



# The Grumman-Northrop Grumman Retiree Club

# Newsletter



June 2015

Volume 48, Issue 6

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**CLUB HEADQUARTERS/ PARENT CHAPTER**  
**Bethpage, New York**  
*President, Betty Bohlander, (516-575-3777)*

**CHAPTERS / MEETING LOCATIONS:**

**California - Golden West / Pt. Mugu**  
*President, Fred Syrett (805-647-4934)*

**California - San Diego / San Diego**  
*President, Pete Belay, (858-484-7307)*

**Florida - First Coast / St. Augustine**  
*President, Fred Bauer (904-819-9817)*

**Florida - Manasota West / Bradenton**  
*President, Ted Martines (941-926-8891)*

**Florida - Mid-West / Spring Hill**  
*President, John Cornacchia (813-995-2902)*

**Florida - Southwest / Locations Vary**  
*President, Carolyn Moors (239-283-8294)*

**Florida - Spacecoast / Melbourne**  
*President, Bob Prais (321-242-5782)*

**Florida - Suncoast / Pinellas Park**  
*President, Benjamin Hurley (727-527-7281)*

**Florida - Treasure Coast / Port St. Lucie**  
*President, Dan Knowles (772-288-2758)*

**Georgia - Peach Pit / Milledgeville**  
*President, Janet Sills (706-485-0839)*

**Maryland - Glen Arm / Belair**  
*President, Rick Swinder (410-977-7829)*

**New England - New England North / Dorset, VT**  
*President, Bill Egner (802-446-2062)*

**New Jersey - Garden State / Lakehurst**  
*President, Bill Staples (732-350-9454)*

**New York - Bethpage Chapter & Club HQ**  
*President, Betty Bohlander, (516-575-3777)*

**New York - Eastern Long Island / Riverhead**  
*President, Bert Moller (631-864-4377)*

**North Carolina - Eastern Carolina / Locations Vary**  
*President, Peter McNamee (252-288-4569)*

**Pennsylvania - Northeast PA / So. Sterling**  
*President, Charles Dowd (570-491-2125)*

**South Carolina**  
Coastal Carolinas / Myrtle Beach  
*President, Ronald Girardin (843-903-7116)*

**Texas - Houston / Houston**  
*President, Angelo LaCognata, (281-326-1665)*

**Virginia - Central Virginia / Monticello**  
*President, Fred Meiners (434-589-2882)*

## Paul R. Schatzel July 5, 1927 – May 13, 2015

**Paul Schatzel passed away suddenly on May 13th. He was a member of the Retiree Club in good standing for over 20 years. He served as a member of the Board of Directors for almost twelve years, and then proceeded to become President of the Grumman Retiree Club Scholarship Fund for almost as many years. In this capacity, he was able to bring in volunteers, made changes and formulated the policies that exist today. His face was well known to the scholars and their grandparents and to all who attended the Scholarship Luncheons. We will miss him.**

### 2015 All Chapter Scholarship Awards Program

**The Retiree Club Scholarship Award winners are scheduled to be presented at the Scholar Award Luncheon on June 24. Details of the ceremony will be in our July Newsletter.**

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### 29th Annual Retiree Club Picnic

**Wednesday, September 9, 2015**

**Details, Reservation Information: Page 23**

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**Scholarship Program Contributors**

The Scholarship Fund Directors and the Retiree Club thank the following for their donations:

**Cioffi, Marie**

**Costello, Vincent**

**Marinaro, Theda**

**Moebes, Richard**

**Pajak, Stanley**

**Powers, William**

**Varisco, Angelo**

\*\*\*\*\*

Thank you for continuing the Grumman tradition of supporting education. Your contributions are the Engine that enables our Scholarship Award Program to be a continuing benefit for all Retiree Club Members.

**Please Keep Your (Tax Deductible) Donations Coming . . .**

Send your checks (payable to **Retiree Scholarship Fund**) to: Scholarship Fund, PO Box 0748, Bethpage, NY, 11714-0748

**GRUMMAN RETIREE CLUB NEWSLETTER**

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**Scholarship Program  
50/50 RAFFLE**

**Members of All Chapters May Participate!**

Enter often. Multiple winners possible.  
Max prize: \$500 for any one person, in any one drawing.

Winners announced in the Newsletter, after each quarterly drawing.

Send a filled-in raffle ticket (below) and a check (payable to Grumman Retiree Club Scholarship Fund), to:

Retiree Club Scholarship program  
PO Box 0748,  
Bethpage, NY, 11714-0748.

Each raffle entry is \$5. (Please indicate how many raffles you are purchasing.)

**Everyone has a chance to win.**

**This Raffle benefits the Scholarship Fund only.**

**Scholarship Program**  
**SCHOLARSHIP 50/50 RAFFLE TICKET**

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

---

Address \_\_\_\_\_

---

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

---

Phone (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

---

Number of Raffles Purchased \_\_\_\_\_



## **The Retiree Club Scholarship Program is in Danger of Ending**

**Our Scholarship Program is viable because of member contributions of both money and time. Over the years, many members have been generous in providing funds for the program. But, only a few have been generous with their time and efforts to run the program. Almost without exception, the same members have worked for the program, year after year.**

**Now, however, the Scholarship program is in danger of having too few people to adequately handle the work needed to keep the program alive.**

**Paul Schatzel, a long-time prime mover in the program has passed away. In addition, Scholarship Program VP Howie Schilling and Treasurer Harry Daum are retiring for health reasons. They have been important to the Fund's continuing success and will have to be replaced quickly if the Scholarship program is to continue.**

**If you like what the Scholarship Program has been doing and want it to continue, you must give serious thought to volunteering to do some of the program's work. The efforts by most people working on the Fund are concentrated in May and June, while some provide support at each monthly meeting selling Scholarship 50-50 tickets. There's a need to coordinate and process the Quarterly Raffle tickets year round; to print and distribute the Scholarship applications starting each September; to collect and organize the submitted applications each Spring, and to evaluate the applications and select the winners.**

**None of these functions require a major commitment, but each is very necessary to keep the program functioning.**

**All the present Fund volunteers have been providing service much longer than ever anticipated when they initially volunteered. No one wants to see the Scholarship Program end. But, we can no longer lose volunteers and maintain the same level of service to our club members. Volunteers must step- up or we will not be able to continue these valuable scholarship awards for your outstanding children and grandchildren. Your generous donations annually are much appreciated, but a little of your time is needed as well.**

**Think about it and please call the office (516-575-3777) to volunteer for this wonderful program. It's your choice: our Scholarship Program will continue or will stop, depending upon your response to this appeal.**



**Bethpage Chapter Calendar**

**Luncheons/Meetings**

*Membership luncheon-meetings are generally held on the 4th Wednesday of the month.*

**June 24: Crest Hollow - Scholarship Luncheon**  
*Reservation form is Page 23 of this Newsletter*

**September 9: Annual Picnic at Marjorie Post Park**

**September 23: Crest Hollow**  
**Guest Speaker: Doug Shaffer, Director and IPT Lead Electronic Attack/Maritime Systems Integration, Northrop Grumman Aerospace Systems.**

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**Senior Blood Drive**

Northrop Grumman has graciously invited our Club to participate in future NGC blood drives, which will be held in Plant 15, in Bethpage. For details about participating in the NGC blood drives, and for non-NGC blood donation locations around Long island, call the Club office, 516-575-3777.

