



The Grumman Retiree Club Newsletter



January, 2011 Volume 44 , Issue 1

Circulation:4046

CHAPTERS / MEETING LOCATIONS

PARENT CHAPTER

Bethpage / Woodbury

President, Marion Abbott (516) 575-3777

California - Golden West / Pt. Mugu

President, Fred Syrett (805) 647-4934

California - San Diego / San Diego

President, Cliff Robinson (760) 749-8183

Florida - First Coast / St. Augustine

President, Fred Bauer (904) 819-9817

Florida - Manasota West / Bradenton

President, Burt Stern (941) 378-7082

Florida - Mid-West / Spring Hill

President, Hank Mehl (352) 686-2735

Florida - Southwest / Locations Vary

President, George Daly, (239) 567-2285

Florida - Spacecoast / Melbourne

President, William Steenson (321) 751-3346

Florida - Suncoast / Pinellas Park

President, John Newark (727) 360-7339

Florida - Treasure Coast / Port St. Lucie

President, Nancy Schaefer (772) 878-2295

Georgia

Peach Pit / Milledgeville

President, Mike McCabe (478) 452-7265

Maryland

Glen Arm / Belair

President, Frederick Kief (410) 557-7138

New England

New England North / Dorset, VT

President, Bill Egner (802) 446-2062

New Jersey

Garden State / Lakehurst

President, Al Larsen (732) 350-1170

New York

Eastern Long Island / Riverhead

President, Bert Moller (631) 864-4377

North Carolina

Eastern Carolina / Locations Vary

President, Bob Lamberson (252) 249-2782

Pennsylvania

Northeast PA / So. Sterling

President, Charles Teufert (570) 586-7590

South Carolina

Coastal Carolinas (NC & SC) / Myrtle Beach

President, Richard Seidler (910) 575-3145

Texas

Houston / Houston

President, Angelo LaCognata, (281) 326-1665

Virginia - Central Virginia / Monticello

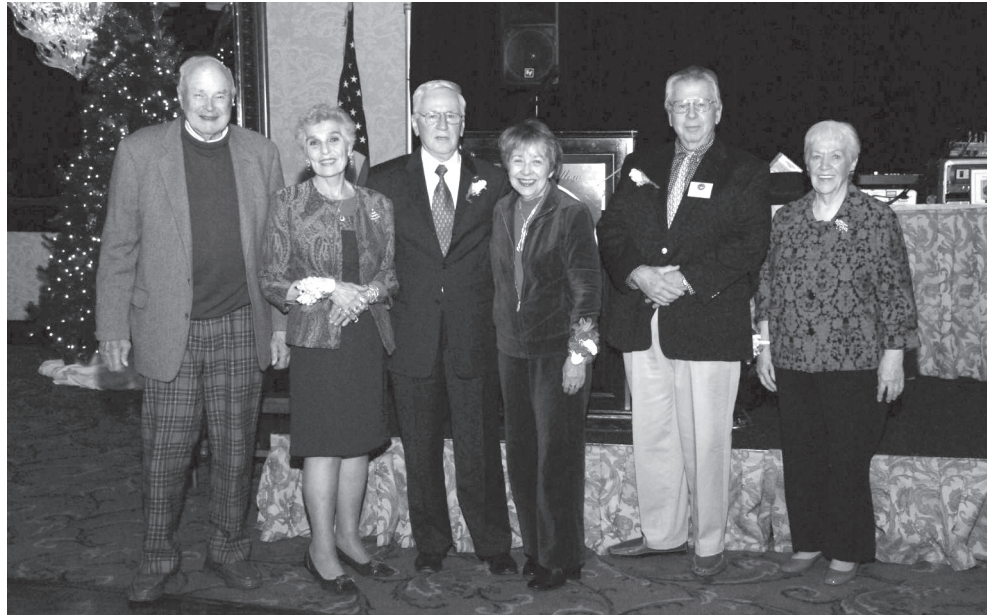
President, Tom O'Rourke (434) 244-2852

Virginia - Potomac / Locations Vary

President, Ed Barron (202) 244-6808

Installation Of Club Officers for 2011

The Grumman Retiree Club Officers for 2011 were installed at the Bethpage Chapter Holiday Luncheon on December 15, 2011. Past Grumman Corporation CEO Jack Bierwirth conducted the installation.



L to R: Jack Bierwirth, Marion Abbott, Bob Ripp, Elaine Ross, Lou Kubat, and Barbara Major. Missing: Frank Rizzo

Membership Renewal Time

The Membership Renewal/Application form is on the next-to-last page of this Newsletter. Instructions for submitting the form and your dues are included on the form, together with the appropriate address.

Retiree Club Scholarship Program

Our Scholarship Program is in full swing! Applications are available at all Chapters. Please continue to support the Scholarship Program with your (tax-deductible) donations. And remember: only members who have paid dues for the last two consecutive years are eligible to sponsor Scholarship candidates.



Scholarship Fund Contributors

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

- Dimarco, Andrew
- Greve, John
- Moss, H.
- Stern, Burton
- Weis, Sydney
- Ziems, Paul

Scholarship Award Program for 2011

Applications for our 2011 Scholarship Awards are available at all regular Chapter meetings. Applications can also be obtained by sending a self-addressed envelope to the address below. Internet access for Scholarship applications is also available at the Retiree Club website:

www.grummanretireeclub.org

The Scholarship Fund Needs Your Financial Help

Please continue to make Tax Deductible Donations to the Scholarship Fund, as we focus on the Awards for 2011. The number of awards and the amount of each award depend upon the amount of member support. Send checks (payable to *Retiree Scholarship Fund*) to Scholarship Fund, PO Box 0748, Bethpage, NY, 11714-0748

GRUMMAN RETIREE CLUB NEWSLETTER

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Defensive Driver Training

2011 Dates: 03/01; 05/03; 09/06; 11/03

Classes held in Plant 25. 8:30AM sign in. To register, call Liz McGowan (516-221-6573) **WEEKDAYS ONLY!** Call between 6pm & 9pm. Classes fill up quickly: Check your expiration date and **sign up early.**

SCHOLARSHIP 50/50 RAFFLE
Members of All Chapters May Participate!

