



The Grumman-Northrop Grumman Retiree Club

Newsletter



October 2014

Volume 47, Issue 9

Circulation: 3076

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

CHAPTERS / MEETING LOCATIONS:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Florida - Treasure Coast / Port St. Lucie
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Georgia - Peach Pit / Milledgeville
President, Ted Zarkowsky (478-452-6442)

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President, Bill Egner (802-446-2062)

New Jersey - Garden State / Lakehurst
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President, Bert Moller (631-864-4377)

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President, Charles Dowd (570-491-2125)

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

Virginia - Central Virginia / Monticello
President, MaryAnne Muller (434-589-5565)

Carl Amato, Jr.

Carl Amato, Jr., former Vice President of Integrated Logistics Support Operations in Grumman's Aerospace & Electronics Group, passed away on September 11, 2014. His home was in Spring Hill, Florida.

Carl began his career with Grumman in 1956 and over the years served as the ILS program manager for the OV-1 program, the Navy A-6/EA-6A programs, and the Air Force EF-111 program. In 1984, he was named Director of Program Management for ILS, and became Director of ILS in 1989. He was appointed Vice President in August of 1991.

Carl graduated from Adelphi University with a Bachelor of Science degree and earned an MBA from Adelphi. He also held an AAS from the State University of New York in Farmingdale.

Save on Income Taxes!
Help With Education Expenses!

The September speaker at the Bethpage Chapter meeting provided some very interesting and potentially financially advantageous information about tax-favored education savings plans. See the basics of his presentation in the Bethpage meeting report, on page 4.



Scholarship Program Contributors

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

- Bischoff, Willard**
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Grumman Retiree Club

2015 All Chapter Scholarship Awards Program

The 17th Annual Scholarship Awards (2014) was made possible by Club-Member donations and support.

Your continued support will enable a successful 18th Scholarship Awards program, with awards to be made in 2015. The Scholarship Fund Directors and the Grumman Retiree Club thank you for continuing the Grumman tradition of supporting education.

Applications for 2015 will be available at your November membership meetings.

All donations to the Scholarship Program are Tax Deductible and every little bit counts. It all adds up!

GRUMMAN RETIREE CLUB NEWSLETTER

(USPS # 023-096) Volume 47, Issue 10, October 2014, is published monthly except August by Grumman Retiree Club, Inc., 600 Grumman Road West, M/S Z49-25 Bethpage, NY 11714-5000. **Periodical postage rates paid at Bethpage, NY.** Subscriptions rates of \$11 are paid through membership dues. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Grumman Retiree Club, Inc. c/o Command Direct | 310 Oser Ave | Hauppauge, NY 11788-3608

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

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

**2015 Scholarship Program
50/50 RAFFLE**

Members of All Chapters May Participate!

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

Winners announced in the Newsletter, after each quarterly drawing.

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

**Everyone has a chance to win.
 This Raffle benefits the
 Scholarship Fund only.**

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

 Name

 Address

Town _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone (optional) _____

Number of Raffles Purchased _____



Bethpage Chapter Calendar

Luncheons/Meetings

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

Nov 19: Luncheon Meeting, Milleridge Inn
Reservation coupon: Pg 22

Dec 10: Holiday Luncheon, Crest Hollow CC.
Reservation form: page 23 of this Newsletter

2014 Defensive Driving Course

Members: \$20; Non-Members: \$25

2014 Schedule: Nov 5.

Classes are held in Plant 25, 8:30AM Sign-In

To register, call Liz McGowan, 516-221-6573
Week Days Only
Call only between 6PM and 9PM.

Classes fill up quickly.
Check your expiration date; sign-up early.

Senior Blood Drive

Schedule: TBD
Location: TBD

For information, contact LI Blood
(516-478-5018), and ask for Marion H. **28th**

**Annual Retiree Club Picnic
September 10, 2014**

At 10:30AM, President Betty Bohlander welcomed our group back after a wonderful LI Summer break. Then, Betty led the flag ceremony to open the 28th annual Retiree Picnic at Marjorie Post Park in Massapequa. Over 125 retirees, family, and guests attended the gala affair on a fabulously warm, cloudless, blue-sky, September day.

Upon arrival, a continental breakfast (coffee, bagels, and fruit) was available. Activities started with The Pledge of Allegiance and - as the early morning coolness transformed into the sunlit warmth of the day - the bocce games started. During the early part of the picnic, Nassau County Legislator Michael Venditto dropped by to say hello to all the picnickers. Michael Venditto is the son of Oyster Bay Town Supervisor John Venditto and is running for New York State Senator in the coming election.

After the usual "How was your summer?" conversations between friends, it was Horse Racing Time! The picnickers quickly changed from chit-chatters to horse racing enthusiasts. Our "trained" wooden horses ran on a miniature racetrack provided by Pauline Sandman from the Eastern LI Chapter. Pauline is also is the expert dice roller who controls the horse movements. The moment-to-moment placement of the horses was ably called by past President Marion Abbott.

After two races, the food was put out by Fireside Caterers of Huntington and the crowd immediately lined up to partake of the sumptuous picnic spread of hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken, salads, and hot corn on the cob. Naturally, all of this was washed down with ice-cold soda, lemonade, beer, and hot coffee. Watermelon capped off the eating.

After lunch, we enjoyed dancing to the terrific music of DJ Johnny LaRosa, who played keyboard and thrilled the audience with songs like the theme from the movie "PICNIC"—how appropriate. Who can forget that classic scene with Kim Novak and William Holden dancing to the song????

Then it was time for another two races. They were met with as much enthusiasm as for the first race.



Bethpage Chapter

September 24, 2014

Finally, it was time for our ever popular 50/50 and door prize drawing. Gifts were generously donated by the Bethpage Federal Credit Union, Sea Haven Restaurant, Gennaro Jewelers, BK Sweeneys, Beautiful Beginnings Florist, Sikorski Meat Market, and the Cradle of Aviation. The Retiree Club thanks all of our donors for their generosity.

50/50 Raffle: Charles Cammer, Duffy Galegro, Elisa Klussman (new member), Kathy Loschiavo, and Justin Perrotta. Each won a \$30 prize.

Beautiful Beginnings Florist: \$20 gift certificate was won by Ann Santos.

Bethpage Federal Credit Union: \$25 gift cards were won by Joe Bisagni, Charles Cammer, Mike Leogrande, and Sid Weihs.

BK Sweeneys: Gift certificate for lunch was won by Julia Ciancimino.

Cradle of Aviation: Four admission tickets were each won by Marge Cornell and Pat Patalano.

Genarro Jewelers: Man's watch was won by Andy Tomaiko.

Sea Haven Restaurant: \$30 gift certificate was won by Bill Dwyer (new member)

Sikorski Meats: \$50 gift certificate was won by Bill Demorris.

Congratulations to all of the gift and 50/50 winners!

At 3PM, the picnickers sang "God Bless America" and slowly, but happily, made their ways home.

A big "Thank You" to all the helpers who volunteered their "before, during, and after" picnic time to organize, set up, and run the events, and then break down everything when the picnic was over. Without them, the picnic could not be successful.

By: Lou Kubat, Sec'y and picnic reveler.

