



Newsletter

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President's Column

Barbara Hainey



I invite you to read and enjoy this year's Fall Newsletter, capably edited by our new Newsletter Editor, Vickie Guillen. Vickie is new to the ARC Board this year, and has enthusiastically engaged in a number of projects, not the least of which was volunteering to take on this position when Don Town's term ended. Thanks, Vickie!

Thanks

My deep thanks and appreciation go to Ken Holden and Don Town, whose terms have just ended, for their work on behalf of all of us in ARC. Ken's steadfast leadership and dedication to ARC for the last four years as President, and the previous four years as VP, have kept ARC on a strong course forward. Don stepped up to the plate in a clutch situation to smoothly manage the Newsletter and keep it going for the enjoyment of all of us.

Thank you, Ken and Don!

New Board Members

In addition to Vickie Guillen, we welcome a number of other great new Board members: Harlan Bittner, Irv Jones, Steve Soukup and Dana Speece. All of them are actively engaged; Dana, as you noted on your 2020 Ballots, agreed to be nominated as our next VP, succeeding me. The bios for all of the 2020 elected board members, as well as our newest board members, are included in this newsletter.

Pandemic

As I step into the role of ARC Board President, the pandemic continues, with no end currently in sight. I think all of us have changed our normal routines, and the same is true for ARC. It was necessary to cancel both our Spring and Holiday Luncheons for health and safety reasons, as well as the two LA area trips Tom

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Freitag had planned for 2020. The Colorado and Chantilly branches of ARC also deferred planned activities. Will we be able to resume our activities in 2021? It's impossible to know. What we do know is that we've had to find new and different ways of doing things, and your ARC Board is also working hard to think outside the box.

A Virtual Holiday "Luncheon"

Ken Holden and I are impressed with and excited about the creativity and flexibility of your ARC Board. As Ken had noted in the Spring Newsletter, the board is conducting its monthly meetings via Zoom, a cloud-based communication tool. A number of board members have been attending Zoom-based activities outside of ARC, such as book clubs, French and yoga classes and fund-raising events. Their collective positive experiences with Zoom led to the survey many of you completed about your interest in attending a Zoom Holiday activity. A summary of respondents' answers is included later in this newsletter - thanks to all who took the time to respond and share your thoughts with the Board!

Based on the survey respondents' enthusiasm, Ken is now leading a team called ZAP! (see Ken's article later in this newsletter) which is working hard to create a virtual experience that mirrors as much as possible our normal Holiday Luncheon. I am excited to expand our horizons this way, and I'm especially excited that our virtual event will be available to ALL of our members across the country. This will be an opportunity we have never had before, to reconnect with friends and former colleagues no matter where we or they live. I hope you will join us in this inaugural event! ♦

Past President's Column

Ken Holden



By the time you read this, I will have passed the ceremonial gavel to our new ARC President, Barbara Hainey. When I prepared my final President's Column last spring, we had just begun to feel the multitude of impacts associated with the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19). By the time this Newsletter is published, there will have been more than 200,000 deaths due to the virus in the United States alone. As was originally feared, the age group "Over 65" has accounted for about 80% of those deaths. As frightening as that is for us retirees, since we are Aerospace retirees, we understand science, and we understand the steps needed to avoid the virus. Also, the scientists have figured some of this out, and contracting the virus is not necessarily fatal in every case. Against that backdrop, the Board of Directors has continued to operate effectively.

At the time of the Spring Newsletter, we still held out hope of having an L.A. area luncheon in August. Since April, all of our Board meetings have been held using the communication platform Zoom. As the months wore on, it became clear that even an August luncheon was not to be. Being the optimists that we are, we began planning for the Holiday Luncheon. Program Chair Judy Gonser had even gotten on CEO/President Steve Isakowitz's calendar to appear at our luncheon on December 1, 2 or 3. Alas, we have decided that a Holiday Luncheon is also not in the cards. So, we have begun working a new plan to try and stay connected with our fellow retirees.

During the drafting of this report, we were in the very early stages of creating a club-wide Zoom Event. As most of you probably know, Zoom is an excellent tool for providing virtual face-to-face meetings, including audio and video capabilities. A questionnaire to the club about Zoom in early September yielded sufficient interest that we began taking the next steps to realize a Zoom Event in early December. We formed a Zoom Advisory Panel (ZAP!) to start working the details, such as: Will we need external support to

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orchestrate such an event? Despite the time differences for the numerous Aerospace areas, can we have a nationwide event? How effectively can we utilize Zoom's capabilities to have breakout groups from the main event?

I am very pleased to announce that we have scheduled this ARC Zoom Event for December 3, 2020, at 11:00 AM PST. Thanks to the generosity of the Aerospace Employees Association, we have arranged for professional support from Ripple FX. Although my tenure as Club President has ended, I plan to stay involved with ZAP!. The ZAP! Team will work with Ripple FX during the next month and a half to bring you the best possible opportunity to reconnect with many old friends. ♦



From the Editor ... Vickie Guillen



As your new Newsletter Editor, I would like to thank Donald Town for doing an outstanding job on producing the ARC Newsletter for the past two years. I know the Newsletter is a highly valued service the club provides to its members and I will try hard to continue to give the members a high quality and accurate product.

