VOL. XXX NO. 2 Our 30th Year March/April 2018

# Special Event - A Chocolate Tasting Adventure with Hawaiian Chocolate and Cacao Association Member and Grower David Vandervoet

TRA is pleased to announce a special event on April 26 with retired TRW vice president and TRA member David Vandervoet.

Producing premier chocolate is more complex than producing premier wine. Most people have not tasted premier chocolate and the taste, like wine, varies depending on the region where it is grown. Come and experience a blind tasting of 6-8 premier chocolates produced from cacao pods grown around the world and decide which you like the best.

This event is being held Thursday, April 26, 2018, from 12:30 PM to 3:30 PM at the Manhattan Beach Badminton Club. The club is at 516 18th St, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266.

Light refreshments will be served before the presentation and chocolate tasting.

The cost is \$18 per person and the event is limited to 30 people. Sign-ups, including payment through Paypal, are available first-come, first-served, on our website at **www.tra-spacepark.org**. No mail-in or phone sign-ups will be accepted.

Thanks very much to the MBBC board for allowing us to have our event at the club. Parking is limited, so consider arriving a few minutes early to be able to find a space in the club parking lot or on the street.

Looking forward to seeing you there. ◆◆◆

# **Sign Up for Our Second JWST Tour**

Thanks to Mary Ann Chory, Reggie Jue, and our tour volunteers, TRA is pleased to announce sign-ups are available for our second James Web Space Telescope (JWST) tour, scheduled for Thursday, April 5, 2018 at 11:00 AM at the Space Park facility in Redondo Beach, CA.

This free event is for TRA members and guests who are U.S. citizens. Sign-ups are available first-come, first-served, on our website at **www.tra-spacepark.org**. No mail-in or phone sign-ups will be accepted.

If you haven't registered for our website, there is a simple, onetime registration process available through the home page. Signups will close April 2 (or earlier if we fill up) so that we can forward the tour attendee list to Northrop and get visitor badges printed.

People on the wait-list from the previous tour will be given priority; but, you will need to sign up again.

Note that the Building S Cafeteria will be open until 1:00 PM, so you might meet up with friends and have lunch at the cafeteria after the tour.

Upon your sign-up and notification that you have been accepted for the tour, please plan to meet in the Space Park Building E2 lobby by 10:40 AM to be signed in.

You will need to bring a valid form of government-issued identification, such as a state driver's license or U.S. passport.

As part of the tour, we will be walking between buildings and going up and down stairs. No photography is allowed. ◆◆◆

### **Save The Dates**

The closure and renovation of the Proud Bird, and now the closure of the Ports O'Call restaurant, eliminated two of our favorite gathering spots. Fortunately, our events committee, led by Marcy Morrison, has identified new locations and dates for our Summer Reunion and Holiday Party.

Our Summer Reunion will be held on **Sunday**, **July 8** at the South End Racquet & Health Club in Torrance.

This location will be perfect for a summer get-together. The main ballroom seats up to 300 people so consider inviting your friends.

The Holiday Party will be held **Friday, December 7** at the El Segundo Automobile Driving Museum.

The Packard Ballroom seats up to 250 guests and is surrounded by the primary automobile collection.

More details and sign-ups for both of these events will be provided in the NNG as we get closer to the dates. ◆◆◆

#### **Membership Chair Needed**

TRA is looking for a membership chair. Responsibilities include keeping our membership database (in Excel) current with address changes and new memberships, generating mailing lists, and generating reservation lists for our activities. Expertise in Excel is required. This position is critical to our purpose of providing connections with former colleagues. If interested, please contact us using the information on Page 2.

It's a very sobering feeling to be up in space and realize that one's safety factor was determined by the lowest bidder on a government contract. — *Alan Shepard* 

The Shepard's Prayer: "Dear Lord, don't let me F\*\*\* this up."

Mission Control: "Say again, Freedom 7?" Shepard: "Things are looking up."

Mission Control: "Yeah, that's what I thought you said."

# **TRA for Northrop Grumman Retirees**

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

#### 2018 Officers

Mary Ann Chory President
Al Hausrath Vice President
Charles Clendening Treasurer
Michael Narigon Secretary

Dena Bouskos Immediate Past President

#### 2018 Directors-at-Large

Robert Doll, Reggie Jue, Marcy Morrison, Carol Schamp, Jack Trost

Webmaster: Reggie Jue

Membership and Facebook Coordinator: Stephanie Sundius
The No Name Gazette is the official publication of TRA. It
is published six times a year.