A cool fall day greeted the gatherers at Crest Hollow for the September Membership Meeting. At Noon, The Crest began serving and the group began eating. After coffee and dessert, the meeting was started, with Past President Marion Abbott leading the Pledge of Allegiance. President, Betty Bohlander asked for a moment of silence for our departed members and for the brave men and women in our military.

Betty then asked for corrections or additions to the May 28th minutes as published in our June Newsletter. No changes were offered, and the minutes were accepted as published.

Guest Speaker

Our speaker, Larry Seiden, was introduced by Betty Bohlander. Larry is a financial consultant with the Bethpage Investment Strategies in the Bethpage Federal Credit Union, and has been in that position since 2007. He is also a member of the Invest Financial Advisory Council. Larry brings 24 years of experience in sales and retirement & investment planning along with management of sales and service teams.

Prior to joining BFCU, he spent most of his career as a financial consultant with the Teachers Insurance & Annuity Association of America - College Retirement Equities Fund (TIAA-CREF). This is a firm that provides financial services to members of the academic, research, cultural, governmental, and medical communities. Larry also served as a financial consultant with Morgan Stanley.

He earned a B.S. degree in Political Science from Queens College and since then has earned the designations of Accredited Investment Fiduciary, Chartered Financial Consultant, and Chartered Mutual Fund Counselor. Finally, in his spare time he serves on our club's Board of Directors and is a member of the Club's Scholarship Committee.

Larry started his talk by stating some of the increasing cost of average tuition and fee at public four-year colleges and universities in recent years. From 2003



to 2008, the increase was 19% beyond the rate of inflation and from then to now, it has increased another 27%. Similarly, at private nonprofit four-year institutions, the increases were 9% and 14% respectively, over the same periods. This has left seven in ten college seniors deep in student loan debt.

As concerned parents and grandparents, we can help alleviate this problem by considering a 529 College Saving Plan. This is a state sponsored plan named after Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code, which created these types of savings plans in 1996. The plan allows parents/grandparents, etc., to gift up to \$14,000 per year to a designated child beneficiary for five years (Savings Plan) or a one-time five-year gift of \$70,000 (Pre-paid Plan). This money will grow tax deferred and the contributor maintains control of the account while getting tax advantages. Once in college, the student can use these funds without penalty, to cover any college related expenses. If, for some reason the fund is used for other than qualified use, the account has to pay federal income tax and a 10% penalty. In case a child does not attend college or has a full scholarship, the designated beneficiary can be changed to a different child.

There are two basic types of administered 529 programs. The first is an Advisor-Guided program in which a contributor works with a professional financial advisory institution like the BFCU. In NY State, J.P. Morgan Investment Management is the plan's Investment Manager and offers the investment instruments.

In the second type of plan, contributors can personally administer their plans, which are managed by The Vanguard Group. Each state controls its 529 program differently and has different investment managers, so check your respective state laws. For completeness, Larry did discuss other education funding options available to the student. These include merit-based scholarships; need based awards; work-study employment grants; and finally, the least desirable, student loans.

Larry then conducted a detailed Q&A,, in which our members demonstrated keen interest, given the large number of questions asked and answered.

Larry was rewarded with a tremendous round of applause and, with our sincere thanks, was given a gift by our president.



L to R: Larry Seiden, Judith Rivers-Schneider, Betty Bohlander.
(Judith Rivers-Schneider is Larry's associate in the BFCU investment unit.)

New Business –

By Retiree Club President Betty Bohlander

- Our 28th annual picnic was held on September 10, at Marjorie Post Park in Massapequa. It was a beautiful day with good food and good friends. A detailed write up of the picnic is present in this Newsletter.
- The October Membership meeting will be held on the 22nd, at the Milleridge Inn, with Mike Ciminera, former Grumman and Northrop Grumman executive, as the speaker. Mike has written a book, "The Aircraft Designers, a Grumman Historical Perspective." He will be available for a book signing after the meeting. Books will also be available at the meeting.
- The November Membership meeting will be the 19th, at the Milleridge Inn. Speaker: TBD.
- The Holiday Luncheon will be December 10, at the Crest Hollow. [Reservation form is next-to-last-page of this Newsletter.]

continued on Page 6.



Bethpage Chapter
continued

Reports

Frank Rizzo presented the Retiree Club Treasurer's, which was accepted as read.

Harry Daum presented the Scholarship Fund Treasurer's report. It was accepted as read. Harry also said the 2014 Scholarship period has ended and ten awards were given at the awards luncheon on June 25. The 2015 Scholarship season is now under way and your continuing support is appreciated as always.

Travel - Nick Bazzicalupo/ Prime Time Travel

Future trips for club members:

(NOTE: Have questions? Call Prime Time - NOT the Retiree Club Office)

- **Nov 6 Top of the Rock & Shopping** in Herald Square. Travel to the 70th floor of the Rockefeller Building with its spectacular 360-degree view. Shopping in Macy's Cellar in Herald Square. \$75pp
- **Nov.12 Radio City Backstage Tour..** Guided tour of Radio City Music Hall and backstage. Learn secrets of the great stage while you meet a Rockette. Lunch at Carmine's. \$109pp

August/September Birthdays

Sally Couluris	Ann Olivier
Frank Rizzo	Frank Carroll
Marge Cornell	Joseph Bisagni
George Maune – 88	Jan Bryrne - 95

Happy Birthday to all.

Anniversaries

Eileen & Geoffrey Styles (6/28, 45yrs)
 Paul & Sally Couluris (8/31, 45yrs)
 John & Lily LaScala (9/19, 60yrs)
 Ray & Joyce Hoene (9/12, 50yrs)
 Joan & Ed McCue (8/27, 65 yrs)
 Charles & Patricia Cammer (9/14, 51 yrs)
 Ernest & Rose Finamore (9/24, 64 yrs)
 Frank & Pat Rizzo (6/30, 60 yrs)

Congratulations to all

Luncheons

Marion Abbott reminded everyone that the Holiday luncheon will be at the Crest Hollow CC on December 10. The price remains at \$35/pp and groups are welcome. For group tables, please send in a single check for the entire table. [See page 23]

New Members

Vic DiCaterini, Bill Dwyer, Pete Fales, Jane Klinger, Elisa Klussman, and Adrienne Johnson.

Welcome to you all.

Prize Winners

Community Relations 50/50: Jim Szegfu, Mary Pasyanos, Jane Klinger, Fred Treubig, and Bill Dwyer. Bill graciously donated his winnings to the Club. *Thanks, Bill.*

Scholarship 50/50: George Young.

Door Prizes: Bart Verga, Rocco Figalora, Fred Steinmetz, Dorothy Leogrande, and Conrad Petersohn. Conrad generously donated his winning to the Club. *Thanks, Conrad.*

At 3PM a motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded. The meeting was adjourned after the singing of God Bless America.

By: Lou Kubat, Sec'y.

CALIFORNIA / Golden West

Future Meeting Dates: 10/14 and 11/11

Our September 10th meeting was held on a Wednesday because the Eagles Lodge was unavailable on Tuesday. Our alert members managed the change well and we had good attendance.