**Blood Drive Dates:**

June 18, August 13, October 8, December 3.  
Please call the office if you wish to donate on any of those days.

**Bethpage / Parent Chapter**

On a nice bright sunny day, the Retirees came out for their May meeting at the Crest Hollow CC. The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance led by our new Sergeant-at-Arms, Nick Bazzicalupo. A moment of silence was observed for our departed members and for the veterans who gave their all in defense of our country, as well as a prayer of thanks for our veterans and the men and women currently in our military.

President Betty Bohlander asked if there were any revisions to the March meeting notes appearing in the April Newsletter. With no revisions having been offered, the March notes were accepted as written in the Newsletter.

Betty then introduced the guest speaker Jake Bussolini, former Grumman Senior Vice President. He joined Grumman as an electrical engineer in 1962 after serving in the armed forces and working at Hazeltine. Jake retired in 1995 as the company's Senior Vice President of Strategic Planning and Technology, after a 33-year career. Jake came to speak about his book, "The Last Chapter," which details the facts about the last days of Grumman. Jake has already addressed all of our southern chapters.

He then discussed many details from the new book to a fascinated audience. In 1993, he was given the assignment to map the future of the company with a small group of other Grumman executives. Jake began his review of events by describing the political reality of the early 1990s, when, without any real political support in Washington, the very successful F-14 program was cancelled in favor of the F-18 program.



Jake Bussolini

Jake then detailed the step-by-step path that led to the decision to merge with Northrop, and how the planned merger turned into a hostile takeover by Northrop. Interwoven with those plans was the presence of Martin Marietta. Almost all of the details were kept secret at the time and were fascinating to hear.

Jake also provided some post-acquisition corporate decisions by NG management to which he was privy since he had been asked by the CEO of Northrop to stay with the company and serve as the Co-Chair of the new company's integration efforts. The audience was captivated listening to these heretofore unknown details of the management deals made behind closed doors. Jake then held a brief Q&A and promised to answer questions after the meeting.

Betty thanked Jake and asked for a round of applause for him. She then announced that anyone wanting to hear more from Jake should plan to be at The Cradle of Aviation on May 28th at 7PM when he will speak.

**Business – President Betty Bohlander**

• The long empty office of the Club's Sergeant-at-Arms is now being filled by Nick Bazzicalupo, who has volunteered to assume the job. Betty thanked Nick for volunteering and asked the audience to give him a round of applause.

• Paul Schatzel, former member of the Retiree Club's Board of Directors and President of the Scholarship Fund, passed away suddenly on May

13. He was an important part of our club for over 20 years and will be missed.

• In addition to Paul's passing, the Scholarship committee will be losing two more key individuals. The committee announced that VP Howie Schilling and Treasurer Harry Daum are retiring for health reasons. They have been important to the Fund's continuing success and will have to be replaced quickly if the Scholarship program is to continue.

If you like what the Scholarship Fund has been doing and want it to continue, you must give serious thought to volunteering to join the Fund. The efforts by most people working on the Fund are concentrated between May and June, while some provide support at each monthly meeting selling Scholarship 50-50 tickets, support the Quarterly raffle year round, printing and distributing the scholarship applications starting each September, collect and organize the submitted applications, and evaluate the applications and select the winners. It's not a major commitment but certainly a necessary one.

All the present Scholarship Fund volunteers have been providing service much longer than ever anticipated when they initially volunteered. No one wants to see the Scholarship Program end. We can no longer continue to lose volunteers and maintain the same level of service. Volunteers must step up or we will not be able to continue these valuable scholarship awards for your outstanding children and grandchildren. Your generous donations annually are much appreciated, but we need a little of your time as well. Think about it and please call the office if you are willing to volunteer for this wonderful program.

• All coupons and checks for monthly luncheon meetings, Scholarship and Holiday luncheons, and the picnic should be sent to: Grumman Retiree Club, P.O. Box 476, Bethpage, NY 11714.

\* Scholarship Donations go to Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 748, Bethpage, NY 11714-0748.

\* All dues and ordinary correspondence should be addressed to: Attn: Retiree Club, Northrop Grumman Corporation, 925 South Oyster Bay Road, Bethpage, NY. 11714.



**Committee Reports** – First Vice President Bob Ripp reported that he has archived 320 people who did not pay dues for 2014. Reminder letters have been sent to members who have not paid their 2015 dues, along with reminders to spouses of deceased members that they can now be Club members. This amounted to over 400 people. Bob noted that our Newsletter roster has now fallen to under 3000 people for the first time. If you haven't received your May Newsletter, then you haven't paid your dues.

Bob then went on to expand on the request made by Betty for Scholarship Fund volunteers. He reiterated that the Club Office always needs help. Even a 1-2 hour a week presence helps. The major Office workload is in the Spring, when membership renewals come in, with little or nothing occurring during the Summer. Please consider a few hours of your time to keep our Club going.

**Community Relations** - Marion Abbott reported that a retiree from Florida is a collector of pins celebrating events or organizations. He thinks there was a pin of a Snoopy character during the Space program years. If anybody has one, or knows of one, or knows that such a pin did indeed exist, please call the Club Office (516-575-3777). We'll put you in contact with the collector.

**Treasurer's Report** - Harry Daum presented the Scholarship Fund treasurer's report. It was accepted as read. Harry announced that our scholars will be announced shortly and the Awards Luncheon is June 24. He thanked everyone for their generous contributions to the Scholarship Fund and noted that ten scholarships will be awarded at the luncheon.

**Scholarship Luncheon** – Past President Marion Abbott noted that the luncheon provides a three-course dinner, dancing to a great DJ, and an opportunity to meet ten of our finest high school graduates and their families. The cost is \$35pp.

**Travel - Nick Bazzicalupo**, (who is our new Sergeant-at-Arms) announced that he is no longer with Prime Time Travel. Nick said that he is willing to make arrangements for our Club that could significantly reduce prices, up to \$50 from Prime

Time or Rendezvous' prices. One of his favorites was a trip to Staten Island with a full dinner, open bar, show with a comedian and dancing. Prime Time would charge \$100; Nick could arrange it all for \$50. Others that he suggested are a trip to the 911 Memorial or a trip to Lake George. We would need the trips in September or October at the earliest. Give Nick or the office any travel suggestions you might have. It was then time for Nick's joke of the month. Keep 'em coming, Nick.

**Blood Drive:** There is a scheduled Blood Drive in Building 15 on June 18. Please call the office if you plan to donate and necessary arrangements will be made to bring you into the building. All donors past and present should contact the office and provide their telephone number. This will be documented so that Harry Pro can call each donor and advise them of upcoming drives.

**Birthdays:** Louise Kubat (77 on 5/7); Ken Leib (91 on 6/20); and Eugene Martone (93 on 5/14).  
***Happy Birthday to All!***

**Anniversaries:** Marie & Peter Crescenti, Sr. (71 yrs. on 6/25); Robert & Fran Jasinkonis (60 yrs. on 6/19); Steve & Ann Kalman (68yrs. on 5/4); Ken & Jean Leib (61 yrs. on 4/24); Eugene & Teresa Martone (62 yrs. on 9/14).  
***Congratulations on your milestones.***

Get Well Cards were sent to Shirley Murray and Louis Decolator. Get well soon.

