

**TRA's**

No Name

# GAZETTE

**For Northrop Grumman & TRW Legacy Retirees**

VOL. XXIII NO. 7

December 2011

## Space Park to Be Dedicated As an Historic Aerospace Site

### HAPPENINGS AT NORTHROP GRUMMAN

#### Aerospace Systems Sector (NGAS)



By Frank Warren

➤ EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. — NGAS and the U.S. Navy will be able to increase the pace and productivity of the X-47B flight test program following the successful first flight Nov. 22 of the second air vehicle developed for the Navy's Unmanned Combat Air System Carrier Demonstration (UCAS-D) program.

The tailless, autonomous aircraft known as Air Vehicle 2 (AV-2) took off under hazy skies from Edwards Air Force Base at 12:43 p.m. PST, climbed rapidly to an altitude of 5,000 feet, flew several racetrack patterns over Rogers Dry Lake, then landed safely at 1:12 p.m. "The successful addition of AV-2 to the fleet of X-47B test aircraft provides a critical inflection point for the UCAS-D program," said Carl Johnson, vice president and UCAS-D program manager for NGAS. "With two aircraft now available, we can increase the amount of aircraft performance data we gather, which will allow us to meet our required aircraft capability demonstration goals in a timely manner."

➤ REDONDO BEACH, Calif. — An early program planning and testing approach implemented by NGAS is setting a new standard for efficiency in building military weather satellites. The first of two Defense Weather Satellite System (DWSS) spacecraft is being developed and verified using the Electrical Engineering Model Testbed to conduct the Satellite Integration and Test (I&T) processes much earlier than usual. The result is significant cost savings due to early problem-solving. Risk is

The History Technical Committee of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) fosters and promotes the history of the aeronautical and astronautical sciences. One means of accomplishing this is through the Historic Aerospace Sites Program. As of 2011, the AIAA has honored over 40 sites worldwide, which includes Cape Canaveral, White Sands Missile Range, Vandenberg Air Force Base, Edwards Air Force Base, and Rockwell Downey.

The Space Park nomination was initiated by Budd Cohen, a past president to TRA, and assisted by Dr. Robert Brodsky, Fellow of AIAA and TRW retiree, Rose Marie Keidel, former VP of TRA, and Jack Trost, current President of TRA. In addition, extensive use of the TRA Archives was made to compile the information in the proposal.

The Los Angeles Section of AIAA, along with Simon Ramo and David DiCarlo, General Manager of the Space System Division, sponsored the Nomination Package to the AIAA Historic Sites Committee.

The ceremony designating Space Park as an Historic Aerospace Site will occur on December 14, 2011 in an invitation-only event.

reduced sooner, rather than later in the I&T phase when satellite development is much further along and delays are more costly. "The DWSS testbed is an electrical equivalent of the satellite's avionics systems, sensor interfaces and processing, and is being populated with several subsystems. The most mature is the Command and Data Handling (C&DH) subsystem, consisting of spacecraft control processors, payload support processors and data server units to store and route the science data. Flight software and flight-like engineering model hardware for the C&DH subsystem is on the test bed, simulating the communications that will occur between the orbiting satellite and the ground system."

*Continued on Page 3*

## TRA for Northrop Grumman Retirees

The Retirees Association (TRA) 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 Member in November