Some of the attendees whom we had not seen for a while were: Don Sobel, Tom Biberacher, Stan Szdlyowski, Bob Nastali, and Billy Cotts.

Billy Cotts showed us a copy of the book he wrote regarding his career at Grumman. The title is:



Comedies and Tragedies. It is available at Amazon and at Barnes & Noble.

CALIFORNIA / San Diego

We welcomed new member Steve Young; Steve worked in ILS from 1973 to 1980.

On Saturday, September 13, twenty-three retirees and guests enjoyed a nice picnic on the MCAS Miramar Mills Park picnic grounds. The weather was less than perfect as attendees braved the unseasonably hot and humid temperatures: over 90° on the coast and 100° inland.

July and August had their sad moments for us with the loss of Smokey Hollatz, Artie Martin, Jack Caputo's wife Joanne, Jim Mall, and Donna Alexander in September.

Cliff Robinson and Cliff's son-in-law, John Peck, did a great job barbecuing the ribs and chicken. Although Cliff's wife, Barbara, could not be at the picnic, she provided her traditional baked beans as well as her delicious lemon cake. Others provided some tasty salads and desserts.

Grumman retirees gave support to the families, which is one of the important functions of our Club.

It was good to see out-of-town retiree Mike Lossick, from Bullhead City, Arizona.

President Fred Syrett opened the meeting at Noon with the salute to the Flag. V.P. John Torkelsen gave a prayer remembering the September 11, 2001, Islamic Terrorist attack on our country and also asking comfort for our members' families who suffered recent losses.

Grumman retiree Lou Wilson, recently retired from his second career with General Atomic, shared some stories about his sea-going tours, as well as his E-2C Field Service time in Egypt and France.

Our program was given by Mr. Eric Bergh, Manager of Resources for Local Calleguas Municipal Water District. Eric gave us a power point presentation two years ago when we *thought* we had a water shortage problem. Now, with the lack of rain, less ground water available, and more people using water, we are *sure* we have a problem.

The lucky 50/50 winners were Pete Belay and Nancy Roeckl.

We have plans that should solve our problems if Federal, State, and Local funds can be directed properly for more storage facilities, some desalinization projects, purifying our ground water, and capturing more of the rainwater before it flows into the ocean. Relief from some strict environmental regulations would help also.

Lots of birthdays celebrated from June through September, including:
Jim Bartels, Pete Belay, Clyde Cain, Sally Cain, Sue Callahan, Dwaine Howell, Roxanne Howell, Eleanor Kirvin, Annette Klapwyk, Howard Lindquist, Clarence Lohse, Sam Lohse, Barbara Mosley, Charlie Quiter, Pat Quiter, Cliff Robinson, Al Schaefer, Bob Stalter, Roxie Stalter, Eleanor Stenzel, Chuck Walters, Elizabeth Walters, and Maryam Wilson.

Leroy Chavez distributed colorful fliers announcing the 10th Annual Oktoberfest celebration hosted by Leroy and his wife Rita (she is also ex-Grumman) at their home in Camarillo. Leroy and Rita provide the traditional food plus German beers or water if you prefer. All they ask is that we bring canned food for the local Food Share. Date: Saturday, October 4th.

Wedding Anniversary good wishes go out to:
Clyde & Sally Cain, Gordon & Marge Cargill, Dwaine & Roxanne Howell, Clarence & Sam Lohse, Charlie & Pat Quiter, Dick & Ann Sarraffe, Ed & Jean Vasely, and Chuck & Elizabeth Walters.
Congratulations to all!

The Oktoberfest has become a major Grumman Point Mugu reunion event thanks to Leroy and Rita, and we appreciate their generosity and efforts.

Frank and Kay Huttle have moved out of the area to be closer to their son's family. They're now in San Luis Obispo, California. We'll certainly miss seeing them at our local Chapter activities.

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



It is with sadness that we report the passing of retiree Sy Rosenberg. Our condolences, as well as our thoughts and prayers, go out to Sy's family.

After a decade of serving as President of the San Diego Chapter, Cliff Robinson announced his retirement from being President, effective September 15, 2014. Retiree Pete Belay said he would be willing to take over as President. A unanimous vote followed in favor of confirming Pete Belay as our new President.

Our last activity for 2014 will be the annual Christmas luncheon in December.

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

FLORIDA/ First Coast

Our first meeting since last June was held at the Royal St. Augustine Country Club, on September 16, 2014. Forty-four people attended.

Due to the size of the room, it was a bit challenging for President Fred Bauer to manage his announcements. Next time at this location, he will have a microphone set up.

Our October meeting will be held at Treaty Park for our Fall Picnic.

Fred opened the meeting at the conclusion of the meal with the Pledge of Allegiance, which was followed by a prayer recited by Janet Cassford.

Janet has been recovering well after having bypass surgery during the Summer break. Well done, Janet . . . and welcome back.

Fred touched upon the fact that those folks who still have investments in the Grumman plan are no longer required to withdraw all their funds. Also, he reminded, when reaching age 70 1/2, that IRS Minimum Distribution Requirements must still be paid. All those involved should have received a letter from the GIP (No Pun Intended!) stating so.

October Picnic Details: As usual, 10AM hot dogs; Noon hamburgers and fixings. Please bring a side dish to share. Soda and water and fix'ns will be provided by the Club. Treaty Park in St. Augustine, off of Wellwood Ave.

July Birthdays: John Walsh, Bill Wilke, Cynthia Osborne, Michael Garvey, Walter Langendorf, Raymond Pinter, Arthur Goehler, Alice Downs, Robert Kielbasa, Rich Bier, Bernice Savoie, Joe Dispenette, Richard Kelly, and Marge Bauer.

July Anniversaries: Rose & Joe Dispenette, Josephine & Bill Soldt, William & Sharon Lainhart, and Walter & Madelyn Langendorf.

August Birthdays: Ted Cassford, Bill Lonnie, Gwen Saar, Sandi Shroeder, Robert Moran, Cindy McCaffery, Robert Sendelback, Chuck Dolce, Mary Ellen Frey, and Gloria Kelly.

August Anniversaries: Bernice & Bernie Savoie, Mary Ellen & Bill Frey, Roseanne & Robert Sendelback, and Patricia & Ron Temple.

Sept. Birthdays: Ginny Deane, Anne Howell, Carol King, Peter Foster, Thomas Downs, Joe Kirby, Deborah Bier, Cecil Bateman, Bruce Betts, and Fred Bauer.

Sept. Anniversaries: Shirley & Terry Jennings, Carla & Steve Congro, Sharon & Vic Smit, Audrey & Al Umbach, Joan & Duke DiGilio, Karen & Jim McDonald, Denise & Frank Flemming, and Kathleen & Tom Walsh.

Nine 50/50 prizes were awarded

Next Meeting: October 21 picnic at Treaty park.

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

FLORIDA / Manasota West

Chapter has been on Summer Break.

Next Meeting: October 8th.



FLORIDA/ Mid-West

Our September 2014 meeting was opened by President John Cornacchia at 11:30AM, with "Greetings and Welcome to the Grumman Retirees Club, Mid-West Florida Chapter."

