



Newsletter

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President's Column

Ken Holden

I'm very pleased to share the Spring 2018 edition of our Aerospace Retirees' Club (ARC) newsletter. While 114 retirees attended our Holiday Luncheon last December, many of you did not. Later in this Newsletter, Program Chair Judy Gonser shares additional notes about the luncheon.

Once again, our President/CEO Steve Isakowitz was our primary guest speaker at the luncheon. The message that Steve shared with the retirees was much the same as he shared with the corporation at an All-Hands on 19 December. He indicated that Aerospace supported numerous successful space launch missions during the past year. Our customers continue to be very happy with Aerospace support, providing a 99.4% report card approval rating for FY 17. The main theme of Steve's message was the rapidly changing space industry and Aerospace's need to move faster. Congressional changes are underway to streamline and expedite the acquisition cycles for space systems. There are additional Congressional demands for faster and, ideally, pre-emptive responses by DoD to changes in the space domain. Aerospace remains well suited to support DoD and the Intelligence Community in this changing environment. There is also Congressional language to raise the manpower ceiling on FFRDCs such as Aerospace. The corporation remains committed to its staff with its focus on excellence, integrity and diversity. In 2017, the corporation hired 412 new employees. This was the greatest number of new hires in a single year in the last twenty years.



(Continued on page 2)

President's Column

At a Corporate All-Hands this past March, Steve Isakowitz re-emphasized the messages he had shared in December. In addition, he noted that the importance of space continues to grow, and virtually all our customers seek greater support from Aerospace. With thirty customers, and personnel in nineteen different locations, Aerospace is quickly becoming the national company which Steve expects us to be.

ARC Board members Tom Freitag and Don Town are working possible future tours to the Getty and other interesting locales. In addition, a tour of JPL through Good Time Tours is being planned. A flyer for this event is included in this newsletter.

Our retirees' club currently has more than 600 members and we have slightly more than \$10,000 available to support our activities. More comprehensive membership and treasurer reports will be provided at the end of our fiscal year in the Fall newsletter. You will also read more in this newsletter about our spring/summer luncheon at the Bluewater Grill in Redondo Beach. ♦

**Aerospace Retirees' Club
Board of Directors
FY 2017-2019**

Executive Committee

President: Ken Holden	9/18
Vice President: Barbara Hainey	9/18
Secretary: Pat Downing	9/19
Treasurer: Jerry Hashimoto	9/18
Membership: Erwin Perl	9/19
Newsletter: Linda Stephenson	9/18
Programs: Judy Gonser	9/19

Ex-Officio:

- Andy Amram
- Bill Deacon
- Linda Drake
- Dave Evans
- Shirley McCarty
- Joe Meltzer

Appointed:

Term Ends

Pat Bohlke	9/18
Jim Carroll	9/18
Richard Farrar	9/19
Tom Freitag	9/18
Leila Jennings	9/18
Tina Pool	9/19
Don Town	9/18
Sharon Waterous	9/18

ARC Board Highlights

Every two years, the Aerospace Retirees' Club (ARC) elects new board members. Last year we elected Erwin Perl as our new Membership Chair, Judy Gonser as our new Programs Chair, and Pat Downing as our Secretary. Pat had previously filled one year of Linda Stephenson's term as Secretary, after Linda took over as Newsletter Editor. This year, the board positions up for election are the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Newsletter Editor. The board has identified candidates for President, Vice-President, and Treasurer, but is still searching for a volunteer to run for Newsletter Editor. Linda Stephenson will have more to say about that in her Editor's Column. In addition, the board needs one or more volunteers to replace Janet Hiatt and Lisi Jackson as members of the board on the east coast. Janet and Lisi have done a great job organizing east coast activities but would like to move on. ♦



From the Editor ... Linda Stephenson



It is amazing how quickly a year and a half can pass. It seems like just yesterday that I was working on the Fall 2016 Newsletter. This issue is my last hurrah, as it is time for someone new to take over. I have been the editor for two terms, which means the publication of eight newsletters. It has been an enjoyable experience. I have particularly enjoyed seeing the contributions from the membership, which are always enlightening.

This issue features an article about new AFCU services, and an article about my experiences during my "The Great American Eclipse" trip last summer. Of course, there is the invitation and reservation form for the Spring Luncheon, as well as a report on the Holiday Luncheon.

You may notice some differences in the newsletter this time. This is because I am using Microsoft Word as the application to prepare the document, rather than Microsoft Publisher. Historically, the editors used Publisher, because it provided the ability to produce a professional looking document. However, over the last 15 years, Word has become more sophisticated and provides almost as much capability. In addition, Word is more familiar to most computer users. It has always been an issue that each new editor not only had to get up to speed on the process of producing the newsletter, but also had to learn to use a new application.

