



The Grumman-Northrop Grumman Retiree Club

Newsletter



October 2015

Volume 48, Issue 8

Circulation: 2,780

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 Egnor (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)

Editor's Note: The Summer of 2015 brought the passing of many Club members. The list of those who are no longer with us is on page XX.

In keeping with our practice of recognizing former Grumman officials and / or Club members who were important to the Club's interests and activities, we present the following five obituaries.

ROBERT E. FOSTER

August 8, 1931 – August 31, 2015

After a long and varied career in the personnel department, Bob was elected Vice-President of Human Resources for the Grumman Corporation. He retired in 1994 and became a member of the Retiree Club. Bob joined the Club's Board of Directors and was in that capacity for almost six years.

Bob was a great asset to the Board. Not only was he a perfect gentleman, but he also had the ability to listen to our discussions and - more times than not - was able to bring forth a clear approach to the problem. He was intelligent, fair-minded, and always had the best interests of our members foremost in his thinking. When his health problems prevented him from attending our meetings, he resigned and the Board voted to name him Director Emeritus, which enabled us to seek his advice when needed. Bob was pleased that we thought so very much of him. We were fortunate to have had the opportunity to let him know how we felt. We will all miss him.

MICHAEL T. LEOGRANDE

May 30, 1931 – July 5, 2015

Mike began his career at Grumman in 1958, as a plumber in the Facilities Department and worked his way up to Facilities Manager. This position gave him the unenviable responsibility of making sure that all of the Bethpage plants were maintained at all times, that the snow was removed from the parking lots and roadways, and on occasion required him to sleep overnight at the plants so that everyone could get to work the next day.

Mike joined the Retiree Club around 1991, and began volunteering his services almost immediately. Mike always had a smile on his face and was ready to help in any way he could at any time. Club members will immediately be able to picture Mike when I say he was the very pleasant "big" guy, with the huge smile, who sold the 50/50 tickets at every meeting and event that the Club held. Who could not love that man? We miss him terribly; his passing has left a void in our club and in our lives.

Continued on page three . . .



Scholarship Program Contributors

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

- Dwyer, Maria
- Kusche, Charles Jr.
- Marinaro, Theda
- Martinis, Teresa
- North, Lee
- Powers, William
- Sakellarides, Salvatore
- Stalb, Alan
- Weihs, Donna

Glenn Arm, Maryland Retiree Chapter

The 18th Annual Scholarship Awards, in 2015, were possible only because you, our Club members, provided donations and support. Your continuing support will enable us to have our 19th Scholarship Awards, in 2016. Your contributions are the Engine that allows our Scholarship Award Program to be an on-going Retiree Club Program for all Members.

Donations to our Scholarship Program are Tax Deductible and every little bit counts. It all adds up

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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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Grumman Retiree Club, Inc. c/o Command Direct / 310 Oser Ave / Hauppauge, NY 11788-3608

Applications for 2016 will be available at your November membership meetings. Or applications may be obtained by a sending a request for an application, together with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: Scholarship Fund, PO Box 0748, Bethpage, NY, 11714-0748

**Scholarship Program
QUARTERLY 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

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone (optional) _____

Number of Raffles Purchased _____



Obituaries, continued . . .

Dean Cassell
September 25, 1928 – July 20, 2015

Following his college graduation, Dean joined the United States Navy in 1952. He was commissioned an officer and received his wings as a naval aviator. He was honorably discharged, in 1960 as a Lieutenant Senior Grade.

Dean joined Grumman in 1960. His career spanned three decades in managing the development and manufacture of Grumman's major military and commercial product lines. In 1969, he became manager of the entire E-2A program; subsequently, he managed the E-2B, E-2C, and C-2A programs.

In 1977, he was appointed Grumman Energy Systems' Vice President of Operations. In 1981, Dean was named director of Grumman's commercial development center. He became Vice President of Grumman Allied Division and, later, Vice President of the U.S. Postal Service vehicle program. In 1986, Grumman Allied successfully bid to build over 99,000 new postal trucks, winning a \$1.1 billion contract. Dean retired as a Vice President, Grumman Corporation.

Gordon H. Ochenrider
January 3, 1922 - September 7, 2015

Gordon Ochenrider graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1943 with a degree in Engineering. He spent 15 years in the Navy as a fighter pilot, with service in the South Pacific and elsewhere.

After serving his country, Gordon joined Grumman Corporation, rising to the position of Senior Vice President. During his 30 plus years at Grumman, Gordon served the Company in Europe, opened the company's Washington, DC office, and became known as Grumman's "Washington Quarterback." Gordon spent most of his career successfully running the Washington office. He retired in 1985, although he continued to serve as a special consultant to Grumman's Chairman of the Board.

Admiral George "Gus" Kinnear II, Ret. USN
January 12, 1928 – August 9, 2015

"Gus" Kinnear began his naval career in 1945, on his 17th birthday, as a Seaman Recruit, received his wings in 1948, and retired in 1982 as a four-star Admiral. He made over 1000 carrier landings and flew over 100 combat missions. In between tours in Korea and Vietnam, he earned a PhD in Engineering Management from Stanford University.

After achieving Flag rank, he served as Chief of Legislative Liaison for the Navy; Commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic; and U.S. Member to the NATO Military Committee in Brussels, Belgium. After his retirement from the Navy, Admiral Kinnear served as a Senior Vice President, Grumman Corporation.



Invitations for Retiree Club Members

**The Cradle of Aviation Invites All Retiree Club Members, and their families and friends,
to the
13th Annual Air & Space Gala,
Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Hubble Space Telescope**

**Wednesday, November 18, 2015, 6PM. at the Cradle of Aviation Museum, Garden City, NY

HONORING

**Long Island's Own MICHAEL J. MASSIMO
Space Shuttle Astronaut
*Spirit of Discovery Award***

**DANIEL J. SHYBUNKO
former Grummanite
Founder & CEO, GSE Dynamics, Inc.
*Leroy R. Grumman Award***

**FRANK ROBILOTTO
President, Arkwin Industries
*Donald F. Axinn Community Service Award***

For more information, contact Carol Nelson (516) 572-4026, at the Cradle of Aviation.

The Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum Wants You!!

The Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum Complex, on the Hudson River in New York City, is an educational and cultural not-for-profit, dedicated to promoting the awareness and understanding of history, science, and military service through its collections, exhibitions and programs. The Intrepid currently has six Grumman airplanes on display: F-9F Cougar, F-11F Tiger, E-1 Tracer, A-6F Intruder, F-14 Super Tomcat, and a WWII TBM Avenger.

Jim Eng volunteers at the Intrepid almost every Sunday as an Exhibit Explainer answering visitor's questions and providing facts about the F-14 Super Tomcat and TBM Avenger. Jim is a 32+ year active Grumman employee having worked as a Human Factors engineer on the F-14D and E-2 programs and now working as a Systems Engineer on the Littoral Combat Ship program in Building 15 in Bethpage. Through his efforts, Northrop Grumman and the Retiree Club have been brought on board to help spread the word that the Intrepid Museum is looking for volunteers.

Opportunities are available for qualified volunteers in the following areas: (1) Aircraft Restoration; (2) Docents - docents would be trained to lead select public tours and/or give "stand and deliver" presentations of areas in the Museum; (3) Exhibit Explainer - would learn detailed information about specific exhibits in the Museum; (4) Administrative Services; (5) Museum Services which requires a high level of customer service and includes greeting guests and other duties.

For information and/or to volunteer, contact Jim Eng at jim155167@yahoo.com



Correction:

We erred in the date of Carl Alber’s death in our article about him in the July Newsletter. Carl passed away on September 7, 1994

Bethpage / Parent Chapter

**29th Annual Retiree Club Picnic
September 9, 2015**

Bethpage Chapter Calendar

Luncheons/Meetings

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

Note:

All of next year’s luncheons, including the Scholarship and Holiday luncheons, will be held at the Crest Hollow CC.

October 28: Milleridge Inn

Speaker: Lisa Gatti, Founder of Pal-O-Mine, which provides adaptive horseback riding for individuals with disabilities.

November 18: Milleridge Inn

Speaker: Nurse Manager Bonnie Edsall, Good Samaritan Hospital. Topic: Breast cancer treatment improvements, early detection, and staying well.

**December 9 - Crest Hollow CC
Holiday Luncheon**

See next-to-last page of this Newsletter for Holiday Luncheon Reservation Form.

Blood Drive

Next Blood Drive Date: December 3.

Please call the office (516-575-3777) if you wish to donate on December 3, in Plant 15, in Bethpage.