Chaplin Gus Kraye opened our meeting with the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were 15 members present, along with two guests. Our guests were Robert & Marret Salg.

Over the Summer, we had several Birthdays: Charlotte Kraye, June 4, , Robert Salg, June 6, , Joan Mehl, Aug. 5, , Rich Arso, Aug 12, and Kathy Cornacchia Sept. 22, . We wish you all health, happiness, and many more birthdays!

Anniversaries for the Summer were: Rich & Madeline Arso - June 16 (57 yrs); Robert & Marret Salg - June 23 (57 yrs); George & Edie Burmester - Aug. 2 (71 yrs - Way To Go, George & Edie!) Frank & Judy Folde - Sept. 19 (44 yrs); Tom & Judy Trifaro, Sept 3 - (54 yrs). Congratulations to all.

There were no corrections to the May minutes. The motion to accept the minutes as read was made by Gus Kraye and seconded by Madeline Arso. The minutes were accepted unanimously.

The Treasurer's report was given by Gus Kraye. The motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by John Cornacchia and seconded by Madeline Arso. The report was accepted unanimously.

Sunshine Committee

Citrus County: Gus Kraye had a pacemaker put in last week, but - being a good Grummanite - he was at our meeting today. He still cannot lift anything over 10 lbs, so Charlotte was unable to come this month. We look forward to seeing her at the picnic.

Hernando County: Joan Mehl looks forward to being able to attend the picnic.

There was no New Business.

We broke for lunch

Upon returning from lunch, our speaker, Stephanie Race, from the Hernando Library system, spoke to us. She had a lot of information about the different programs offered.

We had 4 50/50 winners. Congratulations to all.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15PM.

A fun time was had by all.

Our Picnic will be held on October 16 at Bayport Park, in Brooksville FL. Look forward to seeing you.

Future Meetings: November 20 and December 18, to be held at the Buffet City restaurant, on Route 50, in Brooksville, at 11:30AM.

By: Kathy Cornacchia, Sec'y.

FLORIDA / SouthWest

Chapter is on Summer Break.

Next Meeting, Tuesday, October 14, 2014.

We'll meet at the Golden Corral in Punta Gorda, at 11:30AM. Cost: \$11 per person. Please pick up beverage at entrance and pay in the meeting room.

Hope you all have been having a healthy and happy Summer. Looking forward to meeting again and sharing our Summer adventures.

By: Tony Perre, Sec'y. (239-731-7146) tara8888@comcast.net

Following Meeting: November 11, at Tara Woods, hosted by George & Janet Daly

Florida / Space Coast

Our Fall session was initiated on September 17th, at the Suntree Country Club, with the Pledge of Allegiance, an invocation, and a tasty buffet lunch.



Club VP John Lau introduced our guest speaker, Brevard County Commissioner Andy Anderson, a seasoned but not typical local official. Andy spoke learnedly of the current very active efforts of our economic development organizations and our elected officials to woo new industry to our region to replace jobs last due to the significant cutbacks in space activity. The recent significant successes he attributed primarily to the fact that our local small businesses and citizens have created an attractive atmosphere for new companies. He detailed the very competitive nature of attracting business, with states offering very creative and enticing packages of which tax incentives were only one. Andy comes from a small Ohio town that is still decimated from the loss of its single major employer, a steel mill, some years ago, so the need for a broad industrial base is dear to his heart.

The subject of the new passenger rail system scheduled to pass through Brevard County soon was also touched upon. Andy stated that, as currently planned, our county will be responsible for the cost of maintaining the track but will have no train stops to permit utilizing the service.

Community Relations: Chet Emery:

- Over the Summer months, our club's condolences were sent to the families of Harry Deneau and Tom Van De Grier on the passing of Tom and Harry.
- Get Well cards were sent to Dan Postupack and Ron Marcucci.

Treasurer, Guests, and New Members:

- Bill Waldron reported receiving a significant contribution to the Scholarship Fund in memory of Charlie Farrell.
- We welcome aboard two new members: Joe Hill and Charlie Brigando.
- Details of both the Scholarship Fund and our General Account were reported. Both are in satisfactory condition.

Travel and Entertainment: Maureen Ayers

Maureen reported enthusiastically on a different type of cruise for those not seeking the mega-ship type of outing, i.e., Alaskan river cruises on *Cruise Adventures*, ships with less than 100 people. She

said that many times there were 2-for-1 bookings available on lines like American Queen Steamboat. Maureen will watch for bargain cruises available for those interested. She also briefed us on an interesting free cemetery tour, available in Orlando.

Historian: George Graefe:

The Gremlins are working on the after burner for the F-16. The re-construction of the Canberra bomber is proceeding, and the F-86 is being put back into flying condition.

George also reminded us of the air show at the Melbourne Airport in November, sponsored by Northrop Grumman.

Scholarship: Jim Glover

- Jim acknowledged a gracious "Thank You" letter from Matthew Adams, this year's Skurla scholarship winner.
- We are anxiously awaiting word from the Brevard School Authority regarding our prior six scholars, so we can send their annual stipends to them, to help with their new school year expenses.

Communications: Don Powell

Dan continues to work with Bethpage on establishing a website to expedite news dissemination.

Old Business:

(1) President Bob Prais reported on the status of our working with Club President Betty Bohlander on a new club banner, which recognizes the new club name. We hope to have the banner for our appearance at the NG Employee Lunch on November 12, 2014. [Editor's note: The club is still officially "The Grumman Retiree Club" insofar as our incorporation documents are concerned. The recent change is best described as, "The Grumman Retiree Club, Inc., doing business as The Grumman – Northrop Grumman Retiree Club".]

(2) Bob asked if any member had any resolved issues with the new medical reimbursement system – he was one of several who had not received their first checks. Several avenues of inquiries were discussed.

Future Programs: VP John Lau has lined up Sandy Scannelli, President/CEO of the Community



Foundation of Brevard, as speaker for our October 15th meeting. November will feature the E-2D Program Director.

Employee Birthdays August: Jim Glover, Joseph Gollhofer, Jack Lynch, Ed Barty, Ray Russo, James Leahy, Donald Hanley, William Fadeley, Chester Emery, John Lopopolo, Ed Romano

Spouse Birthdays August: Florence Riehl, Mary Kirwan, Winnie Pike, Ruth Feeney, Stephanie Rennie, Carol Wood, and Theresa Franits

Anniversaries August: Gary & Sheila Bigel, Norman & Pauline Christensen, John & June Greve, George & Dawn Demarest, Edward & Theresa Franits, Anne & John Korothy, John & Dolly Casco, and Ralph & Terry Harris

Employee Birthdays September: Craig Waymire, Patrick Sullivan, Lawrence Orlando, John Greve, Dick Combs, Robert Devoe, Charlie Jacob, Ted Kuhn, Robert Rennie, Rudy Avitabile, Robert Kappenberg, and Oscar Basilio

Spouse Birthdays September: Patricia Ann Mullings, Elaine Prime, Geraldine Stone, Joanne Kuhn, Lee Kelley, Lynn Ernst, Mary Ranieri, Bernice Hogan, Emma Basilio, Anna Lee Emery, and Grace Guttadauro

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

We had four 50/50 winners ...Congratulations to all!!

