

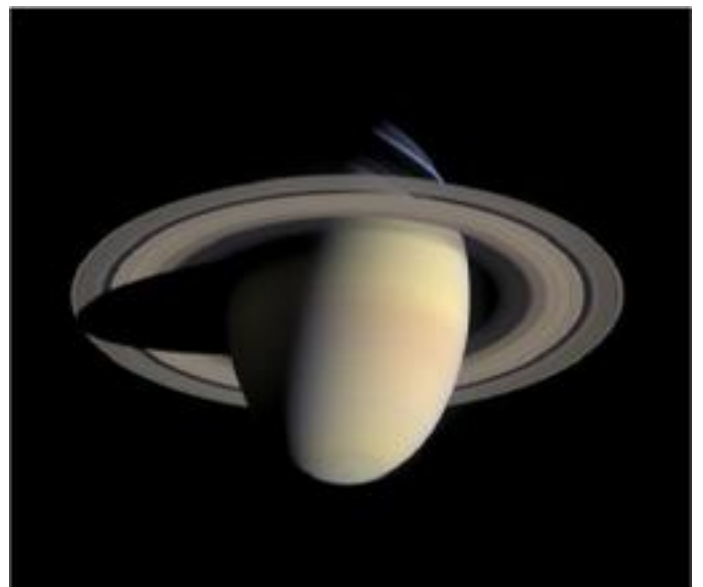


ASSOCIATES

Volume 27, Issue 1
January 2011

Sponsored by LOCKHEED MARTIN

MARS STAR



MARS EVENTS for This Quarter!!

Annual Meeting
March 23, 2011

The Crystal Rose @ 11:00 am

OFFICERS

President	Bo Rodriquez	303-798-9157
President-Elect	Allen Sanders	303-973-4135
VP Activities	Dale Benesch	303-730-7643
Assoc. VP Activities	Al Hartford	303-979-0271
VP Business	Don Jackson	303-690-6005
VP Communication	Bonnie Snodgress	303-660-8408
VP Membership	Linda Stearns	303-797-3557
Treasurer	Duane Del Duca	303-904-9530
Secretary	Jane Alley	303-988-2238
Historian (JAN)	Dr. Ben Clark	303-979-4178
Historian (APR)	Ed Bock	303-683-0766
Historian (JUL)	Jim Rivers	303-978-9971
Historian (OCT)	TBD	

MARS STAR

Co-Editor	Ken Jones	303-972-2453
Co-Editor	Tom Pighetti	303-979-7933
Assoc. Editor	Pat Kenning	303-794-0357
Photographer	Ted Bornhoeft	303-933-9730
Memorials	Roy & Anita Kannady	303-794-9210
Webmaster	Jim Kummer	303-986-3966
Distribution	Hazel Chapman	303-789-1131
<u>Reporting:</u>		
Denver	Pat Kenning	303-794-0357
Special News	Matt Grogan	303-795-1218
Baltimore	Dottie Ruth	410-665-3207
Michoud	Greg Kaminski	985-641-3857
Cape Canavil	Carl Welton	321-783-0548
Orlando	Andrea Lawrence	407-340-8602
Vandenberg	Charlie Radaz	805-733-2051
ULA	Chris Chavez	303-269-5550

CLUB CONTACTS

Bridge	Dave & Kathy Martz	303-683-9524
Dinner	R & Carole Dergance	303-795-9475
Golf	Gregor Smith	303-699-8637
Photography	John Chapter	303-986-8277
Planners	Dolph Hellman	303-794-0852
EzyBytes	Paul Bingham	303-798-0865

REMINDER:

If you move, please give the membership VP a change of address. Also, if you are a snowbird, let us know when you are leaving and when you plan to return so your MARS STAR can be sent to you. It costs us 70 cents for each STAR package returned.

(Published quarterly by MARS Associates, Retirees of Lockheed Martin Corporation and United Launch Alliance, Denver, CO).

