



The Grumman Retiree Club Newsletter



June 2013

Volume 46, Issue 6

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CLUB HEADQUARTERS/ PARENT CHAPTER

Bethpage, New York

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Florida - Mid-West / Spring Hill

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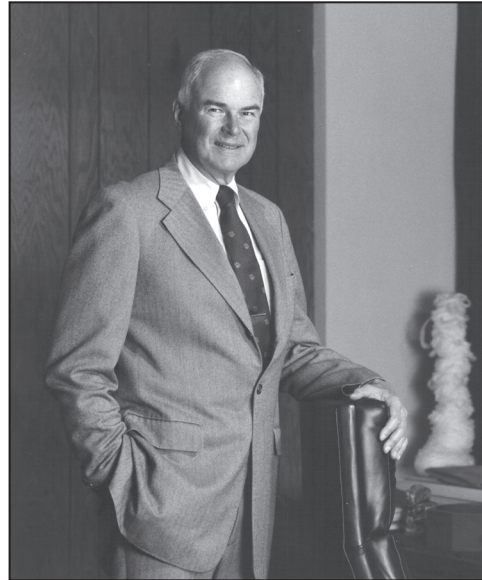
Virginia - Central Virginia / Monticello

President, MaryAnne Muller (434-589-5565)

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President, Ed Barron (202-244-6808)

John C. "Jack" Bierwirth



Jack Bierwirth, our former chairman and chief executive officer, passed away on Sunday, May 26, of congestive heart failure.

Born on Long Island on January 21, 1924, he served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, reaching the rank of lieutenant junior grade. After the service, he went on to earn a bachelor's degree from Yale, where he was a pitcher on the baseball team. Jack also received a law degree from Columbia.

Jack joined Grumman Corporation in July 1972, as vice president - Finance. One of his first tasks was to rework contracts with the Navy to help the company avert a potential bankruptcy. That November, he was elected president of Grumman Corporation. Two years later, he was elected chief executive officer. The company's board voted him chairman, effective January 1, 1976. Jack retired on August 1, 1988.

continued on page 2

2013 Scholarship Awards Luncheon

Our Ten \$2000 scholarships will be presented at the scholarship luncheon, June 26, 2013, at the Crest Hollow Country Club, noon to 4PM. We hope everyone will join us at the luncheon to celebrate the achievements of our scholarship winners. Send in your scholarship luncheon reservation form (page 23 of this newsletter) now. (Limited seating.)



John C. “Jack” Bierwirth ~ continued from page 1

Though Grummanites at that time remember his leadership, and Retiree Club members of the Long Island chapter know him for his attendance at club events, little is known to many people about Jack’s extensive work for peace, the environment, and international business.

For example, he was part of the U.S./Chinese effort to persuade the Russians to leave Afghanistan. He later joined Cyrus Vance and Brent Scowcroft as they worked with the People’s Republic of China to further peace in East Asia.

In 1983, President Reagan appointed Jack to the 18-member panel of an international private enterprise task force. The panel was created to advise the president and the directors of the Agency for International Development on the role private enterprise can play in foreign aid.

Also that year, he was appointed to the New York State Council on Fiscal and Economic Priorities to advise then-Governor Mario Cuomo.

Jack is survived by his wife, Marion, of 66 years and their four children, John E., Warren M., Marion B. Woolam and Susan B. Arbios, and children-in-law Jane Bierwirth, Chris Woolam, and Bill Arbios. There are nine grandchildren, one granddaughter-in-law, and two great-grandchildren.

The members of the Grumman Retiree Club extend their most sincere sympathies to all of Jack’s dear family. We also express our deepest gratitude for all that Jack did for the company overall, and for each employee for whom he worked so hard. Our thanks go to his family for their support of Jack during his years at Grumman.

[Jack said that, if gifts were to be given in his memory, he would appreciate them be given to The Ocean Conservancy, 2029 K St. NW, Washington DC 20006 or to Yale China Association, Box 208223, New Haven, CT 06520-8233.]

Postscript, by Retiree Club President John Vosilla:

Several days after I submitted my June message to the newsletter editor, I learned the sad news that our former chairman, Jack Bierwirth, had passed away.

I was lucky enough to work in the Public Affairs departments of Grumman Aerospace and Grumman Corporation under several wonderful executives. Jack was one of them. It seemed he was always smiling, pleasant to everyone, unpretentious – remember the Checker [a car seen most on NYC streets as a taxi] he drove? Later, I had the pleasure of sitting with him at several Retiree Club holiday lunches. Talking to him was like talking to anyone I’d worked with over the years: simply pleasant.

A quote in Jack’s *Newsday* obituary (there was also an obituary in the *New York Times*) said that the company lost money on some of the diversifications he initiated. True, but I know that those solar panels were great products because, years after the government pulled the tax rug out from under that market, people were still calling me, looking for spare parts. Grumman’s *Sunstream* solar panels were still working and still saving their owners money.

The buses? Hey, if it weren’t for New York City’s horribly potholed streets – and they were horrible – maybe we’d still be building them, because they were running for years in other cities.

The Postal Vehicles were the biggest single contract the company had won to that point in its history, and many are still going. Money losers or not, my sense is that those “not our business” initiatives were simply Jack trying to find new opportunities for our talented workforce. To me, he cared.

Rest in peace, Jack. We’ll miss you at the holiday luncheon this year, and always.



Scholarship Fund Contributors

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

- Barone, Robert
- Burke, Margaret
- Carpenter, Roger

- Datz, John
- Deissler, Arthur
- Dunton, Harlow

- Hall, George
- Harfford, Michael
- Kerschbaum, Robert

- Morgan, Vincent
- Sweeney, Edward
- Sullivan Patricia

Please Keep Those (Tax Dedectible) Donations Coming . . .

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

Every little bit counts . . . it all adds up!

GRUMMAN RETIREE CLUB NEWSLETTER

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Scholarship Awards Luncheon

The scholarship awards will be presented to this year's winners on June 26th. The awards ceremony and luncheon will be held at the Crest Hollow Country Club. Plan to be there to celebrate with the winners and their families.

The scholarship luncheon reservation form is on page 23 of this newsletter . . . send your reservation form in now!

2013 SCHOLARSHIP 50/50 RAFFLE
Members of All Chapters May Participate!

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

Winners will be 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 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.

<u>2013 Scholarship Program</u>	
<u>SCHOLARSHIP 50/50 RAFFLE TICKET</u>	
Name _____	
Address _____	
Town _____ State ____ Zip _____	
Phone (optional) _____	
Number of Raffles Purchased _____	



Northrop Grumman News

\$4 Billion Share Repurchase — Will Retire 25% of Outstanding Shares

May 16 2013: The board of directors has authorized an additional \$4 billion for the repurchase of the company's common stock, for a total repurchase authorization of approximately \$5 billion. The goal is to retire approximately 25 percent of shares outstanding by the end of 2015, market conditions permitting. As of March 31, 2013, the company had approximately 235 million shares outstanding.

Eleven Percent Dividend Increase Announced

May 15, 2013: The company's board declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.61 per share on Northrop Grumman common stock, an 11 percent increase from the prior quarterly dividend of \$0.55 per share. This is the tenth consecutive annual increase in Northrop Grumman's quarterly common stock dividend. The dividend is payable June 12, 2013, to shareholders of record as of the close of business May 28, 2013.