**Out of Town Visitors** – Pauline Sandman from the Eastern LI chapter; Jake & Mary Lou Bussolini. Welcome.

**New Member:** We welcomed new member Hing Lam to the club.

**Prize Winners**  
**Door Prizes** - Betty Bohlander and Ben Kenney  
**Community Relations 50/50** – Betty Bohlander, Isabella Vnook, Peter Grudzinsky, and Grace Cox.  
**Scholarship 50/50** – Claudia Weihs, who graciously donated \$40 to the Scholarship Fund. *Thanks, Claudia.*



**Luncheons/Meetings**

**Next Meeting: June 24** - Scholarship Awards Luncheon, Crest Hollow Country Club.

**July & August: No meetings.**

**Sept 9: Club Picnic.** Reservation information is on the next-to-last page of this Newsletter.

**Sept 23: Meeting** at Crest Hollow CC. Doug Shaffer, Director and IPT Lead Electronic Attack/ Maritime Systems Integration, Northrop Grumman Aerospace Systems will be our guest speaker.

The meeting was adjourned with the singing of "God Bless America".

By: Lou Kubat, Sec'y.

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**CALIFORNIA / Golden West**

Our May 12 meeting was held at the Eagles Lodge, Oxnard, California.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sgt. of Arms John Urgo, and was followed by a prayer by President Fred Syrett. Thirteen members attended.

Lunch began at Noon, followed by a business meeting during which we discussed our up and coming Annual Picnic, to be held on June 9th.

Tom Maloney gave the treasurer's report.

Bill Schieffer celebrated his 77th birthday.

Craig Kaston put on a program about the Fighting Lady, a WWII aircraft carrier in the Pacific fighting the enemy with Grumman aircraft.

50/50 winners were Don Coler, Tom Maloney, and Herb Holler.

By: Fred Syrett, President

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**CALIFORNIA / San Diego**

No report of May activity.

Contact:: Bill Roeckl, Sec'y. billroeckl@cox.net

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**FLORIDA/ First Coast**

Our May picnic was attended by over forty people despite the hot temperature. It was nice to see more folks arriving early to enjoy the hot dogs grilled by chef Tom Walsh. Thanks to the folks who so generously brought goodies to share with all.

Although we did not have a regular meeting, we did recite the Pledge led by President Fred, which was followed by a cheerful blessing given by Deborah Bier.

We hope everyone has a healthy and enjoyable summer with friends and family. To our snow birds we wish safe travels to your Summer residences and hope our vacationers all find their way back with good health and stories to share.

If you are a Grumman or Northrop Grumman retiree or a current employee in our area, please join us at Pier 22 Restaurant in Bradenton, FL. For future planning, our meetings are held at Noon, on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, in the Marina View Dining Room, at Pier 22 Restaurant, Bradenton, FL, from October through April.

**Next Meeting: October 14**

By: John Zinna, Sec'y/Treasurer  
(941-705-2690) ezjohn1028@gmail.com

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**FLORIDA/ Mid-West**

Our May 21 meeting was opened by President John Cornacchia at 11:30AM, with ten members present.

Chaplain Gus Krayer opened our meeting with the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no Birthdays for this month.

There was one Anniversary:  
Bill & Pat Shay, 49 years.

A motion to accept the minutes for March 2015 was made by Gus Krayer and seconded by Elaine Johnson. The minutes were accepted unanimously.

The Treasurer's report was given by Gus Krayer. The motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Bill Shay and seconded by Madeline Arso. The Treasurer's report was accepted unanimously.

**Sunshine Committee:**

- \*\* Citrus County: All is well.
- \*\* Hernando County: All is well.

We broke for Lunch

Our speaker for today was Kevin Carroll, from the Hernando Fire department. He was very informative and was enjoyed by all.

The meeting adjourned at 1PM.

A fun time was had by all.

**Future Meetings:**

**\*\* We will be off for June, July, and Aug 2015.**

\*\* Returning September 17, 2015

\*\* October 15, 2015: Our picnic

\*\* November 19, 2015: Meeting

\*\* December 17: Christmas party.

We wish everyone a safe and healthy Summer and We look forward to seeing you all in September.

By: Kathy Cornacchia

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**FLORIDA / SouthWest**

May 12, 2015

President Clem Moors opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Twenty two members and guests were present at the Golden Corral, in Punta Gorda, FL.

The Secretary read the minutes from March.

Clem introduced our speakers who were from the Crime Prevention Task Force, which is sponsored by Protech Security Solutions. The speakers, Brian and Byron, discussed identity theft as well as various ways of protection both in and out of the home. We were given various brochures and a few security and self defense items were available for sale. The discussion was very informative.

May Birthdays: Robert Sidaras, Clem Moors, Marilyn Wolter, Linda Baldwin, and Anastasia Harrington.

May Anniversary: Ray & Marilyn Labell.

Clem announced that Tony Perre would not be handling the secretarial duties and that Linda Baldwin will be taking over these responsibilities. Tony has been an active officer in our retiree club for twenty-five years. We are much appreciative of all the time and effort he's extended. He will be our go-to guy for any future questions.

All the charitable donations that were sent from Bethpage were received.

Tom Dugan has Hawkeye shirts; if you are interested, please contact Clem.



**Next Meeting: Oct 13**, at Tara Woods. Please contact our hosts, George & Janet Daly (239-567-2285), by October 3rd if you plan to attend.

Following Meeting: Nov 10, back at the Golden Corral, in Punta Gorda.

By: Linda Baldwin, Sec'y. lsaldwin48@gmail.com  
Clem Moors, President clemtony@juno.com

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**FLORIDA / Space Coast**

Seventy-six members and guests gathered at the Suntree Country Club for our May 20 meeting, which was dedicated to honoring our scholarship winners for 2015.

President Bob Prais, in the Grumman tradition of promptness, called our meeting to order at the stroke of Noon, leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Sergeant-at-Arms Ed Romano - in his usual thoughtful invocation - reminded us of our obligation to honor those who served and sacrificed in our military so we could be free.

Following our buffet, President Bob recounted, for the sake of our scholars and their families, a brief history of our corporate founders and how the present Northrop Grumman came about.

Bob touched on the parallel careers of Roy Grumman and Jack Northrop, starting in 1895, and how both had careers marked with innovation. Bob detailed Mr. Grumman's use of a paper clip and an Eberhard Faber eraser to work out the intricacies of the folding wing, permitting the U.S. Navy to carry more aircraft on their carriers. (Bob went on to confess that his own efforts with the paperclip and eraser were markedly unsuccessful.)

At about the same time that Grumman's folding wing came into being, Jack Northrop was designing his vaunted "Flying Wing" airplane.

Bob also pointed out to our two female scholarship winners that the dramatic improvement for women's

careers in the workplace saw much of its origin in the aircraft industry during WWII - Grumman utilized women pilots to deliver fighters to the Navy. Now we see women as CEOs of some of our largest corporations.

**Scholarship: Chairman Jim Glover** then introduced our two scholarship winners, both of whom have had outstanding scholastic careers and been active in community and school activities:

**Megan McDede**

**Space Coast Chapter Scholarship Winner**

Graduate of Merritt Island High School

Will attend Embry Riddle Aeronautical University

Major: Mechanical Engineering

**Caroline Anderson,**

**George Skurla Scholarship Winner**

Graduate of Heritage High School

Will attend the University of Central Florida, then

Embry Riddle Aeronautical University

Major: Mechanical Engineering



Caroline Anderson (left), Megan McDede

As is our custom, our Retiree Club Chapter, in conjunction with the Bethpage Federal Credit Union, intends to provide subsequent awards to these two fine scholars during the next three years as long as they maintain their eligibility.