DIRECTORS

Director	Dave Martz (Chairman)	303-683-9524
Director	Gene Cody	303-770-9282
Director	Bev Dare	303-986-8406
Director	Bette Henson	303-794-3859
Director	Bob Lines	303-973-8838
Director	Joe Marcus	303-697-6488
Past President	Ralph Dergance	303-795-9475

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

LM Employee Service Center	1-866-562-2363
Savings Information Line (ING)	1-800-444-4015
Aetna Plans	1-888-562-8111
CIGNA Point of Service (POS) (Hourly Only)	1-800-244-6224
Kaiser Permanente	303-338-3800
PacifiCare – Hourly only	1-800-877-9777
LMHealthworks Plan	1-877-458-4975
MEDCO Prescription Drugs	1-877-458-4975
Vision Service Plan	1-800-877-7195
Delta Dental of Colorado	303-889-8609
	1-800-233-0860
Kay Girodo	303-889-8609
kgirodo@ddpco.com	
Jaimie Atencio	303-889-8637
jatencio@ddpco.com	
Peliton Benefits	303-850-4798
LTC/Vision/Dental	
Ed Pittaway	

**MARS Associates, P. O. Box 1128,
Littleton, CO 80160-1128**

MARS Website: <http://www.marsretirees.org>





President's Corner

By Bo Rodriguez
(boandpat@comcast.net)

The holiday season has passed and I hope each of you enjoyed it as I did with family and friends. On behalf of the Officers and Board of Directors I want to wish you and your family health and happiness throughout the New Year.

Our MARS Annual Holiday Celebration was held on December 1, 2010 at the Marriott Denver Tech Center. Our spirited attendees enjoyed Christmas carols sung by the Heritage High School girl's ensemble, a superb dinner, and lastly, music to listen and dance to. I enjoyed seeing and talking with many of you during the cocktail hour and after dinner. I would like to offer a special thank you to Dale Benesch, Al Hartford, Linda Stearns and their supporting cast for their efforts in making this event a success. Also, thanks to our photographer Ted Bornhoeft for the expressive pictures that appear in this issue of the MARS Star. I'm sure you'll agree that many of the pictures reflect a festive and celebratory mood of the participants at the event. Unfortunately not as many MARS members attended this year's event as in the past. In fact, in the last five years our attendance at the Annual Holiday event has declined by approximately two hundred. Since the event immediately followed the Thanksgiving holiday weekend perhaps that may have affected this year's attendance. **What are your thoughts on how we can boost attendance at next year's Annual Holiday event?**

Since this is the start of a new year, let us all make a new year's resolution! Let's commit ourselves to participate more completely in our MARS activities including club events, the Annual Business Meeting, the Senior Luncheon (for those 75 years or older), the Annual Picnic, and the Annual Holiday Celebration.

Our first event for 2011 will be the Annual Business Meeting. The meeting is scheduled for Wednesday March 23, 2011 at the Crystal Rose event center. Dale Benesch's article entitled **Activities Update** touches on the event. Dale also provides specific

information including time, location, luncheon menu, and cost to attend in a flyer included in this MARS Star mailing. In addition to a presentation provided by our special guest speaker, I will present a Summary Annual Report, recommended changes to the Bylaws and Policy Manual, Introduce the Vern Selby Memorial Volunteer of the Year Award winner, and introduce the incoming and outgoing officers and Board of Directors. A copy of the complete Annual Report will be available at this important meeting.

You will find a ballot in this mailing package that requests that you vote for three members to fill available positions (there are four candidates listed) on the Board of Directors. Five years ago the Bylaws were changed to reduce the need for mailing out ballots for electing officers and members of the Board of Directors when only one person has accepted to serve in the open position. Finding members willing to fill open positions has become extremely difficult and the nominating team usually has only one candidate identified for any one open position. Such is the case affecting open positions in the officers category. In Don Jackson's article entitled **Senior Fare**, he summarizes the available officers positions and identifies the MARS members that have volunteered to serve in the position for the next two year term.

Al Hartford, our Associate Vice President for Activities, had open heart surgery on December 29th. Al has been a great help by assisting in the arrangements for many of our key activities. Yvonne, Al's wife says that Al is going to be sidelined for approximately two months so the rest of the officers will endeavor to assist Dale Benesch in arranging the annual events. Let us all wish Al a quick and sustaining recovery from his surgery.