X-47B Catapults From Carrier Into History Books

May 14, 2013: Northrop Grumman and the U.S. Navy launched a new chapter in the history of unmanned systems – carrier-capable unmanned aircraft – by successfully catapulting the X-47B Unmanned Combat Air System (UCAS) demonstrator from the deck of the *USS George H.W. Bush*. The X-47B was launched while the carrier was under way off the coast of Virginia. The tailless, strike-fighter-sized aircraft flew autonomously back to Naval Air Station Patuxent River where it landed safely 65 minutes later.

“Today's catapult launch of the X-47B is a momentous feat for naval aviation,” said Capt. Jaime Engdahl, Navy UCAS program manager for the Naval Air Systems Command. “It proves that the Navy's goal of operating unmanned systems safely and effectively from aircraft carriers is well on its way to becoming a reality.”

For Photos: media.globenewswire.com/noc/mediagallery.html?pkgid=18718.

For Video: youtu.be/taW3XsZiN2I and at northropgrumman.com/X-47B.

Company Completes Lunar Lander Study

The company completed a feasibility study for a new commercial lunar lander for the Golden Spike Company (GSC). The study confirmed the viability of lander concepts for Golden Spike's human lunar expedition architecture and conceived a novel new, low-mass ascent stage concept dubbed “Pumpkin.”

Photo: media.globenewswire.com/noc/mediagallery.html?pkgid=18584.

A few of the tasks that Northrop Grumman studied for GSC were:

- + Established propulsion requirements for lunar orbit loiter, descent to the lunar surface, ascent to low lunar orbit and rendezvous with a crew vehicle for pragmatic lunar landing sites.
- + Developed current and stretch factors to reflect the improvement in relevant technologies since the completion of the Apollo program.

continued next page



From Retiree Club President John Vosilla

My niece sent us a photo of her five-year old daughter wearing her cap and gown on graduation from her preschool. It reminds me of the upcoming Scholarship Fund awards luncheon and this year's deserving recipients of the club's scholarships.

Do you realize that, counting only from 2006 through 2012, your donations have made it possible for the club to award a total of 54 scholarships totaling \$120,000! And those numbers don't include the scholarships awarded by the Spacecoast and Treasure Coast chapters. That's absolutely wonderful, something that should make each member very proud.

On top of that, consider all the dollars that are donated to all the charities across the country by all of our chapters. I don't think there's a way to come up with a total number and I wouldn't ask that good man Frank Rizzo, our treasurer, to try. But you know it's a *very* big number.

This club makes a difference. That's why I want to urge members to urge any non-members you know to join us in our good work. While we like to get together to tell "war stories" and catch up with old (no pun intended) friends during our meetings, we make our communities better at the same time. Why not ask others to be part of this great group?

Coming soon for Long Islanders, and for those members who live elsewhere but will be visiting the Island in September, is an opportunity. Invite any non-members you know to join you at our annual picnic on September 18th. The more the merrier, right?

Meantime, I hope your summer is getting off to a good start and, if you had any grads in your families, congratulations and best wishes to them and, in particular, to this year's winners of Retiree Club scholarships. Smart they are, but I don't know if I could find anyone cuter in a cap and gown than my five-year old grand niece – but then, I'm biased. Happy summer to you!

continued from previous page

+ Evaluated 180 lunar lander cases for various options and sensitivities including loiter, staging, propellants, engines, surface duration, surface cargo and technology basis.

The study determined that for GSC's mission architecture, there are many more options for all cryogenic propellants compared with storable propellants, but that multiple storable propellant options are possible. Cryogenic propellants have higher performance, but are more difficult to contain for the GSC mission duration than storable propellants such as those used in the Apollo program.

(The full text of these and other NGC news releases are available online at <http://www.northropgrumman.com/mediareleases/Pages/newsreleases.aspx>)



Bethpage Chapter

Calendar

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

June 26 - Scholarship Luncheon

Luncheon Reservation form: Page 23

September 18 - Picnic

Picnic Reservation form: Page 22

Sept 25 - Luncheon-Meeting at Crest Hollow CC

Luncheon Coupon: Page 22

Mark your calendars now for:

December 11: Holiday Luncheon

2013 Defensive Driving Course

Call for details.

2013 schedule:

Sept 10th, Nov. 7th

Classes are held in Plant 25.
8:30AM sign-in.

To register: call Liz McGowan
(516-221-6573),
Weekdays Only!

Call between 6PM and 9PM.

Classes fill up quickly.
Check you expiration date; sign up early.

Senior Blood Drive

September 3,
at the Cradle of Aviation

For details, contact the club office (516-575-3777).

Bethpage Chapter Meeting

At noon sharp, President John Vosilla welcomed the attendees to our May 22 pre-meeting luncheon held at the Crest Hollow CC. Thanks go to past-President Marion Abbott for making all the luncheon arrangements.

The president called the meeting to order at 1:30PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by past-President Abbott and was followed by a moment of silence for our deceased members, our armed forces throughout the world, and for the residents of Moore, OK, who survived that horrendous EF-5 tornado, a storm was described to have substantially more energy than the atomic bombs that ended WW II.

The president asked for corrections or additions to the April minutes as published in our newsletter. There being none, the minutes were accepted as printed.

John then asked for first-time visitors and first-time new members in attendance. There were three first-time members, including Norm Dvoskin who, since leaving Grumman, has been a meteorologist on News 12, the local cable TV channel.

1st VP Bob Ripp introduced guest speaker Michael Cooney, now semiretired and working as director of Special Projects for United Way of Long Island. He lives in Massapequa Park with his wife Monica, and will be celebrating their 44th anniversary this year.

Mike began by thanking all Grummanites for past contributions to United Way. He cited the fact that Grumman was the only company that ever gave United Way more than \$1 million in a year. He then tested our knowledge of Long Island's problems. "How many people on Long Island below the federal poverty level?" he asked. Shockingly, there are 168,000 people on LI below the poverty level. Long Island has the highest AIDS population of all communities in the country – triple the average. We also have a tremendously high number of child abuse cases. Mike said this is the United Way's new environment. Therefore, United Way of United States had to change its game plan a few years



back. The United Way used to give money to agencies like Blue Cross for them to use as they thought best, United Way now targets specific programs of the 110 different agencies that they try to support. These new contributions are made with three guidelines in mind. First, UW contributes to programs that increase people's financial stability. Second, to programs that increase healthcare availability to people. Third, to programs that increase education access for troubled youth to encourage graduation.

This change of business model started when UW helped form Mobile Health of Long Island. It consisted of two RVs. One was a pediatric office; the second, a dental office. Together they served 3,000 children and adults a year. Mike also described a program for troubled youth who, after training, rebuild homes that are then auctioned to a low- or moderate-income family.

Mike discussed many other programs they fund. One trains returning vets with marketable skills; another provides emergency heating fuel assistance and another gives Sandy Victims funds to cover losses that go beyond what FEMA or their insurance companies will reimburse. Those, along with others he described, and those he didn't, are accessible to everyone via a hot line. He also asked for our continued help, financially and as volunteers.

After a short Q&A session, John presented Mike with a token of the club's appreciation.