Enter often. Max prize: \$500. Multiple winners possible. Winners announced in the Newsletter, immediately after each quarterly drawing.

Send a filled-in raffle ticket (below) and a check (payable to *Grumman Retiree Club Scholarship Fund*). Mail the Ticket and check to: Grumman Retiree Club - Scholarship Fund, P. O. Box 0748, Bethpage, NY 11714-0748. Each raffle entry is \$5. (Please be sure to indicate how many raffles you are purchasing.)

Everyone has a chance to win.
The Raffle benefits the Scholarship Fund.
Your odds are good.

SCHOLARSHIP 50/50 RAFFLE TICKET

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone (optional) _____

Chapter _____ Date _____

No. of raffles purchased _____



Bethpage Chapter

Bethage Chapter Calendar

Meetings

At the Crest Hollow: 4/27, 5/18, 9/21

At the Milleridge Inn: **2/23**, 3/23, 10/26, 11/16

Note: membership meetings are generally held on the fourth Wednesday of the month.

Feb 23 luncheon meeting reservation coupon is below. Send check(s) (payable to *Grumman Retiree Club*) and coupon(s) to Grumman Retiree Club, 600 Grumman Road West, M/S Z49-25, Bethpage, NY 11714-5000

The Holiday Luncheon of 2010, with 318 in attendance, was held at the Crest Hollow Country Club. Festivities began with a cocktail hour. Sgt.-at-Arms Elaine Ross led the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the pledge, a moving invocation was delivered by Steve Kalman, as well as a moment of silence for all of our departed members, their loved ones, and our fine servicemen and women in harm's way.

Among the many guests were BFCU's CEO Kirk Kordeleski, Rich Nicolich, Grace Braeuer, and Larry Trivigno; former Grumman Corp CEO Jack Bierwirth; Prime Time Travel Nick Bazzicalupo; Photographer John Boles; and NGC John Vosilla.

President Marion Abbott introduced the Board of Directors, the current Officers, our Past Presidents, and all the club volunteers, thanking everyone involved with the successful running of the Club throughout the year. Marion emphasized that the very existence of the Club would be doubtful without the time and efforts that the volunteers, the Directors, and the Officers devote to our Club. In addition, Marion stressed that our Club always needs additional volunteers in order for us to have the successful activities that we enjoy.

Marion thanked Betty Bohlander for the wonderful luncheon that we had today. Betty worked tirelessly over several weeks to prepare for the luncheon, and spent much of her time today moving around the room to assure that anything that anyone needed was quickly available. Many, many Thanks, Betty, for all you do for our Club.



Jack Biewrirth and Betty Bohlander enjoying another successful Holiday Luncheon

February 23 Luncheon Meeting Coupon	
NOTE: Coupons MUST be received by Feb. 16	
Member Name (print)	

Guest Name (print)	

No. of members attending	_____
No. of guests attending	_____
<u>Menu Choices:</u>	
No. of beef	_____
No. of chicken	_____
No. of fish	_____
\$18 per person	



After the introductions, Jack Bierwirth presided over the installation of the 2011 Retiree Club's officers:

- President - Marion Abbott
- First Vice President - Bob Ripp
- Second Vice President - Elaine Ross
- Secretary - Lou Kubat
- Treasurer - Frank Rizzo
- Sergeant-at-Arms Barbara Major

The rest of the afternoon was spent enjoying delicious entrees and wonderful wines and soft drinks. Kenny Whiteside provided the usual great dance and background music, which kept lots of people on the dance floor. People reminisced about the past year and the golden years at Grumman. A great time was had by all.

Door Prize Winners

The Door Prizes were "Thanks" to the generosity of the Bethpage Federal Credit Union and Prime Time Travel. The winners were Ann Muldowny, Augie Ripp, Al Muller, Stan Adkins, Peggy Burns (2 wins), Regina Coons, Jack Armitage, Gerry Raymon, Ed McComick, and Gerie Simonetti

50-50 Winners

Sid Weihs, Lynda Gluck, Steve Kalman, and Claudette Gaine

December Birthdays

Marie Crescenti (85); Lou Kubat (74); Mary Freeman (80); Bill Ptucha (82); Ed McComick (85); and Joan Proscia (77)

December Anniversaries

Erica & Henry Beck 52 yrs; Lin & George Stahl 52yrs

Out of Town Visitors

Doris Anderson from Vero Beach, Florida; Pauline Sandmann and Roy Jacobson, from Riverhead and members of our East End Chapter.

By: Lou Kubat, Sec'y.

Next Meeting: January 26, at the Crest Hollow.

CALIFORNIA / Golden West

The December Golden West meeting was opened by President Fred Syrett at 11:45 AM, with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a prayer for our service men and women protecting our country over the world. A prayer was also given in appreciation for all of our veterans who served our country during its wars for freedom over the years.

It was reported that Joe Dragotta has moved from Henderson, NV, to San Francisco to be closer to his children. Jess Echeveria has applied to go to Afghanistan for Northrop Grumman as his position at Palmdale is coming to an end.

Leroy Chavez reports that Bruce Alderson will receive his last chemo treatment on Dec. 24th and Hal Ranzenhofer is having leg problems. Our prayers are with these members.

