

# TRA's

No Name

# GAZETTE

## For Northrop Grumman & TRW Legacy Retirees

VOL. XXVIII NO. 4

July/August 2016

### Make Your Reservations Now for the TRA Annual Summer Reunion on August 12th at the Space Park Building S Cafeteria

TRA's big Annual Summer Reunion will be BACK at the Building S Cafeteria, Friday, August 12th, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Note the date change from previous announcements. August 12th is an off-Friday and TRA is taking advantage of the empty campus to meet again in Building S for our annual reunion.

We will have a choice of homestyle meatloaf or herb crusted chicken breast together with a side salad, mashed potatoes and gravy, rolls and butter, and steamed fresh vegetables. For dessert we will have a choice of carrot cake or Black Forest cake. Soft drinks and tea/coffee are included. If you require a vegetarian entree, give us a call at 310-813-7745 and leave a message.

We are still confirming speakers as of NNG press time. We expect to have an executive from Northrop Grumman give us an update on the company. When we confirm we will update our web site with the latest news.

Information tables from Western/Unify Federal Credit

Union, Northrop Grumman Credit Union, and for TRA Membership will be available. The Company Store will be selling See's certificates and company memorabilia. Come to meet old friends and enjoy a fine lunch.

Advance registration is very important. You can reserve by mail using the form on Page 5 or you can go online to [tra-spacepark.org](http://tra-spacepark.org) to make your reservations and pay with Paypal. A PayPal account is not needed as you can also use a credit card.

**Please reserve by August 5th.** If you cannot reserve in advance, we will not turn you away at the door; but the price will be a bit higher. Lunch for registrants by the deadline of August 5th is \$30 per person; at the door it will be \$35.

Attendees wanting to use the elevator to the Building S patio should proceed to the East entrance of Building S by 11:30 a.m. for security sign-in and escort. Please note on your reservation whether you will require access to the elevator. See you there!

### Ogden, Utah TRA Meets First Thursdays

Fellow Retirees: The first Thursday of the month, TRW/NG Retirees near Hill AFB in Utah meet at the Cracker Barrel in Layton at 0830. There are about 30 or 40 regulars; about 16 are there at any particular event. Just about 99% have had careers in the field of ICBMs. All of us would be pleased if you would drop by anytime you are in Northern Utah on the first Thursday.

Email [charlesvono@comcast.net](mailto:charlesvono@comcast.net) for information.



From left to right: Stu Flood, Stan Worth, Doug Layton, Jack Curtin, Jim Meyers, Marty Stampick, Bob Bloss, Harry Amalfitano, Leo Seeber, Tony Spehar, Chres Oki, and Charlie Parker

### Events Scheduled to Commemorate 40th Anniversary of Viking I Mars Landing

June 19th, 1976, Viking I entered orbit around Mars, and July 20th celebrates '40 Years On Mars' for Viking I. Viking II landed later in the year on September 9th, 1976. Viking was a collaborative effort between many NASA centers and contractors, led by the Langley Viking Project Office and Martin Marietta, with critical instrumentation designed and built by TRW.

The TRW Viking Lander Biology Instrument, comprised of 3 chemistry laboratories, and the Viking Meteorology Instrument System evolved in a very intense development cycle. All 4 TRW instruments operated successfully and provided first-of-a-kind data from the Mars surface.

This year events commemorate the Viking missions, with local events by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics LA-LV Section and national events by the Viking Mars Missions Education and Preservation Project (VMMEPP). VMMEPP preserves the Viking mission history and artifacts and hosts annual events and outreach for the public. It is hosting the 2016, 40th Viking Team

*Continued on Page 3*

## TRA for Northrop Grumman Retirees

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

### 2016 Officers

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

### 2016 Directors-at-Large

Mary Ann Chory, Charles Clendening, Reggie Jue, Marcy Morrison, and Carol Schamp.