Committee Reports

Community Relations – Betty Bohlander itemized some of the organizations to which the club contributes. Since the beginning of 2013, we have contributed to the United Way of Long Island and just recently to Rebuilding Together LI for Hurricane Sandy victims. We also contributed to the fund raising gala of the Cradle of Aviation, which contains so many Grumman aircraft and products, and \$50 toward gifts at each of the annual blood drives. In the upcoming months, more donations will be made to various charities and we will try to include charities that serve the elderly, children in need, abused women, and our military personnel who

return home with severe injuries. Betty thanked everyone for the donations to the club, which will allow us to help others.

Scholarship Award Luncheon – The luncheon is at the Crest Hollow on Wednesday, June 26, noon to 4 PM. \$30pp. Entrees are roast beef, shrimp oreganato, or farfalle a la vodka. Luncheon Reservation Forms is in this newsletter. You can make a reservation for one person, two people, or a full table of 10. If you include your email address, Betty will let you know when she receives your check and, hopefully, the table at which you will be seated. It is a wonderful afternoon to get together with friends and meet the recipients of the Grumman Retiree Club scholarships. The students always impress the audience. See you there.

Treasurers' Reports – Frank Rizzo made the Retiree Club treasurer's report. It was accepted as read. Frank brought a copy of the club's income tax form that he recently submitted. He offered to show it to anyone after the meeting.

Harry Daum presented the Scholarship Fund treasurer's report. It was accepted as read. Harry thanked everyone for their continued generous support of the program. Scholarship application evaluations are ongoing. Notification of the winners will be made as soon as possible.

Blood Drive – Harry Pro reminded us of the Memorial Day blood drive, and the drive on the day after Labor Day, in the LI Blood Center in Westbury. If you are over 75, you must present written permission from your doctor to donate. [Harry, with a safety message, also reminded us to clean our barbecues before using them the first time this season to prevent fires.]

Travel – Nick Bazzicalupo (Prime Time Travel) All day trips are discounted \$5pp. Overnight trips are discounted \$10pp.

• **June 18:** World Trade Center, FDNY Museum and La Nona. Start with a visit to the FDNY museum to honor the "bravest of the brave" who lost their lives during the 9/11 terror attacks. Lunch at La Nona, in Little Italy. Then, continue on to the World Trade Center: \$99 pp



• **June 28:** “Harlem on My Mind.” Special guided tour of Harlem, starting at St. John the Divine. Family-style luncheon at the famous Sylvia’s restaurant, followed by a visit to the world-famous Apollo Theater: \$99 pp

• **June 30:** Essex Sunday Brunch. A delightful day in historic Essex, CT. Start with a great brunch at the Griswold Inn; board the steam train to the Connecticut River, where you board the boat for a ride up the river: \$94 pp

Birthdays – Sophia Agiesta, 93; Gail Flynn; Louise Kubat; Mike Leogrande; Ann Santos; Cecelia Wiechering. Happy Birthday all!

Anniversaries – Dorothy & Mike Leogrande 59 yrs.; Charlotte & Fred Schlichtmann 63 yrs.; Lita & James Strohecker 60 yrs. Good show!

Get Well – Jeanette Dudek; Augie Ripp. Get well, soon. [Ed. Note: Several days after the meeting, where we asked for get-well wishes for him, we received notice that Jack Bierwirth passed away on May 26. Our condolences go to Jack’s family and to his many friends.]

New Business

• Bob Ripp said he received a letter from the Northrop Grumman Benefits Center stating that the company will transition the prescription drug plan from Express Scripts to CVS Caremark. Bob spoke to CVS Caremark, and was assured that there would be a seamless transition. One change from Caremark’s earlier policy: 90-day prescriptions with refills that were previously required to be filled only by mail can now be filled at any CVS pharmacy. A CVS Caremark ID card will be sent to each Rx plan participant. With the ID information, you can log onto “caremark.com” to set up your account password. The Express Scripts account password is not valid on the CVS Caremark web site. CVS Caremark will receive all prescriptions that still have refills from Express Scripts, except for controlled substances; CVS Caremark requires new prescriptions for those drugs. For individual questions, contact CVS Caremark at the telephone number in the letter. Bob also related that CVS Caremark will fill prescriptions

with generic drugs unless your doctor specifically requires the use of the name brand drug only. Then, you will get the name brand drug but you will pay full price.

• President John was asked about NGC’s future on LI. As he understands current plans, NGC will be sending the E-2 Hawkeye program to Melbourne, FL, and the BAMS unmanned aircraft program to California. The electronic warfare team will move to Plant 15. We have been given assurances by Pat McMahon that we will have office space there. He’s been told that the History Center will be protected.

• Our annual picnic is set for September 18, at Marjorie Post Park in Massapequa. It’s always a good time, with good food, so put it on your calendar.

• **Our Next Luncheon Meeting will be September 25.** The speaker will be Gary Lewi, VP of the public relations firm Rubenstein and Associates. He will talk about the Collins Foundation, which is a major aviation history preservation organization, and which has recently acquired a Hellcat for their huge collection. He’ll speak about that.

• We also have a commitment from the CEO of the company that owns Grumman Studios, in our former Plant 5. He’ll also be visiting us in the fall.

• John reminded us that he is still looking for suggestions from members for speakers or for subjects that you’d like to have discussed at these luncheons. Please call the office with your suggestions.

Prize Winners

Community Relations 50/50: Frank Rizzo, Mary Scioscia, Matthew Messina and Rocky Figalora.

Door Prizes: Barbara Major, Bert Dawkins and Ruth Carr. Thanks to Ray Mason for donating the “Fly Navy Book” for a door prize.

Scholarship 50/50: Rocky Figaloria

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 3PM.

By: Lou Kubat, sec’y.



CALIFORNIA / Golden West

Our May meeting was held at the Fraternal Order of the Eagles with 21 members present.

Fred Syrett led the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer for our military men and women and for our club members not doing well.

Tom Maloney gave the treasure's report. Plans were discussed for our yearly picnic in June with all the fixings.

Fifty-Fifty winners were Dick Bartick, Don Cola, and Bob Nastali.

By Paul Aanerud and Fred Syrett

CALIFORNIA / San Diego

The San Diego Chapter met on Saturday, May 25, at one of our favorite places, Filippi's Italian Restaurant in Mira Mesa. Seventeen members and guests arrived early to visit and then enjoy a fine lunch. What makes this especially fun is the wonderful server we've had for many of our Filippi's luncheons. Trisha, originally from Wantagh, always greets us with a smile as she happily takes our orders and always goes out of her way to take care of every request we make.

The 50/50 lucky winners were Al Schaefer and Barbara Mosley.

Get Well wishes go out to Mary Garrity, who has been in the hospital; to Joe Holmes; and to Dennis Klapwyk, who is recuperating from back surgery. Please remember these folks in your thoughts and prayers.

From February through May, the following folks celebrated birthdays: Charlie Askins, Marge Cargill, Sy Glick, Gertrude Glick, Frank Huttler, Jean Ketcham, Dennis Klapwyk, Sherry Lossick, John Reika, Mitzi Reika, Barbara Robinson, Bill Roeckl, Santi Salvi, Dick Sarraffe, Ed Vasely, James Vollaro, and Ernie Von der Heyden.