During this holiday season we have had the unpleasant news of the passing of some of our fellow members (retiree or spouse). The loss of a loved one is always difficult but it seems to be more troubling during the holiday season. During the holidays it may be very difficult to make contact with institutions in order to gather the correct information and begin the adjustments affecting the surviving spouse and their family. Also one's ability to make arrangements for services of a loved one is very difficult during the holiday period. As an officer of a proud organization I shall strive to serve as an advocate to a needy member during troubling times.



Next Up!!!

By Allen Sanders

(ALSAL75@comcast.net)

Hope you all had a Merry Christmas and will enjoy a happy and fruitful New Year!!

Did you take note of the flyer in this quarter's mailing about the MARS Membership Number? Your membership number was assigned sequentially by the VP of Membership when you joined MARS and was provided on the Membership Card. If you have lost or misplaced the card, no problem; since, we use the current roster for membership verification at MARS events and presentation of a card is not required. In the past, the membership number was also printed for reference on the mailing label of the quarterly mailing packages, but was discontinued for a time. But that practice has been reinstated starting with this issue. Now, for the first time, one member's number is printed somewhere in each issue of the STAR. If you read the STAR carefully and thoroughly and find yours, call any MARS Officer listed on page 2 of the STAR. Identify the number as yours and your next annual dues payment will be waived!

There is an informal Lockheed Martin retirees group in Colorado Springs made up primarily of retirees from the IS&GS organizations of Colorado Springs Philco, Ford Aerospace, and Loral. Some are members of MARS also. They had a fall luncheon in November at the Lockheed Martin cafeteria there and Linda Stearns, Bo Rodriguez, and I were invited to join them. They had a very good turnout and we enjoyed the food and fellowship of the organization.

I would like to add my two cents worth of slant on the participation in MARS Activities discussed in other places in this STAR. Our bylaws state the purpose of MARS shall be to provide a social, educational, recreational, and self-improvement organization for the membership and to promote fellowship through communications, activities, and internal programs of interest from outside sources consistent with the purpose of MARS. If the falling participation in MARS Activities is an indication that

we are not doing this as well as in the past or in the ways that the membership desires, we sure want to hear from you. I realize not all of us have the same interests and I do not expect everyone to participate in all that MARS has to offer. But it is your organization, newsletter, etc. Let us hear from you on how we may better achieve your expectations from the organization.

Our community is always looking for help through volunteers. Check out the MARS web site at www.marsretirees.org under the Volunteer button or call me for details if you do not have internet access. The following organizations are in need of volunteer help/participation: Link To Learn live web video classes; Denver Museum of Nature and Science; ArtReach providing art and cultural experiences to at-risk and underserved populations; Aerospace Career counseling to local high school students; McLain Community High School Literacy Program tutoring; and other High School Student tutoring. Invest in your community and enjoy the rich experiences of helping others.

From the Editor's Desk

We would like to know . . .

By Linda Stearns

MARS regularly plans four events (one each quarter) through the year: the Annual Meeting in March (required by our bylaws), our Senior Luncheon in July, our picnic every September and our Holiday Event (formerly known as the Holiday Dinner Dance) in December. We've noticed that participation in the Holiday Event has declined significantly over the past two years —and we are wondering why!

Questions that come to mind are:

- Does it come too soon after Thanksgiving?
- Would you prefer a luncheon?
- Would another time of year be better?
- Are you unhappy with assigned seating?
- Is the cost (driven by the venue selected) too prohibitive?
- Or is something else on your mind?

If you live too far away to participate we understand but if you live or visit where coming to the event would be possible, but you choose not to, particularly for those who used to participate in the past—we'd love to know your thoughts before we

lock in the 2011 event. You can phone or email any of the officers (see the inside front cover of the MARS STAR) or enclose a note with your membership renewal form.