At 10:30 AM, President Betty Bohlander welcomed the group back after a wonderful L.I. Summer break and led the Pledge of Allegiance to open the 29th annual Retiree Picnic at Marjorie Post Park in Massapequa. Over 100 retirees, family members and guests attended the gala affair on a magnificent warm, cloudless, blue-sky day that had cool breezes for all picnickers. As always, Marjorie Post Park was clean, well-manicured, and ready for the picnic.

We began with a continental breakfast (coffee, orange juice, bagels, muffins, rolls, butter and cream cheese). As the early morning coolness transformed into the sunlit warmth of the day, the bocce games started. During the early part of the picnic, Michael Venditto, elected last year as a New York State Senator, dropped by to say “Hello”. Michael is the son of Oyster Bay Town Supervisor John Venditto and represented him as well. After a photo shoot with our officers and picnic volunteers, Michael wished us well and departed.

Then it was: “On to the feast of the day”, which was provided by Fireside Caterers of Huntington. The crowd lined up to partake of the sumptuous picnic spread of barbequed hamburgers (plain and with cheese), barbequed chicken, hot dogs, sausage and peppers, salads, and hot corn on the cob. Naturally, all of this was accompanied by ice-cold soda and beer, iced tea, and hot coffee. Later, cold watermelon was available.

During the noshing, Past President and now Director Marion Abbott walked around taking pictures of all the tables of people with her IPAD. Maybe some nice Facebook postings are planned!!

After lunch, the picnickers quickly changed from diners to horse racing enthusiasts. Our “trained” wooden horses ran on a miniature racetrack and after the money was collected and the odds of each horse were computed by Lou Kubat and Nick Bazzicalupo, the moment to moment placement of the horses was ably controlled by Justin Perrota. The



aces were called by Marion Abbott. Four races were held and everyone, winners and losers had a great time. Note from the President: A special *Thank You* to Vinny Milano for borrowing the steeplechase game from his local Knights of Columbus, which allowed us to provide a favorite picnic activity for the members. In past years, the steeplechase game had always been provided by Pauline Sandman from the Eastern L.I. Chapter. Unfortunately, Pauline was needed in North Carolina and had to leave on an emergency basis. Her sister fell and broke her pelvis. We missed you, Pauline, and hope your sister is doing well.

In preparation for the picnic this year, a karaoke amplifier and CD player were brought to the park only to have a faulty generator not allow the lilting tones of Neil Diamond, etc., to be heard. There's always next year.

Finally, it was time for the ever-popular 50-50 and door prize drawing. Gifts were generously donated by the Bethpage Federal Credit Union, Sea Haven Restaurant, Gennaro Jewelers, BK Sweeney's, and the Cradle of Aviation. The Club thanks them all for their generosity.

Congratulations to all of the winners. They are:

- A watch was won by Karen Aker
- Door Prizes were won by Claudia Weihs, Jim Szegfu, Jerry D'Agostino (two prizes), Rosemarie Verga, John Vosilla, Maria O'Dwyer, Karl Christ, Joe Carlino, Laura Fortner, Charles Farley, Pat Patalano, and Harry Pro
- 50/50 winners were Julia Ciancimino, Bart Verga, Betty Bohlander and Justin Perrota who graciously donated his winnings back to the club. *Thanks*, Justin

President Betty Bohlander then made a serious announcement. Our beloved Past President, Past Director, Invocation Giver, and founder of the Scholarship Fund, Steve Kalman, is very ill. Betty asked that we all keep him in our thoughts and prayers. Know that we all love you, Steve.

At 4 PM. the picnickers sang "God Bless America" and slowly, but happily, made their way home. As they left, a table full of leftover shirts and sweaters from past CARECAT events was available; they were gobbled up by the crowd.

A good time was had by all.

A big "*Thank You*" to all the helpers who volunteered their "before, during and after" picnic time to organize, set up and run the events, and break down everything after the picnic was over. Without them the picnic and all other club functions could not be successful. Have a little time on your hands? Think about volunteering at our Club!!

Another "*Thank You*" to park workers who helped our members to & from the restrooms and back & forth to their cars via golf cart. Their help was much appreciated.

By: Lou Kubat, Secretary and Picnic Reveler.

From the President:

Special mention to Marion Abbott and Pat Sullivan for organizing the picnic, collecting money, picking up gifts, handling the many details involved, running the 50/50 raffle, as well as setting up and breaking down when the picnic was over. They were ably assisted by Nick Bazzicalupo, Lou Kubat, Jim Oakes, Frank Carroll, Dorothy Leogrande (good to see you. Dorothy), Linda & Justin Perrota, and brand new volunteer Karen Aker (Welcome, Karen!). Without these volunteers, there would have been no picnic. If I missed someone, I apologize and am sure I will hear about it.

Betty

Bethpage Chapter Meeting
September 23, 2015

On a bright sunny day, with just a tinge of Fall in the air, the Grumman Retirees came out for their meeting at the Crest Hollow CC. The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Pat Sullivan, our 2nd VP.

A moment of silence was observed for our departed friends and for the well being of the men and women in the service of our country who fight and die for our freedom.

President Betty Bohlander asked for revisions to the May meeting notes. No revisions were offered and the May notes were accepted as written in the Newsletter.



Betty then introduced guest speaker Doug Shaffer. Doug joined Northrop Grumman in 2001, and is presently the Electronic Attack and Maritime System Integration Leader for Military Aircraft Systems at Northrop Grumman Aerospace systems (AS), in Bethpage. He is also the director for Electronic Attack and Maritime System Integration (EA/MSI) Programs and the site manager for the company's Electronic Attack Center of Excellence. In acronyms, he is the EA/MSI IPT & EA COE leader – (*whew!!*). In this role, he is responsible for the successful daily operation of all EA/MSI programs managed by the business area and for directing employees in Bethpage, NY; St. Augustine, FL; Hollywood, MD; Camarillo and Goleta, CA; and Washington, DC.

Doug said that Pat McMahon was presented with the rudder pedals from the last flying Navy EA-6B, and a piece of the trap wire used for the final trap. These will be on display in Plant 15. We will have both an EA-6B and the present F-14, now on display in front of Plant 25, in a static display by Plant 15 next year, in an area that will allow visitors to see the aircraft.

Doug then spoke of his responsibilities and the status of Maritime Systems, which provides the Littoral Combat Ship. This is a modularized ship that can be reconfigured based on mission. Doug concluded with a discussion of the Electronic Attack “Center of Excellence”, of which he is the site manager. Northrop Grumman has five centers and this one is based in Bethpage. Doug spoke about the changing world of electronic attack and that it and the field of cyber warfare are converging. There will be a large contract in the near future that the company is positive would secure the future of electronic attack in Bethpage if we won it. Doug’s team is hard at work to secure the future, which includes a robust intern program, which, this year, utilized over 400 in his division alone.

After a brief Q & A session, he was given a great round of applause. Betty then presented him with a gift as a token of our sincere thanks and respect.



L to R: Lou Kubat, Pat Sullivan, Doug Shaffer, Betty Bohlander, Bob Ripp, Marion Abbott

Doug started his talk with a thank you to all of the dedicated men and women of Grumman who came before him and who built the legacy that he has inherited. He asked for a show of hands of who in the audience had worked on each of the legacy programs. After each show of hands, Doug updated the audience as to the present status of the still existing programs. He started with the E-2 family and provided details of the now E-2D program, followed by BAMS (the Navy’s unmanned surveillance platform), electronic attack aircraft, both EA-6 and EA-18, for which he is now personally responsible. This year, the Navy’s EA-6Bs were officially retired. (The EA-18 Growler is now being used by the Navy, but the Marines will continue to use the EA-6B until 2018.) The Navy held a Sunset Ceremony, in Bethpage and at Whidbey Island where members of the last deployed squadron told of their final deployment.



Doug Shaffer, Betty Bohlander

Doug stayed until the end of the meeting answering other questions and said he enjoyed the meeting. *Thank You, Doug.*



Business – President Betty Bohlander:

** The Milleridge Inn will close next year. In the past, we investigated alternative places for our luncheons, besides the Crest Hollow CC and did not find a viable alternative. So, all of next year's luncheons, including the Scholarship and Holiday luncheons, will be held at the Crest Hollow CC.

** As a result of the passing of Paul Schatzel, President of the Scholarship Fund, and the retirement of both the Fund's VP and the Fund's Treasurer for health reasons, we asked for volunteers to step up and fill the empty slots. The chapter responded and we have filled two of the slots: John Vosilla will assume the role of fund President and Linda Perrotta will be the Treasurer.

