

VOL. XXII NO. 1

# **Dues Increase Projected for 2011** *Renew Now; Extend your Membership*

**\$7 Anual Memberships Still Available for those Who Act Now** 

# HAPPENINGS AT NORTHROP GRUMMAN



### Northrop Grumman Corp. (NG)

➤ WASHINGTON — NG has invited three of the nation's leading cybersecurity research institutions — Carnegie Mellon, Pittsburgh, PA; The Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA; and Purdue

Linivoncity

University, West Lafayette, IN — to join a Cybersecurity Research Consortium to advance research in this field and develop solutions to counter the complex cyber threats that face our economy, our freedoms of information, and our national security.

LOS ANGELES — NG has completed the sale of TASC, Inc., its advisory services business, for \$1.65B in cash to an investor group led by General Atlantic LLC and affiliates of Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. L.P.

LOS ANGELES, CA — NG announced that its Board of Directors plans to propose an amendment to the company's certificate of incorporation to give stockholders the right to call a special meeting. At present, only the

**Continued on Page 7** 

For the first 10 years, TRA membership dues were just \$5/ year. In 2000, annual dues were increased to \$7. Again, rising costs and a reduced subsidy from Northrop Grumman have put us in the red, and it is anticipated that the 2010 TRA Board will increase the annual dues, effective in 2011. While the exact amount of the 2011 dues has not been determined, \$10/year is not unlikely.

January 2010

Most of our members pay for multiple years of membership when they renew. In 2009, for instance, just 45% of our memberships expired. So that all our members can take advantage of this last chance to renew at the old rate of \$7/year, we have extended our January dues announcement to include all.

If your membership expired in 2009, your renewal fees are due now. If your membership now extends beyond 2009, here is a chance to extend it even further at the old rate. (You can check your dues status by reading the mailing label on the back page of the NNG.)

And 2010 is an important year for our membership because you will receive not only all the normal benefits of membership but also a new membership directory and a wonderful CD with a photo-history tracing TRW from its early beginnings to its acquisition by Northrop Grumman.

TRA membership is a real bargain. The NNG keeps you informed about news from Northrop Grumman and Space Systems; medical information updates; and the Mail Pouch. We hold three big activities each year, the Spring Fling, the Summer Annual Meeting, and the Holiday Party.

To renew or extend your membership, please submit the attached form with your check.

Members	ship Dues		
Name:	Annual dues are still just \$7.00/year. I would like to renew/extend my membership for:		
City: State:Zip	\$7 for 1 yr. \$14 for 2 yrs. \$21 for 3 yrs \$		
Phone: Email: Please print legibly	Please mail with your check to: TRA, P.O. Box 1276, Redondo Beach, CA 90278		
Membership No: From mailing label on back page	And, please, include a note for the Mail Pouch about yourself, your family, and your doings!		

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### TRA's NN **GAZETTE**

### **TRA for Northrop Grumman Retirees**

TRA (<u>The Retirees Association</u>) welcomes the retirees of Northrop Grumman and TRW. The No Name Gazette is our official publication. Our offices are in Building E2 at Space Park

#### 2009 OFFICERS

Bob Doll..... President Jack Trost...... Vice President Jack Williams .. Treasurer Ira Green...... Secretary Budd Cohen .... Immediate Past President

#### 2009 DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

Darrell Ausherman, Bob Beach, Al Hausrath, Les Hromas, Rose Marie Keidel, Lee Leventhal, Bob Rupkey, and Betty Stover

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

Staff: Al Hausrath, Editor. Frank Warren, Contributing Editor Tom Carroll, Kathy Hanken, Roger Harmon, Mary Holcomb, and Del Suarez, Photographers.

Lee Rathbone, and Karin Petersen, Copy Editors.

## Contacting TRA

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:

<u>TRA@tra-spacepark.org</u> 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 to TRA members 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 <u>www.tra-spacepark.org</u>. 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 Northrop Grumman and TRW legacy retirees at \$7 per calendar year. First year free. Application on web page or call 310-813-7745 and leave a message.