Activities Updates

By Dale Benesch

[**\(dalebenesch@yahoo.com\)**](mailto:dalebenesch@yahoo.com)

If you missed the Annual Holiday Celebration you missed a grand event. The event was held at the Denver Tech Center Marriott Hotel. The warm weather on the December 1st event was extremely fabulous. The Heritage choir gave a great performance again this year. Jodi Janak and her Centerpiece Jazz group provided very danceable music for the evening. The Marriott did another outstanding job for us by providing great food and service, and nice décor. The chocolate favors were enjoyed by all – 10 different flavors at each table. Unfortunately a disappointing number of MARS members were in attendance. It makes one wonder if it should be moved to a smaller venue.

Now is the time to sign-up and join your fellow MARS members at the Annual Meeting scheduled for March 23, 2011, at 11:00 AM at the Crystal Rose Event Center in Littleton, Colorado. Attendees at this event will have the opportunity to meet with familiar friends, enjoy a high quality wholesome buffet, listen to an informative presentation by a special guest speaker, and thank the outgoing officers and Board of Directors; and welcome in their replacements.

Don't forget to plan ahead and mark these additional dates and events on your calendar. I believe one way of gauging the success of our organization is through member participation in our major events.

Senior Luncheon:	Jul 12, 2011
Annual Picnic:	Sep 7, 2011
Annual Holiday Celebration:	Dec 7, 2011



Senior Fare

By Don Jackson

[**\(donnvet@yahoo.com\)**](mailto:donnvet@yahoo.com)

Here's hoping your holidays; Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah, New Years et al were glorious and special times for you and your families. Since the September picnic, our primary benefits focus has been revalidation of the MARS provided dental plans. Delta Dental's change in payment options resulted in us having Peliton Services (one of our benefits representatives) generate a detailed comparison study between Delta Dental and Beta Health. For those of you that participated in the dental plan survey I want to extend my sincere appreciation for your feedback. The committee composed of: Dave Martz, Allen Sanders, Don Jackson and Bo Rodriguez, reviewed a significant number of responses.

The following is a snapshot of the process used to reconcile those issues. Allen Sanders prepared a matrix based on the information received from each of the respondents and categorized the information for the two dental programs. Although our decision was not made based solely on popularity, the respondents revealed that 52% favored Delta Dental, 29% favored Beta Health. Nineteen percent (19%) did not have a preference one way or the other.

The feedback also indicated:

- A majority of members currently enrolled with Delta Dental were satisfied with their automatic premium payment process, some even preferring that process.
- Some members are still opposed to automatic payment withdrawal, although some who initially opposed it with Delta Dental are now using it.
- Many members who conferred with their dentist were informed that their dentist was not familiar with Beta Health or was not part of their provider network.
- A high percentage of members were not interested in discount dental plans which represent two of the Beta Health options and one of the Delta Dental options.

- Beta Health's Companion Life Dental Plan received favorable consideration from those members whose dentists are in the DenteMax network or whose dentists are not currently in any of the available Delta Dental or Beta Health networks.
- A number of members have a long standing patient/dentist relationship and did not want to risk interruption due to a dental program change.
- Some members expressed displeasure or concern with the administrative process within Delta Dental or the quality of service within the lower option discount plans.

After evaluating both plans and assessing survey feedback, the committee decided to continue using the Delta Dental of Colorado Plan. Please recall from the mailing information that neither plan would cover us with a group rate if they were not the exclusive MARS carrier. The current Delta Dental plan year ends on or about August 31, 2011. We will continue to evaluate and pursue the best benefits for future dental opportunities for our membership.

Keep in mind that at the beginning of the year, Delta will no longer accept checks as payment. Premiums will have to be made via credit card or direct deduction from your account.

Additional discounts and benefits can be found on the [Lockheed Martin Employee Service Center webpage](#), where you first sign on with your SSN and PIN. After signing in, you'll see a menu item for "Retiree Discounts".

During this past year, there were occasional problems with vision care coverage. I'd like to request that all members currently enrolled in **VSP** take the time to check with both your optometrist/ophthalmologist and VSP to ensure, before the date of your actual appointment, that the member and covered family member is in fact recognized as covered.

Continued support by companies listed on our website can result in nice benefits for our membership. Those savings and answers to many other questions can be found on our website. For a current list of specific benefits and offers, please visit www.marsretirees.org.