** However, the Club also needs volunteer help. Betty indicated the volunteers present at the meeting – the Officers and table staffers at the luncheon sign-in table, at the Scholarship table, raffle table, and at the 50-50 table - are the only ones, year after year, running the club. We could use help in the office, especially during the membership renewal period (January through April). The commitment isn't demanding and a few hours a week would help. Please consider giving some of your time to help keep our Club running.

** Club visionary, Steve Kalman, is very ill. Steve was one of the signers of the Articles of Incorporation for the Club. He established the Scholarship Fund, served as club President and as Director. He has been a driving force in keeping the Club relevant and prosperous. And, who can forget his golf outings at the Nevele and Villa Roma. According to a recent visitor, Steve can have visitors at home and certainly phone calls will help his fight. Keep him in your prayers.

** Betty noted that we have recently lost two cornerstones of the Club. Mike Leogrande passed on 7/5, and Bob Foster, who sat on our Board of Directors, passed on 8/31. Both will be sorely missed; they always had the best interests of the Club in mind in everything they did.

** Pal-O-Mine, a charitable organization that provides Equestrian programs for individuals with disabilities, has been very successful in its mission. We have contributed to this charity in the past and most of the donations go directly to helping the disabled. Lisa Gatti started the operation, which has grown tremendously over the years and now has many

acres of property suitable for riding and equestrian events. Lisa spoke to the Club about ten years ago and Betty has put a request in to Lisa's office to have her speak at our October meeting. We are awaiting a response from Lisa

** In November, we will have Bonnie Edsall, Nurse Manager for the Good Samaritan Hospital Breast Health Center and the Radiation Oncology Department, as our guest speaker. Thanks to dramatic improvements in cancer research, early detection, and treatment, millions of women are surviving breast cancer surgery today. Betty is currently recovering from a second breast cancer and can vouch for the effectiveness of the Good Samaritan Breast Cancer program. Bonnie will discuss treatment improvements, early detection, and staying well. Her husband Wayne Edsall works for Northrop Grumman in the Contracts department.

Committee Reports - First VP Bob Ripp

** We'll maintain the dues at \$15, which primarily pays for printing and mailing the Club Newsletter.

** Club membership is approximately 2800 people.

Bob answered a question from the audience: "Have we considered providing the Newsletter electronically?" Bob said that a few years ago we conducted a survey whether to go electronic or keep the hardcopy approach. 80% of the responders wanted hardcopy. Another member stated that he receives a monthly pension from Grumman in the amount of only \$684, but he was recommending that we increase the yearly dues to \$20. Betty responded by saying, "If only everyone were like you. When we raised the dues by \$2 last year, we received grumbling from some members. We will stay with the present dues of \$15 per year. It is working for now, but **Thank You** for your generosity."

Community Relations – 2nd VP Pat Sullivan

** A Club donation was made to The Cradle of Aviation, an organization with which the Club has a very close working relationship.

** We donated to the John Theissen Children's Foundation, which used our donation to sponsor two children for the Back to School Program, where each needy child receives a new outfit, school supplies, and a backpack to start the 2015 school year.

** Donations also went to the Viet Nam Veterans - Suffolk Chapter #11, and to the Disabled American



Veterans Transportation Network, which provides volunteer transportation to the Northport VA Hospital for vets who could not otherwise go there for medical treatment.

Treasurers' Reports:

Retiree Club Treasurer Frank Rizzo did not attend because his wife Pat is in the hospital. Bob Ripp reported that the Club, with the generous Northrop Grumman stipend, which is shared by all 21 chapters, is totally solvent.

Bob introduced Harry Daum, Scholarship Treasurer, who turned the microphone over to John Vosilla, the new Scholarship Fund President. John announced that Carol Schatzel, wife of deceased Scholarship Fund President Paul Schatzel, was in attendance and she was given a round of applause. John asked the other members of the Fund to stand to a round of applause that they well deserve for the work they do each year. He then thanked everyone who gave generously to the fund and noted that they are the reason the program is successful and asked for their continued support.

John noted that more volunteers are needed for our Scholarship Program. For the most part, the extent of the volunteers' work effort is of a reasonably short duration, However short these efforts are, they are integral to our annual scholarship selection and awarding process, and therefore are important.

If anyone is interested in volunteering for the fund, notify any present member of the Scholarship Committee.

Harry Daum then gave the Scholarship Fund Treasurer's report and thanked all donors for their contributions to date.

Holiday Luncheon - Marion Abbott:

The Holiday luncheon is planned for December 9, at the Crest Hollow. Music will be provided by a keyboard player and a vocalist for a different musical experience. All details will be in the October Newsletter. Plan to spend a great day at the luncheon.

Blood Drive: October 8 Blood Drive has been cancelled. Contact Harry Proromides (via Club

office phone number, 516-575-3777) if you want to donate blood in future drives. He will assist with arrangements.

Birthdays: Harold Ford, 81 on 8/8 ; Salvatore Sakellarides, 87 on 7/22, and Bob Ripp, 75 on 8/13
Happy Birthday to All!

Anniversaries:

Vincent & Sylvia Stano, 65 yrs (4/8); Yvonne & Harold Ford, 60 yrs (8/13); Angela & Salvatore Sakellarides, 63 yrs (12/21); Phil & Camille Spampinato, 50 yrs (9/4); Charles & Carol Farley, 62 yrs (10/17); Ernest & Rose Finamore, 65 yrs (9/24); Peter & Eleanor Rapelje, 59 yrs (9/22).

Congratulations on all of your milestones!

Get Well Cards were sent to Steve Kalman, Sal Manziello, Gene Tiefenwerth, and Pat Rizzo.

To all our under-the-weather members:

We hope you Get Well, soon.

Prize Winners:

Door Prizes:

Ingrid Hubbard, Anne Donohue, Jane Klinger, and Gloria Post

Community Relations 50/50:

Curt Fogarty, Gloria Post, and Marion Abbott

Scholarship 50/50: Arlene Vosilla

Just before the meeting adjourned, Marion Abbott put out an array of leftover shirts from CARECAT events. They were for the taking by anyone interested.

By: Lou Kubat, Sec'y.



CALIFORNIA / Golden West

No report of recent activity.

CALIFORNIA / San Diego

On September 12, nineteen retirees and guests enjoyed a nice picnic at an exciting new location: Hilltop Park in Rancho Penasquitos, just a few miles north of Miramar Marine Corps Air Station. Thank goodness for the park's location on high ground with a prevailing ocean breeze since the temperatures were well above 90 degrees.

We had one out-of-town guest. It was nice to have Susan, daughter of our Treasurer Howard Lindquist, join us from Scottsdale, Arizona.

Our delicious lunch menu included meaty baby back ribs, tender chicken breasts, some tasty salads, and desserts provided by the attendees.

The lucky 50/50 winners were Sy Glick and Nancy Roeckl.

Lots of birthdays celebrated from April through September, including Jim Bartels, Pete Belay, Clyde Cain, Sally Cain, Sue Callahan, Marge Cargill, Dwaine Howell, Roxanne Howell, Eleanor Kirvin, Annette Klapwyk, Howard Lindquist, Barbara Mosley, Charlie Quiter, Pat Quiter, Mitzie Reika, Santi Salvi, Al Schaefer, Bob Stalter, Roxie Stalter, Jim Vollaro, Ernie Vonderheyden, Chuck Walters, Elizabeth Walters, Ella Whitehead, Tom Whitehead, Lou Wilson, and Maryam Wilson.

Wedding anniversary good wishes go out to Clyde & Sally Cain, Gordon & Marge Cargill, Dwaine & Roxanne Howell, Charlie & Pat Quiter, Bill & Nancy Roeckl, Dick & Ann Sarraffe, Ed & Jean Vasely, Chuck & Elizabeth Walters, and Lou & Maryam Wilson.

We had an over-abundance of food this year so President Pete Belay suggested having a raffle,

giving winners the chance to pick and choose which leftover treats they wanted to take home. Good idea, Pete! The lucky winners were Mary Belay, Mary Garrity, Armand Salvi, Al Schaefer, and Kit Schmersal.

We'll wrap up the year with our Christmas luncheon on Thursday, December 10, to be held at one of our Chapter's favorite restaurants, the 94th Aero Squadron.

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

FLORIDA/ First Coast

September 15, 2015

Thirty-Eight members attended our first meeting since June 16. As always, there was plenty of conversation till President Fred brought out his gavel. Fred welcomed us back from our summer break, led us in the Pledge and Chaplain Janet recited the opening prayer.

