

TRA's

No Name

GAZETTE

For Northrop Grumman & TRW Legacy Retirees

VOL. XXIII NO. 6

October/November 2011

TRA Holiday Party Time — December 2nd

Put on your party clothes and your dancing shoes and join us on Friday, December 2 for a great party.

We are expecting a sellout crowd, so please send in your reservations promptly.

All reservations must be received by November 25. Absolutely no one will be admitted without an advance reservation.

2011 Holiday Party

Friday, December 2, 2011 from 11:00 to 3:00.

Reservation Deadline — November 25, 2011

WHERE: Ports O' Call Restaurant in San Pedro

And Now For The Details:

THE ROOMS: The party will be in the beautiful upstairs rooms at the restaurant — the Breakwater Room with its great view of the Los Angeles Main Channel and the harbor breakwater to the south, and the Bridgeview Room, also on the channel and with great views to the north, including the Vincent Thomas Bridge. Elevator access available.

THE FOOD: A sit-down three course dinner with your choice of one of three great entrées — Boneless Breast of Chicken, King Salmon, or Sirloin Steak, all with Ports O' Call's famous Chocolate Suicide dessert.

MUSIC: The same great 2-person group that we had last year, with very danceable music.

BEVERAGES: A no-host bar with a wide selection.

PARKING: Plenty of free parking close to the entrance.

SEATING CHOICE: (Based on space available) Please indicate your choice between

- 1) The music room, with the dance floor and the band, or
- 2) The conversation room, which will be somewhat quieter.

COST: Just \$20 per person.

HAPPENINGS AT NORTHROP GRUMMAN

Aerospace Systems Sector (NGAS)

➤ REDONDO BEACH, Calif. — The 2,000-pound platform that engineers will use to precisely align the Webb telescope's enormous five-layer sunshield is completed, with work slated to begin on flight-like template membranes early next year. NGAS is leading the design and development effort for NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Md. The giant table will be shipped to teammate ManTech International Corporation's NeXolve facility in Huntsville, Ala.,



By Frank Warren

where the work will take place. Constructed of aluminum and weighing about 2,000 lbs., the table is approximately 33 x 70 ft., over half the size of the sunshield, which is as big as a doubles tennis court. The sunshield membrane layers, each as thin as a human hair, are made of Kapton, a very tough, high performance plastic with a reflective metallic coating. Each one of five "templates" or pre-flight model layers will be laid out on the table where holes will be made in the exact locations

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TRA's 2011 Holiday Party

Reservation Deadline — November 25, 2011

Retiree Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** __ **Zip:** _____

Membership No.: _____ **Phone:** _____

(From mailing label)

Total Number Coming ___ **at \$20 each** _____

Limit: One guest per member

Entrée choices: (indicate number)

Chicken **King Salmon** **Sirloin Steak**

Seating choice: (based on space available)

Music Room **Conversation Room**

Please detach and mail with a check to:

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

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.

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

New Members in September/October

We welcome the following new members who have joined TRA since the last newsletter.

Gerald P. Kiper Harbor City, Calif.
 Vern Reineking Gardena, Calif.

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.

Contacting TRA

By Mail:

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

By Phone:

310-833-5827

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 310-833-5827.

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

Staff:

Al Hausrath, Editor; Frank Warren, Contributing Editor; Ellen Tessitore, Meetings Editor
 Tom Carroll, Kathy Hanken, Roger Harmon, Mary Holcomb, and Del Suarez, Photographers.
 Lee Rathbone and Karin Petersen, Copy Editors.

NG/TRW Retirees Meetings Around the U.S.

GROUP	MEETING LOCATION	TIME & DATE	OTHER INFO	CONTACT
TRA	Bldg. S/Cafeteria, Space Park	3rd Thurs. Monthly	Business Meeting 2:00 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 sandjol@aol.com
Brevard Retirees	Various Locations in Brevard, N.C.	1st Wed. 8 a.m. 3rd Wed. 5 p.m.	Social	Al & Daughn Connam 828-884-4993 aconnam@yahoo.com
Huntsville Chapter	Barnhill's Buffet University Blvd., Huntsville	2nd Tuesday 11:30 a.m.	Social	Jim Troy 850-797-0044 www.TRA-Huntsville.org
Las Vegas	Various Locations in Las Vegas Metro Area	Last Tuesday 11:30 a.m.	Social	Carol Noblet 702-889-6773 fiftysumthn300@yahoo.com
Northern Virginia	Old Brogue Pub, Great Falls, 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 Diego Chapter	Event Dependent	3rd Tuesday Alternate Months	Social or Board Meeting http://sandiego.tra-spacepark.org	Jim Denton 858-385-0150 JWDenton@san.rr.com
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

HAPPENINGS

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needed to attach the layers to the structure for launch. To ensure proper fit and function, the hole positions are different for each layer and their locations are controlled to a small fraction of an inch. Hole positioning is a critical task because the sunshield layers must be held in a predetermined configuration to survive launch so that they can later unfold in a carefully orchestrated way. The observatory will be pointed so that the Sun, Earth, and Moon are always on one side, with the sunshield acting like an umbrella to protect the telescope (the mirrors and instruments) from the heat of the sun and warm spacecraft electronics. The sunshield will passively cool the telescope to a temperature of -375 degrees F, which is needed to prevent the observatory's own heat from "blinding" its infrared sensing instruments.

