

**TRA's**

No Name

# GAZETTE

**For Northrop Grumman & TRW Legacy Retirees**

VOL. XXV NO. 7

October — December 2013

## Holiday Party Time — December 6th

*From 11:00 to 3:00*

*Reservation Deadline — November 23, 2013*

### HAPPENINGS AT NORTHROP GRUMMAN

#### Aerospace Systems Sector (NGAS)

➤ SAN DIEGO -- NGAS turned on the power to the U.S. Navy's first MQ-8C Fire Scout unmanned helicopter and rotated the aircraft's four blades for the first time during initial ground testing and engine runs at Naval Base Ventura County Point Mugu, Calif., Sept. 20. Conducting initial engine runs of the aircraft allows engineers to collect data to ensure that all the aircraft's systems are functioning and communicating properly prior to its first flight. This latest aircraft upgrade to the Fire Scout system provides the Navy with more than twice the endurance and three times the payload carrying capacity, enabling an unprecedented level of persistent surveillance, intelligence and reconnaissance capability. NGAS is the Navy's prime contractor for the Fire Scout program and is currently under contract to produce MQ-8C aircraft for deployment beginning in 2014.



By Frank Warren

➤ OTTOBRUNN, GERMANY — Astrium, a subsidiary of the European Aeronautic Defence and Space Company, has completed the build of the Near-Infrared spectrometer (NirSpec), one of four instruments that will go in the NGAS James Web Space Telescope (JWST). NirSpec's job will be to determine the age, composition, movement and distance of the objects in its field of view. In a short ceremony in Ottobrunn on Friday, the instrument was handed over to the European Space Agency which had commissioned NirSpec. The Paris-based organization then immediately passed the near-\$300M instrument to NASA, which leads the JWST venture. The expectation is that some of these targets will include the very first stars to shine in the Universe. That would mean picking up light signals that have traveled across space for perhaps 13.6 billion light-years - something Hubble cannot do.

**WHERE:** Ports O' Call Restaurant in San Pedro

**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 — Fettuccine Alfredo with Chicken (vegetarian meal), 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 \$30 per person.

**ATMOSPHERE:** Holiday Season — Put on your party clothes and your dancing shoes and join us on Friday, December 6 for a great party.

### 2013 Holiday Party

**Reservation Deadline — November 23, 2013**

**Retiree Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership No.:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(From mailing label)

**Total Number Coming** \_\_ **at \$30 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**

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## TRA for Northrop Grumman Retirees

The Retirees Association (TRA) welcomes the retirees of Northrop Grumman and TRW.

### 2013 OFFICERS

Darrell Ausherman ..... President  
 Dena Bouskos..... Vice President  
 Bob Doll ..... Treasurer  
 Jay Seidman ..... Secretary  
 Jack Trost ..... Immediate Past President

### 2013 DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

Charles Clendening, Budd Cohen, Tony Gomez, Ira Green,  
 Marcy Morrison, Carol Schamp, and Jack Williams.

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

#### Publication Staff:

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

## 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.

# 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 1:30 p.m.	No reservations needed. All Members Welcome
ATD Friends & Colleagues	Hacienda Hotel El Segundo	1st Monday in Nov. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.	Social, Nostalgia and Lunch Res Deadline: Fri. 10/26/2013	Don Reeves, Jack Trost, Carol Schamp cschamp@aol.com 310-377-2194
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 aconnarn@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
Houston Chapter	Baybrook Denny's, 19212 Gulf Fwy Friendswood, Tex.	3rd Tuesday 8:30 a.m.	Social	Gary Dinsmore 281-461-6270 samngary@att.net
Huntsville Chapter	Ryan's Buffet 1808 University Drive NW, 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 Shepherd 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 <a href="http://sandiego.tra-spacepark.org">http://sandiego.tra-spacepark.org</a>	Jim Denton 858-385-0150 JWDenton@san.rr.com
Temecula Valley	Various Locations in the Temecula/Murrieta Area	2nd 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 Winkelman 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
Ventura Romeos	Mimi's Cafe Thousand Oaks	1st Tuesday Lunch	Social	Fred Blaich 805-499-0012 or Harry Stroud 805-653-5117

**IN MEMORIAM**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Date of Death</b>
Howard Doane	July 18, 2013
George Engle	November 25, 2012
Ray Haynes	September 22, 2013
Francis (Frank) Marion Holmes	September 22, 2013
Corinne Self (Bemis) Jones	September 7, 2013
Susan (Smelzer) Kendall	October 6, 2013
Richard H. Kingsland	April 28, 2013
Robert J Kowalski	July 11, 2013
Robert C. Lowry	August 18, 2013
Andrew "Jack" Morton	September 29, 2013
Donald J. Moyer	August 29, 2013
Oliver A. (Bus) Reynolds, Jr.	May 31, 2013
Samuel S. Rifman	August 16, 2013
Osamu Senda	September 28, 2013
Albert D. Wheelon	September 27, 2013
W. Elaine Williams	June 11, 2012
Ralph Wuerker	October 29, 2012

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.

**Recent New Members to TRA**

We welcome the following members since the last newsletter.

Susan P. Baker	Torrance, CA
Michael E. Balale	Torrance, CA
Lynn E. Boro	Chatsworth, CA
Calvin F. Low	Rancho Palos Verdes, CA
William W. Purdy Jr.	La Canada, CA
Robert W. Robitaille	Studio City, 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 tra@tra-spacepark.org or to TRA, P.O. Box 1276, Redondo Beach, CA 90278.