After having our fill at the buffet Fred brought us to order. He reported that both Janet Cassford and Marge Bauer are recuperating from their medical issues. Sadly, Fred reminded us of the passing of Jim Frey during the summer break. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Jim's family.

Fred announced the following Birthdays and Anniversaries:

July Birthdays - Charlie Baldwin; John Walsh; Bill Wilke; Cynthia Osborn; Michael Garvey; Walter Langendorf; Ray Pinter; Art Goehler; Alice Downs; Bob Kielbasa; Rosann Barraco; Richard Bier; Bernie Savoie; Joe Dispennette; Richard Kelly; Marge Bauer.

July Anniversaries - Rose & Joe Dispennette; Josephine & William Soldt; Sharon & William Lainhart; Madelin & Walter Langendorf.

August Birthdays - Ted Cassford; Bill Lonnie; Gwen Saar; Sandi Schroeder; Robert Moran; Cindy



McCaffery; Robert Sendelback; Chuck Dolce; Mary Ellen Frey; Gloria Kelly.

August Anniversaries - Bernice & Bernie Savoie; Rosanne & Robert Sendelback.

September Birthdays - Ginny Deane; Ann Howell; Peter Foster; Thomas Downs; Joe Kirby; Deborah Bier; Cecil Bateman; Bruce Betts; and Fred Bauer.

September Anniversaries - Shirley & Terry Jennings; Carla & Steve Congro; Sharon & Vic Smits; Audry & Al Umback; Joan & Duke Digilio; Karen & Jim McDonald; Brenda & Bernie Bernier; Denise & Frank Fleming; Kathleen & Tom Walsh.

Reminder: October 20 - Picnic at Treaty Park. 10AM early arrivals (hot dogs served). **Official start: Noon** - Burgers from the grill. As usual, bring a little something to share with the others. (Salad, Munchies, Dessert, Side Dish, etc.) Burgers, Soda, water, ice, and utensils supplied by club. Bocce tournament of course!

Two door prizes were added to the eight 50/50 prizes awarded.

FLORIDA / Manasota West

Chapter is on Summer Break

Next Meeting: October 14

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

FLORIDA/ Mid-West

September 17, 2015

President John Cornacchia opened the meeting at 11:30AM.

Greetings: Welcome to the Grumman – Northrop Grumman Retiree Club, Mid-West Florida Chapter.

Chaplin Gus Kraye opened our meeting with the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 11 members present.

Several birthdays were celebrated over the Summer: Charlotte Kraye (6/4); Joan Mehl (8/5); Rich Arso (8/12); and Kathy Cornacchia (9/22).

There were two anniversaries; Rich & Madeline Arso, 58 years; and Bob & Merritt Salg, also 58 yrs.

A motion to accept the May 2015, minutes for was made Hank Mehl and seconded by Gus Kraye. The motion was accepted unanimously.

The Treasurer's report was given by Gus Kraye. Gus received a check from Bethpage in the amount of \$300. We will be changing our Bank to one that does not charge a monthly fee: It is getting too expensive. The motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Kathy Cornacchia and seconded by Madeline Arso. The report was accepted unanimously.

Sunshine Committee:

Citrus County: All is well.

Hernando County: All is well.

We were pleased to see our friends return from vacation. We enjoyed hearing about those who went up North and those that stayed close to home.

Our Picnic is planned for October 15, 2015, at 10AM. It will be held at Pine Island Beach, off of Route 50, in Weekie Wachee. There is a restaurant where we may have lunch. Don't forget your chairs. We will bring donuts for breakfast.

We discussed our plans for next year. We are planning to cut back to four meetings per year and each of the past Presidents will take turns hosting a meeting. There will be more to come as this year progresses.

After lunch, we heard from our speaker for today, Bryan Oglesby, from the Better Business Bureau. He was very informative and was enjoyed by all.



A fun time was had by all.

Future Meetings:

- Oct 15: Our picnic
- Nov 19: meeting
- Dec 17: Christmas party.

By: Kathy Cornacchia

FLORIDA / SouthWest

Chapter is on Summer Break.

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.

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

FLORIDA / Space Coast

September 16, 2015

It was "meet and greet" time at the Suntime Country Club main dining room as the usual crowd of retirees returned from their two-month hiatus and filled friends in on their latest news. President Bob Prais called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Ed Romano's thoughtful invocation was followed by a moment of silent tribute to deceased members, Tom Rothwell and past President Dan Postupack.

While the loss of any of our members saddens our close knit organization, the passing of Dan Postupack this summer is of special significance because of his four years of service as Chapter President and his active participation in developing our scholarship program.

A veteran of the Korean conflict, Dan proudly carried the title of "Marine" to the end. "There are no ex-Marines," he would insist His extensive multi-faceted career in Grumman was sprinkled with service on a number of less publicized projects such as the Israeli hydrofoil gun boats and the Gulfstream drift submersible, the "Ben Franklin." We all will miss him . . . Semper Fi, Dan.

Following lunch, Program VP John Lau introduced guest speaker Nikia Rice. Nikia is an FIT graduate marine biologist and Board Member of the Sea Turtle Prevention Society. She is doing her doctoral work studying the impact of plastic ingestion on the world's turtle population.

Florida beaches host the largest gathering of nesting sea turtles in the United States, with Melbourne beaches being the most popular area in Florida: 13,000 Loggerheads alone were counted coming to our beaches to lay eggs in the 2014 nesting season (May to October). Ingestion of deflated balloons is a significant fatal threat to these turtles as balloons are mistaken for jellyfish, a favorite turtle food. We learned that we can most effectively help preserve these endangered creatures by obeying the light ordinances and not walking in nesting areas during that critical season. When as many as a hundred little hatchlings emerge together from a single nest, they have only the faint horizon light to guide them to what must be a hurried dash to the ocean.

It was heartening to learn that our own Brevard Zoo now has a rehabilitation center for stranded or damaged sea turtles, prepping them for a return to the sea For sea turtle emergencies, call STPS hotline 321-206-0646.

Community Relations: Chet Emery is calling for HELP!! He cannot do an effective job of keeping our Chapter aware of the status of our members without your input. Please call him (321-254-2562) with any news, good or bad, regarding any of our members.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Waldron reported satisfactory balances in both the general fund and the scholarship account. He noted receipt of the annual scholarship contribution from the Bethpage Federal Credit Union and a special contribution in memory of Dan Postupack.



Guests with us were Del & Tom Ferraro and Betty & Frank Lattanzi.

Bill called attention to an informal reunion on November 4th of Grumman personnel who were assigned to the Cape in support of the Lunar Module/ Apollo program. Contact Bill for details.

Travel: Maureen Ayers is traveling; check us in October

Air Museum/Gremlins: George Graefe –
** The F-11F Tiger is going into final paint in the colors of Squadron VF-21.

** The Canberra bomber is being prepped for paint while research is undertaken to get the correct color scheme of this particular photo reconnaissance aircraft. It was flown in a series of very sensitive USAF - RAF reconnaissance missions over the USSR in the early 50s. Information coming in from our friends in the UK should excite our James Bond fans . . . more to follow

Scholarship: Although maintaining contacts with our six prior years' winners through the Brevard School Foundation is at time rather arduous, it appears that once again the annual supplementary awards have reached our qualifying students in time for the Fall semester.

Veterans Transition Facility: Joe Mullings reported on receiving a plaque for our Chapter honoring our contribution to the Veterans Transitional Facility. Joe has been talking to the people in this facility about the continuation of our program donating a full Thanksgiving dinner to the current residents (veterans, wives, and children) of this temporary home. This was a project conceived and run by the late Ron Stinton. Joe has been put in contact with the facility's sturdy chef, "Ranger Bob," and they are working out the details for presentation to our membership in October. Traditionally, some of our members make special contributions to this project, freeing up funds for gift cards for the children's Christmas. The pies are already spoken for.

We are always careful not to classify this as a charity: this is friends saying "Thank You" to friends at Thanksgiving.

Old Business: The subject of an October picnic with the Treasure Coast Chapter was discussed but lacked the necessary support at this time. There was, however, general support for re-considering this idea in the Spring.

New Business: President Bob indicated that we are trying to confirm Northrop Grumman Vice President Rick Matthews as our November speaker.

Bob asked members to come up with ideas for our December meeting.

Next Meeting - October 21, 2015: Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation

50/50 Drawing: There were four 50/50 winners. The grand prize, consisting of a \$25 gift card to Publix and a bottle of Pinot Grigio, was won by John Herba.
Congratulations to all!

