each headed by one of the CAMS students. The many mentors, like Bill and Bob, work with these sub-groups.

Their robot is designed to employ the greatest number of strategies possible. It is three wheeled, with the two larger wheels powered. By driving the power wheels in opposite directions, the robot can "turn on a dime." It weighs 114 pounds and is 30 inches wide by 36 long.

The 2004 Robotics Competition is called *First Frenzy*, *Raising the Bar*. It is played on a prescribed course 24 feet



The CAMS robot shown as it is about to "slam dunk" one of the large balls onto the basket in the background.

wide and 48 feet long, with two robots each for the two opposing teams. While for most of each competition, the robots are controlled by nimble fingered operators, the robots still must function autonomously for a brief but critical period. The robots must be able to herd small balls to a corral, lift large balls into a *basket*, and finally, to *chin* themselves on a bar!

Bill Dean will bring the CAMS robot to our Forum meeting on July 14, along with several students to demonstrate the operation of this machine. The meeting begins at 2 p.m, and will be held at the Bldg. S patio level. Come and see this intriguing robot, and learn about the many technical problems the team has had to overcome, the FIRST competitions, and the curriculum at the California Academy of Mathematics and Science.

Columbus Day Reunion in Long Beach

Have you ever wondered whatever happened to a co-worker you knew 25 years ago but has moved to another city, state, or country?

Are/were you a customer representative, subcontract/vendor employee, or consultant who would like to see someone that worked at STL/TRW/NG from yesteryear?

Are you a retiree that has lost touch with colleagues who still work at "The Company"? Are you a relative of a former employee and desire to get reacquainted with other former employees and their relatives?

Consider celebrating Columbus Day in Sunny Southern California. Few or many — this gathering will be enjoyed by all who attend. A no-host Picnic Reunion will be held at El Dorado Park, Long Beach. Mark your calendars for Sunday October 10, 2004. Please contact Mary Carr for details (ph 714-894-6618; e-mail Mary.Carr@ngc.com). If you desire to help plan this event your support will be most welcomed.

Note: Although TRA is not a sponsor nor in any way responsible for this event, we are publishing this notice as a service to our readers. As Mary Carr's planning progresses, the NNG will carry additional information on this event.

NGST Team Enters Vehicle in DARPA Grand Challenge

There were also many industrial teams, as well as heavy industry support to all the entrants.

All the vehicles were plagued with mechanical problems. Most became disabled soon after leaving the starting gate. A modified Acura SUV, entered by the a Palos Verdes High School team, hit a barrier immediately after starting.

The Northrop Grumman Space Technology (NGST) vehicle, named TerraHawk, was a custom built six-wheeler. As with any all-new vehicle, reliability of the thousands of parts proved to be a problem. The TerraHawk had pneumatic

Continued from Page 1

problems, and, although operable, was not operating at full capacity, and was withdrawn before the race. The Team Lead, Todd Mendenhall of NGST, concluded his post-race review with these remarks. "Data collected from the internet seems to indicate that our approach (although incomplete) was the right one. Even the teams with immense resources found that the weak link in their approach was the *off-the-shelf* vehicle. If DARPA reruns the race in 2006, we expect to be a major contender."



TerraHawk Team on Race DayL to r: Kevin Knoedler (Teradyne), Chris Franz (NGST), Don Lariviere (Honda), Jim Hart (NGST), Valerie Mendenhall (NGMS), Todd Mendenhall (NGST, Team Lead), Denny Gudea (NGST), Kurt Risic (former Honda employee), Joseph von Tersch (NGST)

MORE MAIL POUCH

at running. So far, three marathons, eight half-marathons and a "bunch" of 5 and 10K strolls. When not breathing too hard, Bob spends enjoyable time with his



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The next NNG will be published in early June.

THE MAIL POUCH — Sorted and Delivered by Bob Crowe

♦♦♦Let it be known that **Ralph H. Wessner** is still with TRA and still living in Hawthorne, CA 90250-7966 at 4097 W 142nd St. Apt. 223. And he pays his dues and gets the NNG but for some gremlinish reason his name was omitted in the 2003 Directory and even in the update included in the last NNG. And yes, he did talk to the TRA office answering machine that evidently turned a deaf ear. (See the latest directory changes in this NNG) ◆◆◆**George**

Forbes notes that he is still enjoying the good life in Monrovia, CA and proudly has two grandkids graduating from USC in June. He continues to climb the high points when traveling, with his latest pinnacle being Ben Nevis in the Scottish Highlands → → → Jim McCurry, still using TRW note paper, sends thanks from Rancho Palos Verdes for the dues reminder and asks to be remembered to Art Goldberg, Bob Douglass, Al Hausrath, and the Mail Sorter♦♦♦Lyle and Marjorie Nelson evidently have no fear of "mal de mer" at least they don't mention it in their latest cruise report from Torrance (along with three years' dues). During 2003, they added six cruises to their impressive seasick free travel total, which by the end of 2005 will number 63, totaling 799 days at sea! Lyle is NOT a travel agent but he offers free information on ocean ship or riverboat travel to TRA members. You can reach him, if at home, at 310-326-2598. His files contain current cruise brochures, reduced cost cruise ship offers, plus informative write-ups on what to expect on a cruise ship in the way of costs and activities → ◆ On historic note paper inscribed with "TRW Systems, Florida Operations Minuteman Office," **William T. Cross**, reports from Tupelo, MS 38801-6108 "I rolled the dice and a three came up. Hope I live that long to enjoy the news. \$21 enclosed" → ◆ What do retirees do? **Jerry Martinez** "hit the bricks" five years ago and since then has been the Head Golf Coach

at Laguna Beach High School in Laguna Beach, CA where he and **Laura** live. Now that daughter Andrea is starting college this year he has stored the clubs and is working for a local art gallery. Next? He and Laura expect to do a lot more traveling. If you need tips on golf or some artistic direction they can be reached at lowlam@aol.com*lowlam.new deermano,

class of '92, sends an upbeat note from Cerritos, CA along with two years, dues "plus a little something for doughnuts to go with the coffee. My friend, **Evy Paulson**, would prefer cookies." No traveling the past year for Eileen. She has been "confined to home base fighting the Big 'C'." • • In a nice "thank you" note plus his dues and more "doughnut" money, **S.G. "Bob" Hoshida** reports from Fountain Valley, CA that retirement is great. He is struggling with his golf game but excelling (Editor's words)