Treasurer Tom Maloney announced our Christmas-time charity giving from the treasury:

- Food Share \$171
- Toys for Tots \$116
- Rain Community Inc. \$50
- Salvation Army \$25
- Ventura County Rescue Mission \$50
- Habitat for Humanity \$50

Thanks to all for your generosity to those in need.

Tom Maloney would like to remind members to pay their 2011 dues now! Please make arrangements with him at 805-443-9219.

Our fund raising 50-50 winners were Kathy Vormittag, Bill Judd, and Don Sobel.

The beautiful poinsettias donated by the Golden West club and used as table decorations were raffled off to the members.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

Next meeting: January 11, 2011, at the Point.

By: Paul Aanerud, Sec'y, and John Torkelsen, V.P.



Meeting dates: 1/11; 2/8 (2nd Tues.)

CALIFORNIA / San Diego

Our chapter's annual Christmas luncheon was held on December 10, at the Admiral Baker recreation facility. Twenty-two retirees and guests enjoyed a delicious buffet lunch.

The election of club officers for 2011 was held. By unanimous vote, all club officers were reelected for the New Year.

Door prizes winners were Mary Garrity, Sy Glick, Kay Huttle, Eleanor Kirvin, Nancy Roeckl, and Elizabeth Walters.

Kay Huttle, back from a recent illness, looked terrific in her fine red Christmas attire.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Pat Quiter, Harvey Shouf, and Bob Steinhauser—hope you're feeling better soon!!

President Cliff Robinson continues to do a yeoman's job of directing our chapter's ongoing support of the MCAS Miramar Enlisted Food Locker. With money provided by our San Diego Chapter and some local businesses, 92 turkeys were purchased in the month of November for enlisted families' Thanksgiving dinners. And in December, the Armstrong Egg Farm of Valley Center generously donated another 200 dozen eggs for the Food Locker. President Cliff Robinson commented on how much all of these donations mean to the enlisted military families.

Noel Callahan, Gordon Cargill, Mary Garrity, Vonnie Jolly, Mike Lossick, Dave Metz, Barbara Painter, Nancy Roeckl, Seymour Rosenberg, Amy Shouf, Bob Steinhauser, Charlie Stenzel, Jean Vasely and Kay Watson had birthdays in November and December.

Charlie & Amy Askins, Noel & Sue Callahan, Cliff & Barbara Robinson, Jim & Marie Vollaro, and Ernie & Christine von der Heyden celebrated their wedding anniversaries in November and December.

Congrats to all!!

The first 2011 luncheon meeting will be held in February, at Chin's Szechwan Restaurant. More news to follow!

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

FLORIDA/ First Coast

The cold weather forced us into a different (warmer) room for our December meeting, which was held at New Century. Turns out, this room was used for our first chapter meeting in 1995.

President Fred Bauer welcomed thirty-five members and led us in the Pledge Of Allegiance. Chaplin Janet Cassford led us in a prayer.

After our lunch, Fred welcomed new member Ralph Davies. Then Fred mentioned that John Hirschlein could not attend due to surgery on his shoulder today. Best wishes, John.

Sadly, Fred announced the November 27 passing of Norman Howell, at age 95. We extend our deepest sympathies to Ann Howell, Norm's wife of 71 years.

The chapter's Christmas donation to the Empty Stocking Fund of St. Augustine has been thankfully acknowledged.

Fred noted that Pensacola Air Museum has added an EA-6B to its great array of aircraft.

Birthdays: John Hirschlein, Gene Morrison, Catherine Langhauser, Duke Digilio, Lonnie Dennis, Paul Heagy, Thomas Mutschler, and Tom Foley.

Anniversaries: Emil & Anne Gagliardi, Art & Bonnie Maguire, and John & Kathleen Hirschlein.

Treasurer Bob Rathje reported healthy account balances. He reminded the group to pay dues no later than the Feb. 15 meeting. Mail to: Bob Rathje, 11046 Castlemain Circle East, Jacksonville, 32256.

Our first meeting of 2011 will on Jan.18, at the New Century Buffet, on US-1 in St. Augustine.



Five Christmas Turkey prizes and seven 50/50 prizes were awarded to lucky members

Merry Christmas to All
A Happy & Healthy New Year!!

God Bless America!!

By: Steve Cacace, Sec'y.

FLORIDA / Manasota West

Our December 8, meeting was called to order with the pledge to the flag, led by President Burt Stern. There were 18 members present. It was beautiful along the river this day, but very chilly! Of course, there's nothing white to shovel here in Florida. Everyone was in the holiday mood, enjoying long term friendships.

Treasurer Jim Murray read his financial report. He also presented our President with the holiday charity donations he had prepared for mailing. Jim also shared the fact that he and his wife are celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary. That's Great!!

The members questioned Bob Alloca about the recent scam experience Bob had, where his total address book was stolen. As a result, some of us had received e-mails (supposedly from him) asking for money to be sent to help Bob out since he was stranded in a far away country. He explained how Norton was instrumental in retrieving his address book and securing it against future intrusion. Unfortunately, the hacker thieves are still to be found. We have heard of other similar scams, so we warn all other Grumman retirees to be very cautious.

The 50 / 50 Club was won by: Larry Negretti, Beth Nyberg, Bob Nyberg, and Ziggy Feuersanger.

Jim Winding made a motion that we vote in the same officers as 2010 for 2011, by acclamation. Bob Alloca seconded the motion. All members unanimously voted agreement.

As always, we invite fellow retirees to join us

for lunch. We normally meet on the 3rd Wed. of each month at Mattison's Riverside Restaurant, in Bradenton, FL.

By: Nancy Winding (941-355-7888)
nanwinding@comcast.net

FLORIDA / South West

No December Report

Next Meeting:

Jan 11, 11:30AM, Tara Woods Community Clubhouse

By: Tony Perre, Sec'y. (239-731-7146)
tara88@comcast.net)

FLORIDA / Spacecoast

One hundred and five members and guests turned out to the festively decorated Suntime Country Club for our December 15 holiday meeting. VP Dan Postupack led us in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a particularly moving and sensitive invocation given by Sgt-at-Arms Ed Romano.