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

### Publication Staff

Michael Narigon, Editor  
Al Hausrath, Frank Warren, Contributing Editors  
Bill Dean, Contributor  
Kim Lewis, Carol Schamp, Copy Editors

## Contacting TRA

### By Mail:

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

### By Phone:

310-813-7745

### 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 as the need arises. To get on the TRA email list, just send us a brief email requesting to be added to it.

### By Web:

Our web site 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. Register, 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. The application is available on the website.

## NG/TRW Retirees Meetings Around the US

GROUP	MEETING LOCATION	TIME & DATE	OTHER INFO	CONTACT
TRA	Bldg. S/Cafeteria, Space Park	3rd Thursday Monthly	Business Meeting 1:30 p.m.	No reservations needed, All members welcome
ATD Friends & Colleagues	Palos Verdes Golf Club, 3301 Via Campesina, PVE, CA 90274 310-375-2533	Tuesday, November 1, 2016	Social, Nostalgia and Lunch Reserve by October 21, 2016	Jack Trost, Dena Bouskos, Carol Schamp 310-377-2194 cschamp@aol.com
Beach Cities Get-together	Grunions Restaurant, 1501 N Sepulveda Blvd, MB, CA	Last Monday, Even months 11 AM to 2 PM	Social	Allen Parker 310-780-0712 777allendsp@gmail.com
Brevard Retirees	Various Locations in Brevard, NC	1st Wednesday 8 AM, 3rd Wed 5 PM	Social	Al & Daughn Connarn 828-884-4993 aconnarn@yahoo.com
Central Coast Chapter	Various Locations in the Central Coast Area	Various days: contact Zaiser for details	Social	George Zaiser 805-473-2105 gzais@cloud.com
Houston Chapter	Baybrook Denny's, 19212 Gulf Fwy, Friendswood, TX	3rd Tuesday, 8:30 AM	Social	Gary Dinsmore 281-461-6270 samngary@att.net
Huntsville Chapter	2nd Tues Varies: E-mail for Location 4th Tues Macaroni Grill, Madison Mall	2nd Tuesday, 11:30 AM 4th Tuesday, 11:30 AM	Social	www.TRA-Huntsville.org Jim Troy 850-797-0044 jtroy@troysig.com
Las Vegas	Various Locations in Las Vegas Metro Area	Last Tuesday, 11:30 AM	Social	Carol Noblet 702-889-6773 cannob70@gmail.com
Northern Virginia	Old Brogue Pub, Great Falls, VA	3rd Friday, 11:30 AM	Social	Bill Gehrke 703-759-0527 wgehrke@att.net
Ogden	Cracker Barrel Restaurant, Layton, UT	1st Thursday, Breakfast	Social	Charles Vono 801-745-5879 charlesvono@comcast.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	J. Carters Grill, 40365 Murrietta Hot Springs Rd, Murrietta, CA	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	SS. Brigid & Branden Room, American Martyrs Church, MB, CA	2nd Thursday, 12:30 PM	Investment Info based on monthly newsletter reviews	Bob Eshbaugh 310-376-5880 eshonnet@yahoo.com
Ventura Romeos	Mimi's Cafe Thousand Oaks	1st Tuesday, Lunch	Social	Fred Blaich 805-499-0012, Harry Stroud 805-653-5117