#### **Publication Staff**

Editor: Michael Narigon

Contributing Editor: Al Hausrath

Contributors: Barbara Adams, Doris-Annie O'Hara Photography: Northrop Grumman Photo Services

Copy Editors: Kim Lewis, Carol Schamp

## **Contacting TRA**

By Mail:

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

By Phone:

310-813-7745 for voice mail.

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 website 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. Register, log on, and browse.

For Membership:

TRA Membership is open to Northrop Grumman and TRW-legacy retirees at \$10 per calendar year. The first year is free. The application is available on the website.

# TRW/NG Retirees Meetings Around the US

Find a group in your area and give them a call. There are a number of updates this edition. Changes are in **bold**.

| GROUP                        | MEETING LOCATION   | DATE & TIME                                       | OTHER INFO   | CONTACT   |
|------------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| TRA Board<br>Meeting         | Bldg. E2/B114, Space Park  | 3rd Thursday, 1:30 PM,<br>Monthly except December | Decisions, planning and actions on archives, events, NNG, coordination with NG | All members welcome. Contact TRA prior to attendance to arrange for escort          |
| ATD Friends &<br>Colleagues  | Automobile Driving Museum<br>610 Lairport Street<br>El Segundo, CA 90245<br>310-909-0950 | First Tuesday, November<br>6, 2018, 10:30AM - 2PM | Social, Nostalgia, Lunch, and<br>Classic Cars                                  | Jack Trost, Dena Bouskos, Carol Schamp<br>310-377-2194<br>cschamp@aol.com           |
| Beach Cities<br>Get-together | Grunions Restaurant, 1501 N<br>Sepulveda Blvd, MB, CA                                    | Last Monday, Even months,<br>11 AM to 2 PM        | Social   | Allen Parker 310-780-0712<br>777allendsp@gmail.com                                  |
| Brevard<br>Retirees          | Various Locations in Brevard, NC   | 1st Wednesday, 8 AM,<br>3rd Wednesday, 5 PM       | Social   | Tom and Vicki Moore 828-883-8080<br>seneca75@verizon.net,<br>thistle33@verizon.net  |
| Central Coast<br>Chapter     | Various Locations in the Central Coast<br>Area   | Various days: contact Zaiser for details          | Social   | George Zaiser 805-473-2105<br>gzais34@icloud.com                                    |
| Houston<br>Chapter           | Baybrook Denny's, 19212 Gulf Fwy,<br>Friendswood, TX                                     | 3rd Tuesday, 8:30 AM                              | Social   | Gary Dinsmore 281-461-6270<br>samngary@att.net                                      |
| Huntsville<br>Chapter        | Various Locations in Huntsville, AL  | 2nd and 4th Tuesday,<br>11:30 AM                  | Lunch and Social   | Jim Troy 850-797-0044<br>jtroy@troysig.com  |
| Las Vegas                    | Various Locations in Las Vegas Metro<br>Area   | Last Tuesday, 11:30 AM                            | Social   | Carol Noblet 702-889-6773<br>cannob70@gmail.com                                     |
| Northern<br>Virginia         | Old Brogue Pub, Great Falls, VA  | 3rd Friday, 11:30 AM                              | Social   | Jim Miller 703-483-5448<br>jmiller158@gmail.com                                     |
| Utah                         | Cracker Barrel Restaurant, Layton, UT  | 1st Thursday, <b>8:30 AM</b>                      | Social   | Charles Vono 801-745-5879 charles vono@comcast.net                                  |
| San Diego<br>Chapter         | Event Dependent  | 3rd Tuesday, Alternate<br>Months                  | Social or Board Meeting  | http://sandiego.tra-spacepark.org<br>Jim Denton 858-385-0150<br>JWDenton@san.rr.com |
| Temecula<br>Valley           | Franklin's Cove, 40675 Murrietta<br>Hot Springs Rd, Murrietta, CA 92562                  | 2nd Wednesday, Lunch                              | Social   | Maureen Locken 951-244-7654<br>Maureen_Locken@yahoo.com                             |
| The Mountain<br>Folks        | Various Locations in the Denver Area   | First week of each quarter                        | "We do have fun!"  | Carl Winkelman 303-693-0034<br>winkelman@att.net                                    |
| TRIN                         | Holy Family House, American Martyrs<br>Church, MB, CA                                    | 2nd Thursday, 1:00 PM                             | Investment Info based on monthly newsletter reviews                            | Bob Eshbaugh 310-376-5880<br>eshonnet@yahoo.com                                     |
| Ventura<br>Romeos            | Mimi's Cafe<br>Thousand Oaks   | 1st Tuesday, Lunch                                | Social   | Fred Blaich 805-499-0012,<br>Harry Stroud 805-653-5117                              |

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## **JWST Tour Trip Report**

TRA held its first James Web Space Telescope (JWST) tour on February 13, 2018. By all measures it was a great success. We had to limit attendance to a little over 80 people and, unfortunately, we had to wait-list a number of people for the next tour.