For long-time readers of the newsletter, this is not the first set of changes that have occurred. When Jim Carroll was the editor, he did away with the three-column format that had been used for years. This change simplified the production of the document significantly and made the transition to Word feasible.

The board is looking at other changes to simplify the newsletter editor's job. The editor, historically, has been responsible for not only the publication of the document, but also providing notification of the semi-annual luncheons and for notifying members of the status of their membership. This made sense back when the newsletter was distributed by U.S. mail. Now, however, most of the newsletters are emailed. In addition, for those with email accounts, notification of the luncheons is now being done in advance of the publication of the newsletter. For those of you with email, you should have already received an announcement letter and a reservation form electronically.

It seems logical at this point to distribute the editor's workload further. By next fall, notification of your membership status may come in a separate communication from the Membership Chair, both by snail mail and electronically. In addition, notification of the luncheons may come separately from the program chair, both for electronic and hardcopy distribution. For the members, this means a difference in how you are notified of events or status, but it also means that the newsletter editor's job will be simpler.

Part of the reason the board is looking at these changes is to help recruit the next editor. Your board has been working hard to recruit my replacement. If you might be interested in being the editor, please let us know. ♦

Spring Luncheon

Judy Gonser

The ARC Annual Spring Luncheon will be held in the Avalon Room at the **Bluewater Grill Restaurant** on **Tuesday, June 12, 2018**, beginning with a social hour at 11:00., and lunch at noon. The restaurant is located in Redondo Beach at 665 North Harbor Drive. The Avalon Room is located on the second floor, where there is a beautiful view of the marina. An elevator is available. Luncheon cost is **\$45 per person** and **there is a charge for parking**.

We are inviting representatives from Aerospace HR and Finance, along with representatives from the Credit Union and The Aerospace Players. The Aerospace Players are donating four vouchers for their July performance of Mary Poppins as raffle prizes.

The deadline for reservations is **Friday, May 25, 2018**. Please note that **space is limited** so get your RSVPs in quickly. The reservation form is on page 4. A map with directions can be found on the back page of this newsletter. ♦

The Aerospace Retirees' Club

Invites you and your guest to join us for our Spring Luncheon

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

Bluewater Grill Restaurant

665 N. Harbor Drive

Redondo Beach, CA 90277

(Click [HERE](#) for map)

There is a fee for parking

Avalon Room

No-host bar opens at 11 a.m.

Lunch will be served at 12 noon



Price is \$45 per person

Please respond by **May 25, 2018**, using the form below. Please note that space is limited.

For questions or last-minute plan changes, please phone:

Judy Gonser 310-968-9655 or Pat Bohlke 310-674-1882

A refund will be made only with 72-hour cancellation notice.

Refunds after that time will be subject to approval by the board.

-----Please cut on line-----

Reservations for Spring Luncheon, June 12, 2018

Please return this form by **May 25, 2018**, along with a check for \$45 per person made payable to the "Aerospace Retirees' Club" to ensure your reservation(s). Indicate menu choice(s) and name(s).

Your telephone number _____ Email _____

Member Name (as you want it to appear on the name badge)

- Boneless breast of chicken with mushrooms in a Dijon mustard sauce
- Romano crusted tilapia served with rice pilaf and seasoned vegetables
- Vegetarian stir fry

Guest Name (as you want it to appear on the name badge)

- Boneless breast of chicken with mushrooms in a Dijon mustard sauce
- Romano crusted tilapia served with rice pilaf and seasoned vegetables
- Vegetarian stir fry

****Please cut from page and return to the following address:**

Aerospace Retirees' Club Luncheon
P.O. Box 2194
El Segundo, CA 90245

Holiday Luncheon

Judy Gonser

The annual ARC Holiday Luncheon was attended by 114 Aerospace retirees and guests on December 5, 2017. The luncheon was held at the newly renovated Proud Bird restaurant, which was chosen because of its convenience to Aerospace. The recently reopened restaurant now has an open-air feel and industrial accents. The floor-to-ceiling windows provide panoramic views of LAX's approach runways. It is fitting that the retiree luncheon was held in the Doolittle Room. General Doolittle served on the Aerospace Board of Trustees from 1963 through 1969. Building A5 on the Aerospace El Segundo campus is named the James H. Doolittle Facility in his memory.



The Doolittle room was decorated with a holiday theme. Tables had red and green napkins on white tablecloths with poinsettia centerpieces. Pat Bohlke, ARC hospitality chair, and her team of volunteers



welcomed arriving attendees. Ian Freshman and Jeri Smith from the Aerospace Credit Union had a display table, and the credit union also donated two \$50 gift cards for door prizes. Lianne McGinley from Aerospace Corporate Communications had a table



with information on the STEM program. Past luncheon photos were set up in the banquet room by Pat Downing and Ken Holden.