By: Bill Steenson, Sec'y.

Meeting Schedule: 10/15, 11/19, 12/17

FLORIDA / Suncoast

Chapter is on Summer break.

The Suncoast Chapter will be meeting at the Greek Village, 11125 Park Blvd., Seminole, FL (727-393-6669), on the third Wednesday of the month, at Noon starting in Oct. 2014.

Meeting dates are: Oct. 15, Nov. 19, Dec. 17, 2014; and Jan. 21, Feb. 18, Mar. 18, and Apr. 15, 2015.

We hope you've had a great Summer

By: Patricia Newark, Sec'y. (727-360-7339)
lionpattysecretary@yahoo.com

FLORIDA / Treasure Coast

Our September 18th meeting was held at Manero's Restaurant, in Palm City, with 41 members and guests attending.

President Bob Watkins opened the meeting with a *Welcome Back* to our members and with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chaplain Larry Regier gave the invocation. He announced the deaths of Anne Bischof, Phil Cusa, and Sharon Feinauer. Our condolences go out to their families.

Both Art Hill and Ken Tolve are recuperating from battles with cancer, and Fred Petruchek is scheduled for by-pass surgery. Our prayers are for them.

After our Summer break, Bob Watkins asked if anyone would like to share the Summer's experiences. Claude Rathgeber was the first to speak. After a brief synopsis of his travels, he



reminded us that the Stuart Air Show (at which he is a volunteer) is scheduled for October 31, November 1 & 2, 2014. He said that this will be the best air show so far, with demonstrations of the F-22 Raptor and the AV-8B Harrier. More details to follow.

Rich Freidel recalled some of his experiences during his 40 years in Grumman. John Borgan (96 years old) and legally blind, plays golf with his daughter and granddaughter. After a round of golf, they come back telling hilarious stories of his game. A good time was had by all.

Larry Regier was pleased to announce that the Mohawk Drop Tank Boat with Wings that he designed and built is now on display at the Elliott Museum, on Hutchinson Island.

The top story is that, as Barbara Knowles was about to take her daily swim, she found an eight-foot alligator in her pool. She is fine, and - thanks to Animal Control - the 'gator is off to the farm.

Unfortunately, due to a scheduling problem, our October speaker, Rick Matthews, Northrop Grumman VP for Melbourne and St. Augustine, had to cancel.

Anniversaries: Fred & Doreen Meyer (53 yrs); Harold & Betty Praeg (66 yrs); John & Mary Borgan (73 yrs).

Birthdays: Marylou Rathgaeber (79) and John Borgan (96)

Visitors: From Germany, Lea Reisch (Mariann Watkins' cousin) and Christian

We had five 50/50 winners.

Next Meetings: Oct 16, Nov 20, and Dec 18, 2014.

Happy Holidays To All

By: Joan Savio, Sec'y. (772-288-4246,) fj99savio@bellsouth.net

GEORGIA / Peach Pit

Our September 16, 2014 meeting continued at Crockett's Cafeteria, on N. Columbia Street, in Milledgeville, GA. The meeting started at 12:30PM. There were 12 present when President Ted Zarkowsky called the meeting to order, welcomed those present back from Summer Break, and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Next, President Ted asked Chaplain Designee Mary Archer to give the Blessing, which was followed by the meal and fellowship.

Old Business:

A motion to accept both the May 20, 2014 Minutes and the June 17, 2014 Administrative Notes was made by Paul Bernichon, and was seconded by Jesse Griffin. There were no changes by those present or received by proxy, so the motion passed.

New Business:

1. September Happy Birthday wishes to: Tom Wood [4th], Josephine Harralson [9th], Nancy Godbee [14th], Larry Foster [17th], Penny Seagle [23rd], Lew Iuliucci [24th], and Alvin Gurr [25th].

2. September Wedding Anniversary congratulations were extended to: Vince & Roberta Ciampa [3rd], Jerry & Patsy Potter [3rd], and Elmer & Ann Baumgart [30th].

3. Secretary Lew reminded members that volunteers are requested to run for Year 2015 Chapter Office. Reason is that President Ted Zarkowsky and Vice President Janet Sills will have completed their respective Office term limits by this year's end. And, the current



Treasurer Joe Sansotta, Secretary Lew luliucci, and Sergeant-at-Arms Wendell Barr are all former Chapter Presidents, and are also ineligible to serve as President. Accordingly, those interested in any Chapter Office, please notify the Secretary. At the October meeting, a ballot will be discussed and forwarded to membership for a vote.

4. Treasurer Joe Sansotta reported a positive bank balance, but seeks additional member donations to support “feeding the needy” with the Food Pantry donation at Christmas. So, members wishing to send a check: make it payable to: Grumman Retiree Club, Inc., and write on the “For” line: “Community Service Fund Food Pantry gift”.

5. Joe also mentioned that Frank Vargas has joined our Club. Welcome aboard, Frank.

Lilli Kate Collins won The Community Service Fund raiser 75/25 raffle. And, she donated the winnings to the Community Service Fund. Thank you, Lilli.

In Memoriam: Margo Parker, Northrop Grumman Vice President, passed away in August. Post-1994, she became the conduit for Plant 66 employees to get their opinions or issues, to corporate leadership, much like the former “Grumman Grapevine” provided feedback to Grumman Leadership. She was respected by all and she is in our prayers. And, our condolences are extended to her family.

Community Service:

a.] Volunteerism continues as members and spouses, aid various causes, including Pints of Blood/Platelets.

b.] Per our 2014 Donation Plan, a gift check to the United Way of Central Georgia was made on Patriot Day, September 11, 2014.

Program:

President Ted gave a summary of activities at

the former Plant 66 [now Triumph], over the past several months. Ted’s summary included the possibility of some Grumman work, currently not being built there, returning from other sites. Thank you, Ted, for the overview, which included an employment level that has nearly doubled over the last few years. This is a positive in this economically depressed, high unemployment area.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ted Zarkowsky and seconded by Joe Sansotta. The motion passed and the meeting ended at 1:30PM.

Next Meeting: Oct 21, 12:30PM, at our new location: Crockett’s Cafeteria, on North Columbia Street, in Milledgeville. Program: TBD

Maryland / Glen Arm

The Glen Arm Chapter held our 20-year reunion Picnic/Social at Flying Point Park in Edgewood MD, on September 6. (Glen Arm Plant 56 closed December, 1994.) We had a good showing of Plant 56 personnel, both Retiree Club members and non-members. It was great to see our “old” friends and co-workers.

Rick Swinder and his wife, Donna, did a great job in coordinating the event and arranging for the food. We had a couple picture books circulating through the group. One of the books was from the Plant 56 Picnic / Bull Roast that took place on this same day (September 6) in 1980, at this very place, “Flying Point Park”. That was **Thirty Four** years ago. The book brought back many memories.

We had a second picture book circulating that had pictures of employees manning their work



stations and machines in various area of the plant. It appeared that these pictures were taken in the 1984-85 time frame, some thirty years ago. It was like looking through a High School year-book, trying to pick out pictures of people attending the picnic.