Everyone gathered in the building E2 lobby to get their badges for the walk to building M8 and the JWST highbay. The JWST spacecraft and sunshield were in full view. As expected, the optical telescope element and instrument package had been delivered from Houston, but were still in their shipping container in the highbay. Integration activities are occurring on three shifts as the push to complete integration and get into the environmental chambers for final integration checks continue. Launch is schedule no earlier than March 2019.

While waiting for the tour, the NASA movie "Into the Unknown" played in the E2 Presentation Center. Also, our visitors

got to enjoy the recently updated "Aerospace in Motion Museum" that is on the first floor of building E2.

Our tireless volunteers, including Martin Mohan (former JWST program manager), Steve Staich (former EOS lead systems engineer), Dena Bouskos, Mary Ann Chory, and Reggie Jue, acted as our tour guides. Thank you all for your support.

Dan Nieman, Manager of NG Corporate Citizenship Western Region, who helps coordinate tours for NG, provided us with a photographer. Garland Campbell, Aerospace in Motion Museum Manager, was on hand to provide a tour of the museum.

Dan and Garland also give JWST tours to Los Angeles County middle school and high school STEM students in a partnership with TRA, which provides tour volunteers.

Mary Ann relayed a comment she heard from a couple of our attendees in the museum: "Let's go see DSP since that is where we met." That is what TRA is all about. ◆◆◆













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#### **New TRA Members**

**Judy Breshears** Manhattan Beach, CA Kathi Chaney Torrance, CA Robbie Chavira Long Beach, CA Linda Kain Kennewick, WA Randy Kent Poway, CA

Ray Maddalone

James Miller Chantilly, VA Richard Prolo Las Vegas, NV Ioe Scaffidi Torrance, CA Laura Towlam La Quinta, CA Martin Wachs Long Beach, CA

We hope these new members will send a note to us at mailpouch@tra-spacepark.org telling us a little about themselves and where they worked at Northrop Grumman/TRW.

## **Important Contacts for Retirees**

Northrop Grumman transitioned the administration and record-keeping services for its employee and some retiree benefit plans to Fidelity NetBenefits. The contact information

#### Northrop Grumman Benefits Center

www.benefits.northropgrumman.com *Or* www.netbenefits.com/northropgrumman phone: 800-894-4194

Here you can get help on health benefits, pensions, savings, and to report a death. It's voice activated, so listen to the instructions and answer the first few questions to reach a representative.

Retirees will be impacted by the transition if they receive coverage through the Northrop Grumman Retiree Medical plan. Information on Health and Insurance benefits for those retirees is now accessible on line at Fidelity NetBenefits.

If you have Medicare Supplemental Insurance coverage through OneExchange, this is your contact information:

#### Towers Watson's OneExchange

medicare.oneexchange.com/NGC

phone: 855-832-0976

For Medicare Supplemental Insurance, Towers-Watson administers various accounts including Health Care Flexible Spending and Reimbursement, the Limited Flexible Spending Account, and the Retiree Reimbursement Account.

Some TRW retirees receive their medical benefits through the Northrop Grumman Benefits Service Center. This center is staffed by Benefits Outsourcing Solutions, Inc. Their number is 800-410-6605.

If you continued your life insurance coverage on the Northrop Grumman group plan, this is administered by Metlife. They have a website at the link below but questions should be directed to the NGBC.

#### Metlife

www.metlife.com/NGC

phone: (Benefits Center) 800-894-4194

#### **Ten Dollars**

by Doris-Annie O'Hara

This humorous poem was written by Doris-Annie O'Hara on behalf of all receptionists. \$10 in 1957 is \$87.48 today.

Doris completed her degree at Pepperdine University, was transferred by TRW to Norton A.F.B. Management Information Systems, and became Editor of 'The Missile' company newsletter. For those who were there please contact her through tra@tra-spacepark.org for more laughs.

#### THE RAMO-WOOLDRIDGE CORPORATION LOS ANGELES 45, CALIFORNIA INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

DATE: June 3, 1957 TO: Mr. Merbach Mr. Cavanagh FROM: Receptionists SUBJECT: Ten Dollars

> We are the receptionists Smilers and winkers Glib conversationalists Lovely, yet thinkers.

Adaptable to visitors And while giving them passes Ignoring the overtures Made by the asses.

Greeting the multitudes The brass and the jokers The Bourbon-breathed crowds And the strong-cigar smokers.