Following a delicious buffet, President Bill Steenson reported on the continuing efforts to obtain a speaker from Northrop Grumman to give us a year-end report on pension and medical insurance matters. VP Dan Postupack initiated this effort in October with no response to phone calls or E-mail requests. Camille Steenson continued this campaign for Dan this month, leaving the final message on the recorder of the Vice President-Human Resources in California, along with some personal and professional observations.

The response was a phone call from the HR office in Irvine, Texas, informing President Steenson that no speaker was available. Subsequent conversation dealt with the distribution of the Pension Program Summary Annual Report, historically mailed to all retirees in mid-December, which gave a brief summary



of the financial status of our pension fund. This was reputed to be scheduled for distribution this week.

A final call from the Irvine office came on December 13th, reporting that Northrop-Grumman had ascertained that there was no legal requirement to distribute the Summary Annual Report (SAR) and so it would not be mailed to our membership. President Steenson informed them that he would be making his usual request for the full annual financial report.

November Meeting Minutes:

A show of hands indicated that none of our attendees had received the December Newsletter. We voted to dispense with the reading of the November Minutes.

Treasurer's Report:

Bill Waldron reported on the status of all accounts, including receipts for the 2011 dues. He reminded us that dues must be paid in order to continue receiving the Retiree Newsletter. Bill also called attention to the fact that retirees' family members are eligible to receive Grumman Retiree Club scholarships no matter where they live, but only if the cognizant retiree has been a paid up member of the club for the past two years.

Historian Report:

George Graefe brought thanks from the VAC-Titusville for the contribution to the Grumman Gremlins rehabilitation and restorative efforts. Primary thrust of their efforts currently is on restoring the Navy F-4H. Copies of our November Newsletter featuring our Club's visit to the museum have been mailed to the VAC.

Scholarship:

Chairman Bob Prais and Bill Steenson had a follow-up meeting with Janice Kershaw, Executive Director of the Brevard Schools Foundation (BSF), the organization that is our interface with the school administration and the county student body.

Several concerns were addressed at the meeting, which led us to believe that it would be advantageous to both the students and our organization to phase out our current front-loaded award program and go to a balanced four-year program. Concurrent with this, it was proposed that our club increase its contribution, supplementing Mrs. Skurla's and the

BFCU's contributions so that we would have two \$2000 scholarships, awarded in \$500 increments over four years. The Skurla Scholarship would, of course, retain its name.

The proposal was moved, seconded and unanimously approved. It will be effective with the scholarships awarded this spring.

Communications:

A special "Thank You" went from our President to Don Powell for establishing an e-mail system for polling our members on attending each month's meetings, thereby relieving much of the monthly caller's workload. Don's good humor in this task was also noted.

Old Business:

- A letter from the Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Community was read, thanking our membership for the donation of school supplies to the Haitian children devastated by both an earthquake and a hurricane this past year. Joe Mullings organized our Club's efforts in this program.
- Our call for members to provide Christmas gifts for the residents of the Carnegie Gardens Nursing Home received an overwhelming response. It was obvious that our members did not retire their legendary Grumman charitable spirit when they left the company. Our thanks go to all contributors plus special thanks to Ron Stinton and Joe Mullings for organizing this effort and delivering the presents.

New Business:

- A rousing round of applause was given to the Suntree Country Club staff that fed and served us so well all year.
- Past President Peggy Graefe presided over the induction ceremony for the elected officers: President: Bill Steenson, 1st VP: Dan Postupack, 2nd VP: George Demarest, Treasurer: Bill Waldron, Sgt-at-Arms: Ed Romano

President Bill thanked the membership for their support this past year

Jackie Winter was the winner of two tickets to the Cocoa Village Playhouse production of "Man of LaMancha," donated by Pat & Joe Mullings. Proceeds went to our Scholarship Fund.



Employee Birthdays:

George Graefe, Gus Lanzo

Spouse Birthdays:

Diane Glover, Sylvia Turrell, Mary Ann Lau, Lya Kivi, Marie Passarella, Barbara Hudson, Marilyn Filipo

Anniversaries:

George & Peggy Graefe, Allan & Dolores Dooley, Joseph & Lenora Ram, Gus & Audrey Lanzo, Howard & Evelyn Dunn, Oscar & Emma Basilio,

There were six 50/50 winners. The grand prize of a lovely Christmas Basket was won by John Herba.

Next Meeting: Jan 19, at the Suntree Country Club

By: Camille Steenson, Acting Secretary

FLORIDA/ Suncoast

No December Report

By: Patricia E. Newark, Sec'y. (727-360-7339) newarkjohn@rocketmail.com

FLORIDA / Treasure Coast

Our Holiday meeting was held on December 16, at Manero's Restaurant in Palm City, with 72 attendees. President Nancy Schaefer opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. In the absence of Chaplain Larry Regier (due to the death of his sister), the invocation was given by another member.

Nancy made the following announcements:

- On the sick list is Mary Brogan.
- Bill Mang (former Director of Manufacturing in Stuart) lost his grandson Kyle (age 20) to an unfortunate accident. Our prayers are with the family.

Bob Watkins thanked the members who held positions in 2010 and all the volunteers who help

keep this chapter running.

Bob announced the following officers and staff for the 2011 year:

- Nancy Schaefer - President
- Ken Tolve - Vice President
- Joe Gillman - Treasurer
- Raena Wallace - Secretary
- Charlene Castagnero - Membership
- Fran Overcash - 50/50
- Larry Regier - Chaplain
- Werner Bols - Scholarship Program
- Bob Watkins - Program Chairman

Thanks to Treasurer Joe Gillman, were 18 \$15 gift certificates raffled. In addition, there were five 50/50 winners.