I briefly met with Don and he handed over very comprehensive instructions to help me get started. Sharon Waterous, a former Newsletter Editor, and wonderful friend, has offered her help, if needed. Thank you, Sharon.

I would like to encourage our ARC Members to consider submitting an article of any unique experiences in their personal lives which they would like to share. During COVID-19, video chatting has been a way to see and keep up-to-date with family and friends. I have seen unusual masks and maybe some members would like to share pictures of their unique masks. We would love to hear from you.

This Newsletter issue represents the club's end of fiscal year, so we have included the Membership and Treasurer's Reports. An election of officers was also held, and we have included the results in ARC Board Highlights Section. Biographies for those elected Officers and appointed Members-at-Large are provided.

Also, when I was editing this Newsletter, I realized that there will be no Holiday Luncheon announcement, which I always look forward to, and the wonderful pictures from the Spring Luncheon. Darn you COVID-19! Life just seems so different and we need to stay safe. I miss seeing and visiting with my "Aerospace Family." I say "Aerospace Family" because I spent 38 years working at Aerospace and enjoyed the people I met along the way, and many became my close friends, which I consider family.

I hope you enjoy this issue, and I welcome any comments or suggestions. ♦

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, go to <http://aeroretirees.org> or [click here](#). ♦

**Aerospace Retirees' Club
Board of Directors
FY 2020-2022**

Executive Committee

President: Barbara Hainey 9/22
Vice President: Dana Speece 9/22
Secretary: Leila Jennings 9/21
Treasurer: Tina Pool 9/22

Officers-at-Large (Part of Executive Committee)

Membership Chair: Erwin Perl 9/21
Newsletter: Vickie Guillen 9/22
Program Chair: Judy Gonser 9/21

Ex-Officio

Linda Drake
 Dave Evans
 Ken Holden
 Shirley McCarty
 Joe Meltzer

Appointed

Auditor: Bill Deacon
Historian: Sharon Waterous
Hospitality: Pat Bohlke
Tours: Tom Frietag
Website/Facebook: Jim Carroll

Col. Springs: Carl Scheerer
Col. Springs: Cathy Steele

East Coast: Janet Hiatt
East Coast: Lisi Jackson

Members-At -Large

Harlan Bittner
 Louise Chavis
 Pat Downing
 Irv Jones
 Steve Soukup



ARC Board Highlights

Election Results

Louise Chavis, Nominating Committee Chair

In accordance with the Aerospace Retirees' Club By-Laws, elections were recently held for the offices of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Newsletter Editor, the four candidates nominated were Barbara Hainey, Dana Speece, Tina Pool, and Vickie Guillen, respectively.

Of the 596 ballots (490 e-ballots, and 106 paper ballots) sent out, 303 (278 e-ballots, 56.7%, and 25 paper ballots 23.5%) were returned. Of those, 301 supported the presented slate of candidates. Therefore, Barbara Hainey will serve as President, Dana Speece as Vice President, Vickie Guillen as Newsletter Editor, and Tina Pool will serve a second term as Treasurer – all effective October 1, 2020, through September 30, 2022.

Members of the nominating committee were Louise Chavis, Pat Downing, Sharon Waterous, Erwin Perl, and Jim Carroll.

Thanks to Ken Holden for his invaluable input in this year's election. ♦

ARC Board Highlights

Recently Elected Officers and Newly Appointed Members



Barbara Hainey, President: After serving two terms as Vice President, I was elected President in September. I retired in August 2016 from my position as Operations Business Manager for Technology and Laboratory Operations, after 34 great years with the corporation. I was fortunate to have worked with exceptional people in excellent organizations during my career, including GPS, DMSP, NPOESS, NSG, CSD in ETG, Finance and Business Operations, as well as the Labs. In the mid-1990s, along with my colleague Mary Hornickel, I had the privilege of bringing the excitement and importance of program office work to administrative audiences in the briefing series, “Our Place in Space.” Also, in 2009, I was tapped to co-chair the Aerospace 50th Anniversary People Book committee, such a fun trip down Memory

Lane with that project!

In my retirement, I enjoy gardening, walking at the beach, and traveling (and don’t enjoy the “cleaning out the garage” projects). I do enjoy being active with ARC as a wonderful opportunity to work again with friends and former colleagues. ♦



Dana Speece, Vice President: I joined The Aerospace Corporation in 1984, as a humble Associate Member of the Technical Staff in the Material Sciences Laboratories. Utilizing my BS in Ceramic Engineering, I applied my knowledge of microelectronics manufacturing and processes, electronic packaging, and ceramic materials processing, first on research and development projects, then subsequently to the identification and resolution of parts, materials, and processing issues for space-rated hardware.

While in the Engineering and Technology Group, I provided technical and management leadership for more than 20 years for the quality and manufacturing assessments of launch vehicles and satellites for both SMC and NRO customers. My responsibilities spanned proposal evaluation, system design reviews, manufacturing reviews/audits, hardware acceptance reviews, evaluation of ISO 9001 and AS9100 compliance, and contractor quality management systems assessments. My final assignment was in the Corporate Quality Management Office (CQMO) working with senior leadership to develop and implement the corporation’s internal quality management system, ensuring compliance with our FFRDC contract.