TRA welcomes Earnhardt Sahs of Torrance, Calif. as a new member of TRA. We hope Earnhardt will send a note to us for the Mail Pouch, telling us a little about himself and where he worked at Northrop Grumman. Send to [tra@tra-spacepark.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.tra-spacepark.org). It is an excellent source for the latest news, lists of the new retirees, travel details, party photos (more than get into the NNG), forms of all sorts, personal photographs, and much more. 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	To Be Determined	TBD 11:30 a.m.	Social, Nostalgia and Lunch	Don Brown, Sandy Friedfeld, Bob Taylor 310-541-1917 or <a href="mailto:sandjol@aol.com">sandjol@aol.com</a>
Brevard Retirees	Various Locations in Brevard, N.C.	1st Wed. 8 a.m. 3rd Wed. 5 p.m.	Social	Al & Daughn Connarn 828-884-4993 <a href="mailto:aconnarn@yahoo.com">aconnarn@yahoo.com</a>
Huntsville Chapter	Barnhill's Buffet University Blvd., Huntsville	2nd Tuesday 11:30 a.m.	Social	Jim Troy 850-797-0044 <a href="http://www.TRA-Huntsville.org">www.TRA-Huntsville.org</a>
Las Vegas	Various Locations in Las Vegas Metro Area	Last Tuesday 11:30 a.m.	Social	Carol Noblet 702-889-6773 <a href="mailto:fiftysumthn300@yahoo.com">fiftysumthn300@yahoo.com</a>
Northern Virginia	Old Brogue Pub, Great Falls, Va.	3rd Friday 11:30 a.m.	Social	Bill Gehrke 703-759-0527 <a href="mailto:wgehrke@att.net">wgehrke@att.net</a>
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 <a href="mailto:fzeuthen@earthlink.net">fzeuthen@earthlink.net</a>
San Diego Chapter	Event Dependent	3rd Tuesday Alternate Months	Social or Board Meeting <a href="http://sandiego.tra-spacepark.org">http://sandiego.tra-spacepark.org</a>	Jim Denton 858-385-0150 <a href="mailto:JWDenton@san.rr.com">JWDenton@san.rr.com</a>
Temecula Valley	Crivello's Restaurant Wildomar, Calif.	Third Wednesday Lunch	Social	Maureen Locken 951-244-7654 <a href="mailto:maureen_locken@yahoo.com">maureen_locken@yahoo.com</a>
The Mountain Folks	Various Locations in the Denver Area	First week of each quarter	"We do have fun!"	Carl Wikelman 303-693-0034 <a href="mailto:winkelman@att.net">winkelman@att.net</a>
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 <a href="mailto:lmikep@earthlink.net">lmikep@earthlink.net</a>

**HAPPENINGS***Continued from Page 1***Information Systems Sector (NGIS)**

- HUNTSVILLE, Ala. — The Boeing Company and NGIS submitted their final proposal for future work on the Ground-based Midcourse Defense (GMD) element of the United States' ballistic missile defense system. After proposal submission, the companies released the following statement: "Our final proposal for the GMD development and sustainment contract represents the best our companies have to offer for the future of the ballistic missile defense program. We are confident that our offer maintains mission readiness and demonstrates flexibility for this next phase of the program's lifecycle. The final proposal is the culmination of a process that brought together a broad industry group – selected for extensive heritage GMD expertise – to deliver the best value and lowest risk to the customer."

**Electronic Systems Sector (NGES)**

- LINTHICUM, Md. — NGES has been awarded follow-on and additional task order contracts totaling \$69 million from the U.S. Navy's Office of Naval Research (ONR) for the Navy's Integrated Topside (InTop) program. InTop is an innovative, scalable suite of electronic warfare, information operations and line-of-sight communications hardware and software for use on naval surface platforms. The new suite will reduce the number of multiple topside apertures that naval vessels use, increasing bandwidth and resolving electromagnetic interference and compatibility issues caused by the large number of antennas on modern ships. A second contract, valued at \$3 million, includes the development of a low level resource manager and other infrastructural software. The two efforts will run concurrently. The Advanced Development Model will be delivered in 2013. Field test of the system is planned to take place at the Naval Research Labs Chesapeake Bay Detachment facility near Chesapeake Beach, Md. NGES, as prime contractor, will perform the majority of the effort at its engineering and manufacturing center in Linthicum, Md. The company also will perform software development at its Goleta, Calif., facility.

**MEMORIES:  
It's Hard to Forget**

The NNG continues *Memories: It's Hard to Forget* with memories from Frank Polaski and Frank O'Leary. 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](mailto:tra@tra-spacepark.org) or to TRA, Attn NNG, P.O. Box 1276, Redondo Beach, CA 90278.

**There's Greg**

In July 1969 I was working for TRW Houston Operations and living in the space community of El Lago near the Johnson Space Center. It was Sunday evening and our 17 year old son Greg was late for dinner. While I was searching the premises for him, my wife Elaine was watching TV. Suddenly she called out, "There he is!"