- REDONDO BEACH, Calif.— The NGAS-led engineering team building the Defense Weather Satellite System (DWSS) spacecraft continues to take delivery of key hardware, making significant progress on satellite fabrication several months ahead of schedule. The first flight shipset of Global Positioning System receivers has been delivered from General Dynamics, Scottsdale, Ariz. Flight hardware assemblies key to the operation of the satellite's communications links were delivered from Tesat-Spacecom, Backnang, Germany. Thermal testing is currently underway for flight Single Board Computers for the DWSS Command and Data Handling (C&DH) subsystem. Testing on 14 flight computers is expected to be completed this fall. The C&DH subsystem consists of spacecraft control processors, which control the spacecraft; plus payload support processors and data server units, which store and route the science data.
- PALMDALE, Calif. — NGAS and Bell Helicopter may be close to landing a Navy contract for unmanned helicopters. Navy acquisition officials are in discussions with NGAS about acquiring an unmanned helicopter based on the Bell 407 civil helicopter for special operations use. The possible sale is a rapid outgrowth of an effort NG and Bell

began less than two years ago to demonstrate how the 407 could be converted into a remote-control or autonomous vehicle for surveillance and supply flights. And as NG and Bell began testing a prototype (the so-called Fire-X) in late 2010, the Navy was beginning a search for a longer-range, more capable unmanned helicopter. With months of flight testing data in hand, NGAS officials were able to pitch the unmanned system as the best candidate.

Electronic Systems Sector (NGES)

- ANNAPOLIS, Md. — In 2009, NG created the Unmanned Systems Strategy Group (USSG), an enterprisewide initiative to develop NG's strategic, unified approach to the unmanned systems market. In January, 2011, NGES was awarded a \$2M contract from the Defense Advance Research Projects Agency (DARPA) to develop the Anti-Submarine Warfare Continuous Trail Unmanned Vessel (ACTUV) concept. This would be a new class of oceangoing unmanned surface vessels, intended to trail and monitor targets autonomously. NGAS is supporting this program with software developed under several unmanned aircraft systems, expertise in composite manufacturing, and through command and control systems. In addition, NGES is working to deliver an ACTUV that has the necessary discriminating features. Through the USSG, NG achieves improved collaboration between the two sectors.
- BALTIMORE, Md. — G/ATOR is a highly mobile system intended to fully support the Marine Corps' expeditionary warfare requirements. The new radar system will provide the Marines with enhanced capabilities to detect, track, and provide target quality data to engage hostile aircraft, cruise missiles, unmanned air vehicles, rockets, mortars, and artillery. G/ATOR will also provide robust air traffic control capabilities to enhance the safety of Marine Corps air operations. G/ATOR will enable enhanced operational capabilities using NGES's proven Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) radar technology. This AESA architecture will allow G/ATOR to provide multi-mission performance and the ability to automatically adapt

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HAPPENINGS

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to dynamic battlefield conditions, at significantly lower operation and maintenance costs compared to existing radar systems. G/ATOR incorporates a scalable open system architecture and multi-network connectivity to ensure compatibility with Navy, other U.S. Department of Defense, and allied command and control systems.

Information Systems Sector (NGIS)

- MCLEAN, Va. — NGIS has won a contract worth at least \$32 million to continue supporting the Navy's Criminal Investigative Service Law Enforcement Information Exchange System known as LInX. In particular, NGIS will provide deployment, enhancement, operation and maintenance services to LInX, a system that improves data sharing across all law enforcement agencies — from small municipalities to the federal government — and finds obscure connections within existing records than can help solve crimes. With the first contract awarded in 2004 and another in 2007, the new follow-on agreement is an indefinite delivery, indefinite quantity contract that covers one base year and three option years.
- MCLEAN, Va. — NGIS and teammate IntegenX Inc. announced that they had won an award on the Biometrics Operations and Support Services — Unrestricted (BOSS-U) contract vehicle to supply IntegenX's RapidHIT™ 200 Human DNA Identification System to the U.S. Army Biometrics Identity Management Agency. The RapidHIT 200 Human DNA Identification System automates and accelerates the process of producing standardized DNA profiles from cheek swabs, objects, and other human tissue samples. DNA profiles generated by the RapidHIT System are used to match collected samples with existing DNA records in domestic and international databases or to expand those databases. Numerous local, state, national and international law enforcement and security agencies use DNA-based human identification to make informed decisions regarding the arrest or release of suspects, to protect national borders, and to analyze crime scene evidence.