Our September evening meeting was held at the Golden Corral. Aberdeen MD, on September 16. It was a social meeting and everyone who attended basically talked about the Picnic and how great it was to see our old friends.

- Donna Burkmire - September 22nd
- Dave Case - September 25th
- Jeff Ramirez - September 20th
- Warren Whittington - September 29th

- Paul Causey - October 8th
- Walter Golde - October 7th
- Richard Holt - October 24th
- Alan Showalter - October 26th
- Rick Swinder - October 13th

Happy Birthday to you !

Meeting Schedule - Unless Notified Otherwise:
Our meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Day-time meetings are start at 1:PM. Evening meetings are held at 6:30PM.

- Oct 21 - 1PM.
- Nov 18 - 1PM.

All meetings are held at the Golden Corral Aberdeen Md.

We are trying to contact Glen Arm Grummanites who might not be members to invite them to the Picnic. If you have contact information, please forward it to one of the officers listed below.

Questions? Suggestions? Please contact:
President: Rick Swinder
(410-977-7829) rickswinder@gmail.com

Sergeant-at-Arms: Rolfe Feser
(410-661-2580) poppyro@comcast.net

Treasurer: Joe Svach
(443-567-6433) jam.svach@comcast.net

By: Joe Svach

New England North

Eleven members and guests had a great two-day visit to the Juniper Hill Inn, in Ogunquit, ME, on September 9 and 10. The weather was super and several of us were able to enjoy swimming in the outdoor heated pools. As usual, we had lobster and other gourmet meals aplenty. The Marginal Way was a marvel to behold, especially as high tide got a boost from the full moon! Noelle Smith brought Harry & Dianne, friends from Manchester, VT, as guests. Harry is a World War II veteran, a recipient of the Purple Heart and other awards earned during action in Germany as a lieutenant leading a mortar unit. Harry seemed to enjoy our company and we certainly enjoyed his.

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 9. Our luncheon at the Fullerton Inn, in Chester, VT, will feature a “Yankee Swap” for our 2014 finale.

By: Bill & Joan Wanner

New Jersey

Garden State Chapter

Our September 16, 2014 meeting was held at the Crestwood Family Restaurant, with ten members and one guest present. President Bill Staples called the meeting to order at 1:20PM. The minutes of the previous meeting were dispensed with. The Treasurer’s report was given and accepted.

Sunshine Report – There was nothing to report.



Birthdays:
Joe Caldwell (21st) and Walter Matuza (22nd).

The only anniversary is that of John & Barbara Janis, their 49th, on the 18th.

Old Business – The members discussed their experiences with their new medical and prescription plans.

New Business – Treasurer Al Larsen asked for suggestions regarding our Christmas Luncheon. Peggy Knipper offered to look into making a reservation at a local restaurant for the luncheon.

Ways and Means – Everyone present received a present.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 P.M.

Next Meeting: Oct 21, 1PM, at the Crestwood Family Restaurant.

By: Carolyn Kerr (732-244-4483)

New York

Eastern Long Island Chapter

President Bert Moller welcomed thirteen members to our Sept.17th meeting at Cliff's Rendezvous, in downtown Riverhead. Our gathering was very informal and lunch (with choices) was enjoyed by all.

The reading of the minutes was waived, as was the Treasurer's report. (Treasurer Lynne Miller was absent).

Birthdays for September and October: Arthur Gustavson (10/27), Gordon Baylis (10/2), Carl Kupke (9/7), Paul Dunca (9/6)

Anniversaries: Bob & Kay Albert (9/14 - 57 years!)

If any B'day or Anniversary announcements were missed, let me know!

Mytko Report:

– Charley Fish passed July 20th. He proudly served his country in the US Air Force. A condolence card was sent to his wife Anne and their family.

– Hector Pemberton, a highly decorated WWII Marine who fought in the Pacific, passed at the age of 92. Semper Fi.

If you have any information concerning deaths, illnesses, etc, contact Bill Mytko (1-864-225-4927 or ermytko@aol.com).

Next Meeting: Oct 5, at Cliff's Rendezvous, 313 Main Road (Route 25 East), Exit 72 off the LIE; just before the Riverhead Aquarium, on the right side. Lunch (\$14) is at Noon, meeting to follow at 1PM. LOST? Contact Pauline, at 631-369-1854 or 631-278-4589, or call Cliff's, at 631-727-6880.

If you plan to attend our October 15 meeting: *Please contact Bob Albert (631-585-7987) by October 13*, for a head count.

Future Meetings: Nov 19 and Dec (TBD)

Fall is here! Enjoy!
Happy Rosh Hashanah!
Happy Columbus Day!

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

NORTH CAROLINA
Eastern Carolina Chapter



A down-home Southern Barbecue and picnic was held on Sept.10, at the "Red Sail Park" in New Bern, NC. Our program directors were Paul & Chris Albers, and Nidda & Pete McNamee. Thirty-five members were in attendance and everyone had a great time. The directors supplied soda, water, and coffee plus a delicious cake. Bob and Grace Lamberson arranged for the beer and wine. The barbecue, catered by Smithfield's, included hush puppies, cole slaw, potato salad, beans, pulled pork, fried chicken, and sweet and unsweetened tea. It was all very tasty!

Ken Gruebel led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave an inspiring prayer. We also had a moment of silence to commemorate all those who lost their lives in 9/11 and for their families and our country. It's hard to believe that it was 13 years ago, and unfortunately the world doesn't seem in any better shape today than it was that day!

Mary Paulik brought an interesting article on Leroy Grumman's career. The article, which she received from a relative in California, was later distributed to all members for whom we have email addresses.

President Pete asked for volunteers for our October & November meetings. Jim Karika and Tom Schroder will be Program Directors for October, Bernie Kuntz asked for members to give some input regarding their health programs at the October meeting. Joe Mele & Flossie are tentatively scheduled to do November.

Rudi Wiehl told members that he will check out other venues for the December meeting since the price at the Clamdigger, in Pine Knoll Shores, is too high for a luncheon.

50/50 winners were announced by Bob Lamberson: Pete McNamee, Dolores Brown, Martin Olstad & Mary Paulik.

Larry Spallanzani donated a commemorative 1994 Grumman T-shirt and two key chains with the insignia from the Space Station Freedom. Jim Karika (who retired in '94) won the T-shirt; Tony Peralta and Rudy Ramcke won the key chains. *Thanks*, Larry, for these nice gifts!

We then had a few rousing games of Bingo run by Marlene & Rudi Wiehl, with prizes going to the Stantons and the Kuntz's, each winning three times. Our lone single winner was Chris Albers. A great day was had by all!

Our *Thanks* to our Program Directors for their hard work!