"Pagliaccis" we are And, sir, we pay the cost By the wrath of a gentleman Whose clearance is lost.

Yet, people we love And our work we love still For the typewriter's clack Makes us tremble and ill.

We are sympathetic Not cold nor dogmatic Though at times we are weepers And much too dramatic.

Sooo, may we inquire In our own gentle way If our smiles are the same Then why not the pay???

Envoi:

We received our ten-dollar raise!

# **Upcoming Events**

Second JWST Tour **Chocolate Tasting** Summer Reunion Holiday Party

Thursday, April 5, 2018 Thursday, April 26, 2018 Sunday, July 8, 2018 Friday, December 7, 2018

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## **Life After Retirement: Real Estate**

By Barbara Adams

What kind of person gives up a 24-year career and a good salaried paycheck for a commission only job? Well, I did. In 2009, I looked down into the beautiful, blue eyes of my 8-year old daughter and thought, "in ten years you are going to leave me and go to college. I want to be around for you as much as possible." I worked in Dominguez Hills as a Program Business Manager and my husband, Allen Adams, worked there too so we had all our



eggs in one basket. It was a rough time for the national economy and having insight into the Division's financial forecast, I could see there would be difficult times ahead. I had a good arrangement, as I only worked in the office three days a week but I knew it was time for a major change. So, with management's assistance, I took a voluntary layoff and jumped into the real estate pool! Everyone at NG thought I was crazy to go into real estate but everyone in real estate said

it was a perfect time to get into the business.

Upon leaving Northrop Grumman, I got an interview with the largest, independent broker in Orange County, First Team Real Estate. It is a 42-year old company and has dominated the local market for over 16 years. I started the business as a trainee with a mentor - exactly the same as how I had started at TRW as part of the Business Management Trainee Program. The amazing thing is I discovered that a real estate transaction is just like project management with a much shorter period of performance! I use the same planning and management skills that I used previously and that MBA in Finance also is a big help. I doubled my business every year for the first four years with a peak in 2013. I just had another peak in 2016 and was an Honoree at the 2016 Hall of Fame, putting me in the top 10% of the agents in my company.

Of course, huge kudos go to my husband, friends, and family for getting me through this transition. Allen is still at Northrop Grumman and recently transferred to the GPS Program in El Segundo. That darling 8-year old is now 16 and a junior in high school. She is a straight A student, varsity volleyball player, and is studying Mandarin. She is looking to go to a top California school to pursue an engineering degree and continue her Mandarin studies. Thank you also to you Northrop friends who have become clients or who have reached out for consultations.

Have a story on what you have done after retiring that might be of interest to our members? Drop a note to tra@tra-spacepark.org.

#### **Archive Audio-Visual Volunteer Needed**

The Archives Group is looking for a volunteer to help with viewing, editing, and cataloging our audio-video resources including 16mm movie films, slides, and VCR, BETA SP and UMATIC SP tapes. As part of this task, the volunteer will need to evaluate the state-of-operation of all the Archive's audio-visual equipment (projectors, tape decks, etc.) and make recommendations on refurbishment and repair.

The Archives Group meets each Wednesday from 10:30 AM to 2:30 PM. If interested, please contact us using the information on Page 2.

#### **IN MEMORIAM**

**H. Wilhelm (Will) Behrens**, 82, February 3, 2018, Manager of the Thermophysics and Fluids Dept., Technical Fellow at TRW.

Harry Charles, Jr., 93, January 21, 2018, 22 years at TRW ('58-'71 and '79-'97.) Leadership positions on Atlas, Titan, and Pioneers 10, 11.

Sanford M. (Sandy) Drake, 82, February 1, 2018. Francis B. (Bing) Fay, 84, February 23, 2018.

**William J. Holcombe**, 82, January 30, 2018, I&T leader for Milstar I payload.

**Lit Ming Ma**, 86, December 25, 2017, Electronics Engineer in TRW Space and Electronics Group.

**James H. McCaverty**, 75, December 18, 2017, 35 years at TRW/NG.

**Brenda L. McDowell**, 66, January 11, 2018, 28 years at TRW/NG, facilities.

**Leo H. Pino**, 86, February 2, 2018.

Frank Saporita Jr., 82, November 9, 2017.

Barry N. Smith, 85, August 15, 2017.

**John (Jack) J. Whalen**, 88, January 21, 2018, 30+ years at TRW, one of the founders of TRA.

Sandy R. Wright, 80, January 25, 2018.

The first step in notifying Northrop Grumman of a retiree's death is to call the Northrop Grumman Benefits 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. If the deceased was a member of TRA at the time of death, please notify TRA whether you want the NNG continued for the duration of their subscription or to be removed from all future mailings.