Anniversaries: Bob & Lynn Beckman, Mike & Betty Wegler, Tom & Janet Cuce, and Marilyn & Robert Fink

Birthdays: Doreen Meyer, Mike and Betty Wegler

Visitor: Al Grecni

As a parting gesture and in the Christmas spirit, President Nancy handed out individual packets of homemade cookies that she and husband Dick baked.

Next Meeting: January 20, at Manero's Restaurant in Palm City.

By: Joan Savio, Sec'y. fj99savio@bellsouth.net

GEORGIA / Peach Pit

Our December 21 Social at the Golden Corral Restaurant, Milledgeville, began at 12:30PM. There were 14 present. President Mike McCabe called the event to order, and was followed by Sergeant-at-Arms Designee Jesse Griffin leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Chaplain Designee Mary Archer gave the Blessing.

President Mike McCabe extended his best wishes to Members, their Families, and to all First Responders



and Military for a Blessed and Merry Christmas, a wonderful and Holy Holiday Season, and a Healthy and Happy New Year.

Next, he introduced George Sargent, Director of the Chard Wray Memorial Community Food Pantry administered by St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. President Mike then read the letter that accompanies Chapter donations and presented a \$250 check from our Chapter. Mr. Sargent expressed his gratitude on behalf of the 5,000 in the Community that sought food assistance throughout this year. He indicated every gift is sorely needed and greatly appreciated.

Secretary Lew Iuliucci was asked to report the results of the Chapter election for year 2011 Officers. He began by indicating that a voting member had nominated a co-member to fill the vacant position on the ballot. The Secretary contacted the nominee who agreed to serve, if elected, followed by a member seconding this nomination. Lew continued by reporting that 64 ballots were sent out to enable every Chapter member the opportunity to vote. He received back 36 votes, which is 56% participation, and all votes were to accept the candidates identified. Those present approved a motion (made by Tom O'Toole and seconded by Ernie Godbee) to accept the Report. Therefore, Chapter leadership starting January, 2011, will be: President Wendell Barr, Vice President Jesse Griffin, Treasurer Joe Sansotta, Secretary Lew Iuliucci, Sergeant-at-Arms Alfie Geeson, and Chaplain Willie Collins.

The meal followed as members socialized, enjoying the fellowship.

As the event was nearing an end, Secretary Lew Iuliucci made the following announcements:

- December Birthday best wishes to: Loretta LaManna [27th], John Maier [4th], Barbara Ann Schwendler [4th] and Stan Winnicki [22nd].
- Belated Happy Birthday wishes to Brenda Harvill [11/24].
- December Wedding Anniversary congratulations are extended to Virginia & Dennis Klingener [11th].

Joe Sansotta won the 75/25 Fundraiser raffle and donated his winnings to the local Community Service Fund. Thank You, Joe.

In memoriam: Grummanite Eleanor Zarkowsky passed away on November 22, 2010 in Melbourne, Florida. Her remains were interned in Milledgeville following a service on Dec. 11, at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Club/Chapter prayers are with her and condolences are extended to her family.

Next Meeting: January 18, at the Golden Corral Restaurant, Milledgeville, at 12:30PM. Past President Mike McCabe will open the meeting, then swear in the Officers and turn the meeting over to President Wendell Barr. The Program will be: Australia, New Zealand, and Fiji Vacation photos from his recent trip to "down under," narrated by past President Mike McCabe.

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

Maryland

No December Report

By: Rolfe Feser, Sec'y. Poppyro@verizon.net

NEW JERSEY / Garden State

The December 21, 2010 meeting was held at the Lakehurst Diner and was called to order at 1PM by President Larsen, with 22 members present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a moment of silence for our sick and departed members and for our servicemen and women.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and were accepted, as was the Treasurer's Report.

The only birthday for December is for Joyce Smith, on the 19th.

There are no anniversaries to report.



Sunshine Report -

Gloria Larsen reported that everyone seemed to be well. We did hear from Rose Liotta, who advised us that she could not attend the meetings because she was suffering from spinal stenosis. She also wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Walter Matuza sent a card from Florida with good wishes for the holidays.

Old Business:

The Treasurer reported that he sent a check to the Marine Corps' *Toys for Tots* program, which the members voted to do instead of having a grab bag. He also reported that all those present had paid their dues.

Ways And Means:

Chairlady Gloria Larsen brought in decorative candles for everyone attending our annual Christmas Party.

New Business:

The officers for 2011 were installed.

Next Meeting: January 18, 1PM, at the Lakehurst Diner on Route 70, in Lakehurst.

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

NEW YORK / Eastern Long Island Chapter

President Bert Moller opened our December 8 Christmas meeting with 22 members/guests present. Sgt-at-Arms Richie Myers led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Prez Bert read a short prayer.

Minutes from previous meeting were read, seconded, & approved.

Treasurer Marty Getzleman was absent, so there were no jokes! (Until January!)

In the absence of a Community Relations Rep, it was reported that:

- Harry Bowie passed on 11/30/2010 (age 85)
- Ken Becker joined the "heart stent club".

Our thoughts and prayers are with all our ailing members, and our condolences go out to all who have lost a loved one.

The Hamiltons delivered 18 bags of food from our November food drive to the Suffolk County United Veterans, in Ypank. They reported that warm clothes are needed and can be delivered to the office at the "Vets Place." Thanks to all who contributed!

Prez. Bert asked members to consider raising lunch fee to \$15, as money is dwindling in our Treasury (50/50 funds not keeping up).

Suggestions needed for guest speakers!

Bob Sagl (long time volunteer at Farmingdale Air Museum) was surprised when his 80th birthday was celebrated by all at museum! Congrats!