Birthdays

- 7/7 - Paul Albers
- 7/9 - David Shannon
- 7/10 - June Schroder
- 7/14 - Jan Hilbert
- 7/24 - Lois Calderaro
- 7/27 - Joyce Leun
- 7/28 - Beverly Nicholson

- 8/2 - Bob Condolff
- 8/3 - Joe Mele
- 8/7 - Leo Torrens
- 8/18 - Ted Lindblad
- 8/23 - Terry Walker
- 8/24 - Mary Heim
- 8/25 - Doris Walker
- 8/28 - Larry Bird.
- 8/28 - Arlene Ramsden
- 8/29 - Irv Peterson
- 8/31- Stan Ramsden

- 9/3 - Judith Glowacki
- 9/11 - Joan Messina
- 9/12 - Patricia Herrnkind
- 9/12 - Marie Hermann
- 9/14 - Fred Reynolds
- 9/21 - Wes Johnson
- 9/21 - Mary Paulik

Anniversaries

- 7/9 - Dolores & Allan Brown
- 7/24 - June & Tom Schroder
- 7/30 - Doris & Terry Walker



8/2 - Pat & Wes Johnson
 8/2 - Mary & Paul Heim
 8/9 - Vynne & Ken Wendel
 8/22 - Marilyn & Ted Lindblad

9/6 - Joyce & Bob Leun
 9/27 - Mary & Martin Olstad
 9/29 - Otilie & Bob Condolff

By: Dottie Karika, Sec'y. dotjimk@att.net

PENNSYLVANIA
Northeastern Pennsylvania Chapter

Thursday, September 18th, was a very nice, warm, day here in Northeast Pennsylvania. The trees were slowly changing and one of the topics of discussion was the upcoming Fall season. Seven members came to Kay's for lunch and we had some very nice, light conversation. The group consisted of the Rademachers, Zupps, Sparkowskis, and Anker Pertersen.

Also learned this past week that Carl Amato, of Supply Ops, passed away on September 11th. Reason why I mention it: He was my boss, and a brother fireman.

A reminder to all members: We are entering the month of October, and dues are due next month. If you wish to pay now, send \$15 to Treasurer Fred Rademacher, at P.O. Box 1012, Milford, PA 18337-1012. **Make sure all checks are made out to "The NEPA Grumman Retiree Club", not to Fred.**

Birthdays for September - James Blair, Elizabeth Deluca, and Fred Heppler.

Anniversaries for September - None

The 50X50 was won by Alberta Rademacher.

Next Meeting: Oct 16, at Noon, at Kay's Restaurant, in Lake Ariel, PA. This will be a very important meeting, as we will discuss the upcoming Officer situation. We will also start to plan the Christmas Meeting. Remember, there will only be two more meetings for this year, until April. So, lets close 2014 with a bang.

See you at Kay's.

By: Edward J. Sparkowski Sec'y/Chaplain
 570-698-7182; e-mail; firefly417@verizon.net

SOUTH CAROLINA / Coastal Carolinas

We had a good turnout for our September 3, 2014 meeting, at Ryan's Family Steakhouse, in North Myrtle Beach. Sixteen members and two guests were present for lunch prior to the meeting, which was called to order by President Ronald Girardin. Sergeant-at-Arms Eldon Scott led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance, which was followed by a moment of silence.

We welcomed Theresa McMahon, our perpetual guest, as well as new member Ed Raulsome, to the club. Ed worked for the Grumman Corp. for thirty years prior to retirement. He and his wife Barbara moved from Virginia to South Carolina, before settling in North Carolina. Welcome, Barbara and Ed!

Happy Birthday to Marie Smith, Shirley Culleton, John Lewis, Richard Podlaski, and Janice Hanlon. Also a very Happy Birthday to those who celebrated their birthdays during the summer; Faye Katzenberger, Ed Hanlon, Judy Scott, and Eldon Scott.



Happy Anniversary to Shirley & John Culleton. And a very Happy Anniversary to all who celebrated their anniversaries during the summer; Lorraine & Ronald Girardin, Lee & Bernard Mascara, and Kay & Ted Hedin.

The secretary read the minutes of our May 2014 meeting. A motion was made to accept minutes as read. The motion was seconded and approved.

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

Dot Hoffmann did not have any current news regarding the Sunshine Committee, but please keep Lee & Bernard Mascara, Janice & Ed Hanlon, and Shirley & John Culleton in your prayers.

50/50 drawing winners: Don Webber (1st prize), and Harold Katzenberger (2nd prize). Congratulations to the winners!

If anyone knows of someone whose profession or hobby would be of interest to the Club, and they would be willing to speak at future meetings, all suggestions are welcome.

- Mark your calendars for:
- (a) November 5th, at Noon, at Logan's Roadhouse, 4511 Highway 17 South, North Myrtle Beach, and
 - (b) December 3rd, at Noon, Sea Captains House, 3002 North Ocean Boulevard, Myrtle Beach.

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

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

TEXAS / Houston

The September meeting was canceled because of a deluge that brought to mind Noah's Flood. [Ed. Note: Yes, they do things in a B-I-G way, in Texas!]

Contact: Charles Ashford (281-474-7260)

VIRGINIA / Central Virginia

No report of September activity.

Next Meeting: Oct 8, at Crab Louie's, on Midlothian Turnpike (Route 60), in Midlothian VA, North of Route 288.

Contact: Marjorie Meiners, Recording Sec'y.

In Memoriam

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

Amato, Carl, Jr.	Spring Hill, FL	09/11/14
Bischof, Anne	Akron, OH	06/21/14
Boyd, George G.	Bohemia, NY	09/15/14
Fodale, Robert	Massapequa, NY	03/25/13
Gilreath, Forrest W. (Bud)	Massapequa, NY	09/18/14
Hollinsworth, Douglas S.	North Bellmore, NY	08/28/14
Jackewicz, William	Dix Hills, NY	09/04/14
Klussman, Robert	Smithtown, NY	06/20/14
Lewis, Martin (“Marty”)	Bellerose, NY	09/29/14
Markow, Edward	Jensen Beach, NY	08/16/14
Podlaski, Louis L.	Taylors, SC	09/06/14
Sison, Robert D.	West Islip, NY	09/17/14
Van De Griek, Tom	Cape Canaveral, FL	08/29/14

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

Grumman History Chapter 25 - 1974

FINANCIAL HEALTH RESTORED (1973 -1974)

The Tomcat's tribulations had clearly dominated Grumman activities. But now, contract issues were solved, the Shah of Iran decided to buy F-14s after a dramatic fly-off against the F-15, and the Navy's pilots loved the F-14 as it was hitting all required performance numbers. This should have signaled a "green light" to get down to the business of concentrating on making the best fighter in the world. But, alas, this was not to be: new problems would emerge in the coming year.

On an overall basis, Grumman was doing much better. Although Aerospace comprised 85% of Grumman Corporation's sales, Grumman Allied was profitably producing a large family of products including motor homes, truck bodies, canoes, and Pearson yachts. The newly created Grumman American had upped Gulfstream II production from 15 to 18/year, with a total of 124 aircraft sold; had 142 Ag-Cats on this year's books; and delivered 450 single engine aircraft. Ecosystems had sold their surveillance aircraft, dropping the airborne ecological survey and study business to began designing and constructing municipal sewage plants. Grumman Data Systems had doubled its outside business.

The diversification strategy as articulated by Jack Bierwirth sought to take advantage of Grumman's technical competence to build-up non-defense businesses while keeping the defense business strong with high quality products. The ultimate goal was to have 50% of the company's profits come from commercial sales. Adding to the diversification strategy, Grumman entered into an agreement with Holland's Fokker Aircraft to produce and sell airport passenger loading bridges. An attempt to merge with Beech Aircraft fell through.