As reported in the last issue of the MARS Star, a committee composed of officers and members of our Board of Directors have reviewed recent years

MARS membership applications to identify members who showed interest in serving MARS in the described positions. When contacted, some members expressed an interest; while, many members did not for various reasons. Although we were able to interest one member to serve in each of the officer positions, we were unable to gain enough candidates to require an officer election. With regard to the available Board of Directors positions, we were able to attract enough candidates to have an election.

Officers Elect

Vice-President – Business – Negotiate benefit plans and discounts for the organization for availability to the MARS membership and provide the benefit information to the membership. Conduct the nomination and election process for the Officers and Board of Directors; administer required state and federal documents as they apply to MARS Associates. Don Jackson, the incumbent has served out an unexpired 2-year term held by the previous officer. Don has elected not to run for a second 2 year term.

William Schrott has volunteered to fill the VP Business void.

Vice-President – Membership - Maintains the MARS membership database and maintains contact with potential members and solicits them for active membership in MARS. Polls members of MARS to ascertain interest in special activities that can be sponsored or arranged by MARS. Issue and sign membership cards to new members and supply mailing labels and event name tags, as required. Linda Stearns, the incumbent has elected not to run for a second 2-year term.

Barbara Espinoza volunteered to replace Linda. Linda however has volunteered to serve as the MARS Associates Secretary - an appointed position.

Vice President – Communications – Actively promotes good public relations within MARS. Prepares and publishes any internal periodicals; distributes periodicals to MARS members. Operate the Senior Information Center for the benefit of members. Provide, if possible, the publication of illness or death of members, in an internal periodical. Bonnie Snodgrass, the incumbent has served two 2-year terms in office and cannot continue to serve in this capacity per the bylaws.

Bob Snodgrass volunteered to replace Bonnie.

Board of Directors

(3 positions) - Adopt and publish policies, rules and regulations governing the conduct of business

for MARS Associates and exercise all powers, duties and authority within the organization. Incumbents **David Martz** and **Bob Lines** are eligible to serve a second 2-year term and have expressed their interest to continue. Incumbent Bette Henson, has served two 2-year terms in office and cannot continue to serve in this capacity per the bylaws. **Terri Hamen** and **Albert Nemes** have both voiced interest in serving in this position.

Members of MARS Associates are needed to self-nominate to serve in the various positions that become available each year in order to have elections as our charter members intended many years ago. Our organization cannot sustain itself unless our members voluntarily participate more fully in leadership roles on our Board of Directors and/or Officers. We look forward to hearing from you.

Included with this issue, you will find BOD candidates, their biographies and ballots with voting instructions.

New MARS Officers:

VP Membership-Barb Espinosa

During Barb's service with Lockheed Martin, she worked a variety of programs including Peacekeeper, Project Challenge, Electrical and Software Central Organizations (Home Shops). The last ten years of her career were in the exciting S&ES LOB as Program Administrator. In this role, she supported Human Resources, Program Executives, Facilities, Central Administration and over seven hundred employees assigned to the LOB. Barb retired in November, 2009 with 31 years of service.

Secretary-Linda Stearns

Linda Stearns began her professional career as a clerk-stenographer for the DoD (Navy) in 1965, and over her 43-year career also worked for the DoD (Army), a non-profit, other private industry, and had a home-based secretarial service for 17 years. Linda has called herself a member of the LM-Denver community since her husband Larry came to MMDA in 1980. She joined LMSSC in 2000 as an administrative assistant in Defense Systems, retiring in 2007, and has been a member of MARS since Larry's retirement in 2001. She is completing her

term as VP--Membership, and has volunteered to serve as Secretary for MARS.

VP Business-William Schrott

Joined Martin Marietta in January of 1970 and retired from Lockheed Martin in January 2001. His first assignment at Martin was in Titan Mission Success as the group engineer. In early 1978 Bill moved to Boston to work the OASIS program as the Software Quality Manager. Upon return to Denver, he continued his career in Software Quality Management. Bill worked many programs like ORB, P105, Ground Systems, Defense Systems, and Special programs. During his last 5 years at Lockheed Martin, he was the Central Manager of Software Quality Assurance. He was involved in technical and management training classes, which included TQM, Software Engineering, and ethics.