The keynote speaker was Steve Isakowitz, Aerospace President and CEO. Other speakers were Jenny Shannon, Assistant Treasurer, and Dave Roberts, Principal Director of Total Rewards. Shannon updated retirees on the status of the Aerospace Employees' Retirement Plan (AERP). She told the attendees that the AERP trust returned 11.0% in FY 2017 with the AERP assets ending the fiscal year at \$2.15 billion. During the year, the Corporation contributed \$50 million into the plan, and benefit payments were \$141 million. Participants saw an increase of 7.7% for the 2018 variable unit payment value. In addition, most retirees received a 2% cost of living increase on the Fixed Benefit portion of their pension.

After the luncheon, I did some research about the AERP. The following are some interesting facts that I found:

- The value of a Variable Unit in 1991 was \$3.77 versus \$11.04 in 2018.
- Over the past 25 years, the Variable Payment Value has gone up 17 times and down 8 times.
- There is a total of 8,529 AERP participants; 4,096 of them are collecting retirement benefits.

Dave Roberts was introduced as a new member of the Aerospace People Operations Organization, previously known as Human Resources. Dave joined Aerospace in July 2017 from Amtrak in the Washington, DC area. As the new Principal Director of Total Rewards, Dave's responsibilities include the employee health and welfare plans, employee retirement plans and, most important to our group, the retiree pension and medical plans.

After lunch, Ken encouraged attendees to spread the word about the ARC and the need for participation, particularly in the upcoming board elections. **He also reminded members that ARC information is available on the retirees' club website, aeroretirees.org, and on the Aerospace Retirees' Club Facebook page. The Board can be contacted via email or voicemail. Detailed contact information is included in a box on the back page.** Finally, Ken introduced the ARC Board members and thanked our speakers, guests and the credit union for their donation of the gift cards. ♦

Photos from the Holiday Luncheon

By Terry Stephenson and Orbiter Photographer



Sally and Don Coats



Walt Forman and Paul Bellia



Carl Lekven, Jack & Debbie Henz, Ann Lekven



Judith Gow



Becky & Richard
Maynard



Merlin Thimlar



Ken Holden, Rich Boucher, Andy
Amram



Steve Isakowitz Addressing Retirees



ARC Board

We're pleased to be able to highlight a few of the exciting things happening at the credit union here:

- **Care Free Checking** – Open a Fee-Free AFCU Checking Account by May 31, 2018, and we will pay your \$25 opening deposit and deposit another \$25 into your new account (\$50 total)! Just mention the Care Free promotion when you come into our branch or use promo code CAREFREE when you apply online at www.aerofcu.org. Get on Board with AFCU!
- **Dare to Compare Our Rates!** - New! Compare our Award-Winning Rates with the Los Angeles Metro market average rates using the Datatrac rate comparison widget on our homepage at www.aerofcu.org.
- **Visa Credit Cards** – Aerospace Federal Credit Union is offering an instant 2% Cash Rebate on the balance transfer amount from another credit card to a new or existing AFCU Platinum Visa® Credit Card with NO Balance Transfer Fee. Earn money for simply bringing your high interest rate credit card balance to us! AFCU is also now offering 2% Cash Back or two CU Rewards points per \$1.00 spent on ALL purchases. Yes, that's ALL purchases, all day, every day, with no maximums or specific categories to worry about! Additional Rewards are available for summer travel purchases made with an AFCU credit card from June 1, 2018, through August 31, 2018. For full details, visit www.aerofcu.org.
- **Family Day** - AFCU will be open on Saturday, July 21, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Bring your family members in to open AFCU accounts, conduct transactions or apply for loans. Refreshments will be served. Convenient parking will be available close to the credit union. Standard access rules apply.
- **Youth Accounts** – Whether you have a new grandchild and want to open a savings account in their name or a young adult looking to start managing their daily expenses with an AFCU Checking Account, we're here to help. We also have Student Visa Credit Cards available to young members age 12 to 22, with a parent or guardian co-signer. This can be a great way for them to establish credit while learning about money management under the guidance of an adult. There is no better place to help kids and teens achieve their financial goals than with a financial institution their family members already know and trust. For more information about our Youth Products, learning tools, articles, games and more, visit www.aerofcu.org/youth.
- **Access to Your Money** – Our partnership with CO-OP Network provides AFCU members with access to 30,000 fee-free ATMs (including 9,000 deposit-taking), at locations like your local Costco, Rite Aid Pharmacy and 7-Eleven convenience stores. To find a fee-free ATM near you, type in your zip code in the "Find an ATM or Shared Branch" box on the left side of our homepage at www.aerofcu.org.
- **AeroAccess Mobile Banking** – Download our free AeroAccess App on your smart phone or tablet. You will need to visit the Google Play or Apple App Store on your mobile device and search for "Aerospace Federal Credit Union" to download the AeroAccess app. You can login using your existing AeroAccess username and password. If you are a first-time AeroAccess user, you can tap either "Need a Login?" (Apple/iOS) or "New User Login" (Android) on the initial app screen and follow the steps to login. Features include Person-2-Person Payments, MoneyDesktop, Bill Pay, Check Deposit, E-statements, and Enhanced Money Management. ♦