# **NG/TRW Retiree Meetings Around the U.S.**

GROUP	<b>MEETING LOCATION</b>	TIME & DATE	OTHER INFO	CONTACT
TRA	Bldg. S/1275b, Space Park	3rd Thurs. Monthly	Business Meeting 1:30 p.m.	No reservations needed. All Members Welcome
ATD	Alpine Village, Torrance, CA	11:40 a.m. 1st Monday in November	Social, Nostalgia and Lunch	Don Brown, Sandy Friedfeld, Bob Traylor 310-541-1917 or sandjol@aol.com
Brevard Retirees	Various Locations in Brevard, NC	1st Tues. 8 a.m. 3rd Tues. 5 p.m.	Social	Al & Daughn Connarn 828-884-4993 aconnarn@yahoo.com
Central Coast Chapter	Various Locations in the Central Coast Area	2nd Monday Various times	Social	George Zaiser 805-343-2631 gzais@msm.com
Huntsville Chapter	Call for Location (It's Complicated!)	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	JR's Stockyard Inn, McLean, 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	San Bernardino Golf Club		Social plus programs of interest	Joe Daruty 909-792-8022 jdaruty@aol.com
San Diego Chapter	Event Dependent	3rd Tuesday	Social or Board Meeting http://sandiego.tra-spacepark.org	Jim Denton 858-385-0150 JWDenton@sbcglobal.net
Temecula Valley	Crivello's Restaurant Wildomar, CA	Third Wednesday Lunch	Social	Maureen Locken 951-244-7654 maureen_locken@yahoo.com
The Mountain Folks	Various Locations in the Denver Area	First week of each quarter	"We do have fun!"	Carl Wikelman 303-693-0034 winkelman@att.net
TRIN	Community Room, WFCU Western Way, Torrance, CA	2nd Thursday 1:00 p.m.	Investment Info based on monthy newsletter reviews	Mike Pauls 310-379-2707 Imikep@earthlink.net
TRW Retirees of the Desert	Sloan'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

### TRA's NN GAZETTE

# HAPPENINGS

#### **Continued from Page 1**

Board of Directors or the Board's chairperson may call a special meeting. The company plans to submit its special meeting proposal to the stockholders at the 2010 annual meeting. A full description of the proposal will be contained in the company's 2010 proxy statement.

#### **Aerospace Systems Sector (NGAS)**

EL SEGUNDO, CA — An innovative method for joining composite structures implemented by NGAS has passed a series of intensive structural tests, paving the way for the use of composites in future spacecraft. In collaboration with the NASA Engineering and Safety Center Composite Crew Module team, NGAS developed a unique joint design that was used to mate two segments of NASA's Composite Crew Module (CCM) demonstrator. The joint design test results proved that the mating process retains compartment pressure and withstands external loads at twice the level normally experienced in flight. In addition, the new process provides mass and cost savings due to the elimination of mate joint fasteners, more efficient subsystems installation, and no requirement for an autoclave during mate. The CCM is a high fidelity technology demonstration article that represents the inner pressurized shell for the Orion crew module.

REDONDO BEACH, CA - NASA's James Webb Space Telescope reached some notable milestones in several important areas in 2009, making steady progress toward its expected 2014 launch date. The Observatory is being designed and developed by NGAS under contract to NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. The telescope capped its 2009 achievements with the first primary mirror segment meeting flight specifications at ambient temperatures, the result of a manufacturing process begun six years ago. The mirror segment was successfully polished to an accuracy of less than 20 nanometers, or smaller than a millionth of an inch. This ensures that when the mirror cools to cryogenic temperatures it changes its shape into the exact optical prescription needed. The test was completed within three days of the original schedule. The mirror segment is an engineering development unit that paves the way for the polishing and testing of the A1 flight mirror and the rest of the 18 segments, which will comprise the giant 6.5-meter (21.3 ft.) hexagonal mirror. After polishing, the segments will be sent to the X-ray and Cryogenic Facility at the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, AL, for verification.

BETHPAGE, NY — NG has named Mark W. Kenny vice president of Irregular Warfare Programs. Kenny will lead a team of professionals to provide the rapid fielding of advanced capabilities and integrated systems to the combat, intelli-

gence, and special mission environment. Kenny will report to Tom Vice, sector vice president and general manager of the company's Aerospace Systems Sector's Battle Management and Engagement Systems Division

### Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding (NGSB)

VIRGINIA BEACH, VA — NGSB subsidiary AMSEC LLC has been awarded a contract by the U.S. Navy for maintenance, repair, and modernization of submarines home-ported or transient through Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. AMSEC LLC was one of six contractors awarded a fiveyear indefinite-delivery, indefinite-quantity contract that has a combined value of \$140.4M to all contractors involved. Work will be performed at the company's Pearl Harbor location and is expected to be completed by December 2014. The maximum value for each submarine maintenance contract is \$23.4M. The Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility in Pearl Harbor is the contracting activity. AMSEC LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of NGSB, is a full-service provider of engineering, logistics, and technical support services to the U.S. Navy and maritime industry.