I retired in July 2020 as the Principal Director of CQMO, and I am looking forward to supporting the new ARC President and all members in my role as the ARC Vice President. ♦



Tina Pool, Treasurer: Thank you for re-electing me as the Aerospace Retirees' Club (ARC) treasurer for a second term. I will continue to maintain the ARC's financial records and provide monthly reports to the Board of Directors and the auditor; and an annual budget and reports to the AEA and our club.

I plan to continue using PayPal for luncheon payments and possibly extend usage for other events and activities, if feasible. With the Board's approval, I will also implement any updates that will improve the processes that are currently in place. ♦

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Vickie Guillen, Newsletter Editor: I joined The Aerospace Corporation in 1980 as a Senior Secretary and retired in 2018 as an Engineering Specialist in the Applied Software Technologies Department, Software Engineering Division. In my 38 years with Aerospace, I worked in the Administration Group, Programs Group, and Engineering Group. While working full-time, I attended El Camino College, earning an AA in Mathematics, and continued my education at California State University, Long Beach, earning a BS in Computer Engineering & Computer Science.

Since retirement, I started a new journey and am thoroughly enjoying it. Up until COVID-19, I had been traveling; volunteering with the Beach Cities Health District as an Errand Volunteer assisting clients on routine tasks; and continuing to attend Dog Shows, where my husband, Andy, shows our beautiful Chow Grand Champion (GCH) Holly, aka GCH California Dreamin'.

I am excited about being able to contribute to this wonderful Club as the Newsletter Editor. I look forward to working with the Board and maintaining a connection with my "Aerospace Family." ♦



Harlan Bittner, Appointed Member-at-Large: I was born and grew up in Eugene, Oregon. After graduating from the University of Oregon, I obtained my Ph.D. in Chemistry at UCSD. After that I spent two years at Oak Ridge National Laboratory working in the field of fusion energy.

An opportunity at Aerospace took me to El Segundo. I started out in Labs working in launch vehicle and spacecraft batteries. My interest grew in program office work, so I transferred to then-called Directorate A. Subsequently I headed the Research and Program Development Office, followed by several years as Deputy and then Chief Engineer. After a short stint supporting the DMSP and NPOESS offices, I relocated to the East Coast as General Manager of the Missile Defense and Space Systems Division.

Upon retirement in 2013, my wife and I moved to Oregon. We chose Medford as our new home, where I enjoy bicycling and skiing. I have become a bicycling advocate and am president of the Rogue Valley Siskiyou Velo bicycle club and vice president of the Jackson County Bicycle Committee. My wife and I enjoy music (Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque), playing with several local groups. I also serve on the board of the Jefferson Baroque Orchestra. ♦



Irving Jones, Appointed Member-at-Large: I retired in September 2018 after working at Aerospace since 1981. While my entire 37 years was in the same division, I was fortunate to manage Travel & Commuter Services for about 15 years and that enabled me to get to know people throughout the company. I was able to visit almost every location, including Sunnyvale and L'Enfant Plaza, which are no longer Aerospace offices.

During my last 17 years at the company, I served as the Business Manager for the Facilities Division. Being part of the budgeting process for the major facilities construction projects enabled me to continue visiting some Aerospace locations around the country. It was amazing to see how the company's footprint changed over the decades!

I really believe it is important to have a strong Aerospace Retirees' Club so that, as retirees, we can continue to maintain friendships that were developed over many years. It is also great that ARC enables us to hear how the company and our pension plans are doing! I hope I can help ARC fulfil these purposes. ♦

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Steve Soukup, Appointed Member-at-Large: I launched my professional career in 1968 as a 1st Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force. My first assignment, following graduate school, was in the DoD Space Experiments Support Program (later Space Test Program) at Los Angeles AFB. Next, I was assigned to the Lockheed Air Force Plant Representative's Office in Sunnyvale. During this tour, I became involved with the NRO and worked on GAMBIT, HEXAGON and other NRO programs. In 1978, I returned to L.A. to the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force Office of Special Projects (SAFSP), working in the Advanced Satellite Systems Office, SAFSP-11 (aka Directorate D in Aerospace). I continued to work in the NRO in L.A. and elsewhere until I retired

as Colonel and Director of the Advanced Satellite Systems Program Office in 1994.

I joined The Aerospace Corporation as a Senior Project Engineer in the MILSATCOM Division in 1995, and I was promoted to Principal Director for the new Global Broadcast System (GBS) program the following year. Following the deployment of the GBS system, I was given responsibility for the DSCS and AFSATCOM programs and oversaw the successful launches of the last two DSCS satellites. I then moved on to form a new Aerospace program office for the Air Force's new Wideband Gapfiller System program. Now known as the Wideband Global SATCOM program, WGS has been so successful that a total of ten satellites have been launched and an 11th is in development. I retired from Aerospace in 2012, completing a 44 ½ year career in the space business. I am now on the Boards of Directors of the Flight Path Museum of Southern California and the SAFSP Alumni Association.