## IN MEMORIAM

- Paul I. Akamine**, 90, May 9, 2016, Test Engineer, Milstar and other programs.
- Alphonso "Al" Ambrosia**, 98, March 20, 2016.
- John William Bacon, III**, 68, May 18, 2016, Mechanical Engineer.
- Donald R. Bull**, 93, January 29, 2016, Project Engineer at TRW.
- Robert J. "RJ" Calvert**, 95, April 5, 2016, Systems Engineer in Interface Control for missiles and spacecraft. Retired 1992.
- Joseph Carrier**, 85, April 7, 2016, Mechanical Engineer at TRW.
- Robert D. Hall**, 90, May 30, 2016, Electronics Engineer, Retired 1992.
- Robert Lyle Hibbard**, 85, April 23, 2016, Mechanic & Supervisor – Precision Assembly, 30 years at TRW. Retired 1991.
- Natalie Ann Keck**, 96, February 13, 2016.
- Molly-Jean Wilson Laubenstein**, 93, May 1, 2016.
- Esther Oviedo-McCulley**, 78, June 13, 2016, Business Manager, Retired 1992.
- Robert Jerome Pifer**, 92, April 8, 2016, Aerospace Engineer, 32 years at TRW/NG.
- Richard B. Reynolds**, 88, May 14, 2016, 28 years at TRW, Retired 1990.
- Albert E. Sabroff**, 81, April 11, 2016, Vice President TRW Federal Systems Division, Retired 1990.
- William B. J. Shakespeare**, 96, October 15, 2015, Engineer.
- Jerome Robert "Bob" Shapiro**, 83, April 30, 2016, Electrical Engineer.
- Charles Phillips Shortwell**, 81, March 30, 2016, Aerospace Engineer, 29 years at TRW/NG.
- Irvin Nathaniel "Buddy" Spielberg**, 96, February 19, 2015, Aerospace Engineer, 30 years at TRW, Retired 1986.
- Gay Halvorsen Swanson**, 74, February 19, 2016, 44 years at TRW/NG, Retired 2007.
- Philip C. Walker**, 85, May 27, 2016, Systems Engineer and Senior Project Manager, 30+ years at TRW/NG.

The first step in notifying Northrop Grumman of a retiree's death is to call the Benefits Service Center at 800-894-4194. The Benefits Center does NOT notify TRA of the death due to privacy laws.

If you know of a person that should be included in the "In Memoriam" column, please inform us by either mail or email to the TRA office. As a minimum, we need the name of the deceased; date of death; and the name of the person submitting the information. If more information is available and desired, include age, position and years at NG/TRW, any notable programs, and special skills.

## Viking Commemoration

*Continued from Page 1*

Member Reunion, open to ALL Vikings from institutes across the globe in all roles - every role contributed to the mission success!

As of the NNG press date, the Los Angeles events are still in planning, but the VMMEPP all-day Public Viking and Mars Exploration educational event on July 16 is confirmed at the Wings over the Rockies Museum near Denver, Colorado. Lockheed Martin and Viking Alumni will enjoy a 50% discount on admission. Vikings will be available for autographs and to meet the public to share their experiences. There will also be activities for kids including two Mars Challenge activities sponsored by The Space Foundation.

For the AIAA LA-LV events, please contact Gary Moir at [gary.moir@ingenuir.com](mailto:gary.moir@ingenuir.com). For the 40th Viking Reunion and Public Mars Exploration Day and for other Viking mission information and events, contact Rachel Tillman at [rachel@thevikingpreservationproject.org](mailto:rachel@thevikingpreservationproject.org) and follow <https://www.facebook.com/VikingMarsMission>.

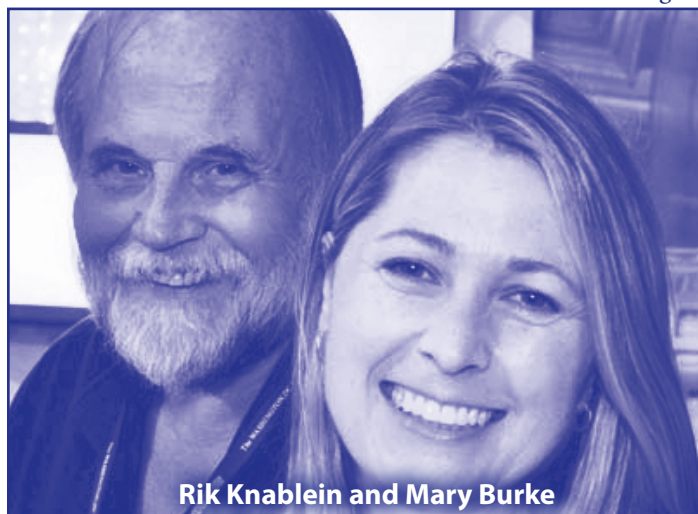
## After Retirement: From Software to Fountain Pens