MEMORIES

It's Hard to Forget

The NNG continues *Memories: It's Hard to Forget* with a memories from Jack Tsu and Jean Black. 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.

The Red Phone!

I guess it was in the late 1960's. Brigadier General John McCoy, the commanding general of the Air Force Ballistic Missile Office (BMO) in San Bernardino was to brief the Strategic Air Command (SAC) in Omaha on a particular problem of the Minuteman silos. We of TRW would first prepare the briefing for the BMO general. Then I accompanied him to SAC at the briefing as a technical backup to answer any questions on details. The briefing took place at the *Vatican* (as the SAC Headquarters building was called).

As the SAC commanding General Thomas Powers walked into the presentation room for the briefing, he was followed by one of his staff officers who carried that "RED PHONE". Of course that was the instrument which the United States president could order the SAC commander to unleash the US ICBMs at the aggressors. That sight gave me the most sober and awesome experience of my life!

Jack, C. N. Tsu

Rice Pudding Ala Mode

My office was in Bldg. S and the dining room and cafeteria were downstairs. I had become friends with a very nice lady named Nadine and we had a standing reservation at a window table for two. If the daily menu included either rice or bread pudding my secretary would call all units and tell the nurses about the desserts and if they were available at lunchtime they were welcome to join us. — They always did!

What a wonderful memory. Not a very healthful lunch, but so delicious! Always topped with ice cream.

*Jean Black, Nursing Supervisor;
Health Services, Ret. 1981*

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

News From TRW Groups

Temecula Valley Retirees

Judy Lebovitz reports that the Temecula Valley Retiree's are still meeting the 3rd Wednesday of each month at Crivello's Restaurant in Wildomar, Calif. They sometimes have 15 attending and sometimes just four. Anyway, they enjoy getting together and want their group to included in the Meetings Table in this newsletter. For those who would like more information on this group, please contact Maureen Locken at 951-244-7654 or maureen_locken@yahoo.com.

TRA members like to see photos and names of their former coworkers. Please send us pictures and articles on your group's doings for inclusion in this section of the NNG. Are we missing coverage of your group of TRW/NG retirees? Contact Ellen Tessitore at et1000@earthlink.net with the information you would like included in the NNG.

IN MEMORIAM

Name	Date
Dr. George L. Clark Sr.	October 15, 2011
Eldon Joe Clopton	February 2, 2011
Christine Gould	August 10, 2011
Henry A. Graziano	May 20, 2011
Howard E. Haugen	July 7, 2011
Frederick William Humphreys	September 16, 2011
Irving Klein	September 3, 2010
Doris E. Kornfeld	June 11, 2011
Sakaye Mitsuata	August 2, 2011
W. Vincent Neisius	September 18, 2011
Marvin Rosenfeld	September 16, 2011
Henry A. Treichel	July 17, 2011
Lawrence Craig Walls Sr.	September 24, 2011

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.

Help Wanted

TRA needs a website programmer familiar with html/CSS web page layout and design willing to volunteer his/her time and skills to keeping our website (www.tra-spacepark.org) current and informative. Please contact Al Hausrath at tra@tra-spacepark.org if you can help us.

TRA

P.O. Box 1276

Redondo Beach, CA 90278

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The next NNG will be mailed in December

THE MAIL POUCH

◆◆◆**Warren** and **Rosalie Wright** are both TRW Space & Defense Retirees and both retired at the same time: February 1, 1997, and now both live in Oro Valley (Tucson) Arizona and love it. And both are happy to live in a red state with great scenery and less people and traffic. What togetherness◆◆◆Another “we retired together in ‘92” couple, **Joe** and **Louise Arce**, now of Monterey Park, Calif., reported in. Joe was in ATD’s Chemistry Dept. Louise was in TRW’s Metrology Dept. Now Joe is working on a three-year contract at NASA/JPL on the Mars Science Laboratory Rover, Curiosity, scheduled for launch this November. Louise is a volunteer at the South Coast Botanical Gardens, where she helps make cards and other crafts that are sold at the Garden’s Gift shop◆◆◆Good news and bad



By Al Hausrath

news from the **Brodsky** household. First, the good news: **Bob**’s Pacemaker is doing well (still has four more years of battery life), he is home from his hospital stay, full of ambition, and he is resuming his sailing, swimming, and book writing. Now, the bad news, which hopefully is all past. His bad heart with its good Pacemaker had been doing a poor job of keeping fluid out of his lungs and legs. Treating that led to a kidney malfunction. And he mentions an arthritic shoulder. **Patti** has proved to be a great care giver, and now both are looking forward to continued independent living◆◆◆

Become famous! Inform your fellow retirees about your doings! Just send a note to TRA Mail Pouch, P.O. Box 1276, Redondo Beach, CA or to tra@tra-spacepark.org.