Wedding anniversary good wishes go out to Jim & Betz Bartels, Mike & Sherry Lossick, John & Mitzie Reika, Bill & Nancy Roeckl, and Tom & Ella Whitehead.

Congratulations to all!

Next Activity: Sept 21 - our annual picnic at Mills Park, Miramar Marine Corps Air Station.

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

FLORIDA/ First Coast

May 21 was our annual spring picnic. Thirty-four members showed up even though there was a chance of rain. At 10AM, we were set up and waiting for the hot dogs to brown on the portable gas grill. Tom Walsh and Pete Foster manned the grill.

Fred Bauer opened the meeting with the pledge, followed by Janet Cassford's invocation.

Many of us talked about the Grumman prescription plan. Bottom line, if you have questions, call the numbers enclosed in the letter we received.

Fred and Bob fired up the charcoal grill as we prepared to grill the hamburgers. Just as the burgers started to sizzle, the sky opened up. We hurriedly set up a canopy over the grill. (Some of us haven't moved that quickly in a while!) We all stayed dry and happy because all our tables were in a covered pavilion.

The burgers were saved and we all devoured our desired fill. Thanks to Fred, Bob Rathje, and Art Goehler for the flipping good service.

Although we had many bocce tossers ready to go, and the rain had stopped, the courts were too wet to play. Don't relax, Ron & Ralph. We will be back on the court in October. :)

Everyone enjoyed the day and we parted after a closing prayer.



Thanks to all those who contributed goodies or lent a helping hand.

Please remember Fred & Marge Bauer in your prayers: their son in New York recently had open-heart surgery. Also, please keep Joe (Waxey) Decrescenzo and his wife Cathy in your prayers; Cathy had a recent surgery. *Thank You.*

God bless America.

Next Meeting: June 18, at the New Century Buffet, US1 So. St. Augustine.

By: Steve Cacace, sec'y. sremkkc@comcast.net

First Coast meeting dates for 2013: June 18; [July/August - summer break]; Sept. 17; Oct. 15 picnic meeting; Nov. 19; Dec. 10.

FLORIDA / Manasota West

Our May 15, 2013 meeting was opened by Vice President Ted Martines with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

There were 14 members and two guests present. Our guests were Mello and Willy Wolter, from the Florida/Southwest chapter.

There was no financial report because our treasurer was already on summer vacation. Also, there were no 50 /50 club drawings for the same reason. We did enjoy our lunch and conversations with friends along the beautiful Manatee River, at the Pier 22 Restaurant, in Bradenton, FL.

Con and Jane Gilsenen were absent, but he sent a note saying that he expected to have back surgery up in New York during the summer. However, Nancy Winding later received an e-mail that they decided to fit him with a large back brace in order to avoid the expected surgery. A hopeful result.

Reminder: We will be on summer break until our next meeting on October 9, 2013. You will notice that our October meeting is on the second Wednesday in lieu of our usual third Wednesday.

ALL meetings thereafter will be held on the second Wednesday.

As always, we invite any retirees, when in our area, to join us for lunch, at noon, at the restaurant mentioned above.

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

**Meeting Schedule: 10/09, 11/13, 12/11;
(No Meetings in June, July, Aug, Sept)**

FLORIDA/ Midwest

President Richard Arso opened our May meeting with 16 members present. Chaplain Gus Kraye gave the invocation and led the membership in the pledge to the flag.

The minutes of April were read and approved.

Treasurer Gus Kraye gave his report, which was also approved.

No birthdays for May,

One May anniversary: Pat & Bill Shay (47 yrs).
Congratulations!

Citrus County Sunshine chairman Gus Kraye told us no one was sick.

Hernando County Sunshine Chairman Bea Hall reported the passing of Clair Bruns, on May 14, 2013. She was a member in good standing and a lovely lady. She will be missed.

We had five 50/50 winners.

President Richard Arso called our bingo games for prizes. The prize for the last game was a free luncheon in September. Our president also told us about our October 17 picnic, which will be held at Bayport Park.

Next Meeting: Sept 19, 11:30AM, at Buffet City in Brooksville (on Rte. 50). Our September program



will have a speaker from the Patriots Motorcycle Club, which does charitable work for all veterans.

Please try to attend our meetings, which are about good friends, good food and lots of fun things to do.

We wish all the members a wonderful summer and we not only hope, but also want to see everyone in September.

By: Joan Mehl, sec'y (352-686-2735) and Richard Arso, president (352-684-0842)

FLORIDA / Southwest

Southwest Florida Chapter had scheduled a day cruise on J. C. Cruises out of Fort Myers as our May meeting. Unfortunately, we had to cancel our plans because the cruise line could not get enough people to make the cruise worthwhile for them. They required 75 people to make the cruise profitable. We refunded all money to those that paid. Clem & Tony Moors and Celeste & Tony Perre did decide to go on their Mothers Day cruise.

I am sorry to report the passing of our member Ethel Endres on March 19th. Until she became ill, she always attended our meetings.

Next Meeting: October 8 at the Golden Corral in Punta Gorda. Meeting and lunch at 11:30AM. \$10pp.

To all Grumman retirees, have a safe and pleasant summer.

By: Tony Perre (239-731-7146) tara88@comcast.net

FLORIDA / Space Coast

President Bob Prais called our May 15th meeting to order greeting 72 members and guests. Following the Pledge of Allegiance led by VP John Lau, Ed

Romano reminded us of our many blessings as he led us in prayer. Our delicious two soups and fresh fruit salad starters were followed by the usual outstanding Suntree Country Club buffet.

Following the luncheon, VP John Lau introduced guest speaker Barbara Bergin, executive director of Central Florida "Crimeline." Barbara is a dynamic lady whose extensive and diverse police background includes serving 12 years as a homicide detective. Obviously highly motivated, "Detective Barb" is a dedicated saleslady for the unique Crimeline system for locating both criminals and crime sites by seeking out and rewarding "tipsters." At the start of this program in central Florida, there were 3500 tips per year. Now there are 10,000. The key factor is absolute anonymity of the callers -- there is no track, trace, or caller ID. Significant financial rewards are paid to the tipsters via an assigned special caller ID number. Phone calls are received 24 hours a day at a center in Canada, which relays them to our Crimeline center.

Our center serves 2.6 million people in six counties, awarding over \$271,000 last year, with some individual awards of \$5,000 paid to tipsters without requiring identification. Funds come from both contributions and court fines (after fees). Awards are non-taxable by the IRS. The 137 arrests last year yielded a half million dollars in recovered property plus \$12 million in drugs.

Predictably, the No. 1 subject for calls is drugs, both sales and use, with warrants running second. Violent crime, including murder, is third, with a recent tip yielding an arrest for double murder in less than eight minutes. Interestingly, "Detective Barb" identified women as the leading tipsters -- primarily ex-wives and girlfriends. Another major source of tips is the jails where the 800-number for tips is not blocked out.

This 35-year old, multistate program has now been expanded to include school campuses where the No. 1 problem is bullying. Surprisingly, the No. 2 problem is self-hurting, followed by vandalism and theft.



If you are interested in obtaining more information, visit CRIMELINE.ORG.