Recent Retirees

November-2017

Bernard Vecerek
Wayne Clevenger
Sondre Johnson
Jandria Alexander
Paul R Anderson
Daniel Burkett
Oscar Esquivel
Diana Carrasquillo
Radford E. Hunt
Steven R. Shoemaker

December-2017

Marice Burks
Linda Bledsau
Lorraine Aguirre-Coray
Donna Garner
Antonia Cuello
Bonnie Harkenrider
Carmen S Melendez
Edward Ruth
Keith Zondervan
Paulette Porter
Ivory Porter

January-2018

Craig Charlton
Theodore Eastes
Daniel Bartz
Elton Evans
Robert C. Kellogg
Lisa Mohn
Donald A Peter
Margaret Sazani
Sushila Menezes
Leslie Robinson
Gary Keludjian
Lydia Moos

February-2018

Willie Bell
Charles Donahue
Samuel Russo
Charles Schwartz
Jon Bach
Paulette Ginyard
Patricia A. Marsh
A Dave Barnard
John Cox

Charles Dunleavy
David Gillard
Don Huang
Jorn Kluetmeier
Rocco Lardiere
Diana Dafesh
James F. Jusko
Kenneth Shere
Dean Sedgwick
Mary Villanueva
Cyndi Pegus

March-2018

Cassandra Lakey
Emily Montoya
Emilia Webster
Alan P. Lucero
Michael Kramer
Sheri Benator
Russell Brucker
Lori Crosse
Eric Fournier
Vickie Guillen
Sumner Matsunaga

Leslie Oleksak
Ronald L. Owens
Judith Peach
Bruce Weiller

April-2018

Valerie Jackson
Alita Mewborn
Timothy Fernandes
Edward S. Meinel
Sarah A. Holland Turner
Clyde Christopher
Frank De Luccia
William Dennis Jr
Bruce Janousek
Michael Loomis
Daniel Rumsey
Stephen Williams
Howard Cohen
Vinod Kapoor

Notice

The expressions of opinion in the *Aerospace Retirees' Club (ARC) Newsletter* are the opinions of the writers and the editor and not necessarily those of ARC or the Aerospace Corporation.

To see the full disclaimer for the ARC Newsletter, Website, and Facebook Page,
[click here.](#) ♦

**Aerospace Retirees' Club
Membership Application**

DATE _____

Please enter all of the data below:

NAME _____ NEW _____ RENEWAL _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

(To minimize the cost of running the Club, we will send newsletters and other mailings (approximately 3-5 per year) to your email address, if you have one.)

****All information is for Club use only and will not be released to anyone without your permission.****

Annual Membership Dues are \$5 per FISCAL YEAR, which ends on September 30.

Multi-year memberships are encouraged, and we offer LIFETIME MEMBERSHIPS for \$75.

Your membership expiration date will appear in one of the following places

- a) In the email message your newsletter is attached to, or
- b) On the mailing label for your newsletter.
- c) By checking the ARC website [member directory](#)



Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ for _____ year(s) dues, or _____ Lifetime Membership

Please make your check payable to Aerospace Retirees' Club and mail it with this entire form to:

Aerospace Retirees' Club - Membership, P.O. Box 2194, El Segundo, CA 90245

Please note: Your Club will exist only as long as there are volunteers to run it. If you are able to become involved as an officer, in planning events, or in other roles, please check here _____ A board member will contact you.

Insights and Inspiration

The whole problem with the world is that fools and fanatics are always so certain of themselves, and wiser people so full of doubts.~**Bertrand Russell**

Not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts can be counted.~**Albert Einstein**

I find that the harder I work, the more luck I seem to have.~**Thomas Jefferson**

The true measure of a man is how he treats someone who can do him absolutely no good.~**Samuel Johnson**

Knowledge speaks, but wisdom listens.~**Jimi Hendrix**

I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.~**Maya Angelou**

I never let my schooling interfere with my education.~**Mark Twain**

Research is what I am doing, when I don't know what I am doing.~**Wernher Von Braun**

AEROSPACE RETIREES CLUB PRESENTS...