Employee Birthdays August: Jim Glover, Joseph Gollhofer, Jack Lynch, Norm Christensen, Ed Barty, Ray Russo, James Leahy, Donald Hanley, Karen Warsinski, Chet Emery, John Lopopolo, Ed Romano

Spouse Birthdays August: Florence Riehl, Mary Kirwin, Winnie Pike, Ruth Feeney, Lilia Lewis, Fran Wolff, Theresa Franits

Anniversaries August: Gary & Shiela Bigel, Norman & Pauline Christensen, James & Bunny Minsky, John & June Greve, Dick & Leonora Combs, George & Dawn Demarest, Ed & Theresa Franits, Anne & John Korothy, John & Dolly Casco, Pat & Susan Reilly

Employees Birthdays September: Craig Waymire, Patrick Sullivan, Lawrence Orlando, John Greve, Patricia Mullings, Robert Devoe, Jeane Jacob, Henry (Ted) Kuhn, Rudy Avitabile, Robert Kappenberg, Elaine Prime, Oscar Basilio

Spouse Birthdays September: Geraldine Stone, Joanne Kuhn, Lee Kelley, Lynn Ernst, Mary Ranieri, Emma Basilio, Larry Roberts, Anna Lee Emery, Grace Guttadauro

Anniversaries September: John & Mary Ann Lau, Lee & Karen Brandt, Ed & Angela Romano, Frank & Marilyn Filipo, David & Brenda Muh,



Next Meeting: October 21.

Meeting Schedule: 11/18, 12/16

By: Bill Steenson, Sec'y.

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

FLORIDA / Treasure Coast

Our September 17, 2015 meeting was held at our new location, the Martin Downs Golf Club, in Palm City. There were 48 members and guest attending.

In the absence of President Dan Knowles, Vice President Werner Bols started the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Chaplain Larry Regier announced the deaths of Duane Kirt, Vic Scaring, Stephen Squire, Frank Croche, Cortland Schult, and Gene Martone. Our condolences go out to all their families.

Our guest speaker was Sheriff William Snyder of Martin County. He is a 20-year veteran of the Miami Dade Police Department and has been with 13 years with the Martin County Sheriff's Office for thirteen years. He currently holds the rank of Major, Director of Law Enforcement. The Sheriff of Martin County is an elected official, voted for by the residents of Martin County; he is not appointed by the County Commissioners. His point being: He works for us.

Sheriff Snyder emphasized the necessity of residents appreciating law enforcement. Not all negative stories of police officers are true. All his officers have had

extensive background checks and physiological testing. He asked for support of his officers from all residents. Sheriff Snyder is responsible for at least six different departments, including Road Control, which has had 225,561 calls as of September 17th. He is responsible for approximately 600 employees, with a jurisdiction from the Atlantic Ocean on the East to Lake Okeechobee on the West. It is a very diverse and complex effort, including an Inter-Agency Task Force with both Port St. Lucie and the city of Stuart. His presentation was most informative and appreciated by all.

The Scholarship Program is sponsoring a show, *The Patsy Kline Review*, at the Lyric Theatre, in downtown Stuart, on February 6, 2016 at 2PM. \$50 per person. Proceeds from the sale of tickets will go the Treasure Coast Chapter Scholarship Fund. Those interested in attending should contact Nancy Schaefer (NMSCH@aol.com or 772-878-2295).

A special thanks to Olive Hill for her help in organizing the September luncheon.

Anniversaries:

Don & Charlene Castagnaro (50 years), and Bob & Irene Falkowski (60 years - June 12).

Birthdays: Mary Lou Rathgeber, Joan Savio, and Pete D'Andrea

There were five 50/50 winners.

Meeting Schedule: October 15, November 19, and December 17, 2015

By: Joan Savio (772-288-4246)
fj99savio@bellsouth.net

GEORGIA / Peach Pit

Our September 15, 2015 meeting at Crockett's Cafeteria, on Hwy 441 in Milledgeville, GA, started at 12:30PM. There were fourteen present when President Janet Sills called the meeting to order, welcomed members back from Summer break, and



asked Sergeant-at-Arms Designee Mike McCabe to lead attendees in 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 June 16, 2015 Social Meeting Notes was made by Joe Sansotta and seconded by Earl Seagle. There were no changes offered by those present or received by proxy, so the motion passed.

New Business:

1. President Janet introduced the first initiative for members interested in a day trip. Our first activity will be an afternoon on the Milledgeville Trolley, touring Antebellum Historic Sites, as the City of Milledgeville was the third Capital of Georgia, following Savannah and Louisville, so it's steeped in America's history. That history includes "The War of Yankee Aggression" [a.k.a. the Civil War]. And, Milledgeville was called "Home" by Western outlaw Gentleman Jim, during the 1800s; comedian Oliver Hardy [of Laurel & Hardy]; Congressman Carl Vinson [55 years in Congress, father of the Navy's Pacific Fleet, and benefactor to Grumman and other aerospace government contractors]; and poet/writer Flannery O'Conner, to name just a few who lived here and had impact on both local and American history.
2. Secretary Lew Iulucci extended September Happy Birthday wishes to: Nancy Godbee [14th], Alvin Gurr [25th], Lew Iulucci [24th], and Penny Seagle [23rd].
3. September wedding anniversary congratulations are extended to: Elmer & Ann Baumgart [30th], Vince & Roberta Ciampa [3rd], and Jerry & Patsy Potter [3rd]
4. Treasurer Joe Sansotta reported a positive bank balance.
5. Members Bill Holsenbeck, Betty Bertoli, and Patsy Potter have had health issues recently. They are in our prayers for a speedy recovery. Get well soon Bill, Betty, and Patsy. Also, Grummanite Ray Polniack, Jr., who relocated to Plant 66 for Site start-up, working on product Quality Assurance, was hospitalized recently and is recovering. Get well soon, Ray.

Josephine Haralson won the 75/25 Fund Raiser raffle and donated the winnings to the Community Service Fund. Thank You, Josephine.

Community Service:

- a.] Volunteerism continues as members and spouses aid various causes including Pints of Blood/Platelets. [Repeat item].
- b.] A Charitable gift check, with a cover letter, was given to the United Way of Central Georgia, on Patriots Day/September 11, 2015, in accordance with our year 2015 Chapter Donation Plan.

Program:

This Business Meeting discussion by members present included Summer cruises, vacations, and family enjoyment. Basically, getting everyone caught up on happenings over the Summer.

A motion to end the meeting was made by Jim Vinson and seconded by Brenda Miller. The motion carried and adjournment was at 1:30PM.

Next Meeting: October 20, 2015, Noon to 12:45PM, at Georgia Bob's, a BBQ restaurant, located on Hancock Street, in downtown Milledgeville.

The Program following the luncheon meeting will be a Trolley ride, 1PM to 2PM, to tour Historic Sites in Milledgeville. The Trolley, which is a short walk from the restaurant, can accommodate twenty-four people, of which fourteen members and guests have already reserved a seat on this Retiree Club Reserved Tour. Anyone else who wishes to join in the fun is asked to contact the Secretary. First come, first served. Spouses/guests are welcome.

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

Maryland / Glen Arm

We reinstated our monthly meetings on September 15th, at 6:30PM, after a nice Summer break. We had a fair showing.

Topics and General Discussions were: Treasury Report, Donations, Meeting Attendance, Club's Sick List, and Motorcycles.



Joe gave the current treasury report and again reminded everyone that we are looking for someone to take over the Treasurer's position. If you would like to be considered as a nominee to be Chapter Treasurer, please let Rick Swinder know (410-977-7829, rickswinder@gmail.com).

At the last meeting before the break, members voted to make a Chapter donation to the Retiree Club Scholarship Fund. A check was forwarded to NY.

Attendance and the suggestion that we have some meetings at a centralized location were briefly discussed. (Possibly have meetings closer to the beltway.) We'd like to increase meeting attendance. The implementation of evening meetings once a quarter has helped by giving those who are still working during the day the opportunity to attend meetings without the need to take off. If we rotate some of the meeting locations closer to the Beltway it might provide better access for those who live on the West side. (Consideration of this idea continues, and we're looking for more input)

Our thoughts and prayers went out to all the members on our "Sick List". Get Well cards from the Glen Arm Retiree Club (members present at the meeting signed the cards as well) were sent to those in the hospital and rehab.

Motorcycles became a topic of general discussion as one of our members reported that he sold his old motorcycle and bought a newer one. Many of us did and/or still do ride and the discussion covered current rides as well as reminiscing about the old days of riding. Harley Davidson, Triumph, BMW, Yamaha, and Kawasaki were some of the brands mentioned. Better than half the members present had or still have motorcycles.