We regretted the absence of Mrs. Marie Skurla from the ceremony. Her awards of bags of "goodies" along with her incisive and humorous remarks have always livened up the meeting. An unfortunate fall left Marie temporarily immobile and unable to attend.



**Travel:** Maureen Ayers reported that her Road Scholar trip to Kentucky, to learn about thoroughbred horses and the racing industry, was extremely well run, very interesting and informative, and a great value for the money. See Maureen if you want more information about Road Scholar. Maureen has just returned from a long road trip via the Amtrak Autotrain, which runs between Sanford, FL and Lorton, VA. Maureen can answer any questions you might have about this service.

**Treasurer Bill Waldron** detailed receipts and expenditures along with satisfactory balances in both accounts. Guests were Charles and Lee Teufert.

**Community Relations:** Get Well cards have been sent to the following members who are experiencing health problems: Dot Beck, Gus Lanzo, and John Lopopolo

**Employee Birthdays April:** Ed Stone, Vic Belmont, Anne Dorothy, and Paul Wolff

**Spouse Birthdays April:** Gloria Schreiber, Pat Postupack, John Dorothy, Angela O'Brien, Anne Milonas, Peggy Graefe, Joan Orlando, Audrey Thilburg, Elaine Prime, Barbara Leahy, and Marion Russo

**Anniversaries April:** Ron & Carol Sidorski, Franklin & Angela O'Brien, Thomas & Ruth Feeney, Daniel & Pat Postupack, Tom & Lilia Lewis, Ed & Geraldine Stone, Bert & Barbara Richter, Laurence & Mary Andersen, and Charlie & Lee Kelley

**50/50 Drawing:** There were six 50/50 winners. The grand prize, a brunch for two at the Suntree Country Club, was won by Denise Herring.

By: Bill Steenson, Sec'y.

**Next Meeting: June 17**

**2015 Meeting Schedule:**  
9/16, 10/21, 11/18, 12/16

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**FLORIDA / Suncoast**

Suncoast Chapter is on Summer Break.

**Next Meetings: 10/15/15, 11/18/15, and 12/16/15.**

Contact: Patricia Newark, Sec'y.  
(727-360-7339) LionPattySecretary@Yahoo.com

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**FLORIDA / Treasure Coast**

The May 21 meeting of the Treasure Coast Chapter was at Manero's Restaurant, in Palm City, Florida, with 46 members and guests attending.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Danny Knowles and followed by the Invocation, given by Chaplain Lawrence Regier. Prior to his prayer, Larry noted the passing of former Stuart co-worker George "Buddy" Self. We send our condolences to his family.

Larry also announced that Harold Prague is sick and Richie Bergstol has a broken foot.

A wonderful lunch was enjoyed by all.

We were lucky enough to have two speakers. The first was Brianna Guppy, our IRSC scholarship winner for this year. Brianna was most thankful for our support, and is planning to start pursuing a Mechanical Engineering degree at Indian River State College, and then go on to a four year school, with hopes of a career with Google.

Our second speaker was KC Traylor, a community activist. KC has her own weekly radio show. (Tuesday nights, from 5 - 6 PM, on WSTU AM 1450.) She can be reached at thekcingramshow@mail.com and www.floridaNOTallaboard.com

Her extremely professional presentation expressed her strong opposition to All Aboard Florida (AAF), which is the current major topic of concern to all citizens/businesses along the East Coast of Florida. The AAF plans, as currently defined, (and



mentioned in notes on previous Treasure Coast Chapter speakers) are going to be tremendously disruptive to Stuart and the communities that AAF will run through - with 32 daily high speed trains (ostensibly passenger?) from Miami to Orlando. In addition, the impact on safety and emergency vehicles, as well as increased delays for normal road traffic, will be totally unacceptable.

KC urged all attendees, and their e-mail contacts, to immediately get involved by contacting their elected local and state officials, by signing petitions, volunteering, attending rallies, etc. Time is of the essence because the increased freight traffic (resulting from the expanded Panama and Nicaragua canals bringing products in from the Far East; the deepening of the port in Miami; and subsequent AAF rail thru East Coast communities to an expanded Orlando Airport) is quickly becoming a major issue, with a likely one-to-two-year time frame. A lively Q&A session took place after KC completed her excellent presentation.

Bob Watkins added that he had personally attended rallies, spoken to local U.S. Congressman Pat Murphy, (who is also opposed to the project), as well as to Rusty Roberts, VP of AAF, whose curt reply to Bob's objections to this rail program was simply "We own the land!" He is also quoted as saying recently while giving a Stuart presentation, as a train passed and blew its whistle, "That's the sound of money!"

We had one anniversary in May, Albert & Maria Moses, 56 Years. And two birthdays, Vinnie Dibble, who is 90, and Debbie Bartsfield, who is 29.

We had one new member, Gerry Adams, who received our second free lunch for coming to a meeting for the first time! We are still looking for more former employees interested in visiting our Retiree Club Chapter.

A raffle was held and raised \$55(!) for our scholarship fund. A box of Italian seven-layer cookies (made by yours truly) was the prize. Charlene Castagnero was the lucky winner, (if I do say so myself . . .).

There were five 50-50 winners, and the meeting was adjourned.

I do not know if this was mentioned at the meeting, but everyone who attended the Stuart Site 65th Anniversary Dinner on May 5th, spearheaded by Ken Tolve, had a wonderful time. There were 189 attendees, who enjoyed a great meal, but - more importantly - got to catch up with co-workers and friends that they had not seen in years. All of the speakers were short and sweet and there were many funny, poignant moments. We all hope this will again become a yearly event. Thanks, Ken.

**Next Meeting: June 18, at Manero's.**

By: Nancy Schaefer, Sec'y, (772-528-8169)  
nmscha@aol.com

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**GEORGIA / Peach Pit**

Our May 19, 2015 meeting, at Crockett's Cafeteria on Hwy 441 in Milledgeville, GA, started at 12:30PM. There were nine present when President Janet Sills called the meeting to order and asked Sergeant-at-Arms Designee Brenda Gruwell to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Chaplain Designee Mary Archer gave the Blessing, which was followed by the meal and fellowship.

**Old Business:**

A motion to accept the April 21, 2015 Minutes was made by Paul Bernichon and seconded by Bill Gruwell. There were no changes by those present or received by proxy so the motion passed.

**New Business:**

1. Chapter members, family, and guests had been invited to Triumph Group's Milledgeville Plant Open House on Saturday, May 2. Paul Bernichon, with his spouse Barbara and nearly two-dozen other Club members, reported that he had a wonderful visit that included lunch. On behalf of our Retiree Chapter, we thank the Management of the Triumph Site for including Retirees and guests in Site events, for hosting the Chapter's March luncheon meeting on Site, and for allowing use of Site services to print monthly minutes and etc. to help reduce some Chapter administrative costs.



2. On May 13, 2015 Club/Chapter member Bill Schwendler, who is also a Board member of the Atlanta Metropolitan Council of the Navy League of the U. S., was in Milledgeville for the day. The Atlanta Council had an awards program for the 44 Navy & Marine JROTC and eight Sea Cadet Units in North Georgia. Due to staff changes, Baldwin County H. S. has not participated in recent years, but Bill met with CDR Harris, who is in charge of the Unit. And, this JROTC will participate in the Program next year. While here, Bill and Lew Luliucci met and received a thorough tour of the Triumph Facility by Triumph Program Operations Director Danny Smith. Bill commented afterwards, "You have expanded since I was here last and you have programs I haven't seen before. It is a pleasure to see quality manufacturing in the Grumman tradition!"