JET PROPULSION LABORATORY

BEHIND-THE-SCENES TOUR OF JPL'S PASADENA CAMPUS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2018



An exclusive opportunity to take a behind-the-scenes walking tour of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. JPL's Pasadena campus is NASA's lead center for robotic exploration of our solar system. From *Explorer* and *Voyager* to *Cassini* and the Mars rovers, the majority of unmanned spacecraft and robots sent into space were designed and built here. Since its beginnings in the 1930s, it has become a mecca to rocket scientists and space enthusiasts. This is your unique opportunity for an in-depth guided tour of the Lab's activities and accomplishments as you are welcomed to outer space! On this in-depth, docent-guided walking tour you'll learn about JPL's history and accomplishments followed by a guided walking tour of the campus to see Mission Control and a laboratory (*pending availability*). Before the tour, enjoy lunch on your own amongst the many quaint shops and restaurants of Old Pasadena. Note that a roster of names must be submitted 30 days prior to the tour and no additions or changes may be made after that deadline. *Required: when booking, provide full legal name as it appears on your driver's license or other government-issued photo identification that you will be presenting to JPL security on the day of the tour (non-U.S. citizens must have proper documentation). Please be aware that this unique tour involves extensive walking (approximately 1 mile total) including inclines and stairs.*

TOUR INCLUSIONS

- w Transportation on a deluxe touring motorcoach and services of a professional driver and tour director
- w Water bottle & snack

DEPARTURE INFORMATION

- w 8:45 a.m. Aerospace Corp. D9
2401 East El Segundo Blvd.
El Segundo, CA 90245
Park behind building D9
- w 9:30 a.m. Veterans Memorial Stadium
Long Beach City College
Park in stalls located directly in front of the backside of the stadium scoreboard

Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to departure. The motorcoach leaves promptly at departure time.

Approximate Return Time: 6:30 p.m.

RESERVATIONS /PAYMENT

Make a reservation:
(888) 488-2287

Make a payment:
www.goodtimestravel.com

or mail a check to:
GOOD TIMES TRAVEL
17132 Magnolia St.
Fountain Valley CA, 92708

Note: because this is a private tour available only to our group members, you will not find the tour listed on the website

PRICE: \$59 p.p.
(includes customary gratuities to driver and tour director)

ACTIVITY LEVEL
Low High

RESERVATION DEADLINE:

Monday, August 27, 2018

TOUR OPERATED BY

Good Times Travel, Inc.
California Seller of Travel License #: 2018390-40

Aerospace Stem Program

Contributing to the communities where our employees work and live, and inspiring the next generation of scientists and engineers, are at the core of Aerospace's outreach efforts.

For the second consecutive year, the Dr. Wanda M. Austin STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Endowment scholarship was awarded. Carlos Rivas of Verbum Dei High School, Los Angeles, was the fiscal year 2017 awardee. Rivas received a \$10,000 scholarship, potentially renewable over the next three years.

Rivas is studying physics at St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota, and aspires to be an aerospace engineer. This past summer, Rivas interned in the labs and really enjoyed himself. Please check out the video of his summer experience and how he describes winning the Dr. Wanda M. Austin STEM Endowment scholarship.

[\[www.STEM\]](http://www.STEM)

The inaugural scholarship winner was Heydy Arias of Montebello High School in 2016. Heydy is currently in her second year studying mathematics and education at the University of California, Los Angeles, with the goal of one day becoming a high school math teacher.

The purpose of this scholarship is to make a difference in one life – one remarkable story at a time” – Dr. Wanda Austin, former Aerospace president and CEO

Thank you so much to all the retirees who have contributed to the fund. In 2016, together, we raised \$58,000 and last year \$41,000 was raised; the need is great to help young minds that would otherwise not be able to afford college.

The Aerospace STEM Endowment committee is accepting applications for 2018. As we gear up for the 2018 STEM Endowment campaign, we would appreciate any amount that our retirees can give. Your Generosity Changes Lives - Please donate today!

Your tax-deductible donation can make the difference in the life of a student in need. Donate online at aerospace.org/endowment or by check and send to:

The Aerospace Corporation
General Accounting, M1-365
P.O. Box 92957, Los Angeles, CA 90009-2957
Federal Tax ID: 95-2101389

AEROSPACE STEM ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIP

Funded by the Aerospace STEM Endowment, The Dr. Wanda M. Austin scholarship was established in 2015 to provide targeted assistance to a deserving student pursuing an undergraduate degree in a STEM field.

The scholarship is awarded to one student each year from identified Title 1 schools and provides:

- A \$10,000 per year stipend, renewable for up to four years
- Mentorship guidance from Aerospace scientists and engineers
- Paid summer internships at The Aerospace Corporation for both the scholarship winner and first runner-up

The Great American Eclipse

Linda Stephenson

Last summer my husband, Terry, and I traveled to Oregon for the eclipse in August. This would be our fifth experience with a total eclipse. We contracted with our usual travel agent, who had, in our experience, always selected a location that provided great views of the eclipse we wanted to see. In addition to the eclipse, we were scheduled to cruise the Columbia river. Before the cruise and the eclipse, we planned to spend five days in Portland, as we had never visited that city before.