Greg was down the block standing with a small group of neighbors in the Armstrong's front yard watching Neil's wife Jan being interviewed on TV. The networks were there because Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin were resting in the Lunar Module on the surface on the moon and Neil would soon take that *one small step for man....*

Greg had been late for dinner before, but finding him on national — perhaps international TV — on that historic day was an experience we will never forget.

*Frank Polaski***TRW's Vela Satellite in the News**

According to the February, 2011 issue of Sky at Night magazine the role of Vela satellite was to monitor nuclear activity on Earth. In 1967 a Vela satellite observed a cosmic event that opened a new branch of astronomy: the study of Gamma Ray Bursts (GRB). A GRB lasts for only a few moments but its energy exceeds the total lifetime energy of our Sun. This issue of Sky at Night magazine gives a review of the Vela's role in GRB astronomy.

*Frank O'Leary*



## Notes from the TDOT Reunion of October 21-23, 2011

*Reported by Dennis Rhoads*

The Thermal Department Old Timers (TDOT) semi-annual reunion this year was held at the home of Ed Luedke in Lake Forest, Calif. Ed lives on the lake in Lake Forest Key. Our group includes people who worked in one of the thermal departments (Spacecraft Design & Analysis, Test, and Thermal-physical Properties lab) in the 1960-70s. We've also included some honorary TDOTs who worked closely with one of those organizations. Those in attendance were: Jerry Brown, Shirlene Conklin, Jim Clayton, Ron Cline, George and Millie Engle, Brenda Haky (Ron was in Tibet trekking), LeRoy and Barbara Herold, Larry Kelley, Steve Liu, Ben Loya, Wil Luecke, Ed Luedke, Margie Carone, Bruce and Carol Marcus, Jim and Sonya Moses, and Dennis and Linda Rhoads.

Our weekend started Friday. Ed and his sweetheart Margie prepared lasagna and ordered in pizza and a salad for dinner. The highlights of these reunions are discussions which are facilitated by the drink of one's choice and endless hors d'oeuvres. The main topics of discussion included: former TRW acquaintances and what they were doing or where they now live, stories about those people and events (usually funny or things they got away with — which I cannot document here), our old organizations, the new organizations, and of course our health issues which everyone could relate to.

Saturday morning we enjoyed a continental breakfast at Ed's. Seven of us played golf at Meadowlark Golf Club in Huntington Beach. The exact scores are classified. Most of the others relaxed at Ed's house, continued with a variety of conversations, and many took a boat ride on the lake. Saturday night we joined a charity fund-raising dinner and Halloween party held at Lake Forest Key Community Center. Ed provided another continental breakfast Sunday morning. By noon everyone had departed.



Left to Right standing: Larry Kelley, Jim Moses, Ed Luedke, Jim Clayton, Jerry Brown, Carol and Bruce Marcus  
Left to Right sitting: Dennis and Linda Rhoads, Shirlene Conklin



Standing:  
Ben Loya and Sonya  
Moses

Sitting:  
Wil Luecke, Millie and  
George Engle, LeRoy  
Herold

**MORE MAIL POUCH***Continued from Page 6*

illness sidelined him for a time, but he is back at the museum and inviting all fellow retirees to see both him and his museum. He and his wife **Babette** split their time between Madison, Ala. and Rancho Palos Verdes, where they still own their original home♦♦♦**Fred Zeuthen** reported in on **Will Schilling**. Fred and **Bob Bloss** drive the 50 miles between Ogden and Salt Lake City about every six weeks to visit with Will, who is almost completely blind, has significant hearing loss, and a bit of Type 2 diabetes. But he remains alert and in good humor. Will explains, *I'm in pretty good condition for the condition I'm in*. He is living with his daughter, **Peggy Cook**, in Las Vegas♦♦♦The January NNG will have a reminder and a form for dues renewal. But **Kay Martin** couldn't wait, and sent in a renewal for two more years, with this caveat: *If the "grim reaper" ever comes knocking I will merely protest and say that my TRA membership is good for two more years*♦♦♦**Judy** and **Boris Dobrotin** are back in Valley Centre, Calif., after returning from their summer boating. The *exciting, romantic, touching story* of their 2011 Pacific Northwest trip is at [www.dobro-journey.com](http://www.dobro-journey.com). Even better, they've added another g'daughter, so all is well♦♦♦**Allan Strayer** reports good news—that thanks to fine work at UCLA Medical over the last couple of years, he is now free of an esophagol pre-cancerous condition known as Barrett's Syndrome. Several follow-up exams still are in the works, but celebrating with him at their home in Westlake Village is Allan's wife, **Margie**, a retiree from L. A.'s school system, and a bunch of family members. Allan's last major assignment before retirement in 1989 was as a member of the DSP Program Office♦♦♦