I have been married to the love of my life, Reneeta Zan Carey Soukup (Reni), for 46 years. I hold a Bachelor of Science degree in aeronautical engineering from Purdue University and a Master of Science degree in Astronautical Engineering from the University of Tennessee. ♦

Membership Report

Erwin Perl

As of September 30, 2020, the Aerospace Retirees' Club had 646 members. Of these, 257 are life members and 56 were free first-year members (free membership expired on September 30). 529 members (82%) have given us an e-mail address. If you have an email address and we do not have it, please consider providing it to us. It helps keep our mailing expenses down. Also, please note that e-mail addresses provided are for ARC use only.

Our membership is spread over 32 states and the District of Columbia. The most members are in California with 497. Our presence in the Washington DC area is continuing to grow with Virginia being second with 46 members, augmented by 6 in Maryland. In other areas where Aerospace has a significant presence, we have 15 members in Arizona, 11 in Colorado and 8 in Florida.

Finally, if your membership expires in 2020 please note that this is the time for annual membership renewals. To maintain your membership and continue receiving the biannual newsletter and club notices, please renew as soon as you can. Our membership year runs from October 1 to September 30. Membership cost remains a low \$5 per year. We encourage multi-year memberships, and we offer Lifetime memberships for \$75. Renewal applications can be found at <https://aeroretirees.org>. You can also reach us by email at aeroretirees@gmail.com. Our voicemail number is 310-336-2582. ♦

Treasurer's Report

Tina Pool

The primary source of the club's operating income is members' dues. At the end of the fiscal year, September 30, 2020, \$3,590.00 was collected in annual dues (including pre-paid).

The total of the Retirees' Club credit union and bank balances was \$23,339.88. \$13,605.00 is prepaid dues, which must be set aside for use in future years, leaving \$9,734.88 in available operational funds.

The expenses of the Holiday Luncheon held in Los Angeles totaled \$5,863.79, of which \$688.79 was subsidized by the club. PayPal was offered to members so that they could pay for the luncheon online, which resulted in an expense to the club.

Other expenses for the year were:

- \$507.37 for the printing and mailing of the newsletter;
- \$452.51 for printing and mailing flyers and election ballots;
- \$216.00 for post office mailbox rental; and
- \$281.35 for web license and management.

The Board continues to make an effort to control costs by communicating electronically with members and providing information on the ARC Website and Facebook.

Due to COVID-19, the Spring Luncheon was not held, and the Holiday Luncheon will not be held in December. As a result of a survey of the club, there are plans being made to have a virtual event in December. The AEA has provided \$2,500 to finance this event. ♦



Credit Union Updates

Ian Freshman



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

Get Ready for Holiday Shopping

Aerospace Federal Credit Union is always striving to return more value to our members. To enrich the upcoming holiday season, purchases made with AFCU Platinum Visa® Credit Cards will earn **5% Cash Back or 5 CU Rewards Points in ALL spending categories Thanksgiving (November 26, 2020) through New Year's Eve (December 31, 2020)**! * If you're not already an AFCU Platinum Visa® Credit Cardholder, apply online today at aerofcu.org, so you can enjoy these extra rewards during the holidays!

Limited Time Auto Loan Rates

For a limited time, AFCU is offering auto loan rates as low as **1.49% APR**. * AFCU members also have the option of **No Payments for 90 Days** on any term auto loan for new or used vehicles. * Apply online at aerofcu.org.

Establish A Child's Financial Future

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! We have several products to help get their finances in order including Youth Savings and Checking Accounts, a Student Visa® Credit Card, and FREE online Financial Literacy courses! Find out more at aerofcu.org.

Manage Your Money from Anywhere

With AeroAccess Home Banking, you get our FREE, state-of-the-art online and mobile banking platforms. You can pay bills, deposit checks, transfer money and much more whenever and wherever you want! Learn more at aerofcu.org/AeroAccess.

*For full details, visit aerofcu.org

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Win with an AFCU Debit Card

We are giving away \$500 each month and a \$2,500 grand prize at the end of the year. The more purchases you make with your AFCU Visa® Debit Card, the more automatic entries you get into the prize drawings. You could be our next winner!◆

Tours with Tom

Tom Freitag

I had planned two one-day trips for 2020: a tour of Edwards Air Force Base including NASA's Armstrong Flight Research Center in the Spring, and a bus trip South to Oceanside to board the Coastliner Train to the San Juan Capistrano Mission. After touring the mission, we would return by bus. Unfortunately, both trips were canceled due to COVID-19.

I am looking forward to arranging more tours where we sit in the lap of luxury in a Good Times Travel Bus, visit with our colleagues, and drive to fun outings. I am hopeful that we will see a vaccine, so we can return to close-to-normal in 2021.◆

What's Happening in Colorado Springs

Catherine Steele

The Colorado Springs Aerospace Retirees and Friends Club was established in September 2019 and currently has around 40 members and growing.

Our first get together was at Famous Dave's Bar-B-Que Restaurant in January 2020, where members of the Space Foundation presented opportunities for volunteering at their Discovery Center and the Space Symposium. This past Spring and Summer have been quiet because of COVID-19.