We decided to take the train from Los Angeles to Portland, because we had not done any train travel since our trip to Alaska many years ago. We reserved a sleeper cabin, which featured an upper and lower berth, a sink, a chair, and a small bathroom with a shower. During the day the lower berth was configured as a sofa. The floor space was small, so we checked our large bags and took only overnight bags to the cabin. The train left Union Station around 10:00 a.m. and we were scheduled to arrive in Portland around noon the next day. Because we had the sleeper cabin we had access to a dedicated lounge which also served a limited menu. There was also a dining car that had more choices, but which was scheduled by the staff. We took advantage of the lounge twice, for lunch and breakfast, and we only went to the dining car for dinner. By and large the food was acceptable but not great.



Terry on train



Mount Shasta

Our cabin attendant convinced us that we didn't really need the upper bunk, so we both slept on the lower bunk. This was a challenge, and indeed I fell out of bed in the middle of the night. Fortunately, the bunk was really low, and it was more embarrassing than painful.

The next day we got up early to try to see Mount Shasta, and realized we were about two hours behind schedule. Amtrak trains share the track with freight trains that have precedence, so we spent a bit of time waiting on a side track for other trains to pass. We did get to see Mount Shasta, just a little late. All told we got into Portland about three hours late.



Ferry on the Willamette River

We spent five nights in Portland. As always, Terry had researched places of interest, and we tried to hit several of them. Powell's Book City is a recommended stop. It was huge. Books were grouped by subject and assigned to floors which were color coded, not numbered. Salt and Straw is a famous ice cream store, where the lines are always long, out the door and down the street. We missed out on Voodoo Doughnut, however, because we were too full from lunch at Hair of the Dog Brewery, which specializes in aged beers.



Vintage 2003

No visit to the Portland area is complete without exploring the wineries in the Willamette Valley. We tasted some excellent pinot noirs and had lunch at the Penner-Ashe Winery. We also got a chance to visit my nephew, who lives in Lacey, Washington, and is stationed at Fort Lewis.



The S. S. Legacy

On August 19, it was time to join the eclipse tour and board the S. S. Legacy for our trip down the Columbia River. The S. S. Legacy is a replica of a coastal steamer



Mount Hood

and accommodates 88 guests. Once on board and settled, the group got together in the lounge to meet our guest lecturers, Dr. Seth Shostak from the SETI Institute, Dr. Michelle Thaller from NASA, and her husband Dr. Andrew Booth. Both Dr. Shostak and Dr. Thaller may be familiar to readers who watch the Discovery channel.

(continued on page 13)

(continued from page 12)

The first full day on board was spent cruising the scenic Columbia Gorge, where we encountered the first of many locks, and were able to see Multnomah Falls just a few weeks before the catastrophic Oregon wild fire caused significant damage to the area. The scenery in the gorge, which was carved by successive floods as the northern ice sheet was melting at the end of the last ice age, is spectacular. The weather was very clear, so we were able to take some great pictures of Mount Hood in the distance.



Eclipse Site

The next day was eclipse day. The ship docked in Burbank, Washington, and we boarded buses for a three-hour drive to Baker City, Oregon. Our site was next to a museum honoring the pioneers who braved the Oregon Trail. The museum was on a hill with views of the tracks of Conestoga wagons that were still visible. The day was crystal clear, so there were no impediments to viewing the eclipse. Because we were up on a hill facing west, some members of the group were able to see the moon's shadow approach as we neared totality. This is usually hard to see.



Diamond Ring

First contact (when the moon first touches the disk of the sun) was at 9:09 a.m., and the start of



Eclipse start to finish

eclipse totality was at 10:24 a.m. and lasted two minutes. As I indicated, this was our fifth eclipse, and it was different from all the others. The sun's corona was bright white, but smaller than other eclipses we had seen. There were also some orange prominences visible. The thing that made this eclipse unique was the spectacular "diamond ring" effects at the beginning and end of totality. At these times, the sun shines through valleys between mountains on the moon, and a bright circle of light can be seen at the edge of the moon's shadow. This was the brightest "diamond ring" phenomenon that I had ever seen.

Because this eclipse was in the United States, we had to deal with an unusual problem after the eclipse, and that was lots of cars and other buses on the roads. Our three-hour drive to the eclipse turned into a six-hour drive to get back to the

S. S. Legacy. Apparently, based on my nephew's account about his drive back to Lacey from Salem, Oregon, the Pacific Northwest was one giant traffic jam.



Cliffs of Hells Canyon

We had four more full days on the cruise. From Clarkston, Oregon, which is where the Snake River joins the Columbia River, we took a jet boat tour of Snake River, where it flows through Hells Canyon. The boats skim over the shallow rapids at high speed. In some places the river is very shallow. Hells Canyon is spectacular with shear walls coming down to the river.