Other Interests: woodworking, history, golf, and traveling.

VP Communications – Bob Snodgrass

Bob graduated from Denver University in 1958 and joined the Glen L. Martin Company after graduation. In his career of 42 ½ years with the company, he served in a variety of capacities including Skylab computer team member, Program Director on Viking, Director of Operation at Denver, Titan Solid Rockets Program Director, Titan Operations Director. He has served previously as the VP of Communications and most recently supported his wife Bonnie, as VP of Communications for the past 4 years. In addition to his MARS activities, he and Bonnie are both very active in Community Bible Study where they serve. He and Bonnie are active members of the Southern Chapter of the Colorado Draft Horse Association, they live on a ranch west of Castle Rock in Plum Creek Valley and have a team of black and white Percheron Draft horses. Their four children, their spouses and seven grandchildren all live near in the Denver area.



Membership

By Linda Stearns

(linda80120@comcast.net)

Look for your membership renewal form in this mailing! It is due by March 1.

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

As of January 1, 2011, MARS Associates' active membership is 1,614 including 807 senior members (at least 75 years old, as of February 28, 2010). Please welcome the following new and returning members:

Colorado

Boulder	Robert Woodruff
Castle Rock	Paulette Malinowski
Centennial	Karen and Dan Hover James Libhart and Pamela Schmidt
Denver	Leona and Edgar Dawson
Highlands Ranch	Joe and Candace Petty Marianne Andres
Lakewood	Ronald and Ronne Young
Littleton	Elizabeth Confesor Edwin and Gail Evertson Daniel Beebe Andrew and Joanne Spiessbach
Pueblo West	Francis and Hildy Wade

Other States

Peoria, Arizona	William and Linda Rappold
Osage Beach, Missouri	Frank and Kathleen Nash
Las Vegas, Nevada	Michael and Veronica Heryla
Las Cruces,	James and

New Mexico Deborah Ivey

Oak Harbor, Leroy Bell
Washington

MEMBERSHIP DATA

MARS-Affiliated Clubs and Volunteering

It is the member's responsibility to contact any MARS-affiliated club officer or point-of contact to participate in or to volunteer for any activities. See the MARS web pages or the MARS Star for more information about these activities.

MARS Membership Unit

MARS membership is defined in the policy manual as a family unit consisting of the retiree and spouse (or significant other), although the membership card and mailing data are in the retiree's name. In the event that the retiree dies, the spouse becomes the member in his/her own name and may remain a MARS member by continuing to pay the annual dues. The senior status accorded a membership is based on the retiree's date of birth, even for a surviving spouse member.

Membership Renewal

Renewal forms are mailed in the **January** mailing. On your renewal form, please verify all of your personal information, including spouse or significant other and email address on your form, or if you no longer have an email address. Let me know of any changes to your email address even if you don't want it posted on the website.

Addresses & Phone Numbers

You can ensure that you receive all your STAR mailings, with newsletters, flyers and information about MARS and Lockheed Martin activities. Please notify us promptly by letter, e-mail or phone call of any email, address, or telephone number change and do not miss out on your MARS STAR mailings. If you regularly spend part of the year away from your address of record, let us know what your alternate address is and when you are there. We will send your STAR mailing to that address! Every quarter, there are a number of packages that do not arrive because members' addresses have changed without our being aware and Standard mail is not forwarded. You miss out on the mailing, the postage is spent anyway, and the Post Office charges us for notification of undeliverable envelopes. Everyone loses!

In Memoriam Data

The information in this section of the STAR includes published obituary reports and information communicated directly from MARS members or their families. Please contact me or Roy Kannady with any information concerning this so that we may

acknowledge in the *In Memoriam* section a member or spouse passing away and we can also keep the membership data current.

You can contact me, Linda Stearns, VP of Membership, at: MARS Associates, P.O. Box 1128, Littleton, CO, 80160-1128; Phone 303-797-3557; or email linda80120@comcast.net.