Several members met for lunch on October 5 at Rudy's BBQ in Manitou Springs, and sat outside on a beautiful, sunny, and warm October afternoon. We will plan the rest of 2020 and 2021 activities as state guidelines and conditions permit.◆

This and That

Judy Gonser

Normally, this would be a report on the Spring luncheon and details on the upcoming West Coast Holiday Luncheon, but this year has been unusual, to say the least. All major events have been cancelled, and we have pretty much been sheltered in place for the past seven months. Personally, we have cancelled all our travel plans and are cooking more at home, which is not necessarily a bad thing. It took us a few weeks to acclimate to our new circumstances, but we were finally able to connect with family and friends after our 10- and 13-year old granddaughters gave us a tutorial on the mechanics of Zoom. This turned out to be a good thing because the ARC Board started using Zoom for our monthly meetings.

Holiday "Luncheon"

With cancellation of local events, the ARC Board started brainstorming ways to reconnect with Aerospace colleagues using Zoom technology. A short email survey was sent in early September to the 483 club members for whom we have email addresses. As of September 25, 117 people had responded. The results are summarized below:

- Interested in December Zoom event = 110 Yes or Maybe
- Country-Wide Function = 44

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- Separate Region Functions = 65
- President/CEO presentation = 91 Yes or Maybe
- Break-out Groups or Tables = 88 Yes or Maybe
- Cost of \$5 or \$10 = 95 Yes or Maybe

Based on the high level of interest, the club decided to pursue organizing an on-line event via Zoom. This event will be open to all club members regardless of where they reside. Ken Holden, outgoing ARC President, volunteered to lead a Zoom Advisory Panel (ZAP!). He contacted the Aerospace Employees Association (AEA) and they have graciously offered to pay the entire cost for an outside company to help us organize the event. Details are currently being worked out and more information will be forthcoming.

Aerospace Holiday Food and Gift Drive (30 years of giving)

Many of us Aerospace retirees remember the Angel Trees and the Holiday Food and Gift drive each year as we approached the holiday season. At last year's West Coast Holiday Luncheon, Xavier Galindo, Lianne McGinley, and Laura Miramontes, Aerospace employees who volunteer on this worthwhile project, hosted a table. They were asking for our help supporting their most difficult-to-fulfill-wishes segment: teenagers, who typically want gift cards rather than toys. Those of us who have raised teenagers and who have teenaged grandchildren are likely familiar with this dilemma! They were asking for monetary donations so that the requested gift cards could be purchased and donated to the Angel Tree teenagers. Our generous retirees donated \$1045(!), which met the need for all the teenagers on the list.

For those less familiar with the Holiday Food and Gift Drive, eleven different agencies are generously supported by Aerospace employees in many of the corporation's locations:

- Four Foster Care Facilities: Masada Homes, Shields for Families, Aviva Family & Children's Services, Trinity Foster Family Agency
- Three Family Crisis Centers: 1736 Family Crisis Center, Richstone Family Center, Crittenton Services for Children & Families
- Two Full Time Mental Health Facilities: Portals/Pacific Clinics, Alafia Mental Health Institute
- One Food Pantry: Project Needs
- Salvation Army

Last year, in addition to the money collected at the retiree luncheon, 3,322 gifts were donated for children who had suffered upheavals in their lives and were spending the holidays in foster care facilities.

Recently, Lianne McGinley who is in charge of Corporate Social Responsibility, sent me an email telling me that they have contacted the non-profits that they work with to let them know that because of COVID-19, they will not be able to do the traditional collection of gifts at Aerospace locations. This is so unfortunate because charities have already been hit extremely hard with a reduction in monetary donations. However, Lianne and her team are looking at alternative ways where employees and retirees can contribute to the drive this year. They are still working on details, but they are thinking of some sort of Amazon "wish list" concept. Once details are finalized, we will send the information to club members via email in case you want to donate to this worthy cause.

Conclusion

We are resilient and we will survive this incredibly challenging year. As I look back at the past seven months, I realize how blessed I have been to have worked at a company like Aerospace. So many of our close friends are Aerospace retirees. My friends who have retired from other larger companies do not seem to have the same support network. I am so excited about the possibility of reconnecting with some of you via a December Zoom "luncheon." There are a lot of positive things happening with ARC. Stay tuned! ♦

How I came to be a Zoomer!

Pat Downing

When this COVID-19 Pandemic hit, I was stunned and scared as probably most of you were. Concerned that either I or someone I knew would get the virus and become extremely sick or possibly die. It struck the core of my way of life. It was foreign to be told to “stay home.” What was happening? We were (are) faced with a worldwide pandemic. This was more than I could really comprehend at the time. However, it has become much clearer to me, and I wonder about how we are going to get through it and when, if and how it will end. But what I do know is that I must handle it in the best way I can. I am a social person and need to find ways to make it work for me. I am also physically active, so I need to figure out how to adjust my lifestyle. It was this thinking that got me through the first month and led me to Zoom.

As chair of a large book club, our regular meeting was coming up in March. Normally we would meet at a church hall with a book reviewer, followed by discussions of books we were reading and snacks. I knew how important it was to continue the book club during this “safer at home” period, so my thoughts went back to when I was working and the teleconferences. I thought that would work. I asked around for what was the current trend, and the Zoom application was recommended. So, I Googled Zoom, took a Zoom 101 webinar, installed the Zoom app and scheduled our March book club meeting. The meeting went well, all things considered. Little did I know that I would still be doing Zoom book clubs six months later.