Minutes and Community Relations: Minutes were waived pending receipt of the May newsletter. Chet Emery reported a get-well card was sent to Fred Wilms and our condolences were sent to Roger Vizioli on the passing of his wife, MaryAnn.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Waldron reported that we now have 149 paid members and that we had four 50/50s plus an award of champagne buffet breakfast at the Suntree Country Club. We are in receipt of a thank-you letter from Daily Bread, where we forwarded an additional anonymous donation.

Both the General and Scholarship accounts are in good shape with the receipt of the annual \$1,000 contribution from Mrs. George Skurla.

Travel and Entertainment: Maureen Ayers reported on the highs (helicopter flight) and lows (health problems) of her recent trip to the Hawaiian Islands. She still needs additional sign-ups for the three-day Miami/Key West trip, in November, in order to guarantee our spot at the bargain price. Call 321-634-1940.

Scholarship Committee: Chairman Bob Prais thanked the members of the scholarship committee for their efforts in selecting two highly qualified students from the numerous outstanding local graduates.

On the previous evening, Bob attended a capacity turnout at Cocoa Beach High School to present the George Skurla Scholarship Award to Sylvia Chan. On 5/20, Bob will be at Eau Gallie High School to present the Space Coast Retiree Club award to Trevor Absher. Both awards are for \$500 a year for four years. The recipients will be here for our June 19th meeting. The invitation has also been extended to our 2011 and 2012 winners.

New Business: Recent national news media covered the initial flight of the X-47B unmanned drone aircraft off the aircraft carrier *USS George H.W. Bush*. Local press failed to note that Northrop Grumman is the prime contractor on this aviation first.

Apollo/LM veterans are reminded of the stellar reunion planned for July 17-19 at Cape Kennedy, Contact Marty Winkle at GrummanReunion.com for full details.

Next Month's Program: June 19, 2013 – Honor our scholarship students

Employee Birthdays May: Ed Stone, Ruth Koopman, Vic Belmont, Anne Korothy, Leonard Leslie, and Paul Wolff

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

Anniversaries May: Carol & Ronald Sidorski, Franklin & Angela O'Brien, Thomas & Ruth Feeney, Skye & Maureen Ayers, Dan & Pat Postupack, John & Ruth McDonald, and Ed & Geraldine Stone

By: Bill Steenson, sec'y.

Next Meeting: June 19, 2013

2013 Meeting Schedule:
09/18, 10/16, 11/13/, 12/11 (2nd Wednesdays).
(No Meetings July & August)

FLORIDA / Suncoast

Suncoast Chapter is on summer break until October.

FLORIDA / Treasure Coast

The May meeting of the Treasure Coast Chapter was held on May 16th at Manero's restaurant in Palm City, with 44 members and guests attending. President Watkins opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Chaplain Lawrence Regier announced that member Ron Gomes has a broken



leg. We hope Ron's recovery is speedy and we will see him at our meetings again soon. Member Rita Duschenchuk is very ill; we send our best wishes that she will get well soon.

A former colleague at the Stuart facility, John Schneider (engineering), has passed away. We send our condolences to the Schneider family. (On a personal note, my father, Ed Denzler, passed away on May 19th in Pearland, Texas. Dad was 89 and had been ill for a long time. As many of you know, he had a long and successful career in Quality Control at Grumman.)

Watkins proudly introduced our first speaker, Drew Christman, the winner of our 2013 scholarship. Drew is graduating on May 25 from the Clark Learning Center. This Martin County high school is on campus with Indian River State College. Attendees, thanks to a free dual enrollment, receive a high school diploma and most, if not all, of the necessary requirements for an associate's degree. Drew, who had a school-required internship with a mechanical engineering firm, plans a career in electrical engineering. He hopes to transfer to the University of Florida to finish his studies.

Our other speakers, John Lass and Chris Bertorelli, are from the YMCA of the Treasure Coast. John has spoken to our group before and, as president and CEO, spoke of how fortunate the "Y" was that Grumman came to Stuart, FL. Grumman gifted acres of land that became what is today the largest "Y" located within a city limits in the nation. The numbers of people impacted by the services of our "Y" is impressive. As examples (2012): 1,627 youngsters participated in sports; 1,185 children went to summer camp; 245 families received daycare; 1,197 children learned how to swim; and 1,022 children participated in gymnastics.

John's coworker, Chris, spoke on the programs available at the "Y" for seniors, such as our members. (John had already shared that the simple idea of free membership for those over 90 years of age, which he thought would not amount to many, now includes 80 free memberships, two of which belong to members of our chapter.) Chris spoke of the 90 different classes offered each week, including many that are geared to the older

population. Complete with a list of all of the classes and his business card, our members were invited to visit the facility at any time to check it out on a short-term free membership.

Watkins called Nancy Schaefer (me) up to thank me for my years of service and announced that I would no longer hold office (new grandchild/babysitting). Joan Savio will become the new secretary immediately.

We enjoyed singing "Happy Birtherversary" to one person, Debbie Bartfield, and to the one couple who had an anniversary, Art & Olive Hill (67 years). Watkins also has a birthday this month, but he somehow neglected to write that down or mention it.

We had five 50/50 winners and voted on whether to have a June meeting. The vote was inconclusive.

Next Meeting: June 20 at Manero's.

By: Nancy Schaefer (772-528-8169)
nmscha@aol.

GEORGIA / Peach Pit

Our May 21, 2013 meeting, which was held at the Golden Corral Restaurant on N. Columbia St. in Milledgeville, GA, began at 12:30PM. There were 19 present when President Ted Zarkowsky called the meeting to order and Sergeant-at-Arms Designee Tom Blenk lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chaplain Designee Mary Archer gave the Blessing, which was followed by the meal and fellowship.

Old Business:

A motion was made by Mark McCulloch and seconded by Paul Bernichon to waive reading, and to accept, the April 16, 2013 meeting minutes. With no changes offered, either by proxy input or from those present, the motion carried.



New Business:

— May Happy Birthday wishes to: Ernie Godbee [1st], Tom Main [12th], Bob LaManna [13th], Nick Scanipico [13th], Daisy Nash [17th], Bill Schwendler Jr. [23rd], Lynne Childs [28th], Pat Donovan [29th], and Pat Sansotta [30th].

— May Wedding Anniversary congratulations were extended to: Bill & Barbara L. Stevens [22nd], Willie & Geraldine Collins [27th], Hans & Pat Borstell [28th], and Jesse & Gloria Griffin [29th].

— Treasurer Joe Sansotta gave the Financial report.

— Secretary Lew gave a vote results report for the chapter's year 2013 Donation Plan. Then, a motion by Mike McCabe to accept the secretary's report was seconded by Tom Blenk. Those present, if not previously voting by proxy, concurred and the plan was thereby approved.

— Ernie Godbee won the 75/25 Community Service Fund Raiser raffle and donated his winnings to the Fund. Thank You, Ernie.

— Club members Hans Borstell and Tom Main have been under-the-weather recently. [Repeat item from last month]. Both are in our thoughts for speedy recoveries.

Community Service:

Volunteerism continues and the member-approved year 2013 Donation Plan's first disbursement of funds is on May 27th [Memorial Day], to the Mary Vinson Memorial Public Library.

Program:

Past President Mike McCabe presented: Cruising the Great Rivers of Europe with a side trip to Prague, Czech Republic. This computerized slide presentation depicted interesting places, beautiful scenery, and had great narration. Those present contributed their input. Thank you, Mike, for sharing your and Pam's recent vacation. In summary, as has been the case in Mike's prior vacation presentations, the best description is "priceless."