**HAPPENINGS**

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**Information Systems Sector (NGIS)**

► FORT BENNING, GA – NGIS was selected to demonstrate its Carry-all Modular Equipment Landrover, called CaMEL, during the U.S. Army Maneuver Center of Excellence Robotics Limited Demonstration. CaMEL is a mid-sized unmanned ground vehicle (UGV) designed to accommodate multiple missions, including lightening the load; performing casualty evacuations; clearing antipersonnel mine routes; and hauling ammunition for dismounted mortar platoons. It can carry a load of 1,000 lbs. of equipment at a maximum speed of 5 miles per hour across rough terrain. CaMEL's hybrid design – diesel engine combined with a battery – not only provides more than 20 hours of continuous operations on 3.5 gallons of fuel but also produces power that can be exported and used for charging batteries or powering other systems. NGIS has sold more than 60 of its standard CaMEL UGVs to the Israeli military. The Army's Maneuver Center of Excellence at Fort Benning expressed an interest in it.

**AEROSPACE: The industry that built the South Bay**

So reads the headline on an interesting history of the Aerospace industry in Southern California. It was written by Rachel Reeves, a reporter for the Easy Reader Newspaper, a weekly publication serving the South Bay cities in Los Angeles County, and published in the October 17, 2013 edition of the newspaper.

Reeves traces the ups and downs of both the industry and its great effects on the South Bay communities. TRW and Northrop Grumman play an important part in this history. This is the first in a series of aerospace articles. Reeve's next article in the Easy Reader will be a report on the current status of the industry and the efforts to resuscitate it. TRA has posted the full article on its website. Go to <http://tra-spacepark.org>, and under a heading "What's New on the Web Page" select the article with the same title as above. It is the intent of TRA to add the other two articles to our web page as they become available.

***The next NNG will be mailed in early January, 2014.***



P.O. Box 1276

Redondo Beach, CA 90278

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### Important Contact 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.

### Northrop Grumman Benefits Enrollment for 2014

The Northrop Grumman Benefit Center (NGBC) mailed both the 2014 Retiree Enrollment Benefits Guide and the personalized Health and Welfare Enrollment Worksheet in mid October. Did you receive yours? If not, it is possible NGBC does not have your current address. Your Health and Welfare Enrollment Worksheet not only shows your monthly rates for 2014 for the same coverage as you have in 2013, but lists the other options available to retirees.

If you plan to keep your current coverage, you do not need to enroll at this time. *If you want to change your coverage, you must enroll between October 28 and November 10, 2013.*

*If you have not received this material, call NGBC immediately at 1-800-894-4194 during business hours (Central Standard Time Zone).*

### Proud Bird Restaurant to Close

The Proud Bird Restaurant, home for TRA's Alice Lord Spring Fling since 2002, will be closing by year end.

The 48-year-old aviation-themed restaurant is on property owned by Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA), and had been operating under a series of five-year leases until April, 2011. Since then, they have been paying their rent monthly, but without a new multi-year lease, they could not risk the many needed improvements. LAWA has suggested a contract at 2.5 times their current rent, which the restaurant management finds unaffordable.

TRA is looking for another venue to hold its annual Spring Fling next April, 2014. Suggestions are welcome. The location should be within a five mile radius of Space Park, and be spacious enough to seat 125-150 diners. Please email any suggestions to tra@tra-spacepark.org or mail to TRA, P.O. Box 1276, Redondo Beach, CA.

## THE MAIL POUCH

◆◆◆The Hardness & Survivability Lab retirees celebrated **Orv Adams'** 88th b'day at their annual reunion lunch at the Manhattan Beach Olive Garden. Helping Orv celebrate were **Howard Spitzer, Paul and Esther Guilfoyle, Terry Lunn, Malcolm Kong, Royce and Merna Loveland, Rod Nicas, Wes Baba, and Gus Kokinnos**◆◆◆Can you beat **Ken Goldman** in his travels? He just returned from a marvelous tour of the Lake District of Italy. Italy is just one of the 93 countries he has visited! Ken's wife, **Billie**, died in 2009, so on this trip he traveled with his daughter, **Lisa**◆◆◆In the previous issue of the NNG, Mail Pouch mentioned **Nancy Castle's** new book, and got the name all wrong. It should have cited *The Ark by N.R. Castle*◆◆◆The Dobrotins have outlived the USSR, and that is confirmed by **Boris and Judy Dobrotin**, who just returned from a great trip to Poland, the Baltic States, and Russia. Boris' parents came from Russia after its revolution, so the trip was very nostalgic. It was a trip through history, with different views expressed in each country◆◆◆**Bob Rupkey** recently talked with **Betty Stover**. Report: She is doing fine in a nice apartment in Fort Collins, CO, and would love to hear from other TRA folks at 970-689-3512◆◆◆After 39 years at TRW/NG in the Electronic Manufacturing area, **Mary Robinson** retired in January, 2012, and they are traveling as much as possible with their new freedom. And, to top all that off, she and **Solomon** just celebrated their 40th Anniversary◆◆◆Another pair of non-stay-at-home retirees, **Mary and Carl Holcomb**. Their itineraries? Minnesota (High School Reunion), an Alaskan cruise via the inside passage, and a trip to Denver. Want more details? Try marija.fn@juno.com◆◆◆

### Upcoming TRA Events

Holiday Party

Friday, December 6, 2013

Tour of JPL\*

Thursday, March 27, 2014

Alice Lord Spring Fling\* Mid April, 2014

\* Details to be provided in future NNGs