### Northrop Grumman Electronics Sector (NGES)

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA — NGES's Sperry Marine business unit has been awarded a follow-on contract to provide performance-based logistics (PBL) support for navigation and steering systems installed on U.S. Navy surface ships and submarines. The contract was awarded by Naval Inventory Control Point, Mechanicsburg, PA, exercising a three-year option on a previously awarded five-year PBL contract. The total value of the three-year contract is \$42M. The initial year award is valued at \$14.8M. Under the contract, Sperry Marine will provide material management, configuration management, and program management services, as well as technical support, spares, and repair parts for the WSN-7 series inertial navigation systems, AN/BPS-15 and AN/BPS-16 submarine radar systems, scalable integrated bridge systems on combatant ships, and select steering gear material support on the Arleigh Burke DDG-51 class destroyers.

➤ WOODLAND HILLS, CA — NGES's Integrated Avionics System (IAS) and the company's integration support were key elements in preparing the UH-1Y Venom helicopters for deployment to Afghanistan recently with the U.S. Marine Corps Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 367. The deployment was part of the Marine's air-ground task force in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. NGES's IAS makes critical mission data available to the pilot and copilot on four displays, reducing workload and increasing aircrew situational awareness. The glass cockpit is powered by two NGES mission computers, the heart of the IAS,

# **TRA'S HOLIDAY PARTY December 4, 2009**

Another fine Holiday Party at the Ports O'Call Restaurant in San Pedro! With over 260 attendees, great views up and down the channel, perfect weather, excellent food, and fine dance music, it was a very joyous occasion. These photos by Mary Holcomb are just a sampling. To see the complete set, go to the TRA web page: www.tra-spacepark.org.





















& Ron Janz







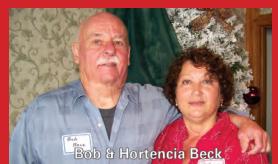






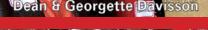




















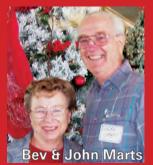


Barry Dunbridge & Noble Smith













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# TRA'S NN **GAZETTE** MEMORIES

# **TRW's TDRS 1 Retired**

After 25 years of service, the first TDRS tracking and communication satellite was retired in October 2009. Launched on STS-6 Challenger, it has been at work four times longer than designed. It recovered data from the Compton Gamma Ray Observatory after its recorders failed. It was the first to monitor a space shuttle deorbit burn from over the Indian Ocean, the first to collect and beam back live data during launches from the Kennedy Space Center in the early 1990s. The satellite's last traveling wave tube amplifier finally failed, rendering the craft unable to support most of its users' Kuband data relay and telemetry needs, according to Roger Flaherty, the Space Network project manager at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland.

Built by TRW, TDRS 1 was launched aboard the shuttle Challenger on April 4, 1983. After deployment from Challenger, TDRS 1's Inertial Upper Stage booster spun out of control and stranded the satellite almost 10,000 miles short of its planned orbit. Tumbling at up to 30 rpm, the satellite separated from the doomed rocket. TRW engineers finally regained control to gradually guide the craft to its operational orbit using its tiny on-board thrusters. The effort took several months and burned about 800 pounds of fuel, but TDRS 1 was able to begin service by the end of 1983.

After years of operations, TDRS 1's orbit naturally drifted to a higher inclination, allowing it to appear above the horizon at the poles. For the past decade it has been used primarily by the National Science Foundation's station in Antarctica. It even provided a telemedicine link between a physician in Antarctica and doctors in the U.S. to help conduct an emergency knee surgery in 2002.

Eight satellites will remain in the fleet after TDRS 1's retirement. One spacecraft was lost in the Challenger accident in 1986, and it is the only satellite in the constellation not operating today.

#### **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 to report a death. It's all voice activated, so just listen to the instructions and answer the first few questions to reach a representative.

Express Scripts (Rx) www.express-scripts.com or 800-655-1971

Northrop Grumman Benefits Services (Space Park) 800-537-7694 or One Space Park, S/2451, Redondo Beach, CA 90278 The NNG continues *Memories: It's Hard to Forget* with a memory from Frank O'Leary. What unusual or surprising event happened during your career at TRW/NG that other retirees might enjoy? Write it up and sent it to our editor at tra@tra-spacepark.org or to TRA, Attn NNG, P.O. Box 1276, Redondo Beach, CA 90278.

#### MEMORIES IT'S HARD TO FORGET! TRDSS Story

I was one of two TRW engineers at a 1982 meeting in the main ballroom of a hotel in Washington, DC with about 250 plus contractors and military and NASA reps present. We were discussing the Com System for the new Consolidated Space Center to be built in Colorado Springs. The CEO (a retired three star AF General) of Space Com, owners of TDRSS, came crashing into the hall, walked down to the main stage, and grabbed the mike from the speaker.