*By Susan Bowman, edited By Michael Narigon*

In 2009, after 34 years as a software engineer at TRW/Northrop Grumman, Rik Knablein decided it was time to follow his passion of designing precious metal pens. His scientific training was an asset for his new business venture. "In designing writing instruments, I found an opportunity to combine both worlds—art and science—the visual and tactile."

Knablein admits RiKwill would not have succeeded without the support of Mary Burke, whom he met during his early pen collecting days in the mid-1990s. At the time she was international marketing manager for the British pen company Conway Stewart. "Mary and I have this rapport—we build on one another's enthusiasm," says Knablein. "I like to push design to further limits, and I trust her to tell me whether or not it will work."

*Continued on Page 4*



Rik Knablein and Mary Burke

## Upcoming Events

Holiday Party

December 2, 2016

## From Software to Fountain Pens

*Continued from Page 3*

In 2011, they formed a three-way partnership among Conway Stewart, Knablein, and Rich Littlestone, a former colleague of Knablein's who is a skilled metal engraver. Together they created three exclusive designs under the brand MetalWrite, one of which won best Metal Mastery in the 2012 PenWorld Readers' Choice Awards.

Rik then decided to take off on his own, forming RiKwill, a combination of his name and quill. Being a California beach boy at heart, Knablein loves bright colors and fun names for his pens like Babbage Cousins and Lolli, inspired by lollipops in luscious flavors like grape, lime, and cherry. Knablein went on to create 15 exclusive designs with Conway Stewart under the RiKwill brand. Although Conway Stewart closed its doors in September 2014, Knablein continues to sell a dwindling inventory of sterling silver pens he made with the brand, fully warranting them himself.

Today RiKwill continues its pen passion by working with other worldwide manufacturers such as Delta, Conklin and Faber Castell, to create world class designs. It has been nominated for more PenWorld awards each year.

"Fountain pens should be fun," notes Knablein. "We have access to written communication through smartphones, tablets, and computers; but they leave us wanting something more enriching and enduring. I want to bring joy to the process of acquiring and writing with fountain pens."

Visit [RiKwill.com](http://RiKwill.com) for more 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.

Towers Watson's OneExchange  
<https://medicare.oneexchange.com/NGC>  
 Or by phone: 855-832-0976

If your Medicare Supplemental Insurance coverage has been transferred from the NGBC to OneExchange, this is your contact information.

### Call for Meeting Information

TRA would like to reach out to all formal and informal gatherings so that we can share more information on the events and happenings of TRA members. We publish meeting times and locations in the newsletter (Page 2) and on the web.

Also, we are interested in news about your members and activities. If you do have an activity or information that would be of interest to TRA members, please consider sending it. Photos are always of interest. Contact TRA for more information on how to prepare your submission.

## After Retirement: Presenting Elementary Students with the Theory and History of Flight

*by Bill Dean*

I worked at TRW from 1967 to 1993 and retired as a Stress Analyst working on the Fleet Satcom (FLTSATCOM) and Telecommunication Data Relay Satellite System (TDRSS.) After retirement, with the help of my family, I put together a Powerpoint presentation entitled "The Theory and History of Flight." This program is an oral presentation given to elementary students to expose them early in their education as to why science and math are fundamental to working in the aviation industry.

After presenting the program to over 300 students, I felt I could better expand my program by building a flight simulator that the students could use. With the simulator they are able to experience a simulated flight around the Palos Verdes Peninsula using all flight controls and instruments. A DVD shows the actual flight on a TV screen including conversation between the pilot and the tower operator. The engine noise is simulated depending on the position in flight. The photo shows a young student sitting in the pilot's seat using the complete control and instrument panel for the flight around PV.