*We come into this world crying  
while all around us are smiling.  
May we so live that we go out of  
this world smiling while everybody  
around us is weeping.*

Persian proverb

**IN MEMORIAM**

Name	Date
Harold Arterburn	November 23, 2011
Michael J. Barnard	June 15th, 2011
Marsha Benson	October 16, 2011
Robert Doughty	August 12, 2011
Eugene M. Friedman	July 13, 2011
Kenneth Alan Gromberg	October 13, 2011
Genevieve Kiser	November 19, 2011
Ruben Dario Nieves	October 19, 2011
Sharon K. (Box) Peters	October 13, 2011
Donald Norton Pitts	November 3, 2011
Luchy P. Roteliuk	November 24, 2011
Laurence Harold Simonsen	August 1, 2011
Eugene A. Skulick Sr.	August 31, 2011
Janet Lee Sousa	June 19, 2011
Mary Lou Sullivan	October 9, 2011
Robert E. Vitale	August 23, 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.

**Important Contacts for Retirees****Northrop Grumman Benefits Center**

[www.benefits.northropgrumman.com](http://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](http://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



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**The next NNG will be mailed in January. For those whose membership expires in 2011, there will be a handy form in that issue to facilitate your dues renewal for 2012 and beyond.**

## THE MAIL POUCH

◆◆◆During the winter, Florida has huge numbers of “snowbirds” who flee the northern states for the warmth of the south. But **Betty Horn** flies in the opposite direction. She leaves the wonderful climate of Winter Haven, Fl., for the winds, snow, and ice of Cresco in northern Iowa◆◆◆**Jacqueline C. Johnson** wants all her TRW friends to know that the death notice in the June issue of the NNG was not about her. She worked in pricing at TRW and now is 91 and very much among the living, even though TRA confused the names and cancelled her TRA membership. However, **Jacque L. Johnson** was correctly listed. His aerospace career included JPL, Hughes and TRW. He lived in Los Alamitos and is buried at Green Hills in Rancho Palos Verdes◆◆◆**Hans Schurig** reports that a good time was had by all who attended a recent luncheon in Rancho Cugamonga. In attendance were retired TRW Solar Array Section managers and engineering staff, who celebrated this reunion with their friends from Spectrolab Corp. The illustrious **Hans Rauschenbach** who has been something of a guru to all of us, flew in from Phoenix, to the delight of **Saul**



By Al Hausrath

**Bashin, Rod Dobson** and **Hans S. Hans Mesch** could not attend because he was still in recovery from the flu. Saul on the other hand is a picture of health at 96. He does not even need for glasses and chauffeurs his limo all over the state◆◆◆**Richard Paoletti** had 6½ years of employment with Northrop Aircraft and Litton Systems before joining TRW. He would like to “bridge” those earlier years with his Heritage TRW years to increase his retiree benefits. So far, Northrop has been unsympathetic. Richard would like to hear from other NG/TRW retirees with a similar need to bridge their qualifying years. His phone is 310-832-0454 in San Pedro◆◆◆With 34 years in, **Bob Sackheim** retired from TRW in '99, and went to work for NASA/Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala. In '06 he again retired, only to pursue two careers: consultant and as an operator of his privately-owned Civil War museum (Blue and Gray Museum of North Alabama) in Decatur, Alabama. He was able then to seriously pursue his life-long passion as a Civil War buff and ardent collector of Civil War relics. A serious

*Continued on Page 5*