Other Dec/Jan Birthday Celebrants: Chuck Kennington, Lou Puccio, Ralph Cirone, Bob Irwin, Mary Irwin, and Sgt-at-Arms Richie Myers.

Bill Mytko sent greetings from South Carolina (where he relocated). His address is: 900 Broadway School Road, Belton SC 29627. Phone # 1-864-225-4927. We miss ya!

2011 Dues (\$13) to be sent to Bert Moller, 33 Ramsey Rd, Commack, NY 11725. Make Checks Payable To *E.L.I. Grumman Retiree Club*. Let's Get Those Dues In ASAP! Thanx!

Bert will be flying South to Florida with other "snowbirds." Should be back in March.

We had two 50/50 winners - Marv Thorne donated his win back to the club! Thanx!

Thanks again to Pauline & Ron (Roy), our door people.

We Still Need A Community Relations Rep - Help!

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays & A Happy, Healthy New Year To All!



Next Meeting: Jan. 19, at Holiday Inn Express (1701 Old Country Rd, Rt. 58, Riverhead - East of the Tanger Mall & Riverhead Raceway).

Lunch at Noon (\$12); meeting at 1PM. Contact Bob Albert (631-585-7987) for reservations/cancellations by Monday of meeting week

Future Meetings: Feb.16; March16; April 20

Stay Warm & Healthy!

By: Bob Albert, VP

Greetings To Hank Mehl & Family In Sunny Florida! (Sunny?!)

NORTH CAROLINA
Eastern Carolinas Chapter

We met once again at the Clamdigger Inn in Pine Knoll Shores, this time for our Christmas celebration and this time on a sunny but brisk, and chilly day. It was most unusual for our normally mild part of the world. Also, once again our program director was the tireless and creative Art Miller. He is a wonderful organizer and even became our Santa by personally presenting pencils engraved Christmas Grumman 2010 and a special bag of penny candy at each place. Thank you, Artie.

Inside, the Inn was warm and inviting, beautifully decorated for the Christmas season. Social hour flew by quickly, meeting and greeting our Grumman family.

The flag ceremony was led by Ken Gruebel and the invocation was especially meaningful since it was Pearl Harbor day. It was thoughtfully presented, as always

The buffet was delicious as usual and enjoyed by all. The staff there treats us well.

We were then introduced to our special guest, Lance Corporal Chris Konzen, a wonderful representative

of our U.S. Marine Corps. He gave us a short history of his life. He is attached to a tank unit at Camp LeJeune. He was with us for our annual Toys for Tots donations, which could have been called Tons of Toys for Tots as there were toys and games of all kinds. It showed again how generous our Grumman family is and has been. It took many hands and several trips to load the bounty in the marine van.

We missed our Christmas caroler star and leader, Terry Walker, but there was a bit of improvising by creating a melodious sextet to lead us in song. Their talent became evident with each new carol so appreciation was shown with a huge round of applause. More fun! If anyone lacked Christmas spirit on arriving, they left bubbling over with the feelings of the season.

President Bob Lamberson then reminded all to look into the Northrop Grumman Benefits package and the importance of designating the beneficiary wanted for the Retiree Life Insurance. A discussion followed. Access the Northrop Grumman Benefits Center online or by calling 1-800-894-4194 for information.

We will celebrate our Chapter's 25th anniversary in March. There has been much discussion about a location for the event. There was a short board meeting on the meeting day and when all suggestions were reviewed, it was decided to return to the Clam Digger Inn as we have always had good experiences there. The date in March is TBD. The parent chapter may send a representative.

Art Miller presented another good Trivia Test, which was appropriate for the Christmas season. There were many posers which again required the thinking cap.

Ken Gruebel was recognized and shown appreciation for his many contributions to our chapter especially for leading in the pledge to the flag and his thoughtful prayers.

Good thoughts go to Nick Nickleson and also to Jay Messina who are both on dialysis. Feel better soon. There was a reminder that dues were to be collected today and then a report from the treasurer, Hank Vroom.



Rudy Remke and Hank Vroom spoke of the work done on the restoration of the F11 and the completion of the project. It is a job well done. They reported that the plane is located at Lawson Creek Park. There was \$1620 collected from our chapter and delivered to the sponsors.

Birthday's celebrated in December: Bill Willemsen (12/1), Gail Remke (12/6), Fran AND Art Miller (12/10), Walter Herman (12 /27), Ray Rice (12/31).

One anniversary for December - Mary & Paul Heim.

The 50/50 winners - Our Marine, Chris Konzen, was the first; then Ken Wendel, Joyce Leun, Ron Betts, Rudy Remke, Nora Reichert, and Sandy Sullivan.

We will not meet in January.

The arrangements for the February meeting are to be finalized and information will be sent.

Wishing a Healthy and Happy New Year to y'all.

By: Dolores Brown for Dottie Karika

PENNSYLVANIA / Northeastern Pennsylvania

The December day dawned bright and sunny, with a slight breeze. Eighteen members came to Ehrhardt's Lakeside Restaurant for our Christmas/Holiday Party. We conducted a very short meeting so we could party.

President Chuck Dowd opened the meeting with a salute to the flag. Invocation and grace were led by Chaplain Ed Sparkowski.

Treasurer Fred Rademaker reported that he was still waiting for 12 members to pay their 2011 dues. A reminder: dues are due by the 31st of December, with a grace period to 31 January. Make checks payable to *NEPA Grumman Retiree Club*, and **not** to Fred. Fred's address: PO Box 1012, Milford, PA 18337.