3. On May 5, Members Bill & Brenda Gruwell attended the 65th Anniversary of the Stuart Site [formerly Grumman Plant 77]. When asked how it was? They responded: "Awesome".

4. May Happy Birthday wishes were extended to: Pat Donovan [29th], Ernie Godbee [1st], Gary Hagland [5th], Tom Main [12th], Pat Sansotta [30th], and Bill Schwendler [23rd].

5. Wedding Anniversary congratulations were extended to: Willie & Geraldine Collins [27th], Jesse & Gloria Griffin [29th], and Bill & Barbara L. Stevens [22nd].

6. Secretary Lew gave a Report on the Year 2015 Donation Plan's member voting results, wherein all votes cast were for the Plan as presented. There were no comments for changes by those present or via proxy. Accordingly, a motion to accept the Secretary's Report was made by Josephine Haralson and seconded by Mary Archer. The motion passed, thus allowing disbursement of Funds.

7. Member Earl Seagle is compiling a list of places in Georgia that members may wish to visit, all within a bus ride away. More to follow, to solicit member interest in joining others for a day of fellowship.

Treasurer Joe Sansotta reported a positive bank balance.

Paul Bernichon won the 75/25 Fund Raiser raffle and donated the winnings to the Community Service Fund. Thank you, Paul.

**Community Service:**

a.] Volunteerism continues as members and spouses aid various causes including Pints of Blood/Platelets. One member donated the 118th pint of blood on May 16, 2015

b.] A gift check, with a cover letter, will be given to the Mary Vinson Memorial Public Library on Memorial Day, May 25, 2015, per our year 2015 Chapter Donation Plan. [Note: Mary Vinson was the spouse of the Honorable U.S. Congressman Carl Vinson, the Chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives Armed Services Committee.

Vinson served under seven Presidents [i.e. 55 years seniority]. Representative Vinson is known as the "Father of the Pacific Navy".

He was honored by having an Aircraft Carrier named for him. And, Yes, Grumman chose to locate its Advance Composites Facility (Plant 66) in Baldwin County/Milledgeville, GA, birthplace of Congressman Vinson, where the plant has prospered for four decades. For the last nine years, this Chapter has issued its first gift check, per the Donation Plan, to the Vinson Memorial for the educational/scholastic benefit of the local citizens.

**Program:**

At this Business Meeting, we discussed the local Plant's May 2nd Open House; the May 5th Stuart 65th Anniversary Celebration; the various choices for member one day outings; Bill Schwendler's visit; and etc. Also, former co-worker Curtis Scott, a Quality Control Inspector, joined the conversation, as he happened to be having lunch near our group.

A motion to end the meeting was made by Earl Seagle and seconded by President Janet. The motion carried and adjournment was at 1:30PM.



**Next Meeting: June 16, 12:30PM**, at Crockett's Cafeteria on Hwy 441 in Milledgeville, GA. The Program: A non-Business / Pre-Summer-break fellowship meeting. [Note: Administrative meeting notes will be issued.]

By: Lew M. Iulucci, Sec'y. (478-452-1357)  
iulucci@windstream.net

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**Maryland / Glen Arm**

Our meeting was held on May 9th, starting at 1PM. We had a fair showing.

Primary topics were the Treasury Report, Chapter attendance, and our Meeting schedule.

We spoke about a Summer meeting break, and most present felt it would be a good move. The length of the break will be discussed at our June evening meeting. It looks like we'll break for July and August, with an evening meeting at return in September. That decision will be finalized at the June meeting.

Club Treasurer Joe Svach reminded members that he will be stepping down. He previously agreed to continue in the position until June, when we will have our next evening meeting. As of this writing, no one has stepped up for the position!

If you would like to be considered as a nominee for the Treasurer position, please let Rick Swinder know (410-977-7829 or rickswinder@gmail.com).

John Kennedy, our long time member and supporter from way down in Florida, stopped by to say "Hi" and spend some time with us at the meeting. John was happy to see those at the meeting and feeling was mutual. John was in Maryland to visit one of his daughters who still lives here. He also has two daughters who live near him in Florida.

John said "Hi" to all the Glen Arm people. He plans to go across country in his 37-foot motor home, making stops in Illinois, Iowa, Colorado, Utah, and California, before making his way back to Florida. He'll be stopping in on family along the way.

Have a great trip John!

**Known May & June Birthdays:**

- John Nussle - May 4th
- Jim Swearingen - May 26th
- Cas Swinder - May 29th
- Mike Taylor - June 9th
- Dan Rutherford - June 16th

***Happy Birthday to You All!***

Unless Notified Otherwise: Our Club meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Daytime meetings are at 1PM; Evening meetings start at 6:30PM.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 6: 6:30PM.**

All meetings are held at the Golden Corral, in Aberdeen, MD.

Topics for Next meeting:

- > Charity selection for chapter donation (revisited)
- > Treasurer's Report
- > Treasurer's replacement
- > Summer meeting Schedule

Remember, our Retiree Club Chapter is still recruiting members. If any current members have contact info for fellow Glen Arm Grummanites who are not currently members, please pass on our club contact info.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact:

President: Rick Swinder (410 977 7829 or rickswinder@gmail.com)

By: Joe Svach

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**New England North**

Our first meeting of the 2015 season was held on May 15, at Baxter's Restaurant in Rutland, VT. We had seven people in attendance. Due to the small number of people we decided not to hold a formal meeting.



We shared a moment of silence for our recently departed members Fred Ernst and Bill Barnard.

We were all glad to hear that Bill Wanner was home and on the mend.

Lunch was very good and we enjoyed the conversation. **The next luncheon was discussed and everybody wanted to go to the Chinese restaurant in Rutland on June 11.**

By: Bill Egner, President

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**New Jersey**  
**Garden State Chapter**

The May 19, 2015 meeting was held at the Heritage Restaurant in Whiting with seven members and one guest present. President Bill Staples called the meeting to order at 1:10PM.

The minutes of our April 21, 2015 meeting were accepted as read.

Since the Treasurer was unable to attend, President Staples reported that there were no changes to our treasury.

There was no Sunshine Report, and the only birthday for May is Gloria Larsen, on the 2nd.

**New Business – President Staples** went directly to New Business since there was no old business. He reported that the Crestwood Family Restaurant had closed. He was able to arrange to have our meeting at the Heritage Restaurant. President Staples also advised everyone that the surviving spouses of Grumman employees could become regular members of the Grumman Retiree Club. And, he requested the e-mail addresses of those present so he could communicate with members when necessary without phoning.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10PM.

**Next Meeting: June 16, 2015** at 1:00PM, at the Heritage Restaurant in Whiting.

By: Carolyn Kerr, Sec’y. (732-244-4483)

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**NEW YORK**  
**Eastern Long Island Chapter**

President Bert Moller called our May 20 meeting to order with 19 members present. VP Bob Albert read the minutes of the previous meeting, and Treasurer Pauline Sandmann gave the financial report. Both were accepted as read.

Bert reported that we have 95 dues paying members for 2015.

Bert will check with Bethpage about the “Name Bricks” that are fading at Calverton Memorial Park, although he said the markers in Calverton National Cemetery are engraved only, not “highlighted” anymore.

