VOL. XXX NO. 3 Our 30th Year May/June 2018

# Make your Reservations Now for the Summer Reunion on Sunday, July 8

TRA's Annual Summer Reunion will be at the **South End Racquet and Health Club**, **2800 Skypark Drive**, **Torrance**, **CA 90505**, **on Sunday**, **July 8**, **from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m**. Our event will be in their Banquet Room. There is easy access and plenty of free parking available.

For lunch we will have a catered buffet with chicken marsala or roast salmon in a lemon grass, tomato, and dill sauce; green beans almondine; garlic mashed red potatos; house green salad with ranch dressing; and coffee/tea/lemonade. For dessert there will be a cookie assortment. There will be a no-host bar available for wine, beer, or mixed drinks.

If you have a dietary restriction, give us a call at 310-813-7745 and leave a message and we will make arrangements.

For our speaker we are pleased to have David Zabalaoui, Space Systems Division Director of Strategy at Northrop Grumman, who will give us an update on the company.

David has over 30 years of aerospace and defense experience. Before transitioning to his current role, he led Space Systems Business Development, and prior to that, he led Operations and Integration for the Business and Advanced Systems Development organization, where he provided functional leadership across a breadth of activities including business management, human capital strategies, proposal development and operational effectiveness.

Earlier in his career, he served as Director of Operations for Space Systems Business Development, leading process development and implementation, cross-sector initiatives, and day-to-day operations. He has also held leadership roles in marketing and market development. He began his Northrop Grumman career as a System Engineer working across multiple space programs.

David also served in the U.S. Air Force at the Space and Missile Systems Center, Los Angeles AFB, California, where he held a variety of roles in the Milsatcom mission area addressing terminal to satellite interfaces, user requirements, and system engineering. In his final assignment, he served as the Milstar Joint Program Office Executive Officer.

He earned his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the U.S. Air Force Academy and a master's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Southern California as part of the TRW Fellowship Program. He is one of Northrop Grumman's first certified Six Sigma black belts, and is a graduate of the 2013 NGAS Program Management Conference.

So, come meet your friends, hear an update on Northrop Grumman, and enjoy a great meal, all for just \$35 per person for reservations made by June 29. Guests are welcome - no limit. Attendees without advance reservations, but who opt to pay at the door, will be charged \$40 per person.

Please make your reservations by June 29. Please try our website at www.tra-spacepark.org to make your reservations and pay with a Paypal account or a credit card. Making your reservations online simplifies our paper shuffle.

Or, you can reserve by mail using the form below. Thank you for being a TRA member! ◆◆◆

# **SUMMER REUNION RESERVATION FORM Pre-reservation Deadline: June 29, 2018**

Pre-reservation Deadline: June 29, 2018						
Retiree Name:						
Street Address:						
City:						
Membership No. (from mailing label):		Phone:				
Guest Name(s):						
Guest Name(s):						
Total number attending:						
Mail with a check payable to "TRA" to the following	lowing address:					
TRA						
P.O. Box 1276						
Redondo Beach, CA 90278						

# **TRA for Northrop Grumman Retirees**

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

#### 2018 Officers

Mary Ann Chory
Al Hausrath
Charles Clendening
Michael Narigon

President
Vice President
Treasurer
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: Reggie Jue

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. Changes from last edition are in **bold**.

GROUP	MEETING LOCATION	DATE & TIME	OTHER INFO	CONTACT	
TRA Board Meeting	Bldg. E2/B114, Space Park	3rd Thursday, 1:30 PM, 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 & Colleagues	Automobile Driving Museum 610 Lairport Street El Segundo, CA 90245 310-909-0950	First Tuesday, November 6, 2018, 10:30AM - 2PM	Social, Nostalgia, Lunch, and Classic Cars	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 Wednesday, 5 PM	Social	Tom and Vicki Moore 828-883-8080 seneca75@verizon.net, thistle33@verizon.net	
Central Coast Chapter	Various Locations in the Central Coast Area	Various days: contact Zaiser for details	Social	George Zaiser 805-473-2105 gzais34@icloud.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	Various Locations in Huntsville, AL	2nd and 4th Tuesday, 11:30 AM	Lunch and Social	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	Jim Miller 703-483-5448 jmiller158@gmail.com	
Utah	Cracker Barrel Restaurant, Layton, UT	1st Thursday, 8:30 AM	Social	Charles Vono 801-745-5879 charles vono@comcast.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	Franklin's Cove, 40675 Murrietta Hot Springs Rd, Murrietta, CA 92562	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	Holy Family House, American Martyrs Church, MB, CA	2nd Thursday, 1:00 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	<b>Frank Yunger 805-444-1541</b> , Harry Stroud 805-653-5117	

TRA'S NN GAZETTE PAGE 3

## **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 is:

#### 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. Information on Health and Insurance benefits is accessible online at Fidelity NetBenefits.