Secretary Ed Sparkowski reported on our walking wounded - details later - and that Bob Zupp was in

the hospital with emergency angioplasty to clear three blocked arteries. As we met, word was he was to be released that day. Ed passed around a card for all to sign. Ed also reported that Dan Fass had had a set back and was hospitalized again. Ed received the Club banner from Fred Mazzitelli, who got it from Dan's son. Ed will hold on to it.

Our trips chairman was basking in the cold confines of Florida, so there was no trips report.

Sickness Report

- Dan Fass had a relapse and was reported to be responding
- Marianne Sparkowski got rid of the sling and is now doing easy exercises after rotator cuff surgery; should be ready to bowl next season
- Charlie Teufert is reported walking around well and recovering from his knee surgery; should be square dancing soon
- Bob Zupp, as reported under Ed's report (above), should be home and recovering.

Keep these and all our other ill members in your prayers during this Christmas/Holiday Season.

The 50/50 was run and won by Jeff Lee; the turkey was won by Anker Petersen.

January Birthdays: Ed Bumby, Marie Dowd, Evelyn Erath, Jeff Lee, Patricia Petrone, Sally Petrusa, Joe Ryan, and Jan Ryan.

January Anniversaries: Pat & John Robb.

Since this was our last meeting until April, we extended it a little longer talking about our plans for the holidays and the winter season. I plan to publish a blurb during the off months; if any sickness or happenings come up during January, February, or March, let me know so I can pass it on to the members.

Our President checked with Ehrhardt's and was told to contact the manager around March for next year's dates. Again: if anyone has another place to check out, let us know, so we can contact him or her. There being no further business, we closed the meeting around 2:00 and headed out. Ed Drydol



took all the items for the Vets. There were quite a few packages. Thanks to all who participated.

Finally, on behalf of Marianne & Myself, we wish you All a Very Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a safe and Happy New Year. These wishes also go out to our other Chapters and fellow Grummanites. We miss you all. Keep the Grumman flame burning.

By: Edward J. Sparkowski Sec'y /Chaplain, 53
The Hideout, Lake Ariel, PA 18436-9766
(570-608-7182) firefly417@verizon.net

SOUTH CAROLINA / Coastal Carolinas

The Sea Captains House in Myrtle Beach was a perfect meeting place for our December 1 Christmas luncheon. Nineteen members and one guest enjoyed delicious food, great company, and a beautiful ocean view, on December 1st at Noon. After lunch, President Richard Seidler called the meeting to order. Sgt.-at-Arms, Eldon Scott led us in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence for those not present at the meeting. In the spirit of the holidays, Marilyn Seidler gave everyone a candy cane encased in a felt mouse, which she made, and Vice President Janice Hanlon passed out lollipops. Thank you, ladies!

Welcome Guests: We welcomed Dot Hoffmann's sister, Theresa McMahon, to the meeting. Theresa is a very frequent, and always welcome, guest at our meetings.

Happy Birthday to Bernard Mascara

Happy Anniversary to Marilyn & Dick Seidler.

The minutes of the November 2010 meeting were read by the Secretary. A motion to accept the minutes as read was made, seconded, and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Don Webber gave the Treasurers report.

Sunshine Committee: Your thoughts and prayers for John Lewis are appreciated.

50/50 Drawing Winner(s): First prize was won by frequent winner Bernard Mascara; 2nd prize went to Nancy and Don Webber.

Old Business: We continue to need some input pertaining to speakers for future meetings. Bob Joyce volunteered to look into engaging a speaker and VP Janice Hanlon mentioned engaging a speaker pertaining to service animals.

Important reminder: Don't Forget Your 2011 Dues! Please send them in as soon as possible. Dues are \$15 per member and \$5 per spouse. Make checks payable to Don Webber, 4713 National Drive, Myrtle Beach, SC 29579-7213.

We all agreed to send donations to the Brunswick County Family Assistance Program, located in North Carolina and Street Reach Ministries, which is located in Myrtle Beach.

New Business: Thanks to everyone who volunteered to reserve a room in various restaurants, our list of meeting places for 2011 is almost complete. The list, as well as an address list, and December 2010 meeting minutes will be mailed to all club members.

Our February, 2011, meeting will be held at Damons Restaurant, Myrtle Beach, and we will meet at Friendlys Restaurant in March.

Thank you, President Richard Seidler, Vice President Janice Hanlon, and Treasurer Don Webber for all your efforts in making this year a successful one for the club. And a special *Thank You* to all members whose efforts to secure meeting places, speakers, etc. helped to make the meetings something special.

All Northrop Grumman retirees in the area are welcome to join us. Guests are also welcome.

By: Nancy Webber, Sec'y. (843-347-2113)
dwebber90887@sc.rr.com



TEXAS / Houston

**The Houston Grumman Chapter wishes
Everyone a Happy New Year.**

Next Meeting: January 18, 11:30AM, at the Clear Lake Park building, NASA #1 Pky. Our guests will be two December 7, 1941 survivors. They are close friends of Jim and Josie Travlos.

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

VIRGINIA / CENTRAL VIRGINIA.

No December Report

VIRGINIA / POTOMAC

Newseum Visit - December 9th

Members of the Potomac Chapter visited the Newseum in Washington, D.C. on December 9th. Chapter Sec'y Ed Barron, who is a volunteer tour guide at the Newseum, treated us to a two-hour tour.

This new museum is dedicated to freedom of speech and freedom of the press. It houses unique exhibits and galleries covering major news-making events and newsmakers. One of the major exhibits is the 9/11 Gallery, which covers, in depth, the terrorist attack on the U.S.

In two hours, we covered the whole Newseum, but barely scratched the surface of the exhibits. Attendees at the event included the Hettingers, the Adlers and the McCaffreys.