If you know of a person that should be included in the "In Memoriam" column, please inform us by either email or mail 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.

# **Check your Mailing Label**

Please check your mailing label right now. If the year shows 2017, your membership has expired and you will need to renew your membership to continue to receive the No Name Gazette. If the year shows 2018 (or later,) you are all set for this year and don't need to do anything other than continue to read the NNG!

If you have renewed in the last couple of weeks, don't worry. Because of the publication lead time, we miss renewals that we receive after the mailing list is generated but before the NNG gets to your mail box.

To renew online, go to our website, www.tra-spacepark.org, and follow the prompts. We process your renewal dues securely through Paypal. You do not need a Paypal account - you can pay your dues with a credit card.

Renewals for more than one year are welcome because they reduce our in-house paper shuffle. So, consider renewing for four years to save time and money.

Don't forget to spread the word about TRA to new retirees and encourage them to join. Thank you for your support! ◆◆◆





The next NNG will be mailed in May.

# THE MAIL POUCH

♦♦♦ Bill Putnam reported on Bruce Marcus. Bruce is now 80, lives in Los Angeles, and is active with tennis and MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) He has lunch with old TRW friends weekly in Manhattan Beach ♦♦♦ Need a vintage car expert? Talk to Jerry Mull in Inglewood, CA. He retired from NG/TRW in 2006, but has maintained his TRW connection as President of

the NGRC-TRW C.A.R.S. Club. If it's a SoCal vintage car event, he's involved. He owns a 1955 Chevy 210 Coupe and a red 1929 Ford Roadster Hot Rod. His 1100 sq. foot garage also houses his museum, a collection of '40s, '50s, and '60's Americana items all related to autos and trains. Obviously having fun in retirement, he wonders how he ever had time to work 40+ hours/week ++ Howard Mandelstam (Encino, CA) at 85 looks back on a very productive retirement: docent at the Getty Center, 25 liberal arts courses at UCLA, a business as a Financial Planner, and grammar school tutor. His main joy is his

wife **Darlene** and their family including three terrific g'kids  $\leftrightarrow \leftrightarrow$  While vacationing in Sedona, AZ, **Dennis** and **Linda Rhoads** (Arroyo Grande, CA) dined with **Mike McFarlin** (Scottsdale) and **Ron Hren** (Flagstaff, AZ). The conversations centered around wonderful old times at TRW and current NGC benefits  $\leftrightarrow \leftrightarrow$  **Joe Larkin** is now a volunteer conductor on the Poway Midland Rail Road. The Larkins sold their Lake Arrowhead, CA home, and are now year 'round residents of San Diego, where Joe is running his church's homeless shelter program and golfing  $\leftrightarrow \leftrightarrow$  The traveling **Beers**, **Barbara** and **Peter**, are still traveling. Most recent? Canary Islands, Morocco, Brazil, Canada, and US river trips. On dock: Hanoi. And regularly to the g'kids in Colorado and Texas.

Home? It's in Rancho Palos Verdes, CA ◆◆◆ Doing much less travel are **Allan** and **Margie Strayer** (Westlake Village, CA). Major travel now constitutes infrequent trips to their daughter and family in Carlsbad, and even more infrequently, to a getaway up the coast a few miles. Howard does make it to lunch with the TRA's Ventura Romeos ◆◆◆ And even worse news: **Guy** and **Danae** 

Welch (San Pedro) have health issues that keep them home bound. Guy is recovering from a broken femur but even worse, Danae has kidney disease and requires dialysis 3x a week ★★★ Betty and Bill Ryan (Hermosa Beach, CA) celebrated their 65th Wedding Anniversary with relatives and friends on December 9 last year ★★★ Here's a new address for Mike and Mary Masterson: 17077 San Mateo #1220, Fountain Valley, CA 92708 ★★★ Ernie Ogren is now back in Torrance, CA from warm and sunny Quartzsite, AZ with all its snowbirds. If you enjoy rock hounding, lapidary, and desert jeeping

email Ernie at thegoodman@aol.com \*\* Fred Brown (Los Angeles) is retiring, again! He left TRW in '02, only to join the faculty at Loyola Marymount University, creating a Systems Engineering graduate program. Now, 15 years later, he is looking forward to enjoying the g'kids and improving his golf game \*\* Need exercise? Bill Schwennicke (Cambria, CA) advises volunteering at your local library. Reshelving works wonders! \*\*



Please let us know what you are up to by mailing your news to TRA using the information on Page 2, or e-mailing directly to the Mail Pouch at mailpouch@tra-spacepark.org.



By Al Hausrath