Members voted for our June 18 meeting to be held at Riverwoods (Pauline Sandmann’s Clubhouse) Route 104 (Riverleigh Ave.) Riverside. Lost? Call Pauline at 631-369-1854 or 631-278-4589. Officers from the Bethpage Chapter are tentatively scheduled to be there.

Remember: After this June Meeting, there are NO Meetings until Wednesday, September 16th!

May Birthdays celebrated: Catherine Bolomey and Leo J. Bujnicki (5/3); Marguerite Gibbons (5/12)

Only Anniversary reported was Bill & Marie Dwyer on May 12<sup>th</sup>.

*Congrats to all Celebrants!*

(Please let me know if I missed any Birthdays, Anniversaries, etc.)

**Next Meeting: June 18**



Future Meetings:  
 NO Meetings in July and August  
 Sept 16, Oct 21, Nov 18, December TBD

To Report illnesses, deaths, etc, Contact Bill Mytko  
 at 1-864-225-4927 or ermytko@yahoo.com

**Remember Memorial Day – Always!**  
 Happy Fathers Day!

By: VP Bob Albert (631-585-7987)

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**NORTH CAROLINA**  
**Eastern Carolina Chapter**

Our May 13th meeting was held at the River Bend Country Club, in River Bend, NC, with 17 members present for a social hour, lunch, and a business meeting. Bob and Grace Lamberson were Program Directors for the meeting. Jake Bussolini graciously accepted our invitation to speak at the meeting and was present to give an overview of his new book, “The Last Chapter” and to participate in a book signing.

The meeting began with Sergeant-at- Arms Ken Gruebel leading the Pledge of Allegiance, which was followed by an invocation. Lunch followed and - as always at the River Bend Country Club - it was delicious.

Jake Bussolini spoke after lunch, giving an overview of his new book, “The Last Chapter,” which details Grumman’s strategic planning efforts along with the economic and political events that led to the acquisition by Northrop. His talk was appreciated by all. Jake then answered a number of questions posed by the members. Jake also is an accomplished fisherman and has authored a number of books on fresh water fishing. All his books are available through [www.booksbyjake.com](http://www.booksbyjake.com).

Bob Lamberson gave the Treasurer’s report, indicating that the Treasury continues to maintain a healthy positive balance. Bob also mentioned that

we received a “Thank You” note from the Retiree Club Scholarship Fund for the Chapter’s donation in memory of Joseph Ram. In addition, we received thank you notes from the Craddockville, VA United Methodist Church and from Peggy Dunlop for the Chapter’s donation to the church in memory of Robert Dunlop.

President Pete told us that Barbara Betts had surgery on her foot recently, and Joe Mele and Flossie Johnson had to cancel their attendance because Flossie was not feeling well. Pete also mentioned the Chapter will be electing officers for the coming year during our June meeting. He asked for nominations/volunteers for anyone who would like to fill a position. He also announced birthdays and anniversaries for the month and then asked Bob to call the 50/50 winners.

**50/50 winners:** Bernie Kuntz & Ken Gruebel.

A bit of other news: Chapter member JB Bagby, JN, sent in a newsletter announcing he was relieved as outgoing Commander of the Fort Macon (North Carolina) Sail and Power Squadron during the squadron’s Feb. 21, 2015 “Change Of Watch” ceremony. [Author’s Note: The “JN” suffix appended to his name indicates he is certified as a “Junior Navigator” within the US Power Squadron organization. This means he has successfully completed a wide variety of boating training and passed various certification tests. This is a very significant accomplishment. ]

Pete adjourned the meeting, thanked Jake Bussolini for his talk, and thanked Bob & Grace Lamberson for hosting the meeting.

**Birthdays:** 5/10- Nidda Mc Namee; 5/18- Ken Gruebel; 5/18- Bill Stanton; 5/20- Patricia Johnson; 5/25- Dolores Brown; 5/28- Dick Guarino

**Anniversaries:** 5/1 - Walter & Joan Muench; 5/7 - Jim & Dorothy Karika; 5/9 - Stanley & Arlene Ramsden; 5/18 - Leo & Katherine Torrens; 5/24 - Michael & Janet Savistio; 5/30 - Tony & Carol Peralta; 5/30 - Larry & Diane Spallanzani; May - John & Ada Peoples.



**Next Meeting: June 9**, at the Clam Digger Inn, in Pine Knoll Shores, NC. Rudi and Marlene Wiehl will be Program Directors.

By: Peter Mc Namee  
pmcnamee@suddenlink.net

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**PENNSYLVANIA**  
**Northeastern Pennsylvania Chapter**

May 28 was a bright and sunny day here in Northeast Pennsylvania. Temperature was in the low 80s. The Zupps, Rademachers, Sparkowskis, Anker Petersen, and the Petersons were in attendance. Our special guests for this meeting were Jake Bussolini and his wife Mary Lou.

Jake joined us as part of his book signing tour of the country. We started early, because Jake had to be back on the Island for two more engagements. He stated that, at pushing 80, he is still learning things. He found out coming to our meeting that there are Text Stops on Routes 684 and 84. Boy, has technology come a long way! He also found out that - when going back to the Island - he was going to stay away from the GW Bridge.

He then spoke about his book, and gave us a little more insight into the Northrop take over. Points covered were: some of the politics that occurred with the take over, negotiations involved with the F-14 program, and some other insights about what took place in the last days of Grumman as a stand-alone company.

Jake's talk was most interesting and added to his book. If you want to read a good book and hear about how and why things were done the way they were, invite Jake to a meeting. I guarantee you will not be disappointed.

After his talk Jake and Mary Lou had lunch and excused themselves to get back to the Island.

To those of you who could not, or did not attend this

meeting: you missed a good time.

The rest of the meeting was, as usual, light talk and plenty of stories.

There was no sickness report. Everyone agreed that all our walking wounded were in decent health.

**Birthdays for May:** Pat Robb, Ed Ruppel, and Bob Zupp.

**Anniversaries for May:** Jeffrey & Carol Lee.  
50X50 was won by Anker Petersen

**Next Meeting:** June 18, at Noon, Kays Italian Restaurant, in Lake Ariel, PA.

**Notice we are back to our original  
third Thursday and time.**

By: Edward J. Sparkowski, Sec'y/Chaplain  
(570-698-7182) firefly417@verizon.net

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**SOUTH CAROLINA**  
**Coastal Carolinas Chapter**

**May 6, 2015**

Many thanks to Lorraine & Ronald Girardin for their gracious hospitality in welcoming eight members and one guest into their beautiful home for our last meeting – our Chapter picnic - prior to the Fall. No formal meeting was held so that everyone could enjoy the delicious barbequed lunch cooked by Ron, as well as the side dishes and desserts provided by Lorraine and other Club members. Good food, good weather, and good fellowship were enjoyed by all.

Theresa McMahon was the only guest at the gathering.

**Birthday Greetings go to:**  
for May - Nancy Webber & Bob Joyce.  
for June - Faye Katzenberger,  
for July - Ed Hanlon, Marilyn Seidler, Kathy Fleischer, and Richard Seidler  
for August - Judy & Eldon Scott.



**Anniversary Wishes go to:**

for May - Barbara & Gary O'Loughlin, and Carol & Bob Joyce.

for June - Lorraine & Ronald Girardin,

for July - Kathy & Marty Fleischer, Lee & Bernard Mascara, and Kay & Ted Hedin.

for August - Barbara & Ed Raulsome.