A motion by VP Janet Sills and seconded by Vince Ciampa was approved, thereby ending the meeting at 2PM.

Next Meeting: June 18, 12:30PM, at the Golden Corral Restaurant on N. Columbia Street Milledgeville, GA. Program: Luncheon social meeting prior to summer break.

No meetings in July & August. The secretary will, however, publish administrative minutes, to include, but not be limited to, birthdays, anniversaries, member proxy input, and attendee input.

The first business meeting after summer break: September 17, on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, as always. The program: TBD.

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

Maryland

Our meeting was held on Tuesday May 21, at 1PM (Our new time for day meetings.) We had a good showing for a daytime meeting. We met at the usual place, Golden Corral, in Aberdeen MD. As always, everyone enjoyed the food.

The meeting was casual / informal with general discussion and gossip. The group talked about the latest news release on the Oklahoma tornado disaster. We pray for all the victims and the families that lost loved ones and homes. Local topics, such as the increases in taxes, electricity bills, and toll fees for the bridges and tunnels, were also subject of conversation.

A social gathering for Glen Arm Grummanites was also brief topic. Follow-up discussions will continue at next month's evening meeting.

Joe reviewed the treasurer's report and gave the current status of the club's bank account. He also noted that Jeff Rimeraz renewed and submitted his 2013 dues, bringing our current membership to 47. We haven't quite made the 50 count we had hoped for, but we are still recruiting.

Our meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month. Daytime meetings are held at 1PM; Evening meetings start at 6:30PM. **Please note the change in time for daytime meetings.**



Happy May Birthday to John Nussle and Cas Swinder.

We would also like to wish Bob & Pat Valente a Happy 56th Wedding Anniversary. **Congratulations, Bob and Pat**

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

Let us know your brth and wedding anniversary dates so we can post them in the newsletter.

Questions or suggestions? Please contact:

- Rick Swinder (410-977 -7829)
rickswinder@gmail.com
- Rolfe Feser (410-661-2580)
poppyro@comcast.net
- Joe Svach (443-567-6433)
jam.svach@comcast.net

Next Meeting: an Evening Meeting, at 6:30PM, on June 18, at the Golden Corral, Aberdeen, MD.

By: Joe Svach

New England North

The first 2013 luncheon for our Northern NE Chapter was held on May 9th, at the Fullerton Inn, Chester, VT, with 15 members and guests. Mother Nature decided that we were entitled to a nice spring day for a change!

President Bill Egner led the Pledge of Allegiance and Joan Wanner gave the invocation. We welcomed Don & Cindy's son, Craig Williams, who was visiting from Washington State.

Secretary/Treasurer Phil Hodge, back from a winter's jaunt down south with wife Bunny and their Morgan horses, reported that we remain solvent but are down to 17 paid members (plus their spouses).

We had both good news and sad news. The good news was Bud Clark's 92nd birthday. Bud & Edie were in attendance and we helped him celebrate. The sad news was the passing of Pete Ivy in April. Pete and his loving wife Valerie were married for 66 years and were faithful attendees at our chapter luncheons until the long drivenorth from Amherst, MA, limited their visits. The chapter is making a donation to the Amherst Senior Center in Pete's name.

The 50/50 was won by Craig Williams and Bill Wanner.

In order to equalize travel distances somewhat for our "western" members, our June 13 luncheon will be held at the Panda Garden, in Manchester, VT.

By: Bill & Joan Wanner

New Jersey

Our May 21, 2013 meeting was held at the Lakehurst Diner and was called to order by President Bill Staples at 2PM, with ten members and one guest present. The pledge and opening prayer were omitted because of the prevailing meeting conditions.

The minutes of the April meeting and the treasurer's report were accepted as read.

Sunshine Report – President Staples reported that Al Larsen was ill. It was also reported that Ruth Kirkwood did not break her leg, but badly bruised her knee and leg as the result of a fall. Walter Matuza told us that he was moving to Florida where all his family lives. We wish him well, but we will miss him.

Birthdays for May: Gloria Larsen (5th) and Marie Punturo (13th).

The only anniversary is Joe & Renee Caldwell, #53, on the 7th.



Old Business – President Staples reported that there was no answer as yet regarding the banking situation. He also made a suggestion for an alternative meeting site and asked for suggestions from the floor. No decision was made.

New Business – President Staples discussed the new prescription drug program, noting the change from Express Scripts to CVS Caremark, and asked if all those who participate in the program received their mailing. A short discussion followed.

Ways & Means – None

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20PM.

Next Meeting: June 18, 2PM, at the Lakehurst Diner.

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

NEW YORK / Eastern Long Island Chapter

President Bert Moller welcomed 21 members and guests to our May15th meeting. Sergeant-at-Arms Richie Myers led the Pledge of Allegiance and Prez. Bert gave the invocation.

The minutes of our previous meeting were read and Treasurer Lynne Miller gave her report. Both reports were accepted as read.

After a “soup and sandwich” lunch, the meeting reconvened. Prez Bert reported that we have 111 dues-paying members. Bert also said that he hopes to have a guest speaker for our June (food drive) meeting. Bert also reported “rumors” of enlarging the Calverton Park.

Also, via Mike Murphy, members are again reminded to check their beneficiaries through the Benefits Dept. and to update your wills. Good advice!

Marty Getzelman entertained members with his witty anecdotes again!) Thanx, Marty.

Birthdays and anniversaries celebrated: led by George Styles (96), currently in assisted living; George and his wife Eileen also celebrated their 70th Wedding Anniversary in March. Congrats!

Nick Maniscalco and Past-President Leo Jasinski celebrated May Birthdays. Congrats to all.

We then discussed “new” meeting sites for September 2013 and on. Pauline Sandmann recommended the “Rendevous” in Riverhead, lunches “around \$17”; Marv Thorne offered “Phils,” in Wading River (\$20 incl tax and tip); and Leo Jasinski offered a Chinese restaurant in Riverhead (\$10, buffet style). We will vote at our June meeting.

Three 50/50 winners were drawn and Ray Lanza stopped by to meet and greet!

Meeting adjourned.

Our *Thanx* to the Hamiltons for their “door duties.”

Contact Bill Mytko (1-864-225-4927 or emytko@yahoo.com) with info related to deaths, illnesses, et.

Bert reported that Frank Carlin passed in March 2013 – our condolences go out to his family.

Next Meeting: June 19, at the Holiday Inn Express (Rte 58, East of the Tanger Outlets & Riverhead Raceway). Lunch \$14 at noon; meeting at 1PM. Remember: this is a “Food Drive” meeting!

No Meetings in July or August. Next Date is Sept 18.

By Bob Albert



NORTH CAROLINA
Eastern Carolina Chapter

Our May meeting was held on Tuesday, the 14th, at “King’s Super Buffet” in Havelock, NC, with 35 members and guests attending. We enjoyed a wonderful Japanese buffet with sushi plus a hibachi grill. President Pete McNamee & Terry Walker were Program Directors. Ken Gruebel led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave his usual inspirational invocation.

Pete gave Fred Reynolds’ treasurer’s report in Fred’s absence. Fortunately, we are still solvent and able to go for another year! He also told members that the same slate of officers will continue for next year.