Birthdays:

Donna Birkmire (09/22); Jeff Ramiraz (09/12); Glen Richardson (09/20); Warren Whittington (09/29); Walter Golde (10/7); Dick Holt (10/24); Al Showalter (10/26).

Happy Birthday to You All!

Meeting Schedule:

Oct 20, at 1PM; Nov 17, at 1PM; Dec 15, at 6:30PM

By: Joe Svach

Remember: We are still recruiting member. If any current members have contact info for fellow Glen Arm Grummanites who aren't members, please pass on our club contact info.

If you have questions or suggestions, please contact: President Rick Swinder
410-977-7829 or rickswinder@gmail.com

New England North

No report of Chapter activity.

New Jersey
Garden State Chapter

Our September 15, 2015 meeting was held at the Heritage Restaurant, in Whiting, with six members present. The meeting was called to order at 1PM by president Bill Staples. The minutes of the June 16, 2015 meeting and the Treasurer's report were accepted.

There was no Sunshine report.

The only birthday for July is Ann Gilmer, and in August the only birthday is Carolyn Kerr. There were no anniversaries.

In regard to Old or New business: There was only one issue - the future of the chapter. Attendance has been dwindling in the past year. A discussion was held and President Staples said that he would look into the matter and hope to have an answer by the next meeting.



Since there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2PM.

Next Meeting: Oct 20, 2015, 1PM, at the Heritage Restaurant.

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

NEW YORK
Eastern Long Island Chapter

President Bert Moller welcomed 16 Members to our Sept 16th meeting, our first meeting after our Summer "Hiatus." Sergeant-at-Arms Richie Myers led the Pledge of Allegiance and Prez Bert gave a short prayer for our departed members and for our troops in harm's way.

VP Bob Albert read the minutes of our previous (June) meeting and Treasurer Pauline Sandmann reported our Chapter is still in the black. Both reports were accepted as read.

After our Coram Diner lunch, Prez Bert asked the group if the Coram Diner should be our "base". The attendees approved the idea. Bert then said he will try to get guest speakers and he challenged everyone to bring one new (old?) member to the October meeting . . . recruit a new member, and he'll pay for their lunch!

Prez Bert then told us of his futile attempt to get NY Mets tix to see his grandson, Steven Matz, pitch against the NY Yankees on Sept 17. \$\$\$ Prices outta sight!

We discussed VA services or lack thereof, and Agent Orange after effects.

Birthdays: Fred Losee (9/6), Paul Dunca (9/6), Carl Kupke (9/7), and Cuno Engel, back on July 3rd (Sorry, I missed it).

Anniversaries: -Bob & Kay Albert, 58 yrs on Sept 14th; George & Fran Okvist, 60 yrs on Sept 17.
Congrats to all, and
if I missed anyone's birthday, let me know.

50/50: Prez Bert donated an autographed baseball (from his Grandson!) for the 50/50 Drawing. We had three winners altogether.

Mytko Report:

** Louis Puccio called to notify Bill that WWII Vet William Heu passed on 7/29/15. A condolence card has been card sent to his family.
** To report deaths, illnesses, etc, contact Bill Mytko (1-864-225-4927 or ermytko@yahoo.com)

Next Meeting: Oct 21, at the Coram Diner [Route 112 and Jericho Tpk (Route 25)]. Lunch (\$15) at Noon; meeting to follow.

Future Meetings: Nov 18 and Dec (TBD)

By: Bob Albert, Vice President (631-585-7987)

NORTH CAROLINA
Eastern Carolina Chapter

On Wednesday, September 9th, 24 members met at the "Golden Corral" in New Bern, NC for our first meeting after our annual Summer break. Peter & Nidda Mc Namee were Program Directors and they welcomed everyone on the warm and humid but rainy day.

Sergeant-at-Arms, Rudy Ramcke, in his first official capacity in this office, led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave a moving invocation. [Rudy volunteered for the position, filling the vacancy left by Ken Gruebel who stepped down in June, after 20 plus years in service.)

The luncheon buffet was varied, and included a breakfast selection for those so inclined.

Unfortunately, this Summer has been a difficult one with the unexpected passing of Terry Walker on July 22, and a number of members recovering from various illnesses. Pete mentioned a get-well card was sent to Karl Herrnkind who has been hospitalized in Norfolk, VA recovering from a severe foot and knee infection. Our best wishes go out to all members who are experiencing health issues.



Treasurer Bob Lamberson gave his report and mentioned the treasury is up \$19 from his last report in June. He also read a letter we received from the Hope Hospice in Fort Myers, Florida, in acknowledgement and thank you for the contribution the chapter made in memorial for the passing of Terry Walker. Bob then called the 50/50 winners: Ron Betts, June Schroder and Rudy Ramcke.

Pete announced birthdays and anniversaries for the months of July, August and September:

Birthdays: 7/7 - Paul Albers; 7/10 - June Schroder; 7/14 - Jan Hilbert; 7/27 - Joyce Leun; 7/28 - Beverly Nicholson; 8/2 - Robert Condolff; 8/3 - Joe Mele; 8/7 - Leo Torrens; 8/18 - Ted Lindblad; 8/24 - Mary Heim; 8/25 - Doris Walker; 8/28 -Larry Bird; 8/28 - Arlene Ramsden; 8/29 - Irv Peterson; 8/31 - Stanley Ramsdan; 9/3 - Judith Glowacki; 9/11 - Joan Messina; 9/12 - Patricia Herrnkind; 9/14 - Fred Reynolds; and 9/17 - Mary Paulick.

Anniversaries: 7/9 - Alan & Dolores Brown (60 yrs); 7/15 - Bill & Ellie Lyons (54 yrs); 7/24 - Tom & June Schroder (61 yrs); 8/2 - Paul & Mary Heim (57 yrs); 8/9 - Ken & Vynne Wendel (46 yrs); 8/22 - Ted & Marilyn Lindblad (56 yrs); 9/6 - Robert & Joyce Leun (57 yrs); 9/27 - Martin & Mary Olstad -(62 yrs); and 9/29 - Robert & Otilie Condolff (64 yrs).

Future 2015 meeting dates as follows:

Nov 10: River Bend, NC, River Bend Country Club; Bob & Grace Lamberson as Program Directors
Dec 8; Christmas Luncheon; Pine Knoll Shores, NC, at the Clam Digger Inn; Rudi & Marlene Wiehl as Program Directors

By: Pete Mc Namee pmcnamee@suddenlink.net

PENNSYLVANIA
Northeastern Pennsylvania Chapter

It was a warm and sunny September day here in Northeast Pennsylvania. Eight of us - the Sparkowskis, the Rademachers, the Zupps, and Charlie Teufert with Lee - arrived at Kays, in Lake Ariel, for some good food and good times with friends.

It was great to see Charlie Teufert and Lee. They both looked great, all nice and tan and all. They were on their Northeast tour, visiting their children, and heading for Long Island to attend Charlie's high school reunion. He brought us up to date on what he has been doing for the last year or so.

Sparky showed up in his *tuxedo*, and told everyone he had heard Charlie and Lee were coming, so he dressed up for them. . . . Not really: He had just come from a funeral for a member of a 4th Degree Knight of Columbus and did not have time to go home and change. Bob Zupp said he thought he had missed the memo about the luncheon being a formal affair. Rrrrrrrrrrrright.

We had a great time talking about old times with Charlie and Lee.

August Birthdays:

Frank Damis, Elsie Schrage, and Judy Zupp.

September Birthdays:

James Blair, Elizabeth Deluca, and Fred Heppler.

Our 50X50 was won by Charlie Teufert. It figures: he has not been to a meeting since last year, and wins the 50X50. Talk about luck.

Next Luncheon: Oct 15, Noon, at Kays Restaurant, in Lake Ariel. We will start to discuss our last meeting for the year, in December.

We departed wishing Charlie and Lee a safe trip.

By: Edward J. Sparkowski Secretary/Chaplain
(570-698-7182) firefly417@verizon.net



SOUTH CAROLINA
Coastal Carolinas Chapter

Our September 2, 2015 meeting was held at Logan's Roadhouse, North Myrtle Beach. There were fourteen members in attendance. After lunch, President Ronald Girardin called the meeting to order, and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance, and a moment of silent prayer for our military, and for members not present at the meeting.

Birthday wishes were extended to Marie Smith, Shirley Culleton, John Lewis, Janice Hanlon, and Ed Raulsome.

The Secretary read the minutes of the May 2015, meeting. The motion to accept the minutes as read was seconded and approved.