**Future meetings:**

**Sept 2: Logans Roadhouse,**

4511 Highway 17 South, North Myrtle Beach

Oct 7: Damon Restaurant, 2985 South Ocean Blvd, Myrtle Beach

Dec 2: Sea Captain's House, 3002 North Ocean Blvd, Myrtle Beach.

All meetings are held promptly at Noon, on the first Wednesday of each month.

There are no meetings during the months of June, July, and August.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for participating and contributing to the meetings in order to continue the Coastal Carolinas Chapter of The Grumman-Northrop Grumman Retiree Club.

May you all enjoy a Safe, Healthy, Happy Summer!

We welcome all Grumman, Northrop Grumman, and Northrop retirees and their guests.

By: Nancy Webber, Secretary (843-347-2113) [nfwebber@twc.com](mailto:nfwebber@twc.com)

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**TEXAS / Houston**

**April 21, 2015**

Our April meeting was held at the Clear Lake Park Building on NASA #1 Pkwy, starting at 11:30AM. The meeting opened with our guest speaker Louis Nguyen, a NASA Mission Control Engineer, leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**The 50/50** was won by Jenette Vaughn.

**Member Notes:**

\*\* Ed Carle and Bruce Honohan had cardiac doctor appointments.

\*\* Sandy Howell is not feeling well.

\*\* Ken Maloney, our roaming ambassador, is on a field trip.

**Guest Speaker Louis Nguyen** spoke on the space program Morpheus. The projector normally used to display the propulsion system firing lacked some components. The substitute was a laptop showing the test vehicle in several modes

By: Charles Ashford, Sec'y. (281-474-7260)

\* \* \* \* \*

**May 19, 2015**

The May meeting was held at the Clear Lake Park Building on NASA #1 Pkwy, starting at 11:30AM. The meeting opened with Barbara Carle leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The 50/50 was won by Angelo LaCognata, who donated back to the Chapter.

In attendance were eight members. In addition, Dave Cisco, who has not been seen for 20 years, made a surprise visit. Dave was with Grumman Houston at the start of the LEM testing.

Bob Taylor updated us on Sandy Howell who has been moved to a retirement home.

Charles Ashford came in; he has bad knees but doesn't use a cane.



Ken Maloney updated us about his trip to Grumman Bethpage.

With Dave Cisco's unscheduled appearance, we were anxious to hear what he has been doing. Dave left Grumman and was employed with North American and later opened a travel agency with his wife Amina. He also worked at Rockwell International, Trans Texas International Airlines, and now is semi-retired. He is a member of the Board of Directors at NASA JSC. We are looking forward to seeing more of Dave. While Dave was away, he wrote a very successful book, Full Circle, and gave a signed copy to everyone present. *Thank You, Dave.*

**Next Meeting: June 16**, at the Clear Lake Park Building on NASA #1 Pkwy.

See you all next month.

By: Charles Ashford, Sec'y. (281-474-7260)

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**VIRGINIA / Central Virginia**

Our May meeting was held at Crab Louie's (seafood) Restaurant in Midlothian, VA. Their specialty is fresh fish. We all enjoy returning to this restaurant for its fine seafood selection.

We had eight members in attendance: Chris Julie, Harold Case, Anna Dannenhoffer, Rich Benske, friend Jackie, Ed Samson, Bev & Frank Purstell.

We had a very short business meeting. Since we have adopted a policy to meet at a different Restaurant every month, accommodating a membership spread across Virginia, Ed Samson suggested that each member recommend at least two restaurants they would like to visit, keeping price for lunch in mind. We will schedule next season's meetings from this list, also keeping in mind travel distances.

Since our last meeting, all our member 2015 dues have been paid. Frank Purstell gave a financial report: all is well.

At the end of our meeting, Rich Benke, a Furniture Woodworking Craftsman, announced that he had a gift for the ladies. He presented each of the ladies with a beautiful, large, handcrafted Jewelry Box. The ladies were delighted with their gifts. Thank you, very much, Rich.

**Final meeting of the season**

**Wednesday June 10**, 12:30PM,  
at

"Tavern on the Green" Restaurant,  
Spring Creek Golf Club,  
438 Timber Ridge Terrace, Gordonsville, VA.  
Phone No. 540-832-0744

Directions: Take Exit 136 (Route 15, North) off Route 64. Go about 2 miles, on the left is Spring Creek entrance. Check at guard shack for final directions.

General Info: **Our first meeting in the Fall will be held on Sept. 16**, at 12:30PM, (on the **3rd** Wednesday, because of Labor Day coming on Sept. 7) at *The Barbeque Exchange*, 102 Martinsville Ave., Gordonsville, VA 22923. Phone 540-832-0227

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**In Memoriam**

*We extend heartfelt sympathy to the families and friends of those who have passed away.*

<b>Davidson, Albert</b>	<b>Southbury, CT</b>	<b>04/22/2015</b>
<b>Edwards, Fred J.</b>	<b>Holland, Pa.</b>	<b>05/13/2015</b>
<b>Galluccio, Frank S.</b>	<b>Little River, SC</b>	<b>05/10/2015</b>
<b>Lynch, Eugene A.</b>	<b>Levittown, NY</b>	<b>05/13/2015</b>
<b>Nix, Joseph M.</b>	<b>Peoria, AZ</b>	<b>02/09/2015</b>
<b>Oelcher, William</b>	<b>St. James, NY</b>	<b>05/03/2015</b>
<b>Patwell, Richard K.</b>	<b>West Islip, NY</b>	<b>05/01/2015</b>
<b>John Polman</b>	<b>Farmingdale, NY</b>	<b>02/25/2014</b>
<b>Schatzel, Paul R.</b>	<b>Bethpage, NY</b>	<b>05/13/2015</b>
<b>Scotto, Anna</b>	<b>Levittown, NY</b>	<b>02/06/2015</b>
<b>Seagraves, Donald</b>	<b>Manorville, NY</b>	<b>08/28/2014</b>
<b>Swicord, Howard</b>	<b>West Islip, NY</b>	<b>08/29/2014</b>
<b>Whitney, Joseph H. Jr.</b>	<b>Smithtown, NY</b>	<b>04/27/2015</b>

When reporting a death, provide the person's Name, Date of death, and the City & State of residence prior to death. Notices of member deaths should be e-mailed to the Club (grumrc@gmail.com), with "Death Notice" as the subject.

**Grumman History**  
**Chapter 31**  
**Golden Anniversary(1979-1980)**

Grumman Aircraft Engineering Corporation had been created in December 1929. Now, it was 1979: Grumman's golden anniversary was on the horizon. Celebrations were in being planned. But, a dozen Grummanites hunkered down in their Iranian compound while the Iranian Revolution raged nearby. Their danger was real. Grumman's F-14 leader in Iran, "Swoose" Snead, heard his translator tell him that armed Iranians just outside their building were shouting, "Let's shoot some Americans and let the whole world know the CIA is here." Snead's only link to the outside world was a ham radio station set up in a bedroom since the army compound in Teheran had been overrun. "Get a bus!" Swoose ordered, and – somehow - aide Marty Clark garnered one.