If you have Medicare Supplemental Insurance coverage through Towers-Watson OneExchange they have changed their name to Via Benefits. This is your contact information:

#### Via Benefits

my.viabenefits.com/NGC phone: 855-832-0976

For Medicare Supplemental Insurance, Via Benefits 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

Barbara Bayles Adams, who provided the "Life After Retirement" article in the last edition, had her name published as "Barbara Adams." She wanted me to add her middle name, Bayles, because some NG/TRW people will know her by that rather than her married name.

#### **New TRA Members**

Barbara Bayles Adams
Eva Cullum
Ken Dade
Eric Eisemann
Shirley Eshbaugh
Bob Huff
Bob Huff
Valerie Nesbitt
Huntington Beach, CA
Redondo Beach, CA
Redondo Beach, CA
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA
Redondo Beach, CA

Howard Okano Torrance, CA
Alan Ross Tarzana, CA
Janice Ross Marana, AZ

Carol Segal Manhattan Beach, CA Samuel Talmadge Agoura Hills, CA Robin Zabalaoui Rancho Palos Verdes, 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.

#### **Upcoming Events**

Summer Reunion Sunday, July 8, 2018 Holiday Party Friday, December 7, 2018

#### **Locations Wanted**

Do you belong to or know of clubs/lodges/banquet halls that can handle 100-150 people that might be available for future South Bay TRA events? If so, please contact TRA using the information on Page 2.



PAGE 4 TRA'S NN GAZETTE

## **Chocolate Tasting Event Report**

On April 26, TRA had a special event, Chocolate Tasting, led by retired NGAS vice president and TRA member Dave Vandervoet. Dave has a home on Kauai and is a member/grower in the Hawaii Cacao and Chocolate Association. Before his presentation and tasting, the full house at the Manhattan Beach Badminton Club (MBBC) enjoyed light refreshments. Live ukulele music performed by Stephanie Sundius put us in the Hawaiian mood.

Native to equatorial America, the word chocolate is derived from the Aztec word chocolatl ("xocoatl", or "bitter water"). The term "cacao" refers to the plant and its beans while "chocolate" refers to products of the cacao beans.

Participants got to experience the bitterness of raw ground cacao nubs during the tasting portion of the presentation. The Spanish added sugar to counteract the bitterness of cacao, making it into a popular European drink. That started the development of what turned into our current mass-market producers of chocolate such as Nestle, Cadbury, and Hersheys.

Once the cacao pods are harvested, the beans are extracted and

a complicated process turns them into chocolate: fermentation and drying, blending, conching - or grinding into a fine mixture, and tempering - where the temperature of the mixture is manipulated to alter the structure of the fats to produce a bright sheen and snap when the chocolate is broken.

David and his assistant, TRA member Jan Ross, provided us samples of seven different single-origin, bean-to-bar chocolates from across the world together with tasting instruction and sheets for scoring. He carefully selected the chocolate, keeping to 70% cacao/30% cane sugar blends, so that the difference would be the terroir, or environment where the chocolate was grown. Cacao growing in Hawaii is fairly recent, but Dave said chocolate experts rate Hawaiian chocolate today where Napa wines were in the 1970s. The Hawaiian volcanic soil is a key characteristic.

Many thanks to MBBC president-elect and TRA member Nancy Andreas and the MBBC board for allowing TRA to have our event at their facility. Also, thanks to Dena Bouskos, Mary Ann Chory, and Stephanie Sundius for event planning and preparations. Finally, thanks to Dave and Jan for an interesting afternoon.









TRA'S NN GAZETTE PAGE 5

#### **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 at Space Park in Redondo Beach each Wednesday from 10:30 AM to 2:30 PM. If interested, please contact us using the "Contacting TRA" information on Page 2.

# HAPPENINGS AT NORTHROP GRUMMAN

# Air Force to Award Contracts to Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman for Future Missile-Warning Satellite Constellation

The Air Force announced it will award two sole-source contracts to Lockheed Martin and Northrop Grumman for the next-generation overhead persistent infrared (OPIR) program. Lockheed Martin will develop the geosynchronous orbit satellites and Northrop Grumman will work on the polar system.

The GEO contract will be sole-sourced to Lockheed Martin Space to "define requirements, create the initial design and identify and procure flight hardware for a satellite to operate in geosynchronous orbit," said an Air Force news release. The second contract will be sole-sourced to Northrop Grumman Aerospace Systems to define polar system requirements. Lockheed also will be responsible to conduct a payload competition.

The next-generation OPIR will succeed the current Space Based Infrared System (SBIRS). The Air Force wants improved missile warning capabilities that are more survivable against emerging threats. The plan is to launch a new system by 2023.

The precise value of the contracts was not immediately available. According to sources, the next-gen OPIR system would include a minimum of three GEO and two polar satellites.

# Northrop Grumman Reports Solid First Quarter, Will Not Bid for GPS 3

Northrop Grumman opened its fiscal year 2018 with solid results, driven by improved operating performance, lower taxes and a pension benefit, and the company upgraded its earnings outlook for the year.

On the earnings call, the company announced it will not bid for the second phase of production for the U.S. Air Force GPS 3 satellite program.