Then I thought about other applications for Zoom. Thus, we had a family Easter dinner with attendees from three states. We all had the same menu and sat in front of our computers and ate together. It was almost like being around the same holiday table. It worked and it was so good just seeing everyone’s faces. Next, I thought about my high school classmates. We normally attend a reunion every five years. How were they doing all across the USA? What better way to check in with them than Zoom. I sent a Zoom invitation and about a third of us chatted for an hour. Later I was invited to a major fundraiser for a local non-profit. This is an event normally held in a hotel with a pricey dinner tab. However, this year the organization had it on Zoom for free. There were about 160 participants. They gave out awards, had a silent auction and a live auction with a local weatherman, Fritz Coleman as the emcee. The bottom line was that the non-profit ended up netting about the same amount as they would have with the hotel event.

So, these have been some of the bigger ways I’ve used Zoom, but there have been many smaller activities I’ve done with Zoom. They include visiting with friends in London, exercise classes, trivia games, bingo, happy hours, social events, author reviews, church services, art shows/receptions, financial lectures, tutoring with my godchild in Santa Barbara, attending a Buddhist memorial and just recently, celebrating a friend’s 90th birthday with family across six states.

The uses for Zoom are endless and definitely worth looking into and trying. There are some great offerings from AARP, National Geographic, Silver Sneakers, Oceania Cruises, and local senior centers. There is no end to the Zoom classes being offered for people to learn how to use Zoom.

Bottom line, I am so thankful that I found Zoom early on as well as all the other many things one can do virtually (grocery shop, order takeout, etc.) because it has made all the difference in how well I am coping with this new lifestyle, which may be with us for some time. Don’t be afraid of it. Embrace it. ♦

You Do What You HAVE To Do!

Ken Holden

It seems that the pandemic is a constant reminder of “you do what you have to do” in order to get by. You stay home, you frequently wash your hands, you wear a mask, you avoid physical contact with others, etc. After more than 200 days, this has gotten quite tedious, but it reminded me of earlier times when it was imperative to “do what you have to do.”

On 9/11 in 2001, I was in Denver for a Flight Readiness Review (FRR) for an upcoming Titan IV launch of an important reconnaissance satellite. Even before the FRR convened, news of the first airplane crash into the World Trade Center had been broadcast. As the day wore on, we received more and more news of the airplane attacks. By the end of the day, at the conclusion of the FRR, the Air Force Colonel for Launch approached me (then General Manager for Launch Operations Division). “Ken, we need to leave one of our rental cars behind and drive together back to L.A. Airplanes will be grounded for days.” We took two-hour shifts driving overnight to L.A. I doubt that either of us actually slept, during the two hours, when we were not driving. Sixteen hours and 1000 miles later, we were back in L.A. “You do what you have to do!”

During the drive to L.A., I tried over and over to reach my daughter by cell phone, with no success. My daughter and her husband lived in Manhattan at that time. In fact, their apartment had a spectacular view of the World Trade Center (WTC). My son-in-law witnessed the second airplane hit the other WTC tower. But by that time, my daughter was already at her office. When her boss indicated that everyone should stay in their office, my daughter (rightfully) decided that it would be safer at home. She walked the several miles back to her apartment. “You do what you have to do.”

It was less than three weeks after 9/11 that the launch team had deployed to Vandenberg for the Titan IV launch. Given the events of 9/11, the importance of getting this particular reconnaissance satellite on orbit, had been magnified. In the days leading up to the launch, it was clear that we had potential problems with the umbilical cables. These cables contain hundreds of wires to allow communication between ground systems and the launch vehicle. Moisture had somehow gotten into these cables and presented the risk that the isolation between wires might be jeopardized. Ordinarily, we would have stood down and attempted to bake out the umbilical cables (for weeks of delay) or built new cables (for months of delay). The government/contractor team decided that not every wire within the umbilical cables held the same level of importance. By performing a point-to-point assessment of each and every wire, we could determine which signals, if disrupted or faulty, would cause us to abort the launch. The contractor began this very tedious process.

The evening before launch, I was approached by the contractor’s V.P. for launch. “Ken, we have a problem. My guys are absolutely exhausted after hours and hours of the point-to-point assessment.” His solution was fairly straightforward, but absolutely unprecedented. He knew that, because Aerospace reviews the contractor’s work as a part of our launch readiness assessment, we have experts that understand the point-to-point analysis process. One Aerospace expert from Vandenberg and one Aerospace expert from L.A. immediately jumped in, where the contractor had stopped their review, to complete the analysis process. The agreement was that, after the contractor people had gotten some sleep overnight, they would review the Aerospace work. That is, we would swap roles for just these few hours to ensure we could maintain the launch schedule. “You do what you have to do!”