Leaving everything behind, Snead and the "Dirty Dozen" (others had escaped earlier) made their move to travel through Qom to Teheran and the airport. On route, their driver was slowing to a stop, as up ahead armed revolutionaries had stopped another bus, blocking the road. Snead barked, "Go! Go! Go!" Obeying, the driver drove around that bus ... and to their relief they were not chased. As dawn broke, a revolutionary guard boarded the bus and helped the Grummanites through roadblocks to the airport where they safely boarded the last evacuation plane.

Back home, Grumman Aerospace Chairman and President George Skurla, personally rewarded the heroism of those critical to the success of this hair-raising escape, citing the efforts of Field Administration & Liaison, the Amateur Radio Club, the Traffic Department, and the entire "Dirty Dozen".

The revolution came to an end when, in mid-January, the Shah surreptitiously slipped out of Iran, leaving the Iranian government and armed services headless. Ayatollah Khomeini returned from 15 years in exile and by the middle of February he had overthrown the Shah's government, becoming the Supreme Ruler. He inherited 79 F-14As and 284 Phoenix missiles.

At home, Grumman had much to celebrate: the EF-111A Raven was to go into production; the subcontract business received a huge boost when Boeing chose Grumman to produce two-hundred 767 wing center sections; and the Gulfstream Shuttle Training Aircraft was doing its job to NASA's satisfaction, helping to train astronauts for the first shuttle space flight. The backlog for the Flixible 870 bus had grown to \$260 million with cities such as New York, Houston, and Los Angeles placing orders. Management was excited, as this venture would shortly turn profitable when the production rate climbed from five to the target of eight buses per day.

Even better news: The Japanese ordered four Hawkeyes with an option for four more; the latest version of the Intruder, the A-6E TRAM, joined the fleet, and Grumman was meeting its obligations to Gulfstream American as the Gulfstream III, in the sure hands of Bob Smyth and Morgan Cobb, successfully completed its first flight.

Grumman never abandoned its socially conscience approach to its workforce. Noting that only 14% of its employees were women, Grumman adopted new aggressive initiatives - courses, seminars, training programs, work shops, and more - as it sought to increase the number of women and enlarge their roles at Grumman.

The official kick-off of the 50-year anniversary took place at the 25-year pin meeting in December. As 287 Grummanites were receiving their watches, they were treated to meeting George Burkhardt, the Grummanite with the longest work record: he was 14 years old when he joined Grumman in 1930, with badge number 18.

The Golden Anniversary year of 1980 saw some of the luster of the diversification strategy fade. Dormavac, the high tech container that preserved highly perishable products, had failed a crucial delivery in 1979 resulting from unusually harsh weather conditions during the delivery process. It required a re-engineering effort and its marketing potential was diminished.

Then the Flixbus 870 bus developed fatigue cracks in its undercarriage in New York City from streets in horrible condition, poor maintenance, and, unfortunately, a design flaw. Inspections in other cities showed similar cracks. To protect its reputation, Grumman immediately notified all the bus operators and implemented a structural fix on every bus and then doubled the warranty period to six years or 300,000 miles. However, the option for an additional 500 buses in New York City was cancelled. Grumman's cost: \$7 million. Solar energy sales were also below expectations and that business was folded into Grumman Allied.

Grumman's diversification efforts were beginning to mirror the experiences of other aerospace companies, which were characterized by Norman Augustine's, the former chairman of Lockheed Martin, famous observation that the aerospace industry's attempts at commercial diversification had a record unblemished by success.

Aerospace continued its winning ways with its core four: Tomcat, Intruder, Hawkeye, and Prowler, along with the upcoming Raven. The 600th Intruder was shipped from Calverton almost 20 years to the day from when the first Intruder took to the sky.

On the plus side, many years of development resulted in successful wind tunnel tests on such advanced concepts as Vertical Take Off & Landing aircraft and a radical Forward Swept Wing technology demonstrator poised to be proposed to the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. Grumman Allied unveiled a lightweight, all-electric van capable of going 40 miles before recharging. Utilizing aircraft structural technology: the van's skin took the load, avoiding the need for a chassis. Plant protection and the US Post Office were going to try them out.

In June, Grumman bought the St. Augustine, FL plant, a site to be dedicated to aircraft modification and overhauls. Its first job: conversion of twelve venerable air-sea rescue HU-16 Albatrosses into the G-111, a 28 passenger, Caribbean-island hopping, commuter aircraft for Resorts International.

What was happening to the F-14s in Iran? U.S. attempts to buy them back from Iran ended when 3,000 radical students invaded the U.S. Embassy and took 53 Americans hostage in late 1979. Meanwhile, the Khomeini government tortured and perhaps executed some of the F-14 pilots, as they were the "Shah's Pilots". Ground crews suffered similar fates. A relatively few, but highly trained, pilots and ground crew fled the country. Suddenly the value of the F-14 and its crews were to skyrocket as the new president of Iraq, Saddam Hussein, just one year in office, declared war on Iran in September 1980. The Iranians, with their limited resources, began to restore their F-14s to service. The F-14s sold to the Shah to protect American interests in the middle east were now becoming critical assets for our new foe, Iran, and were forcing the U.S. Navy to spend \$200 million to Phoenix-proof our aircraft against Iran's F-14s while enabling our F-14s to counter any Iranian Phoenix missile countermeasures.

These important world events did not dampen spirits on October 24; this day was the high point of Grumman's Golden Anniversary celebrations. Over 40,000 people crammed 9,700 cars into the parking lots with a capacity of just 9,000 cars. The throng at the Calverton facility was eagerly anticipating the air show that would feature both vintage and modern Grumman aircraft. Cloudy, rainy weather reduced the scope of the show although all the aircraft were parked for viewing. Of the vintage aircraft, only a Hellcat took to the sky. But it was the Tomcat that all wanted to see. Flying low, with its wings swept back, the Tomcat's roaring engines shook the ground as it zoomed by displaying glowing hot afterburners. Was this an omen of Grumman's future?

By: Ken Speiser and Larry Feliu

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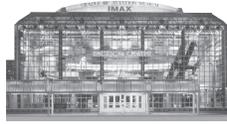
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**SEPTEMBER 23 LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM**

Member Name (PRINT)

Guest Names (PRINT)

No. of Members attending \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Guests attending \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Chicken \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Fish \_\_\_\_\_

Luncheon coupons should be mailed to  
Grumman Retiree Club, Inc.  
PO Box 476  
Bethpage, NY 11714

**\$10 per member - \$20 per guest**  
**PLEASE RESPOND BY SEPTEMBER 16**

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**OCTOBER 28 LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM**

Member Name (PRINT)

Guest Names (PRINT)

No. of Members attending \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Guests attending \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Chicken \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Fish \_\_\_\_\_

Luncheon coupons should be mailed to  
Grumman Retiree Club, Inc.  
PO Box 476  
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**\$10 per member - \$20 per guest**  
**PLEASE RESPOND BY OCTOBER 21**

**GRUMMAN - NORTHROP GRUMMAN RETIREE CLUB - 29th Annual Retiree Club Picnic**

**Wednesday, September 9, 2015**

**Majorie Post Park – Unqua Road, Massapequa, NY**

**Admission: \$10 members/ \$20 non-members**

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**Picnic Luncheon At Noon Will Include  
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***Sorry: Tickets Will Not Be Sold At The Park  
Deadline for paying for the picnic: September 1***



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**Newsletter**

Editor: Neil Klaskin  
 Nostalgia Coordinator: Charles Mooney

**Grumman Retiree Club, Inc.**

Phone: (516) 575-3777  
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