I started giving my presentation in the Orange County Schools to GATE students in 24 elementary schools. Now I have been doing this in the Torrance schools or wherever someone requests my program. I have received hundreds of letters from the students telling me what they learned from the presentation.

I also worked 2 years with FIRST, a nationwide robotics competition at Dominguez Hills Academy of Math and Science, as well as with a traveling Space Program in Pasadena. I was a volunteer at the Museum of Flying in Santa Monica for 8 years and at the Western Museum of Flight in Torrance for about 6 years.

I am 88 years old and have been married for 64 years. We have 4 children; 2 of which are retired, 7 grandchildren, and 9 great-grand children. I am truly blessed.



Student enjoying the simulator.

## HAPPENINGS AT NORTHROP GRUMMAN

### Northrop Grumman Named a 2016 Top 50 Company for Diversity by DiversityInc

FALLS CHURCH, Va. - Northrop Grumman has been ranked 31st on DiversityInc's annual list for the Top 50 Companies for Diversity. Over 1,800 companies participate in this competition. The company moved up from 35th in 2015 and was the only aerospace and defense company to make the top 50 list. In the DiversityInc specialty lists rankings Northrop Grumman was rated number one for people with disabilities, second in veterans support and sixth in diversity councils.

Northrop Grumman has earned a Top 50 ranking for diversity from DiversityInc for the last seven years. For the 2016 listing DiversityInc recognized Northrop Grumman's "robust diversity and inclusion practices," its demonstrated commitment to talent-development initiatives and for employing "noteworthy numbers of veterans."

DiversityInc also noted that Northrop Grumman's people of color in senior management is 31 percent higher compared with other U.S. companies in the survey and its number of women in senior management is 62 percent higher.

### Northrop Grumman Selected for Advanced Technology Support Program IV

LINTHICUM, Md. - Northrop Grumman was one of eight companies awarded an engineering services contract for the Advanced Technology Support Program IV (ATSP4). The indefinite-delivery, indefinite-quantity, multiple award contract has a total potential value of \$7.2 billion and will be carried out over the next ten years.

The ATSP4 program is contracted by the Defense Microelectronics Activity (DMEA) in McClellan, California and is designed to enable quick react contracting to facilitate

technology transformation in Department of Defense systems.

Northrop Grumman has been awarded contracts for previous iterations of this program since 1999.

Under the contract, Northrop Grumman may undertake tasks ranging from trade studies, technology development and upgrades, to developing advanced technology solutions for new and existing DOD weapon systems. Other capabilities included in the contract are design, fabrication, assembly, testing, integration, prototyping and limited systems production.

### US Air Force Awards Northrop Grumman GPS III Space Vehicle Alternatives Program Study

REDONDO BEACH, Ca. - The United States Air Force has awarded Northrop Grumman a 26-month study contract based on the company's innovative proposal for the next-generation Global Positioning System (GPS) III program. This award follows the Air Force's request for proposals seeking potential updates to the GPS system, which has been delivering precise global position, navigation and timing services worldwide for more than two decades.

Northrop Grumman's submission was based on a navigational payload prototype built and tested over a radio frequency range in 2015, and a mission-tailored space vehicle leveraging the proven GPS supplier base. For its clean sheet design, the company drew on expertise with technology currently operating on Air Force and other Department of Defense satellites. In addition to current GPS III capabilities, the full-scale, fully populated prototype demonstrated significantly increased capacity and enhanced transmission power for the military code, a critical capability for operating in regions of the world where jamming is prevalent.



By Frank Warren

## SUMMER REUNION RESERVATION FORM, Friday, August 12, 2016 11:00 to 2:00 Reservation Deadline: August 5, 2016

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Membership No. (from mailing label): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Total number attending: \_\_\_\_\_ at \$30 each = \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I will need elevator access:  Mail with a check payable to "TRA" to the following address:

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



P.O. Box 1276  
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

PRSR-STD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 234  
Torrance, CA

The next NNG will be  
mailed in September.