Don Webber gave the Treasurer's report, which was accepted as read, seconded, and approved.

Our sincere condolences go to Kay Hedin, on the passing of her husband Ted, who was a former member of the Club. Please keep Kay and her family in your prayers, as well as Lee & Bernard Mascara, Judy & Eldon Scott, Sally Banker, and Marty Fleischer.

The winner of the 50/50 drawing was Richard Seidler. Congratulations, Richard!

If anyone knows of someone whose profession or hobby would be of interest to the Club, and they would be willing to speak at future meetings, all suggestions are welcome. President Ronald Girardin said author and former Grumman employee Jake Bussolini has showed an interest in being a guest speaker at our next meeting. Jake wrote a book about the last days of Grumman, which might be of interest to Club members.

Future Meetings:

Nov 4; Ryan's Family Steak House, North Myrtle Beach

Dec 2: The Sea Captain's House (Christmas Lunch), Myrtle Beach.

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

restaurants in the Myrtle Beach, North Myrtle Beach, or Calabash area that have private rooms suitable for holding meetings, please let me know.

We welcome all Grumman, Northrop Grumman, and Northrop retirees and their guests to our meetings, as well as new club members.

By: Nancy Webber, Sec'y, (843-347-2113)
nfwebber@twc.com

TEXAS / Houston

Our September 15 meeting was held at the Clear Lake Park Building, NASA #1 Pkwy. Back after a summer vacation, we opened with four members and a newcomer, Jose Rodriguez, joining our chapter. Welcome, Jose.

We learned that Charles Ashford, our Recording Secretary, passed away. His son, Corky Ashford, gave us the details. Charles died August 31, 2015 and was buried in Dallas. Local services will be held in LaPorte, TX, at St. John Episcopal Church, on Sept. 19. Cause of death was a fall and broken hip. Our condolences and prayers are with the Ashford family. Corky Ashford can be contacted at 214-562-3674.

Jeanette Vaughn, who notified us of Charles Ashford's passing, has her own problems with an aneurysm (heart/stomach).

Jeff Colon has been hospitalized for some time and may be in a coma. Not much more of his condition is known.

A suggestion was made to dissolve the chapter due to poor membership attendance. Several members cannot travel due to poor health or no transportation.

Next Meeting: Oct 20, 2015, at the Clear Lake Park Building.

By: Angelo LaCognata (281-326-1665)



VIRGINIA / Central Virginia

September 9, 2015

Greetings to ALL our fellow Northrop Grumman Retiree members. We hope you survived the *HOT* (Very Hot) summer break and we hope you were able to get some travel in, to take advantage of the lower gas prices.

Our 2015-2016 season is here. We're back on schedule, meeting together on the second Wednesday of each month. Our first meeting of the new season was at the BBQ Exchange in Gordonsville. The day was hot but we all enjoyed their Southern staple BBQ. It was very good as usual. Conversation was lively among those present. Discussions included summer events, upcoming vacations, cruise, and other plans for the Fall.

Attendees: Harold Case; Rich Benske and friend Jackie; Frank Purstell; Frank Edwards; Harriet Oakley; and Fred & Marjorie Meiners. We spoke about those who were missing and expressed hope that all are feeling better and will join us again soon.

Business: Frank Purstell gave a financial report: all is well.

Members: Do you have a favorite restaurant? Let us know via phone, mail, or Email, so we can consider adding your favorite to our list of meeting places. We're always looking for new venues, even if they may be a little further to ride for some of us in the Charlottesville area.

Attention Central Virginia Chapter Members: we have changed our choice of meeting places for October and November: see meeting list, below.

Next Meeting: October 14, 2015 - 12:30PM, at Crab Louies Seafood Tavern, 1352 Sycamore Square, off Midlothian Turnpike (Route 60), Midlothian VA. This is a favorite restaurant among our members. Hope to see you all there.

Future Meetings:

Nov. 11: Francesco Restaurante Italiano. 6524 Richmond Rd (Route 60) Williamsburg, VA.

Dec. 9: Waynesboro Country Club, Waynesboro VA. Our Christmas luncheon

Please Notify Frank Purstel (srpurs@gmail.com or 434-282-1303) by Monday before October meeting if you are attending or not.

By: Marjorie Meiners, Recording Sec'y.
fmeiners@embarqmail.com

In Memoriam

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

Beal, Bernard	Huntington, NY	07/05/2015
Beyerlein, Alvin	Cutler Bay, FL	08/17/2015
Buonopane, Mario	St. James, NY	09/07/2015
Colasuonno, Caesar	St. Petersburg, FL	06/23/2015
DeLuca, Michael	Commack, NY	06/16/2015
Dugan, Patrick J.	Austin, TX	08/10/2015
Fox, Gerald S.	Plainview, NY	08/23/2015
Heu, William	East Moriches, NY	07/29/2015
Hoffman, Robert E.	Kings Park, NY	07/16/2015
Jinks, Fredrick	Leland, NC	04/30/2015
Karl, Walter	Sonoita, AZ	06/26/2015
Lachow, Martin	Thousand Oaks, CA	08/09/2015
Lekoski, Charles	Northport, NY	09/15/2015
Lipton, Alan	New Hyde Park, NY	05/17/2015
Martone, Eugene	Williston Park, NY	07/25/2015
Perotti, Louis	Ronkonkoma, NY	07/12/2014
Postupack, Daniel	Satellite Beach, FL	07/16/2015
Randazzo, Charles	Islip Terrace, NY	05/17/2015
Saum, George	Bethpage, NY	08/22/2015
Schult, Cort	Fort Pierce, FL	08/28/2015
Sticco, Frank	Hicksville, NY	08/03/2015
Umstetter, John	Mount Sinai, NY	07/12/2015
Walker, Terrence	Fort Meyers, FL	07/22/2015
Wanner, William	White River Junction, VT	07/21/2015
Watman, Herbert	Flushing, NY	06/25/2015

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 32 Tomcats Go To War

(1980-1981)

In 1973, the dictator of Libya, Col. Muammar el-Qaddafi, had claimed the entire Gulf of Sidra as Libyan territory even though that claim exceeded the internationally accepted 3-mile limit (changed in 1982 to the current 12 mile limit). He defined this border as the "Line of Death," and dared anyone to enter this space. The United States never accepted Qaddafi's claim and through the years challenged that assertion by penetrating that space with Freedom of Navigation exercises. That action provoked several incidents including Libyan aircraft firing upon US aircraft. No reprisals ever took place.

This August 19th was going to be different. The U.S. was testing the Libyan Line of Death for the ninth time since 1977. A day earlier, the Libyans had sent up aircraft to challenge U.S. operations. On this day, two Sukhoi Su-22 Fitters, detected by a Hawkeye, approached two F-14s from the USS Nimitz. The F-14s spotted them about eight miles away, heading straight for the F-14s. Maneuvers by the F-14s were matched by the Su-22s, thereby maintaining their head-on approach. From 1,000 feet away, Tomcat flight leader Commander "Hank" Kleeman noted a flash from the lead Fitter: a missile launch. Breaking hard, the two F-14s avoided that missile and - after a 180-degree turn - rolled out into perfect firing position. Wingman Lieutenant "Music" Muczynski and Kleeman launched Sidewinder missiles. Both missiles hit their marks. The U.S. Navy Tomcats had their first kills.

On September 22, Iraq staged an all out attack on Iran, initiating a war that would go on for eight years. Miraculously, the Iranians were successfully returning their F-14s to service. The IRIAF call for the nation's best engineers and scientists, together with the release of trained, but jailed, F-14 maintainers and pilots, was making a difference. The IRIAF goal was 60 operational aircraft; they kept an average of 40 to 45 F-14s combat ready.

The IRIAF Tomcats were fully engaged in the war. In October, their F-14s were credited with over 25 confirmed kills. By the end of 1980, IRIAF F-14s were assigned to escort F-4 raids into Iraq to Combat Air Patrols over strategic oil facilities, ports, and shipping lanes. By the end of 1980, IRIAF F-14s had downed 45 confirmed and six possible MiG-21, MiG-23, and Su-20s. The ability to overwhelmingly win these air battles was a tribute to the Tomcat's ability to effectively use its entire arsenal of Sidewinders, Sparrows, and Phoenix missiles.

An amazing event occurred when a Tomcat fired a Phoenix at a MiG-23 thirty miles away. The missile hit caused a huge explosion as bombs carried on the MiG-23 detonated. The Iranian pilots were surprised to see a second and then a third MiG go down, apparently damaged by debris from the initial hit. One missile fired - - - three MiGs down.