The launch was on time, was successful, and provided reconnaissance in support of National Security Space for many years.◆

Recent Retirees

April

William Anselm
John E Brown Jr
Sari Caratozolo
Selwyn Khaw
Eugene Krc
Willie Krenz
Isabel Leon
Mark Robinson
Adrielle Williams

May

Edward Gaitley
Daniel Ingold
Cassandra Jenkins-Wilson
Thomas Mackowiak
Douglas Rothnie

June

Robert Cummings
Brian Lenertz
Velma Senaga
Duc Tran
Sheryl Williams
Rita Wiltberger

July

Scott Davidow
Ralph Folsom
Robert Tereska
Leilani Wai
Valerie Wade

August

Anthony Atkinson
Genina Day
Suzan Barrett
Oliver Blackshire
Vivian Churchill
Michael Cryderman
Yi-Chung Doo
Zoltan Farago
Charles Fink
Rachael Galvan
Jonathan Gayek
Caroline Gee
Gregory Gustafson
Linda Herrell
Barbara Hewett
Jeffrey Jacobs
Connie Kosmann
David Ksienski
Richard Lasota
Charletha Osborne
Lester Picot
Teresa Salcido
Dana Speece
Thomas Spiglanin
Deborah Vigara-Benefield
James Womack

September

James Anderson
Loretta Anderson
Thomas O Brown
Rodolfo Firpo
Andy Guillen
Thomas McLaughlin
Scott Minium
Alonzo Prater
James Sage
Georgetta Solomon
Timothy Thompson
Nicholas Tsacoumangos

October

Steven Bandel
Richard Briet
Alvin Cole
Arthur Fleming-Dahl
Delores Harralson
Valerie Lang
Miriam Nadel
Jay Penn
Thomas Rehder
C Jean Wang
Lawrence Wolfe





In Memoriam

Sincere sympathy is extended to the families of:

Dana Aras, office of technical support, hired Jan. 30, 1990, retired Sept. 1, 1995, died May 12, 2020
David Aviv, member of technical staff, hired Sept. 6, 1966, retired Jan. 1, 1994, died May 1, 2020
Bertrand Bertrando, member of technical staff, hired Sept. 7, 1963, retired Sept. 1, 1991, died Apr. 9, 2020
Mary Binns, office of technical support, hired Aug. 28, 1967, retired Jan. 1, 2007, died May 3, 2020
William Bishop, member of technical staff, hired May 7, 1974, retired Nov. 1, 2000, died Aug. 27, 2020
Claurence Bower, member of technical staff, hired Mar. 6, 1962, retired Oct. 1, 1993, died June 21, 2020
Ollie Burkhardt, member of administrative staff, hired Jan. 3, 1961, retired Aug. 1, 1993, died Apr. 8, 2020
Laughlin Andrew Campbell, member of technical staff, hired Sept. 25, 1978, retired June 1, 2004, died Mar. 9, 2020
Paul Covello, member of technical staff, hired Nov. 20, 2006, died July 16, 2020
Harold Culver, member of technical staff, hired June 15, 1992, retired Sept. 1, 2007, died June 5, 2020
Richard Denno, member of technical staff, hired Aug. 4, 1979, retired June 1, 1995, died July 30, 2020
Charles Dolan, member of administrative staff, hired Oct. 31, 1960, retired Aug. 1, 1981, died Aug. 29, 2020
Samuel Downs, member of technical staff, hired Feb. 5, 2001, retired Aug. 1, 2020, died Aug. 19, 2020
Leroy Drake, member of technical staff, hired Sept. 16, 1986, retired Oct. 1, 1996, died Aug. 2, 2020
Michael Ellis, member of technical staff, hired Apr. 9, 2007, died Sept. 17, 2020
James Fay, member of administrative staff, hired Nov. 15, 1962, retired May 1, 1990, died Mar. 21, 2020
Sharon Garst, office of technical support, hired Apr. 4, 1988, retired July 1, 2004, died Sept. 9, 2020
Mac Glenn, office of technical support, hired Dec. 7, 1981, retired Apr. 1, 2000, died Apr. 26, 2020
Julie Norma Goldner-Fuhrman, office of technical support, hired Aug. 10, 1970, retired Aug. 1, 1993, died Apr. 4, 2020
Richard Golightly, member of technical staff, hired Dec. 6, 1962, retired Mar. 1, 1998, died Apr. 14, 2020
Wallis Grabowsky, member of technical staff, hired Sept. 19, 1960, retired Apr. 1, 1989, died July 19, 2020
Robert Grove, member of technical staff, hired Aug. 13, 1962, retired Sept. 1, 1983, died Apr. 7, 2020
John Hamaker, member of technical staff, hired Mar. 4, 1963, retired Apr. 1, 1982, died Sept. 13, 2020
Timothy Hanrahan, member of technical staff, hired June 12, 1963, retired Oct. 1, 1996, died Apr. 18, 2020
John Hardin, member of administrative staff, hired Sept. 12, 1960, retired Apr. 1, 1991, died Apr. 5, 2020
Herbert Hecht, member of technical staff, hired July 2, 1962, retired Dec. 1, 1977, died Apr. 10, 2020
Kenneth Horio, member of technical staff, hired Mar. 23, 1987, retired Aug. 1, 2003, died Apr. 18, 2020
F. Michael Horn, member of technical staff, hired Mar. 18, 1968, retired Apr. 1, 2002, died May 12, 2020
Betty Incorvia, office of technical support, hired Mar. 16, 1981, retired Aug. 1, 1986, died May 30, 2020
Toru Iura, member of technical staff, hired Nov. 3, 1960, retired Nov. 1, 1985, died Sept. 7, 2020
John Kane, member of technical staff, hired Sept. 25, 1972, retired Apr. 1, 2014, died Aug. 8, 2020
Hans Karrenberg, member of technical staff, hired Nov. 10, 1960, retired Mar. 1, 1998, died Apr. 1, 2020

