

TRA's

No Name

GAZETTE

For Northrop Grumman & TRW legacy Retirees

VOL. XXIII NO.1 RENEW

January 2011

It's Membership Renewal Time

HAPPENINGS AT NORTHROP GRUMMAN

Aerospace Systems Sector (NGAS)

- ▶ EDWARDS AFB, Calif.— Euro Hawk, the premier unmanned aircraft system (UAS) for the German Air Force, successfully proved its long endurance capability with a 30.3-hour flight over Edwards Air Force Base, Calif. Built by NG and EADS Deutschland GmbH, operating through Cassidian, the defence and security division of EADS, the high-flying UAS took off Dec. 1 at 4:47 p.m. PST and landed Dec. 2 at approximately 10:59



By Frank Warren

p.m. PST. Soaring up to 60,000 feet, the Euro Hawk® has logged nearly 100 total flight hours since its maiden flight approximately five months ago.

- ▶ REDONDO BEACH, Calif. — The first completely finished primary mirror segment for NASA's James Webb Space Telescope has passed its final cryotest in the X-ray & Cryogenic Facility at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala. This last successful cryotest demonstrates that the mirror segment, an engineering development unit and flight spare, has fully demonstrated its ability to meet the needs of the Webb Telescope program. During the cryotest, the mirror segment is chilled to -415° F and telescope engineers take extremely detailed measurements of how the mirror's shape changes as it cools. Cryotesting verifies that the mirror will change shape into the exact optical prescription needed to accurately image distant stars and galaxies. Ball Aerospace, Boulder, Colo., is the principal optical subcontractor for the Webb Telescope program, responsible for developing the telescope optics.

Our records indicate that your membership expired in 2010.

TRA membership is a real bargain at just \$10.00 per year! The NNG will keep you informed about news from Northrop Grumman, Space Park; Medical Information updates; the informative and humorous Mail Pouch with information about our members; the Spring Fling; the Annual Membership Meeting (June); the Holiday Party (December); and findings from the Archives.

To renew, please submit the attached form with your check. The renewal form can also be downloaded from our web page: www.tra-spacepark.org. One year renewals are welcome as are renewals for more than one year, which reduces our in-house paper shuffle. **(Warning: when you date your check, remember it's now 2011. Each year our banker bounces a few checks because of a previous year's date!)**

Membership Renewal 2011

Name: _____

Address: _____ Tel: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail address (please print legibly) _____

Membership No: _____

From mailing label on back page

Annual dues are \$ 10.00 per year. I would like to renew for:

\$10 for 1 yr. \$20 for 2 yrs. \$30 for 3 yrs. \$40 for 4 yrs.

Signature: _____ Date _____

Please mail with your check to:

TRA PO Box 1276 Redondo Beach, CA 90278

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

Continued on Page 7

TRA for Northrop Grumman Retirees

TRA (The Retirees Association) 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

2011 OFFICERS

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

2011 DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

Darrell Aushman, Bob Beach, Budd Cohen, Les Hromas, Rose Marie Keidel, Lee Leventhal, , and George Lee

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

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'll get back to you.)

By Email:

TRA@tra-spacepark.org Your emails 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 email list, just send us a brief email requesting to be added to it.

By Web Page:

Our web page 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. Log on and browse.

For Membership:

TRA Membership is open to all Northrop Grumman and TRW legacy retirees at \$10 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	MEETING LOCATION	TIME & DATE	OTHER INFO	CONTACT
TRA	Bldg. S/Cafeteria, Space Park	3rd Thurs. Monthly	Business Meeting 1:30 p.m.	No reservations needed. All Members Welcome
ATD	Alpine Village, Torrance, Calif.	1st Monday in Nov. 11:30 a.m.	Social, Nostalgia and Lunch	Don Brown, Sandy Friedfeld, Bob Taylor 310-541-1917 or sandj1@aol.com
Brevard Retirees	Various Locations in Brevard, N.C.	1st Tues. 8 a.m. 3rd Tues. 5 p.m.	Social	Al & Daughn Connam 828-884-4993 aconnam@yahoo.com
Central Coast Chapter	Various Locations in the Central Coast Area	Various days: call Zaiser for details	Social	George Zaiser 805-343-2631 gzais@msn.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
NW Riverside County, Hemet	The Church of the Good Shephard Hemet, Calif.	4th Thursday 11:00 - 2:00	Social	Rosalie Moyer 951-925-1214 Glenn Ortiz 951-679-1015
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, Calif.	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, Calif.	2nd Thursday 1:00 p.m.	Investment Info based on monthly newsletter reviews	Mike Pauls 310-379-2707 lmikep@earthlink.net
TRW Retirees of the Desert	Sloan's Steak House Indio, Calif.	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	Mimi's Thousand Oaks, Calif.	1st Tuesday 12:00 noon	Social	Fred Blaich 805-499-0012 harrison_stroud@hotmail.com

New Members in Nov., Dec., 2010

We welcome the following new members who have joined TRA in November and December, 2010.

Warren Atwood	San Pedro, California
Suzanne Frasier	Reno, Nevada
Susan P. Hufnagel	Redondo Beach, California
David J. Kukla	Redondo Beach, California
Randee L. Kukla	Redondo Beach, California
Josef Shwartz	Marina del Rey, California
Phil J. Weisgerber	Redondo Beach, California

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 tra@tra-spacepark.org or to TRA, P.O. Box 1276, Redondo Beach, CA 90278.

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

MEMORIES:

It's Hard to Forget

The NNG continues *Memories: It's Hard to Forget* with a memory from Bob Patterson. What unusual or surprising event happened during your career at TRW/NG that other retirees might enjoy? Write it up and send it to our editor at tra@tra-spacepark.org or to TRA, Attn NNG, P.O. Box 1276, Redondo Beach, CA 90278.

A Map of the South Bay

Back in the days when we were STL, we were in somewhat of a facilities crisis. We had sold the El Segundo "campus" to the Air Force and were in the process of moving out. Space Park was under construction and only partially inhabitable, and we were in a personnel growth mode. Consequently, we had short-term leased almost every empty industrial building in the South Bay, and distributed sections, departments, and any other human grouping into about 28 separate sites. It was a mess. No one knew where any other outfit was, and if you found out, it changed next week anyway. So, STL President Dean Wooldridge decided to call an all-hands meeting to give a facilities status and planning report, and to uplift morale on the whole subject.

I was tasked to set up the visuals for him, so I enlarged a Bekins Van & Storage map of the South Bay to about 20x20 feet. Then, from a numbered list of the buildings, their addresses, and their occupants. Bill Curry, one of our technical artists, applied brightly visible red numbered boxes to each location.

At the meeting, Dr. Wooldridge, pointer in hand, proceeded through the list of buildings, addresses and occupants perfectly. He was about to move on to detail the plans for better living in the near future when he noticed a small unnumbered red spot in the middle of Lawndale. He put his pointer on the spot, turned to the general audience, and said "Can somebody help me out here? I don't know what this facility is." Bill Curry stood up from the back of the room, raised his hand and reported, "That's my house."

The room broke up, including Dr. Wooldridge. The rest of the meeting went swimmingly.

Bob Patterson

IN MEMORIAM

Name	Date of Death
Jack John Cohen	November 24, 2010
Irving Klein	date unknown
Michael Komich	June 28, 2010
Frank William Miller	August 9, 2010
Franklin G. Spitzer*	November 11, 2010
Len Vierling	September 17, 2010i
Glenda Zemke	December 21, 2010

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. The Benefits Center does NOT notify TRA of the death due to privacy laws.

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 email to the TRA office: Name of the deceased, date of death, and the name of the person submitting the information.

* 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.

TRA'S HOLIDAY PARTY

December 3, 2010

TRA's 2010 Holiday Party, with over 240 present, was held in the beautiful upstairs banquet rooms at the Ports O'Call Restaurant in San Pedro. Again, the weather was perfect, the food was delicious, and it was just fun to see so many of our former colleagues from TRW/NG days. Photos are by Mary Holcomb (M) and Roger Harmon (R). To see the complete set, go to the TRA web page: www.tra-spacepark.org.