When 1973 came to an end, Grumman could report a \$28 million profit vs. a \$70 million loss a year earlier, with sales growing 58%, to over \$1 billion.

Good fortune followed Grumman into 1974. By mid-January, Grumman had a \$19.5 million contract from NASA to modify two Gulfstream II business jets into space shuttle crew trainers; the F-14A completed its Board of Inspection and Survey (BIS) trials on the aircraft carrier USS Forrestal, achieving another critical milestone toward its first deployment; and the USAF selected both Grumman and General Dynamics to conduct seven month design studies on converting the F-111 into an electronic warfare aircraft similar to the Prowler. Also taking place in this great January was the announcement that the Shah of Iran had signed the contract for 30 F-14As and 424 Phoenix missiles.

Acceding to worker demand, Joe Gavin announced that Grumman would set up a car pool database and arrange for new bus routes going from gates in Bethpage and Calverton to various shopping malls. Since October 1973, OPEC had imposed an oil embargo in response to U.S. support of Israel during the Yom Kippur war. Huge gas lines resulted and a form of gas rationing took place. With the preponderance of cars on the road being gas-guzzling behemoths, the need for car-pooling was never more pressing. Grumman retained this database well past the end of the embargo in March

Great optimism was reflected at the May Stockholders' Meeting. While Jack Bierwirth was touting the rebound in Grumman's business, he told the large audience that the company's current reliance on a special advance payment agreement with the U.S. Navy – an arrangement that had allowed Grumman to meet operating cash requirements - would soon be replaced with a commercial line of credit. The F-14 contract dispute had caused Grumman to lose its line of credit in 1972.

The special arrangement involved the U.S. Navy paying Grumman more than the normal 80% progress payments (the contract actually called for milestone payments). However, the Navy would provide Grumman 100% payments monthly. The 20% "over payment" was in the form of a loan for which Grumman paid the government higher than market interest rates. As the Navy paid Grumman monthly, the payments were not necessarily in

Grumman History

Chapter 25 - 1974

synch with the company's cash needs. As a result Grumman, rather than have the money sit idly in the bank, followed good business practice by investing that money in short-term government bonds until the cash was needed. These government bonds paid considerably less interest than market rates.

Suddenly, this financial arrangement became a scandal. When the word "got out" about this arrangement, Congressional resentment toward Grumman and the F-14 resurfaced. The Government Accounting Office (GAO) investigated whether the Navy payments were legal. Wisconsin's Senator William Proxmire continued his vendetta against the F-14, leading the Senate to reject the Navy-Grumman agreement. After the Senate's vote, Joe Gavin - in a Plane News article - refuted all of Proxmire's arguments and noted that the Senate's action would hurt Grumman's ability to restore its commercial line of credit. The financial crisis returned. Grumman had just weeks to regain its credit rather than the months the company was counting on. Also, the GAO judged the progress payments to be illegal and must be repaid. The precarious financial situation worsened. Long time F-14 foes at the Department of Defense were gleeful as they thought this would be a final blow against the F-14 program. They did not count on Grumman's genes to never stop fighting.

It was Jack Bierwirth who went to the Iranian Bank Melli (with permission from the United States government) and simply said, "You've got to come up with \$75 million bucks if you want to have your F-14 purchase financed." Bank Melli balked, stating they had already given \$250 million to the U.S. "Not to us." Bierwirth replied. He went on to say they had no contract with Grumman but with the government. Grumman would not build those aircraft without the \$75 million. It was July 3 and - as Bierwirth was leaving the Bank Melli meeting room - he turned and said (paraphrased), "I will be leaving for home on July 5. The decision is yours, but if you don't give us the money I will start the process to cancel this effort. Just let me know." By this time the Shah had ordered an additional 50 F-14s and 290 missiles (total 80 aircraft/714 Phoenix missiles). Bank Melli came up with the money. This action also enabled Grumman to line up nine more banks, thereby restoring its commercial line of credit. The Shah of Iran, in effect, saved Grumman.

There was still the matter of repaying the Navy for the "excess" progress payments. It was at the Pentagon in November when Undersecretary of the Navy David Potter, along with Jack Bierwirth and Admiral Gillcrist approached the office of the Honorable Deputy Secretary of Defense, William Clements. They were completing the mission necessitated by the GAO finding and public pressure, causing the Defense Department to direct the Navy, and ultimately Undersecretary Potter, to recover the money from Grumman. As the trio entered Clements' office, David Potter smiled broadly as he plunked the \$52 million check onto the Deputy Secretary's desk. His accompanying words and gestures said ... now get off the Navy's back. A pleased Mr. Clements smiled and thanked Jack Bierwirth. The F-14 era could begin.

The F-14 went to sea in September, when Wolfpack and Bounty Hunter squadrons were deployed onto the USS Enterprise in the western Pacific. Grumman's F-14s joined the company's Intruders, Prowlers, Hawkeyes, and KA-6D tankers already in active service.

In November, Clint Towl (probably exhausted) announced he would step down as Grumman Corporation CEO, but would stay on as Chairman of the Board. Jack Bierwirth became the new CEO.

With its financial health restored, Grumman could now concentrate on what it did best: make high quality airplanes for the Navy.

Ken Speiser and Larry Feliu

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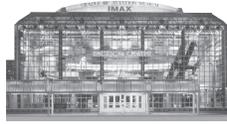
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Janine Dion

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MILLERIDGE INN

NOVEMBER 19 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 NOVEMBER 12

Holiday Luncheon

December 10

Reservation Form is Next Page

GRUMMAN RETIREE CLUB - LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM

Menu Choices: Roast Beef, Sea Bass Oreganato, or Chicken Milanese

I wish to reserve seats at the **December 10, 2014 Holiday Luncheon (Noon to 4PM)**
for these dues-paid Grumman Retiree Club members, their spouses, and/or guests:

	<u>Full Name (please print)</u>	<u>Phone No.</u>	<u>Check One</u>			<u>Check One</u>	
			<u>Beef</u>	<u>Fish</u>	<u>Chicken</u>	<u>Retiree</u>	<u>Guest</u>
1.	_____	_____	___	___	___	___	___
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 to receive a full refund.
- Please send **one check** to cover lunch **for you and your guests**.

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

Ticket Purchase Deadline is December 3, 2014

Table Captain: _____

Address: _____

E-Mail address: _____

Remarks: _____

Please make all checks payable to: *GRUMMAN RETIREE CLUB*. Please send this form and checks to:
Grumman Retiree Club, Inc., PO Box 476, Bethpage, NY 11714-0476

Please mark envelope Holiday Luncheon
No tickets will be issued.

To verify that your check has been received, please call Marion at 516-575-3777



Grumman Retiree Club, Inc.
 600 Grumman Road West, M/S Z49-25
 Bethpage, NY 11714-5000

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Newsletter

Editor: Neil Klaskin
 Nostalgia Coordinator: Charles Mooney

Grumman Retiree Club, Inc.

Phone: (516) 575-3777
 Fax: (516) 575-8715
 Website: www.grummanretireeclub.org
 E-mail: grumrc@gmail.com

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