Throughout 198 IRIAF Tomcat squadrons flew hundreds of sorties, many up to six hours long, with several re-fuelings in a single mission. As 1981 came to a close, the Iraqis put Mirage F-1EQs up against the Tomcats. They, too, fell to the Tomcats. Four (possibly as many as eight) Mirages were among the 14 confirmed (six unconfirmed) kills compiled by the Tomcat squadrons.

At least one Tomcat was lost, possibly to a ground-launched missile. Engine problems plagued the Iranian Tomcats just as they flawed the performance of the U.S. Tomcats. However, the IRIAF kept the Tomcat successes as well as their operational capabilities secret: disclosure could potentially result in

a death sentence. Certainly the U.S. knew what was happening, but chose to keep this performance quiet. One thing was sure: the F-14 was a true MiG (and others) killer.

Although Grumman products were performing extremely well, financially 1981 was to be a down year. This set the stage for something very unexpected. On September 23, 1981, LTV Corporation of Dallas, Texas, offered \$450 million in cash for 70% of Grumman. Grumman as an independent company was in peril.

Chapter 33 You Can't Buy Me (1981)

Who dared disrupt the "Grumman Family"? His name was W. Paul Thayer, CEO of LTV Corporation, a large Dallas, Texas conglomerate. He was an aggressive CEO who was a World War II fighter ace, with six confirmed and four probable kills while flying Grumman Wildcats! Post war, he became a Vought test pilot and quickly rose through to become the president of Vought, makers of the F4U Corsair and the A-7 Corsair II. Vought itself had been the object to a hostile take over, becoming part of the emerging conglomerate, Ling Temco Vought. Conglomerates absorbed any company as long the target's earnings were above the low prevailing interest rates and it had a relatively low price-earnings ratio. That was exactly LTV's portfolio. It was in at least eight widely different businesses, from electronics-to-aerospace-to-meat packing-to-sporting goods-to-steel manufacturing and more. LTV grew rapidly but the business environment turned hostile to the conglomerate philosophy, and by 1970, LTV stock tanked from 167 in 1967 to 11! LTV founder and CEO, James Ling was ousted and Paul Thayer became CEO.

Thayer, who was a daredevil in the cockpit, turned his risk-taking behavior into successfully rescuing LTV Corporation. LTV became profitable as Thayer shed many of the businesses, but by the late 1970s all the businesses were again losing money. Further, LTV was \$1.3 billion in debt. They needed resources and Grumman was an ideal target. Its stock was in the low/mid 20s; its robust aircraft product line would invigorate Vought; its pension fund was loaded; it had assets that could be sold; it looked like an easy takeover target.

Paul Thayer acted. On September 23, while Grumman CEO Jack Bierwirth was on a Mississippi River boat cruise, he received an unwelcome phone call from his office informing him that LTV was offering \$45/share to Grumman shareholders and sought 70% of Grumman's shares and company control. The Grumman Family was under a strong attack that found favor on Wall Street.

Obligated by law to respond, Grumman's Board of Directors met on September 25 and unanimously rejected the offer. Within a few days Grumman management sought an injunction against LTV in U.S. District Court based on anti-trust; held press conferences in New York City; initiated congressional write-in campaigns; organized an 8,000 Grumman employee rally in Bethpage; and started an aggressive TV and radio campaign. Grumman was fighting.

The response from Grumman's extended family was immediate. The Long Island Congressional Caucus announced opposition; community leaders rallied around Bierwirth and Gavin; Congressman Tom Downey questioned LTV's intentions on the Grumman Pension Plan; Newsday editorials backed Grumman; and employees ran ads in Dallas that said, "NO". The NY Times documented this outpouring of support with an article on "Grumman's Loyal Workers".

Testimony at the Congressional Judiciary Committee by Bierwirth cited LTV debt, aging facilities, and the threat to Long Island. Admiral Zumwalt, former Chief of Naval Operations, testified in U.S. District Court, before Judge Jacob Mischler, that this action would threaten U.S. security.

On October 5, Grumman initiated publication of a daily Grumman Plane News. Grumman employees were the largest single holder of Grumman stock. On a fully diluted basis, Grumman employees, the pension plan, and the directors owned 29% of the 13.8 million shares. Thayer knew this and it was the reason he sought 70% of the shares with his tender offer.

Each day brought critical news. The New York State Comptroller's office started an investigation of the LTV offer. Ohio, site of Flxible Bus, barred LTV from soliciting shares from Ohio residents. Then Grumman Pension Plan Trustees (Jack Bierwirth, Bob Freese, and Carl Paladino) courageously rejected the LTV offer stating the offer was inadequate and LTV's debt and steel business difficulties would threaten Grumman's future. On October 13, the Pension Plan announced it purchased 1,160,000 shares (as permitted by law) and the Employee Investment Plan trustees also voted to reject the LTV offer.

Good news: On October 14, Judge Mischler granted a temporary injunction blocking LTV from acquiring Grumman Stock! Bierwirth exclaimed, "We've accomplished more than defeat of a hostile tender offer. We've also learned to band together to protect our independence." Of course, LTV appealed the ruling.

The next day brought more good news. The New York State Pension Plan decided to not tender their shares to LTV and Judge Mischler ruled that the Grumman Pension Plan could purchase the Grumman shares.

Were the Grumman Pension Plan's trustees doing their fiduciary duty? The Department of Labor did not think so. They joined the fray on October 20, when they filed a lawsuit claiming pension plan assets were being used to benefit the company sponsoring the plan. They asked Judge Mischler to issue a restraining order; however, Grumman agreed to take no action until the matter was settled, forestalling the need for a restraining order.

Grumman sub-contractors joined the Grumman Family in fighting LTV. Seventy-five of them, holding 190,000 shares, rejected the LTV tender offer.

Public support was starting to shift towards Grumman as WABC-TV aired an editorial in opposition to the takeover. LTV was feeling the heat. They announced a change in their offer by extending the date for the tender and now sought just over 50%; just enough for control.

More bad news for LTV: The Federal Trade Commission, a critical federal agency on anti-trust matters, said it would fight the takeover and go to court if necessary. Paul Thayer was quoted as saying he had "strong objection to this action."

As October was ending, Forbes Magazine wrote, "LTV's biggest surprise was the effusive demonstrations of loyalty among Grumman employees and throughout Long Island." More importantly, the U.S. Court of Appeals agreed to review Judge Mischler's ruling. As the calendar rolled over into November, it was now a waiting game. All parties waited to hear the Appeals Court decision. LTV extended the time for its offer first to November 10th and then to November 20th.

Meanwhile, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) entered this corporate battle. The SEC filed suit against Grumman, alleging that management made false and misleading statements by not stating the real reason they were purchasing shares, to thwart the LTV takeover.

The fateful day, November 13, finally arrived. The three judges of the 2nd US Circuit Court unanimously upheld Grumman's assertion that the LTV offer violated federal anti-trust law. Judge Mischler's injunction was upheld. Jack Bierwirth jubilantly responded, "It's fantastic!"

It was over. On November 17, LTV withdrew its offer . . . too long and too expensive to continue the fight.

Grumman, huge underdog in this fight, had a great celebration as 5,000 employees and the Board of Directors gathered at the hanger by Plant 4 and basked in their victory. The Grumman Family was very clear: "No, No, No! You can't buy me!"

By: Ken Speiser and Larry Feliu

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Epilog:

NY Times February 28, 1984: A Federal judge dismissed the Department of Labor and SEC lawsuits. While acknowledging that the trustees breached their fiduciary responsibilities there were no financial damages as Grumman stock was now over \$47 and Grumman made money on the purchases. Sometimes you need a little luck.

1981 Iranian F-14 Scorecard: 20 Iraqi aircraft (4 unconfirmed), including MiG -23, Su-20, and Mirage F1, were downed by Iranian F-14s with Phoenix, Sidewinder, and Sparrow



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for these dues-paid Northrop/Grumman Retiree Club members, their spouses and/or guests**

	<u>Full Name (please print)</u>	<u>Phone No.</u>	<u>Check One</u>			<u>Check One</u>	
			<u>Beef</u>	<u>Fish</u>	<u>Chicken</u>	<u>Retiree</u>	<u>Guest</u>
1.	_____	_____	___	___	___	___	___
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- Seven days notice of cancellation is required to receive a full refund.
- All tables seat twelve. A minimum of ten is required to reserve a table.

Attached please find \$ _____ representing **\$35.00** per person for _____ people.

Ticket Purchase Deadline is December 2, 2015

Table Captain: _____

Address: _____

E-Mail address: _____

Remarks: _____

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