Beth O'Gorman
Credit Union
Rod Brink
NG Benefits



Jerry & Jo Slee



Bob Doll
TRA President, '09, '10



Lorry & Bob Vaca



Cindy Leet Roger Mills Fran Yamamoto



Paul & Jan Lipinski Diane & Jerry Klayman



John & Margaret Redding



Gretchen & Bob Taylor



Ralph & Jo Anne Kaye



Joan & Jerry Sozio



Bill & Mariam Ramos



Stan & Donna Rieb



Gladys & Irving Rubin



Daisy & John Coughran



Sherill Overfield
Jan Raymond



Betty & Bill Ryan



Tom & Patsy Tucknott



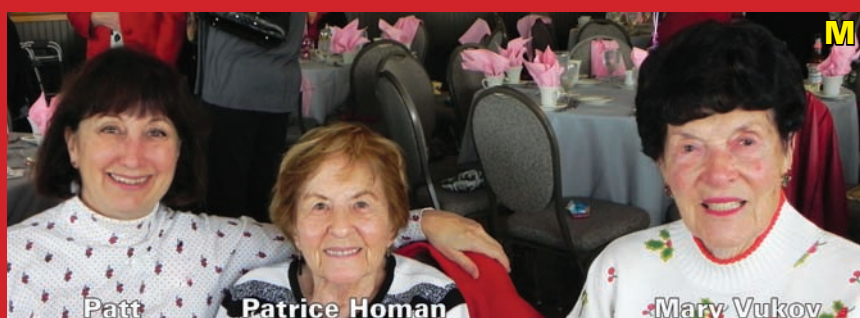
Dorr Looman & Ron Paulson



Neil & Fred Shotlow



Roger & Jeannie Harmon



Patt
Patrice Homan
Mary Vukov



Bea & Rudy Flores



Janet & Guy Talbot



Jim & Tran Edwards



Bok & Tony Janik

Selecting a Retirement Facility

By Jay Seidman, Health Editor for the NNG

Many individual decisions are necessary prior to making a move from the family home into a retirement facility. I have compiled these thoughts, experiences, and ideas relative to the selection and move to a retirement facility.

There are many questions that one should address prior to making the big decision; moving from the family home into a retirement facility. Among these are:

- A Are you (and your spouse) in relatively good health?
- B Do you have enough money to support the change?
- C Do you want to live with your kids (or someone)?
- D Do you want to live in the same geographic area?
- E Can you drive?
- F Do you have any biases (religion, politics, ethnicity, diet, etc.)?
- G What kind of group do you want to be with?
- H Why are you thinking about assisted, or senior, living?
- I Do you have a time schedule, or requirement?
- J Where do your family and friends live?
- K Have you accepted or even considered the problems associated with “downsizing”?
- L Have you considered that you may have to “progress” to a higher level of “assistance”?
- M Do you have the needed documents?

I will discuss each of these, and point out the pros and cons that I have considered, as well as some opinions from others. None of these criteria are entirely independent of the others so it's not a clean black and white set of decisions — making these decisions is difficult and it is easy to procrastinate.

Because of the length of the document, we are running this as a series. Here is Part I.

Part I

A — Are You (And Your Spouse) In Relatively Good Health?

None of us is as healthy as we were 5 years ago and it's probably going to get worse. Somewhere along the line we have to consider the fact that we are mortal, and that we may get to the point where we either will be a burden on the people we live with, we will have to hire full-time help, or we will be forced to move into some sort of “home.” So, when do we make the decision?

Most of the individuals I have talked to have said that the decrease (or potential decrease) in individual mobility was the first factor that they considered. Individuals that lived in multistoried homes or condos and found it increasingly difficult to walk, or go up/down stairs, said they felt that they would have to go to a senior facility “soon.” The loss of, or fear of the loss of, the ability to drive was also a major consideration — especially in a city like greater Los Angeles. This mobility is an important factor in the selection of the facility that you may choose. And although it really wasn't considered a major factor, many people talked about the “increase in the daily or weekly tasks of doing minor repairs around the house.” The people who lived in apartments were not as concerned about this, but all the home and condo owners indicated some level of concern.