By: Ed T. Barron, Sec'y

At the Newseum



L to R: standing: Mary Hettinger, Bill Adler, Diana Adler, Joan McCaffrey, Ron McCaffrey
Kneeling: Bill Hettinger, Ed Barron

In Memoriam

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

Bolle, Warren 'Bob'	Old Bethpage, NY	12/15/10
Chebuske, Arthur	Tavares, FL	12/11/10
Hertford, Edward A.	Leland, NC	12/11/10
Howell, Norman C.	Palm Coast, FL	11/27/10
Ivanoff, Walter	Farmingdale, NY	10/18/10.
Nicoli, Reno J.	Massapequa, NY	12/09/10
Pavlicin, George A.	Viera, FL	11/23/10
Schriro, George R.	Plainview, NY	11/16/10
Tenreiro, Antonio 'Tony T'*	Palm Bay, FL	04/30/10
Voelkel, Robert J.	Pt. Jefferson Station, NY	12/18/10

*Antonio Tenreiro was incorrectly listed in the December issue as Anthony Tenreio 'Mr. T'

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.

Nostalgia

As I Remember It From Back Then . . .

Plant 5, Revisited

These stories turn the clock back to the 1940s. Back then, shortly after Plant 5 was opened, most of the engineers were located on the third floor. Experimental Manufacturing, under Julie Holpit, was on the ground floor.

There was no real second floor. The static test hanger was in the back of the building; the other back of the building hanger was where experimental aircraft were assembled and prepped for flight-testing. The LM facilities did not exist nor did the major addition to the main building fronting on South Oyster Bay Road. The extension to the main runway had not been built; this extension would require a significant rerouting of South Oyster Bay Road. Plant 25 was at least 15 years in the future. That site, just north of the Plant 5 parking lot, hosted the lunchtime Engineering softball games. That's the scene.

Now for Some Remembrances:

(1) The Engineering Dept had two real offices. The larger office was Bill Schwendler's. The other office was home to George Titterton, Production Engineering. Bob Halla (an erstwhile experimental test pilot and then Chief of Experimental Engineering), and Oscar Olsen (our chief emissary to the Navy) and Pete Erlandsen (Head of Structural Engineering), and Walter Novak (Chief of the Design Engineers), and Charlie Tilgner (Aerodynamics Department Head) had enclosed offices with a door but no ceiling. All 400+/- of us had assigned desks or drawing boards in this wide-open area.

(2) Then the engineering floor was unencumbered by offices or partitions. It made for one great place to fly rubber band driven planes during lunch period.

(3) I remember the day Bill Wange, Cockpit and Furnishings Section, asked me to stand up and note how many people, desk or drawing board bound, were walking around this huge open space. His comment was, " this is a leaky faucet. We don't pay people to be floorwalkers."

(4) The day Paul Dillon's brand new MG Roadster mysteriously appeared on the engineering floor; delivered by elves via the freight elevator. The only other elevator was just inside the front door and was intended to be used by Mr. Grumman and Jake Swirbul to get to their 4th floor offices. To my knowledge, neither ever moved in, preferring their plant 1 offices in which they felt more comfortable and closer to the workforce.

(5) The Super Dregs were a lunchtime softball team. We didn't have a draft; however, there was a mad scramble each spring to keep your best players while adding new hires with talent. I still remember the Super Dregs: Adrian Goode at first, Paul Wiedenhaefer at short, Frank Cocuzzo in center field, his cousin John Lombardi in left, and Dom Valenza, a newcomer, at third. My apologies to those I don't recall.

(6) That hidden cubbyhole behind the lofts (metal templates) where Gus (?) had a radio to listen to the World Series so the large scoreboard could post the latest info as the game progressed. There were no night games in those years.

(7) Before the addition to the main building there was a clear view, about 100 feet from the flagpole to the front of the building. One of our test pilots felt he could fly an F8F Bearcat between the building and the flagpole at building height. Noise and excitement!!! Bill Schwendler was looking out of his window. As I recall, the pilot was Pat Galloway; and he was grounded for a while. Test pilots have to be a little crazy. (Sorry, Corky.)

(8) Any first flight had its share of rumors followed by actualities. Once the day was at hand, the problem was to keep everybody informed and working at their jobs. Now the issue was: when [would the first flight take place?], because we all wanted to see the actual takeoff. The best viewing site was on plant 5's flat roof and to be as close to the front edge as possible. Stand on the brakes, rev up the engines, and let her rip amid loud cheers from assembled Grummanites. Alas, the field is no longer; condos, I hear. First flight parties are not the same. They are more likely to be media events. I often wonder how our subcontractors (landing gear, etc.) felt about a first flight of their piece of the whole airplane. Not the same, I think.

(9) There was the "engineering counter," George Rowan's domain, where one got supplies, and checked out drawings from the vault. Sign-in by 8AM, to start the day. Six months perfect attendance earned a day off. There was the 10:15AM coffee break, where one could buy coffee, tea, or milk and various pastries or donuts. You had to buy a book of cafeteria tickets for \$1; no currency or loose change was used. Of course, the coffee was 5 cents. A horn sounded the start and end of the break.

(10) The first enclosed room (15' x 15') (1952) where engineering computing started and changed the face of engineering computations forever. I think it was an IBM407. Little did we envision that the actual design process would evolve and be done on CADAM scopes in the 70s.

(11) That humongous snowstorm, Friday, December 26, 1947 — 25.8 inches. Talk about a snow day! The plants were closed the whole next week.

(12) Pay? Of course we were paid. Graduate engineers like me earned 99 cents an hour, except for my long time buddy, George Skurla, who had negotiated a rate of \$1.04. He was our leader, even in 1944. By the way, the standard workweek was 56 hours: 8 hrs on Wednesday and Saturday, and 10 hrs the other 4 days.

(13) On Armistice Day, precisely at 11am, the loud speaker asked for and got two minutes of absolute quiet. A bugler sounded taps.

By: Ed Siebert 1944-1988

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