Boeing said it also would not bid for the GPS 3 contract to build another 22 satellites, which leaves Lockheed Martin likely as the sole bidder.

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.

#### **IN MEMORIAM**

**Richard Allen Bent**, 65, March 17, 2018, Formerly Manager of Exhibits

Frederick Martin Blaich, Jr., 87, February 2, 2018 Herbert Ray Graham, 89, February 22, 2018, 27 years at TRW

**Yoshito (Joe) Ideta**, 89. March 15, 2018

**Frederick H. Kaufman**, 88, March 23, 2018, managed many successful programs in STG. 36 years at TRW

L. Curtis Killian, October, 2017

Jean Simril, February 3, 2018

Carol E. Turner, April 7, 2018

**Robert F. Wasson**, 91, April 6, 1018

William Chen-Hsien Wong, 83, March 20, 2018

**Thomas A. Zimmerman, Ph.D.**, 76, February 14, 2018, Electrical Engineer, 33 years at TRW

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.

# **Second JWST Tour Trip Report**

By Reggie Jue

In February, a group of TRA members enjoyed a visit to the High Bay where the James Webb Space Telescope is being assembled at Northrop Grumman Space Park in Redondo Beach. This space-based observatory is designed to provide a glimpse of the first stars formed after the Big Bang.

Members who could not participate had another chance in early April. An additional 70 members and guests signed up for a chance to see the spacecraft element, made up of the spacecraft bus and the sun shield. They were also treated to a view of the telescope assembly, which had only recently arrived from NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston.

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.

The spacecraft element has now been moved from the High Bay to an environmental test facility elsewhere on campus and won't return until the fall. When that happens, we will arrange for another tour, so watch our newsletter or website for your next opportunity to be part of science being discovered.

Our volunteers, Michael Banados, Rich Captor, and Reggie Jue were tour guides. Garland Campbell provided Aerospace Museum tours. Mary Ann Chory, Stephanie Sundius, and Dena Bouskos were hosts. Thank you all for your support.

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



The next NNG will be mailed in July.

# THE MAIL POUCH

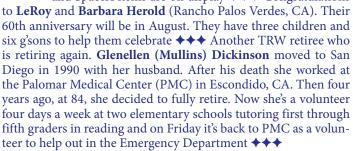
♦♦♦ Have gun, will travel! **Herman Oberkrom** loves target shooting and hunting. So it's off to Wyoming in October for elk, Missouri for deer in November, and Ohio for deer in December. When home in Beavercreek, OH, he and **Ruth** play golf ♦♦♦ **Carl** and **Judy Hastings** (Las Vegas) are doing well, and, with g'kids in Seattle and San Diego, getting lots of travel in. They are

active in the local Corvette club, and have participated in Vette gatherings in Prescott, AZ and in Calico Ghost Town in Yermo, CA \*\* Jerri Quintin has relocated to McDonald Ranch in Henderson, NV, where she is a member of the Corkers Wine Club. She still enters video poker tournaments and is involved with animal rescue \*\* Good news! Carol Noblet has recovered from her health problem. She travels to California almost monthly to spend time with her family there. When home, she is a volunteer with the Las Vegas Police Department, and helps run the local TRW Retirees Club in Vegas \*\*\*

Charleen and Joe Fitzgerald (Cypress, CA) enjoy traveling and spending time with family and friends. TRA is another favorite because it gives them a chance to catch up with former colleagues from work ◆◆◆ From Ojai, CA, Stan and Kendra Yoes survived last winter's devastating Thomas fire ◆◆◆ Louis Rosales is still kicking at 80, but not as high as times past. He and Adele live near their kids and g'kids in Manhattan Beach, CA ◆◆◆ Delaine Blaich is unemployed again, and enjoying it. In 2012 she had a hip replacement, which caused her nephews in Roberts, IL, to retire her from the roofing and house moving business ◆◆◆ 26 years into retirement, George Neuner admits

to slowing down a bit; no more mountain climbing. He and **Helen** have two homes. Long Beach, CA, offers them the benefits of big city life, while Coeur d'Alene, ID, offers rural summer living amid forests, mountains, and lakes. And in between they travel. This year's trip is from Switzerland to Holland on the Rhine  $\spadesuit \spadesuit \spadesuit$  In contrast, there are the **Julians**, **Pat** and **Bob**. They moved to

Butte County in Northern California 13 years ago to get away from city life. They live in the beautiful boonies, with their own well, septic tank, and back-up generator. It's a whole new world for them, and they enjoy it. Bob has put his 26 years of facilities management at TRW/NG to good use up there in Veteran's Hall modifications, a new house for themselves, and additions to their guest house **\Delta \Delta \Delta** Daniel Juarez is currently the President of the Hawthorne Historical Society, and invites all TRA members and family to visit their museum at 14100 Prairie Ave in Hawthorne, CA. He reports many TRW, NG, and SpaceX items are on display **\Delta \Delta \Delta** Congratulations





By Al Hausrath