Jet Boats on the Snake River

The last full day was spent in the picturesque city of Astoria, Oregon. In the morning, we visited Fort Clatsop, where Lewis and Clark spent the last winter before

heading back east. In the afternoon we visited the Astoria Maritime Museum and learned how dangerous the mouth

of the Columbia river is. The enormous river dumps silt at the mouth forming dangerous shoals. Many ships never made it past those shoals. Even today, with modern dredging technology, the mouth is still dangerous. No ship enters the river without a skilled river pilot to guide the ship up river to Portland.

Overnight we cruised back to Portland and our plane home.◆



Fort Clatsop



Mouth of the Columbia River



In Memoriam

Sincere sympathy is extended to the families of:

Richard J. Adams, member of technical staff, hired Oct. 21, 1985, retired Aug. 1, 2007, died Nov. 4, 2017

Delbert Bakeman, member of technical staff, hired Dec. 1, 1960, retired April 1, 2016, died Oct. 10, 2017

James T. Bayne, member of administrative staff, hired Nov. 8, 1960, retired June 1, 1993, died Nov. 12, 2017

Raymond Berg, member of technical staff, hired June 12, 1962, retired Sep. 1, 1988, died Jan. 7, 2018

Michael Bonaventura, member of administrative staff, hired Feb. 24, 1981, retired Oct. 1, 1993, died Oct. 21, 2017

Connie Bongiovanni, office of technical staff, hired Mar. 15, 1982, retired May 1, 2008, died Feb. 17, 2018

Ara M. Boyajian, member of technical staff, hired Apr. 27, 1981, retired Sep. 1, 1995, died Dec. 17, 2017

Steve Callas, member of technical staff, hired June 20, 1988, retired Nov. 1, 1998, died Feb. 4, 2018

Nancy Carcelli, office of technical staff, hired Jan. 27, 1964, retired Sep. 1, 1995, died Jan. 17, 2018

Paul E. Clayton, office of technical staff, hired Dec. 4, 1961, retired Feb. 1, 1975, died Aug. 21, 2017

Charles Coulbourn Jr., member of technical staff, hired July 12, 1971, retired July 1, 1996, died Feb. 14, 2018

Lloyd Deffenbaugh, member of administrative staff, hired July 10, 1967, retired April 1, 1979, died Sep. 9, 2017

Daniel G. Emdee, member of technical staff, hired June 11, 1990, retired Nov. 1, 1993, died Sep. 10, 2017

Robert L. Feeley, member of administrative staff, hired Mar. 17, 2003, died Feb. 16, 2018

Albert Fessler, member of technical staff, hired Apr. 12, 1984, retired May 1, 1989, died Dec. 21, 2017

William E. Grahame, member of technical staff, hired Oct. 7, 1980, retired Oct. 1, 1993, died Feb. 5, 2018

Elani M. Hemphill, office of technical staff, hired May 8, 1972, retired Apr. 1, 2007, died Feb. 9, 2018

Brian Henshall, member of technical staff, hired Nov. 7, 1962, retired Oct. 1, 1983, died Jan. 30, 2018

Helen C. Houle, office of technical staff, hired Oct. 3, 1960, retired Nov. 1, 1994, died Oct. 1, 2017

Sam S. Imamoto, member of technical staff, hired Mar. 29, 1962, retired May 1, 1993, died Jan. 1, 2018

William L. James, member of technical staff, hired Aug. 15, 1967, retired Oct. 1, 1996, died Oct. 17, 2017

Merrill Johnson, member of administrative staff, hired Mar. 5, 1979, retired Dec. 1, 1995, died Nov. 23, 2017

Karen A. Karvelas, office of technical staff, hired Aug. 19, 1991, retired April 1, 2008, died Sep. 2, 2017

Joan P. Kelley, office of technical staff, hired Feb. 13, 1961, retired June 1, 2006, died Dec. 24, 2017

Donald H. Kienle, member of technical staff, hired Nov. 20, 1972, retired Nov. 1, 1993, died Oct. 21, 2017

Ava Knose, office of technical staff, hired Aug. 14, 1972, retired Apr. 1, 1999, died Nov. 27, 2017

Ellis M. Landsbaum, member of technical staff, hired Aug. 7, 1961, retired Sep. 1, 2011, died Oct. 31, 2017

Dean Lindstrom, member of technical staff, hired May 5, 1987, retired Oct. 1, 1992, died Dec. 4, 2017

Mary Beth Logan, office of technical staff, hired Oct. 24, 1960, retired July 1, 1987, died Dec. 24, 2017

(continued on page 15)





In Memoriam

(continued from page 14)