You are currently in good health. So, why are you even considering a move to senior or assisted living? Because time marches on and you don't want to wait until the decision is forced on you! It's a tough decision because it may be tomorrow, or never — it's kind of like an insurance policy, valuable only when you use it.

What will you do if your spouse sickens or dies? If you suddenly become single, the problems associated with either moving in with your children, or with friends, or hiring people to help you, all become possible solutions. Planning in anticipation of these problems can help one to make the decision, without being in a panic or rushed environment.

One of the most difficult decisions is the realization that one of the spouses is gradually deteriorating to the point where help of some sort will soon be needed. Sometimes it can be discussed between the two, but many times, the more rational spouse must initiate the decision.

Some facilities will accept couples where one has the beginning symptoms of dementia or Alzheimer's but there are often all kinds of conditions and restrictions. There are many kinds of support that may be available in any specific facility and there is no assurance that your entry physical shape will remain the same. Find out what happens if one of you develops a debilitating condition.

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Selecting a Retirement Facility

Continued from Page 6

In the interests of continuing your physical well being, do you want a fitness center, is it fully equipped, are there scheduled class exercises with qualified trainers, is there a pool, does the facility have an arrangement with a gym or similar facility?

So now you've come to the point where you, or both of you, think that it would be a good idea to investigate a senior or assisted living facility. So we start examining the other criteria.

B — Do You Have Enough Money To Support The Change?

Nobody ever has enough money, or so the saying goes. But now is the time to be realistic. What does it cost you to live where you are now? It isn't only the rent (or taxes) but the cost of the people you hire, such as the pool man, the gardener, the housekeeper, etc. Don't forget the insurance costs. Remember, every once in a while you may have to repair something, and, heaven forbid, you may have to redecorate, replace, or upgrade. Don't forget the electricity, the water, the gas, the garbage pickup, and all the other "little" recurring and non-recurring expenses, such as food, gasoline and car upkeep (and insurance), the telephone and the cable for the TV and computer.

Of course there are many expenses that will continue even after you move. Personal insurance, clothes, vacations, dues, subscriptions, and taxes among others will continue, although some will go up and some will come down. You should include those amounts that you automatically give to family or charity.

Now you may have a realistic evaluation of what it cost you to continue to live where you are (with no cushion for a catastrophe). Now, you have to honestly determine what your income is. This is not an IRS number, but should realistically include all your income. It should include monies that you may receive as gifts. After you do this, and chew on it a while, you can know what you can afford and still enjoy a reasonable life-style.

Some people call this "budgeting."

It's not really a question of whether you have enough money. This evaluation is needed help define the size, type, and location of the facility. There are a wide range of costs, fees and expenses associated with assisted living facilities, and it's good to know what you can afford and what you would be comfortable with.

To be continued in the next issue of the NNG.

Board Meeting Room Change

Until further notice the TRA Board meetings will be held in the Bldg. S cafeteria at Space Park. The Board meets on the third Thursday of each month at 1:30 p.m. The meeting is open to all TRA members.

HAPPENINGS

Continued from Page 1

Electronic Systems Sector (NGES)

- WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE — The Aeronautical Systems Center has awarded \$31.8M in contract work to NGES for continuing support to Air Force aircraft and surveillance systems. A \$19 million modification of an existing contract authorizes continued funding for NGES software maintenance and support for air vehicle and ground support units, the Defense Department said. NG also was awarded a \$12.8 million contract modification to provide day-to-day operational management for the Global Hawk unmanned aircraft, which is used for surveillance and tracking of enemies.
- NGES's Airborne Standoff Minefield Detection System (ASTAMIDS) program is being expanded, at the request of the U.S. Army, beyond its initial counter-mine mission to include reconnaissance, surveillance, target acquisition, and target designation applications. "Fluke" infrared devices have the potential to track hi-tech explosive devices. This feature of the device has been explored during an Army validation process. This system has been integrated onto the MQ-8B Fire Scout unmanned airborne system. The ASTAMIDS features various multi spectral electro-optical sensing devices having varied sensing operations, encompassing texture investigation and change tracking. This aerial payload weighs 80 pounds and is embedded with processors and software. The system identifies and points out the terrain obstacles, targets, minefields, and IEDs, and detects the ranges on terrain targets, and successfully examines and locates the targets for laser-based munitions attack. The system has located targets for three Hellfire missiles under the Army inspection. The ASTAMIDS has done 12 flight tests on an Army UH-1 and Northrop Grumman's MQ-8B unmanned vehicle. These tests checked the system's off-nadir road following capability, C-IED nadir step stare, and large area mapping potentialities

Shipbuilding Sector (NGSB)

- NGSB is being awarded a \$9.4M modification to contract for material procurement in support of submarine planning yard services. The contract will support engineering, technical, design, configuration management, integrated logistics systems, database management, research and design, trade, and modernization support for operational and decommissioning submarines, submarines undergoing availabilities/conversion, special mission submersibles and submarine support facilities. Work will be performed in Newport News, Va., and is expected to be completed by September 2011.

TRA

P.O. Box 1276
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

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Time to renew your TRA
membership! Please turn to
Page 1 for details.

The next NNG will be mailed
in March

THE MAIL POUCH

◆◆◆Talk about downsizing! **Reta** and **Bill Worden** not only downsized to a single residence, but located it on Whidbey Island in Puget Sound. *Great water and mountain views all around us.* They talk of being too busy, BUT, they did have time in 2010 for Iceland, Ireland, and Australia. If your boat sails past Whidbey, they say to stop by. (Ferry service also available.)◆◆◆Also living way off the beaten track, **Jack** and **Joan Babinski** built an earth-sheltered house in Careywood, Idaho (60 miles NE of Spokane, Wa.) Jack was a System Safety Engineer at Norton AFB during his TRW days. Joan sews and makes crafts (aprons, stuffed animals, etc.) and with their Toyota motor home they do about 8 shows a year. 71% (5 out of 7) of their children live in So Cal, so keep an eye out for Jack and Joan◆◆◆**Hugh Cox**, while not living in an earth-sheltered house, but in a retirement home in Ammon, Idaho, (near Idaho Falls) says the snow doesn't bother him *as long as it is on the other side of the windows.* He also brags about the great tasting Idaho salmon. His daughter lives nearby, and keeps a close eye on him. He escaped L.A. in 2006 after a bout with bladder cancer and a heart attack◆◆◆Life was good for **Duane Spencer** (at TRW from '63-'97) until last June. First it was a small cancer on his throat, then while still in the hospital, he had a heart attack and a triple



By Al Hausrath

bypass. He is recovering nicely, but looks back with horror on those radiation treatments on his throat. He lives near Lake Shasta, loves the summers, but not the winter rains. *55 inches is normal!*◆◆◆Over the mountains from Lake Shasta live s William Kell, in Carson City, Nev. He retired in '90 after 27 years with TRW. *In the "Good Old Days," that was "Turkeys Running Wild," but we got a belluwa lot of good things done.* He doesn't make it to the L.A.

Area very often, (*too much traffic*), so he depends on the NNG for the news◆◆◆**John McCrummen** missed his June NNG, so we sent him another copy. His thank you note added that he retired in '85 and is now 90 years old. *The NNG keeps fond memories alive of a great company and wonderful people I worked with*◆◆◆**TRW was a wonderful place to work** writes **Jean Black**, agreeing with John McCrummen. Jean has been retired 30 years. She and Norm just celebrated their 65th anniversary. *Slowing down but enjoying our family and each other*◆◆◆In an October note, **Mary Arden** mentioned keeping busy redoing her house. Anticipated completion: in time for a big 2010 Christmas. Mary just celebrated her 85th b'day, too. She also enjoyed a photo op with a group of fellow DSP workers. That's cramming a lot into 2010◆◆◆