Pete mentioned that the first flight of the EA-6A took off from Cherry Point in Havelock 50 years ago, in April of 1963, and that a version of that plane is still flying today! He then asked Joe Mele to give us a report on the Lifetime Achievement Award Joe won as “Sons of Italy Man of the Year.”

Joe gave a synopsis of the evening he was given the award. He also brought copies of the commemorative book where others could honor him with pages in the book. His daughter purchased the first page, stating how proud she and the rest of the family are of her dad. Joe concluded by telling a couple of funny stories.

Pete introduced our guests, Tim & Terry Lovell from Oklahoma. Terry is the daughter of Allen & Dolores Brown.

Pete announced the birthdays & anniversaries.

Pete said our June 11 meeting, at the “Clamdigger” in Pine Knoll Shores, will be our last meeting until September. Rudi & Marlene Wiehl will be program directors for the June meeting.

We need volunteers to host September and October.

Dottie told members how impossible it seemed that she and Jim’s son, Jim, celebrated his 30th year with Northrop Grumman. Since her father also worked for Grumman, the family had a total of

97 years of service with the company. Grumman certainly put a lot of food on their tables!!

Next it was Tom Schroder’s turn to entertain us with his “blonde jokes” and many others. Always a good laugh!

Wes Johnson announced the 50/50 winners: Bill Stanton; Terry Lovell, twice (she even picked her own ticket); Flossie Johnson; and Doris Walker.

Pete surprised the ladies with roses for Mother’s Day . . . very thoughtful!

Birthdays: John Peoples (18th); Ken Gruebel (18th); Pat Johnson (20th); Dolores Brown (25th); Dick Guarino (28th); and Norma Falque (30th).

Anniversaries: Walter & Joan Muench (1st); Anthony & Rose Coppola (5th); Jim & Dottie Karika (7th); John & Ada Peoples (7th); Stanley & Arlene Ramsden (9th); Leo & Katherine Torrens (18th); and Tony & Carol Peralta (30th).

Happy Memorial Day to all our veterans, and to our servicemen and servicewomen.

God bless America!

By: Dottie Karika, sec’y. (dotjimk@att.net)

PENNSYLVANIA
Northeastern Pennsylvania Chapter

Well, our second attempt for a meeting was more of a disaster than the first. We had the Sparkowskis, Dowds, Saggese, and Fred Rademacher. Therefore, since we did not have a quorum, we just had some very light conversation. The lunch itself was great. We all hoped that, with the warm weather coming, we might get more of the snowbirds returning, and our attendance would increase.

We realize that all chapters are having problems with membership, but we need the Grumman spirit to stay alive for as long as we can. If you know of a Grummanite who has not come out to a chapter meeting and and/or has not joined our chapter, then



reach out to him or her and get them to come to a meeting. We really have some good times. They might like it.

Birthdays for May - Tony Petrone, Pat Robb, Ed Ruppel, and Bob Zupp.

Anniversaries for May - Jeffrey & Carol Lee.

Next Meeting: June 20, noon. We did decide that the June meeting would be at the Boat House, Route 507 next to Ehrhardt's. We have reservations for 15, but can expand that number if necessary. If you need directions, call me.

See you in June at the Boat House.

By: Edward J. Sparkowski, sec'y/chaplain
(570-698-7182) firefly417@Verizon.net

SOUTH CAROLINA / Coastal Carolinas

On May 1, 2013, Lorraine and Ronald Girardin graciously opened their lovely Lakeview home to 13 members and one guest for our annual club picnic. The Girardin's son Tim and daughter-in-law Sharon were also present to enjoy a delicious barbeque lunch provided by the Girardins, accompanied by various side dishes and desserts brought by club members. *Many Thanks* to Lorraine and Ron for their gracious hospitality.

It was nice to see Theresa McMahon. She was the only guest at the picnic.

A very **Happy Birthday** to Bob Joyce and Nancy Webber, and a very **Happy Anniversary** to Carol & Bob Joyce, and to Barbara & Gary O'Laughlin.

Mark your calendars for future meetings:
09/04, noon, Sakura Hibachi Buffet, North Myrtle Beach
10/02, noon, The Grill House (private room), North Myrtle Beach
11/06, noon, Ryan's Family Steak House, North Myrtle Beach
12/04, noon, The Sea Captain's House (Christmas lunch), Myrtle Beach.

If you have any questions regarding future meetings, please feel free to contact me (843-347-2113).

I would like to wish everyone a safe, healthy, happy summer.

Many thanks to those who contributed towards making our meetings interesting and enjoyable. Also, we would like to hear from those members who cannot attend the meetings. We miss you!

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

By: Nancy Webber, sec'y. (843-347-2113)
nwebber90887@sccoast.net

TEXAS / Houston

Our May 21, 2013 meeting, which was to be held at the Clear Lake Park building on NASA 1 Parkway, was cancelled due to the passing away of Kenny Bransfield on Sunday, May 19, 2013, and Ed Denzler on Monday, May 20, 2013. Our sincere condolences and prayers are with their families.

Our Next Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 14, 2013, at the Hobby 1940 Air Terminal Museum at 11:30AM.

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

VIRGINIA / CENTRAL VIRGINIA

No report of May activity.

Scheduled Meetings:

06/05, 12:30 at Nazaerith Chapel, Shadwell

VIRGINIA / Potomac

The Virginia/Potomac Chapter has folded its tent and quietly faded away.

In Memoriam

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

Bagatta, Frank C, Sr.	Hummelstown, PA	05/01/13
Baumgartner, Biriana	Largo, FL	04/10/13
Bruns, Claire	Melville, NY	05/14/13
Carlin, Francis J.	Wantagh, NY	03/25/13
Cegelski, Ronald M.	Punta Gorda, FL	04/23/13
Doepp, George M.	Savannah, GA	03/23/13
Faber, Thomas C.	East Islip, NY	05/15/13
Fossing, Richard G.	Huntington Station, NY	03/06/13
Gries, Joseph	Hicksville, NY	04/27/13
Gulla, Michael F.	Webster, NY	05/16/13
Hilderman, Richard A.	Jupiter, FL	05/02/13
Ivy, Peter	Amherst, MA	04/17/13
Miccio, Ralph D.	East Patchogue, NY	05/08/13
Miller, Thomas E, Sr.	Palm Coast, FL	03/26/13
Negretti, Larry, Jr.	Bradenton, FL	03/30/13
Wohl, Charles	New Rochelle, NY	12/08/12

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 emailed to the club (grumrc@gmail.com), with "Death Notice" as the subject.

Grumman History - Chapter 15

Fly Me To The Moon (1961-1962)

Unperturbed, Grumman continued to perform well in 1961. But this quiet was like a calm sea hiding an underwater storm. For example, there was the announcement of the delivery of eight transportable mobile pilot ready rooms using Aerobuilt Body trailers; there was the “flying brain” Hawkeye, receiving a \$38 million production contract from the Navy; and the \$877,000 contract from NASA’s Langley Research Center to develop and build the canisters and adapter for NASA’s Echo II, a rigidized, 130-ft diameter spherical Mylar communications satellite. Performance continued on-track when, in August, the hydrofoil ship *Dennison*, built for the Maritime Administration, was trucked overland on a 10-hour, 12-mile journey to Jakobson’s Shipyard in Oyster Bay for final fit-out and assembly.