The General announced that TRW engineers had successfully placed the TDRSS spacecraft into its correct sync orbit from the incorrect orbit where it had originally been placed. Everyone in the room stood and cheered. Two lines were immediately formed to personally congratulate the two TRW engineers present in the room. I was some what chagrined as I was only about three months employed at TRW. It was most exciting for the TRW Orbital Engineers, however.

Frank O'Leary

## Northrop Grumman Space Park Fitness Program

Aviation High School in Redondo Beach was adjacent to the TRW Space Park facility. When the High School was closed in 1982, the city turned the athletic facilities and the auditorium into Aviation Park. The auditorium is now the Performing Arts Center. The athletic facilities include a lighted track and field, a large gym, a small gym, dance room, locker rooms, and restrooms. TRW leased three exercise rooms from the city and utilizes them for their employee fitness program.

Northrop Grumman's Space Systems Division has continued this program, and it is available to NG and TRW retirees. Basic rates for retirees are \$140/year. However, there is an even better rate called the Zoomer. For those willing to do their exercising either early or late (7-9 a.m. or 2-4:30 p.m.), the Zoomer rate is just \$70/year. A one-time registration fee of \$25 is charged initially. For more details call the NG fitness center at 310-536-9566.

## TRA's NN GAZETTE

### HAPPENINGS

#### **Continued from Page 3**

that allow for easy system upgrades as new technology is developed. The H-1 Upgrade Program is replacing the aging UH-1N, doubling the range and payload and providing significant improvements in reliability and maintainability. NGES is part of the program's industry team, led by Bell Helicopter Textron Inc., the manufacturer of the helicopter, which includes Thales and FLIR Systems Inc. A total of 123 UH-1Y helicopters are anticipated, with deliveries expected to be complete by the end of 2016.

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA — NGES's Sperry Marine business unit has been awarded a contract to supply navigation radar systems for eight new U.S. Navy nuclear attack submarines. The firm, fixed-price contract, valued at \$20.9M, was awarded to Sperry Marine by Naval Sea Systems Command, Washington, DC. The contract calls for Sperry Marine to produce and deliver eight AN/BPS-16(v)5 radar sets to be installed on eight Virginia-class Block III submarines. The scope of work will include manufacturing, fabrication, assembly, and testing. The AN/BPS-16(v)5 is an advanced submarine navigation radar and electronic navigation system, which provides naval electronic chart display and information system capability running on Sperry Marine's Voyage Management System (VMS) software. The Virginia-class Block III submarines are being built by NGSB and General Dynamics Electric Boat. The lead submarine in the Block III build, North Dakota (SSN 784), is scheduled to be delivered in 2014. Sperry Marine, headquartered in Charlottesville, VA, and with major engineering, business development, international sales, and support offices in New Malden, United Kingdom, and Hamburg, Germany, provides smart navigation and ship control solutions for the international marine industry with customer service and support through offices in 16 countries, sales representatives in 47 countries, and authorized service depots in more than 250 locations

#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# *Greetings from the Huntsville Chapter TRA to all the other groups*

Someone among our 70 members asked the question: "Do you have a web site set up for the Huntsville chapter? If so, could you share this web address with the rest of us or at least me?" I don't know the reason he wants to know but he found and likes the Southern Region one and I'd kind of like to look over any that exist in case we want to do that. Of course, I know about the great main web site at TRA Central HQ (www.tra-spacepark.org). Thanks

Jim Troy (troys@comcast.net)

## New TRA Members in November/December '09

We welcome the following new members who have joined TRA this month.

Laura J. Blackwell Linda Chan John F. Clausen Carolyn Hoefer Marlene Jenks Joan M. Johnson Dennis F. Lamothe Mary Ann Larson James A. Lynch Kathy R. Mead Geraldine M. Nunn John K. Roberts Shirley Sacheti **Christine A. Stephens** John C. Tippet Larry R. Tittle Clara A. Wong

Dominguez Hills, CA Torrance, CA Mesa, AZ Malibu, CA Escondido, CA Torrance, CA Los Angeles, CA Los Angeles, CA Rancho Palos Verdes, CA Lomita, CA Pahrump, NV San Pedro, CA Coarsegold, CA Torrance, CA Rancho Palos Verdes, CA Palos Verdes Estates, CA Cypress, CA

We hope these new members will send a note to us for the Mail Pouch, telling us a little about themselves and where they worked at Northrop Grumman. Send to <u>tra@</u> <u>tra-spacepark.org</u> or to the mail address listed below.