## THE MAIL POUCH

◆◆◆ **Julie** and **Bob Helt** (Aurora, CO) fit the mold for many TRAers; the joy of USA travel and looking forward to g'kids' nuptials ◆◆◆ **Bob** and **Diana Petrauschke** are enjoying a full and active retirement in a Del Webb community just east of Sacramento, CA. But when the summer heat arrives, they retreat north to Anacortes, WA, to their beach house which overlooks the San Juan Islands ◆◆◆ Another retiree who enjoys Washington State is **Connie Stelmak** of Mead, WA, just outside Spokane. She enjoys the outdoor activities available, including hot air ballooning. Good clean air, she brags ◆◆◆ Good news for **Carlos Monsalve**, up in North Fork, CA (45 miles NE of Fresno in the mountains.) He reported in January that 2015 was the first year since he left TRW that he had zero boating, due to the drought. But now nearby Bass Lake is almost full again, so he had better get that boat motor tuned up ◆◆◆ Lost track of **Bob Button**? He started at Grumman in Bethpage, NY, as Director of Public Affairs/Space in '66. Then in '69 he became Manager of Public Relations at TRW Systems in Redondo Beach. A Presidential Appointment as Deputy to the Assistant Director for Public Affairs at NASA in Washington, D.C., took him back east in '72. Now home is Reading, PA ◆◆◆ **Otis Goodwin** writes that TRA member **Elizabeth Goodwin** has lost her eyesight to macular degeneration and he is caring for her in their home in Pinehurst, NC. Otis was the Director of Contracts at TRW/ESG ◆◆◆ **Michael** and **Kathy Madigan** are enjoying their golden years in the south Orange County town of Coto de Caza. They just celebrated their 52<sup>nd</sup> anniversary together ◆◆◆ **Gordon Gerson** retired from NG five years ago, but not from his volunteering activities. He's been mentoring the Math Engineering Science Achievement (MESA) students at Los



By Al Hausrath

Angeles High School, his alma mater. The LAHS MESA club also enters three teams each year in the JPL Invention Challenge. In last year's challenge the LAHS teams took first and second in the competition. In his spare time, Gordon is taking piano lessons ◆◆◆ Another retiree who has discovered the rewards of volunteering is **Wahed Hossaini**. He joined TRW in Fairfax, VA, in '83, retired in '99. Started volunteering while at TRW, and is still at it with Fairfax Hospital and AARP ◆◆◆ For **Bruce Monteith** (Carson City, NV) retirement is the time to travel. His wife, **Nanette**, died in 2014, after 53 years together. His recent travels include South America, a three-week road trip in California, a family visit in Ohio, and last November, a full month in Oceanside, CA ◆◆◆ **Ann** and **Bill Maybury** now live in Fernley, NV, just outside of Reno. Ann is learning to create web pages, while Bill is writing children's ebooks under the title of Fables, Fictions, and Felines. Check out his web site at [www.billykbaker.com](http://www.billykbaker.com) ◆◆◆ And then there are retirees who never retire. Case in point: **Larry Lakamp** from Riverside, CA. He joined Douglas Aircraft in 1960 where he learned FORTRAN, and has been programming ever since. He left TRW in '91 and learned other programming languages. In '97 he joined Starcrest Products of California, and just completed his 19th year with them as a Sr. Programmer Analyst ◆◆◆ **Maria Wilkins** and husband **Jim** really did retire, to Lake Anna, Bumpass, VA. While Jim is out fishing in his new boat, Maria continues to sew up a storm making quilts. They have taken cooking classes in France and Italy, and enjoy sharing their gourmet meals with friends ◆◆◆ **Dorothy Balla** wrote in from Orofino, a small town in northern Idaho, where she gardens and cans the vegetables she grows ◆◆◆