CEO Clint Towl, delivering his first year-end speech, summed up 1961 by noting the significant line up of production and development projects underway: the S2F-1 (completed), and S2F-3 Tracers, the WF-2 Tracker and its replacement the W2F-1, Hawkeye, the AO Mohawk, the Albatross, the Ag-Cat and the Gulfstream for the commercial market, and the OAO and Echo II canister space projects. Investment in technical capability was expanding with the opening of the \$2.5 million Space Environment Testing Area and the \$5 million Electronic Systems Center (Plant 14). Towl concluded by saying that Grumman had the most stable work force in the industry because it delivers quality products on time and at lowest cost. The people had to continue to maintain this performance to remain competitive.

Towl did not talk about the firmament under the surface such as the co-led effort by Tom Kelly and Tom Saniei to develop lunar mission concepts and how that effort “took off” in response to President John F. Kennedy’s May, 1961, announcement that the United States was going to initiate a project to land men on, and return them from, the moon by the end of the decade. Nor did he mention the difficult decision to become a subcontractor to General Electric rather than prime Apollo, as the program risk was tantamount to betting the company on this huge, complex project. The Apollo proposal was submitted in October and by November the severely disappointed team learned of their loss to North American Aviation. But this was not all. Simultaneously, an independent Grumman group was hard at work with teammate General Dynamics seeking to win the huge new multibillion dollar, Air Force-Navy, swing-wing, two-man, supersonic TFX fighter.

Undaunted by the Project Apollo loss, Grumman’s “persistence-gene” emerged. The Grumman space team felt they could still win a big piece of Apollo if they pursued the Lunar Orbit Rendezvous (LOR) approach for the landing mission and then win the contract for the lander. With company funding, this strategy was vigorously pursued. The team conducted and presented studies to NASA on the advantages of LOR, lunar lander concepts, and issue-potential solution sets, thereby establishing itself as a leader in understanding the complexities of designing the lunar lander.

While Tom Kelly was on his way to becoming the “Father of the LEM,” he also should be remembered as an advocate for automobile seat belts. In December 1961, Tom’s co-leader Tom Saniei was tragically killed in an automobile accident. The shock of this incident had barely worn off when Tom Kelly’s car was hit from behind, flipping it over, doors flinging open, windows smashing, then skidding on its roof, and re-flipping again. Tom walked away and credited his seat belts with saving his life. This story was covered in *Plane News* where he encouraged Grummanites to install seat belts that were available at steep discounts from the Safety department. [Ken, one of the authors of this article, bought his seat belt after reading that article.]

continued on next page

Grumman History - Chapter 15

continued from previous page

Increasing international business led to the creation of Grumman International, Inc., with Lew Evens as president, in January. Later in January, *Plane News*' lead story was by Clint Towl, announcing the failure of a union to organize the 170-man heating/air conditioning maintenance operators by a vote of 152-15. You could sense Grumman management's sigh of relief. Technical capability had received another boost In May, when Grumman announced the building of a modern \$5 million Space & Missile Center. With just the steel frame standing, this partially built structure was featured in Grumman's LEM proposal.

Sadly in July, after a short illness, Roger Wolfe Kahn, Grumman's director of Service and Product Support, passed away. Within Grumman, he was known for creating the service function and then growing it into an organization that provided worldwide product support. His diminutive stature belied his amazing achievements as a nationally renowned musician/composer, and an extraordinary pilot who logged over 7,000 hours including many as a Grumman test pilot. He was associated with such greats as Tommy Dorsey, Artie Shaw, Glen Miller, Charles Lindburgh, and Jimmy Doolittle.

While all these events took place, the LEM and TFX proposal efforts soldiered on. Then, it happened. On November 9 a special edition of *Plane News* hit the street. Grumman had been selected by NASA (Nov. 7) to negotiate for the Lunar Excursion Module (LEM). The tremendous effort, put forth by the largest Grumman technical team ever assembled, had paid off. The results of 16-hour workdays and seven-day workweeks were summarized in just 110 pages in the \$344 million proposal. Reminiscent of a James Bond novel, Saul Ferdman never took his eyes off the proposal, which was due September 2, watching it being loaded on the airplane, locking himself and the proposal in his Washington hotel room overnight until its delivery to NASA's Jim Neal two hours early.

The LEM contract changed Grumman. It fostered diversification, it was the first time a non-aircraft product was its largest single contract, and Grumman's reclusive posture in the industry would be shed, as the world would look to Grumman to "fly me to the moon."

Good fortune struck again on November 24, 1962. The Air Force selected the General Dynamics - Grumman team to develop and produce the TFX (F-111) Air Force-Navy fighter. Grumman, as principal subcontractor, would be responsible for producing the aft sections for all the versions of the F-111; for producing the entire assembly of the F-111B Navy version; and for the integration of all Navy-type electronics. The contract also called for the production of 23 aircraft.

November 1962 - two giant wins – a month for the Grumman record book.

By: Larry Feliu and Ken Speiser

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Bethpage
Investment Strategies

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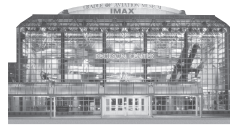
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**SEPT 18 ANNUAL PICNIC
RESERVATION COUPON**

Members \$15/all others \$20

RESPOND BY: SEPTEMBER 11

TICKETS WILL **NOT** BE
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Send This Coupon & Your Check to:

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CREST HOLLOW COUNTRY CLUB

SEPTEMBER 25 LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM

Member Name (PRINT)

Guest Names (PRINT)

No. of Members attending _____

No. of Guests attending _____

No. of Chicken _____

No. of Fish _____

Luncheon coupons should be mailed to

Grumman Retiree Club, Inc.

PO Box 476

Bethpage, NY 11714

**\$10 per member - \$20 per guest
PLEASE RESPOND BY SEPTEMBER 18**

GRUMMAN RETIREE CLUB - SCHOLASHIP LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM

Menu Choices: Roast Beef, Shrimp Oreganato, or Farfalle ala Vodka

I wish to reserve seats at the **June 26, 2013 Luncheon (noon – 4PM)**
for these dues-paying Grumman Retiree Club members, their spouses and 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>Pasta</u>	<u>Retiree</u>	<u>Guest</u>
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
9. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
10. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
11. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
12. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

- ALL TABLES SEAT TWELVE. A **MINIMUM OF TEN IS** REQUIRED TO RESERVE A TABLE.
- **SEVEN DAYS NOTICE** IS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO RECEIVE A FULL REFUND.
- PLEASE SEND **ONE CHECK** TO COVER LUNCH FOR YOU **AND** YOUR GUESTS.

Attached please find \$ _____ representing **\$30.00** per person for _____ people.

Table Captain: _____

Ticket Purchase Deadline:

Address: _____

June 19, 2013

E-Mail address: _____

Remarks: _____

Please make all checks payable to: *GRUMMAN RETIREE CLUB*. Please send this form and checks to:
Betty Bohlander, 1621 Madison Avenue, West Islip, NY 11795.

No tickets will be issued.

To verify that your check has been received, please call Betty at 631-587-7573



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Newsletter

Editor: Neil Klaskin
 Nostalgia Coordinator: Charles Mooney

Grumman Retiree Club, Inc.

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