(continued on Page 15)



In Memoriam (Cont'd)

(continued from Page 14)

Todd Kawata, member of technical staff, hired July 5, 1961, retired July 1, 1980, died Sept. 15, 2020

Charles Kelley, member of technical staff, hired Aug. 14, 1962, retired Oct. 1, 1990, died May 26, 2020

Ernest La Porte, member of technical staff, hired Apr. 10, 1961, retired Jan. 1, 1990, died May 5, 2020

Howard Ludwig, member of technical staff, hired Apr. 2, 1973, retired Mar. 1, 2003, died Apr. 2, 2020

Robin Lyons, member of technical staff, hired Sept 24, 1984, retired Nov. 1, 2005, died May 1, 2020

Maureen Miller, office of technical support, hired May 19, 1980, retired Sept. 1, 2014, died Sept. 21, 2020

Elora Montgomery, office of technical support, hired Oct. 22, 1979, retired Jan. 1, 2015, died Sept. 3, 2020

Linda Muhl, office of technical support, hired Mar 2, 1970, retired Mar. 1, 2012, died July 10, 2020

Terry Olson, office of technical support, hired Apr. 5, 1982, retired Aug. 1, 2011, died Aug. 21, 2020

Paul Parker, member of technical staff, hired Apr. 7, 1980, retired Dec. 1, 2006, died May 22, 2020

Alexander Polack, member of technical staff, hired Oct. 28, 1985, died Apr. 30, 2020

Robert Purvis, member of technical staff, hired Sept. 16, 1971, retired Mar. 1, 1998, died June 17, 2020

Richard Ragar, office of technical support, hired Mar. 13, 1961, retired Jan. 1, 1989, died Apr. 9, 2020

Helen Raymond, office of technical support, hired Nov. 2, 1970, retired Jan. 1, 1989, died Apr. 17, 2020

James Rogers, member of technical staff, hired Jan. 15, 1990, retired June 1, 2012, died Sept. 10, 2020

Michael Rocha, member of technical staff, hired Oct 6, 1975, retired Feb. 1, 2015, died June 19, 2020

Daniel Rubio Jr., member of administrative staff, hired Apr. 22, 1963, retired Aug. 1, 2011, died May 2, 2020

Cheryl Ruddach, office of technical support, hired Nov. 29, 1974, retired Feb. 1, 2013, died Sept. 7, 2020

Ira Russak, member of technical staff, hired July 16, 1962, retired Oct. 1, 2001, died May 4, 2020

Calvin Schneider, Jr., member of technical staff, hired Oct. 16, 1972, retired Aug. 1, 2009, died Apr. 27, 2020

Hisako Shibato, office of technical support, hired Aug. 6, 1984, retired Dec. 1, 1994, died May 16, 2020

Brady Shroyer, office of technical support, hired Feb. 8, 1998, retired Oct. 1, 2008, died Aug. 14, 2020

John Sloan, member of administrative staff, hired Nov. 9, 1992, retired May 1, 2000, died Aug. 20, 2020

Harriett Smith, office of technical support, hired Sept. 19, 1966, retired July 1, 1998, died July 5, 2020

Cora Sotack, office of technical support, hired July 1, 1976, retired Jan. 1, 1985, died Sept. 5, 2020

Jon Swail, member of technical staff, hired Jan. 10, 2000, retired June 1, 2012, died June 7, 2020

Hideyo Takimoto, member of technical staff, hired Jan. 10, 1961, retired Oct. 1, 1993, died July 25, 2020

David Taylor, member of technical staff, hired June 30, 1997, retired Apr. 4, 2017, died Sept. 7, 2020

William Tosney, member of technical staff, hired Feb. 9, 1987, retired Aug. 1, 2017, died May 26, 2020

Ethel Watts, member of technical staff, hired Jun. 28, 1971, retired Feb. 1, 1991, died June 11, 2020

Ronald Williams, member of technical staff, hired Aug. 27, 1962, retired Feb. 1, 1994, died June 27, 2020

Norma Workman, office of technical support, hired Aug. 10, 1964, retired Apr. 1, 1988, died June 16, 2020

Hang Wung, member of technical staff, hired Sept. 5, 1960, retired Mar. 1, 1992, died May 25, 2020

Ting-Pin Yang, member of technical staff, hired June 22, 1981, retired Oct. 1, 2011, died Apr. 22, 2020

**Aerospace Retirees' Club
Membership Application**

DATE _____

Please enter all of the data below:

NAME _____ NEW _____ RENEWAL _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____ PHONE NUMBER _____

(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.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Spring 2021 Issue

Please submit items no later than March 15, 2021, for inclusion in the Spring 2021 issue of the newsletter which will be mailed to our members on about May 1, 2021.

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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- ◆ Send an e-mail to: aeroretirees@gmail.com
- ◆ Use the Club's P.O. address:
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- ◆ Call the ARC voicemail: **310-336-2582**