- Robert Mack**, member of technical staff, hired Nov. 23, 1968, retired Nov. 1, 1991, died Oct. 17, 2017
- Paul Martino**, member of technical staff, hired Aug. 25, 1980, retired May 1, 2003, died Oct. 22, 2017
- Walter McClennan**, member of technical staff, hired Feb. 19, 1980, retired Sep. 1, 1986, died, Nov. 4, 2017
- Kay L. Mecham**, member of technical staff, hired Apr. 13, 1987, retired Apr. 1, 1999, died Oct. 28, 2017
- Robert Mercer**, member of technical staff, hired Aug. 10, 1961, retired Nov. 1, 1991, died Oct. 29, 2017
- John A. Mignot**, member of technical staff, hired Aug. 22, 1960, retired Oct. 1, 1996, died Oct. 23, 2017
- James R. Miller**, member of technical staff, hired May 14, 1963, retired Oct. 1, 1996, died Nov. 8, 2017
- Kathleen Miller**, member of administrative staff, hired June 21, 1999, retired Sep. 1, 2012, died Nov. 8, 2017
- James Murphy**, member of technical staff, hired Sep. 26, 1972, retired Oct. 1, 1996, died Jan. 5, 2018
- James O'Leary**, member of technical staff, hired May 26, 1969, retired March 1, 1997, died Oct. 5, 2017
- Edward S. Ozaki**, member of technical staff, hired Jan. 14, 1962, retired Oct. 1, 1993, died Sep. 27, 2017
- Lillian M. Parra**, member of administrative staff, hired Feb. 24, 1964, retired Dec. 1, 2011, died Nov. 8, 2017
- Alan L. Paynter**, member of technical staff, hired Nov. 29, 1960, retired Oct. 1, 1993, died Feb. 13, 2018
- Hannelore S. Porjes**, member of technical staff, hired July 24, 1964, retired Dec. 1, 1990, Dec. 19, 2017
- Ernest Y. Robinson**, member of technical staff, hired June 20, 1977, retired Feb. 1, 2003, died Dec. 7, 2017
- Stephen L. Robinson**, member of administrative staff, hired Jan. 28, 1961, retired Nov. 1, 1991, died Jan. 10, 2018
- Milton Rosen**, member of technical staff, hired Jan. 5, 1981, retired Dec. 1, 1990, died Nov. 16, 2017
- Allen Saiget**, member of administrative staff, hired Oct. 3, 1960, retired March 1, 1983, died Oct. 14, 2017
- Allan B. Schaffer**, member of technical staff, hired Sep. 21, 1964, retired Apr. 1, 1994, died Nov. 22, 2017
- Darrell A. Schermerhorn**, member of technical staff, hired May 6, 1963, retired Jan. 1, 2006, died Feb. 10, 2018
- Katherine Schmidt**, office of technical staff, hired Apr. 13, 1964, retired May 1, 1990, died Nov. 17, 2017
- Donald Seiveno**, member of technical staff, hired May 2, 1966, retired June 1, 1992, died Sep. 14, 2017
- Laurine Sowell**, office of technical staff, hired Apr. 16, 1979, retired Jan. 1, 2002, died Dec. 23, 2017
- Arlene T. Stern**, office of technical staff, hired June 29, 1970, retired June 1, 2003, died Oct. 7, 2017
- Robert Ueunten**, associate technical support, hired Feb. 26, 1968, retired Oct. 1, 1995, died Jan. 9, 2018
- Mildred Vunich**, office of technical staff, hired Oct. 24, 1960, retired Dec. 1, 1981, died Jan. 14, 2018
- Ruth Watson**, office of technical staff, hired March 5, 1979, retired April 1, 1988, died Nov. 7, 2017
- John C. Weldon**, member of technical staff, hired Nov. 19, 1963, retired Oct. 1, 1996, died Oct. 19, 2017
- Ruth Wilson**, office of technical staff, hired Mar. 5, 1979, retired Apr. 1, 1988, died Nov. 7, 2017



Aerospace Retirees' Club Newsletter

Spring 2018

Spring Luncheon!

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

11 a.m. at the Bluewater Grill Restaurant

665 N. Harbor Drive, Redondo Beach, CA 90277

Telephone: 310-318-3474

(see page 4 for reservation form)

Directions to Restaurant:

[Click here](#) to let Google Maps give you turn by turn directions

From The Aerospace Corporation:

- ◆ Take El Segundo Blvd east to Aviation Blvd
- ◆ Turn right and go 4.1 miles south to PCH (CA-1 S)
- ◆ Turn left and go 0.6 miles to Herondo Street
- ◆ Turn right and go 0.4 miles to N Harbor Drive
- ◆ Turn left and the Bluewater Grill will be on your right

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Fall 2018 Issue

Please submit items no later than **September 15, 2018**, for inclusion in the Fall 2018 issue of the Newsletter which will be mailed to our members on about November 1, 2018.

We need your stories!

(~600 words — *or less* — preferred)

E-mail to:

aeroretirees@gmail.com

Or mail to:

Aerospace Retiree's Club

Attn: Newsletter Editor

P.O. Box 2194

El Segundo, CA 90245



If you wish to contact us:

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310-336-2582