# **IN MEMORIAM**

Name Bertram N. Abramson\* Gordon R. Baumann Agnes "Terry" Christmas Bernard A. Cruze Arie Koolmees John C. Larson Jack Libidinsky\* Hyman R. Lubowitz Barbara Jean Manganiello William S. Piper Robert Schratz Gerald L. Stout Date of Death November 22, 2009 August 8, 2009 November 7, 2009 September 29, 2009 November 13, 2009 April 12, 2009 November 25, 2009 May 29, 2009 October 19, 2009 July 25, 2009 September 29, 2008 October 27, 2009

\* Check TRA's web page (www.tra-spacepark.org) for the obituary of this individual. Scroll down to near the bottom of the web page and you will find "In Memoriam." Inside this section are the obituaries.

The first step in notifying Northrop Grumman of a retiree's death is to call the Benefits Service Center at 800-894-4194. For many retirees, there is a Burial Benefit which will be paid to the beneficiary upon proper notification of death. However, due to privacy laws, the Benefits Center does NOT notify the TRA of the death.

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.



**Address Service Requested** 

Does your mailing label still say 2009? Renew today to continue your TRA membership. Still just \$7/year! See Page 1 for details.



The next NNG will be mailed in March

# THE MAIL POUCH

◆◆ This issue of the NNG contains the reminder to all retirees to either renew or extend their memberships in TRA. But **Robert Jackson** didn't wait; he's already renewed for another five years. He speaks of the beautiful sunrises/sunsets in Colorado Springs, and even *occasional opportunities for aerobics by shoveling snow!* ◆ ◆ **Carl** and **Trudi Peterson** are in good health and enjoying retirement life. He liked the Ron Sugar article in the August NNG. Carl had the pleasure to work with him on a Space Station effort ◆ ◆ The computer gremlins attacked again. **Janice Lipinski** writes that suddenly she and **Paul** were each receiving the NNG. So TRA's gremlin chaser removed Paul's subscription, and now Janice is the official TRA member in

the Lipinski household  $\blacklozenge \diamondsuit$  Another ahead-ofschedule dues renewal comes from rockhound **Doug Tomren**. Back in '75, he was active in the TRW Rock & Mineral Club. Now, he's rocking again. Home base is Scottsdale AZ, but with a cabin

near Flagstaff, and a cat sitting job in Manhattan Beach, he's getting rocks from many sources  $\clubsuit$  The swank Beverly Hills Hotel Polo Lounge was the site for a 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary celebration for **Joe** and **Louise Arce** in August. And Joe attended a big reunion of the ATD Chemistry Department in Hermosa Beach. When not celebrating, philatelist Joe is putting the finishing touches on a four-volume book on the Postal History of Mexico  $\clubsuit$  **Doris (Niederstrass) Grove** reports that husband **Barry** has had a tough 2009, due to pancreatitis. With 2010 looking brighter, they signed up for 3 more years of TRA membership  $\clubsuit$  Quail Valley, close by the Lake Elsinore/Canyon Lake area, is the home of **Dan** and **Susan Marbut**. Though officially retired, Dan is back at Space Park as a contract employee. *Retirement is* great and would love to hear from friends  $\clubsuit$   $\clubsuit$  84 year old **Art Williams** successfully renewed his CA Driver's License, and with this success, also renewed his TRA membership for the same period (5 years). Since wife Fran's death in '06,



his Montecito home was too much, and now his Carpinteria condominium gives him a lock-up and travel freedom  $\blacklozenge \blacklozenge \blacklozenge$  Another Colorado Springs resident, **Bernard Dell**, informs us that he is still alive and well. His happy retirement routine consists of a little golf, exercise at the "Y," and visits with son and daughter, each with a g'son and g'daughter for Bernard to enjoy  $\blacklozenge \blacklozenge TRA$ 's ace copy editor, Lee Rathbone, had a scary mini-stroke while

Israth driving back to San Diego from Newport Beach. Fortunately, she pulled off the highway, where a security guard called 911. After 2 nights in ER, she now is home and happily reports she's *fine, just tired*. The doctors report that this type of mini stroke has no lasting effects ◆ ◆ From Ogden UT, Fred Zeuthen, tell us that Mark McCardle, Cindy Nielsen, Mike Roberts, and Judy Reed have joined the ranks of retirees. Just in time. By joining TRA now, they will receive the new TRA directory and a CD photo-history of TRW, both planned for mailing mid 2010 ◆ ◆