MARS Associates In Memoriam

By Roy Kannady
(KANNADYR1@ASME.ORG)

Members

Clisham, Vincent J. (D: Oct '10)
(Survived by Dorothy N.)
Spanish Fort, AL

Cottle, Elwood M. "Woody" (D: Dec '10)
(Survived by Phyllis E.)
Highlands Ranch, CO

Fujiyoshi, Thomas (D: Sep '10)
(Survived by Marilyn)
Sebastopol, CA

George, Sharon L. (D: Dec '10)
(Preceded by Bill (D: Jul '03))
Denver, CO

Hegarty, Madeleine (D: Oct '10)
(Survived by Carl F.)
Denver, CO

Kellogg, Christine V. (D: Dec '10)
(Preceded by James D. Sr. (D: Mar '10))
Sheridan, CO

Kucharski, Terrence W. "Terry" (D: Nov '10)
(Survived by Connie L.)
Littleton, CO

Lewis, Joan L. (D: Sep '10)
(Preceded by Robert O. (D: Jul '10))
Lakewood, CO

Major, Judith A. "Judy" (D: Dec '10)
(Survived by Lawrence G. "Larry")
Littleton, CO

Mielziner, Walter (D: Nov '10)
Denver, CO

Miller, Thomas M. "Tom" (D: Nov '10)
(Survived by Marlys)
Peoria, AZ

Nelson, Albert J. (D: Dec '10)
(Survived by Nancy S.)
Littleton, CO

Osborne, Norman A. (D: Oct '10)
(Survived by Susan H. "Sue")
Highlands Ranch, CO

Schallermuller, Albert R. "Al" (D: Nov '10)
(Survived by Elizabeth M. "Betty")
Highlands Ranch, CO

White, Charles E. "Chuck" (D: Sep '10)
(Survived by Joan M.)
Lakewood, CO

Non-Members

Almanza, Raymond D, (D: Oct '10)
(Survived by Karen)
Littleton, CO

Brown, Jerry E. (D: Oct '10)
(Survived by Oneta "Denny")
Castle Rock, CO

Eicher, Marvin L. (D: Dec '10)
Littleton, CO

Feely, James E. Jr. "Bud" (D: Nov '10)
(Survived by Charlene)
Englewood, CO

Hall, Andrew "Andy" (D: Sep '10)
(Survived by Terry)
Athens, AL

Martin, George W. Sr. (D: Oct '10)
(Survived by Barbara)
Kennesaw, GA

Smith, Clarence E. (D: Oct '10)
(Preceded by Edith Ann (Jul '05))
Dubach, LA

Historian's Corner

Unveiling the Mysteries of Saturn

by Barb Sande
(barbsande@comcast.net).

The weather at Cape Canaveral was clear and quite warm in the hours before dawn on Wednesday, October 15, 1997. Powerful lights bathed Launch Complex LC-40 as the countdown continued for Titan launch vehicle TIVB-33 and its Centaur TC-21 upper stage. A very special payload awaited liftoff: The massive Cassini spacecraft and its companion Titan moon explorer, Huygens. At 4:43 am Eastern Time, the Solid Rocket Motors on TIVB-33 roared to life and Cassini/Huygens began its incredible journey to Saturn. [Photo 1 on cover]. The launch and spacecraft support teams from around the United States and from many other countries cheered as TIVB-33 cleared small clouds near the pad and accelerated across the sky. Approximately 48 minutes later, after two Centaur upper stage engine burns, the spacecraft successfully separated to begin its long journey to the ringed planet.

The Cassini/Huygens spacecraft was the largest exploration spacecraft ever launched by NASA, weighing over 12,000 pounds at liftoff. Cassini was named after the Italian/French astronomer Jean-Dominique Cassini (1625-1712), who discovered four of Saturn's moons and observed the rings. The Huygens probe honors Dutch astronomer Christiaan Huygens (1629-1695), who discovered the moon Titan. Cassini's size and outer solar system destination necessitated the use of the powerful Titan launch vehicle and Centaur upper stage, but it was still incapable of reaching Saturn directly, at nearly 900 million miles from Earth. Cassini also required an elaborate feat of navigation, a gravity assist trajectory that took the spacecraft by Venus (twice), back by Earth and finally past Jupiter on Dec 30, 2000, at last arriving at the Saturn system on Jul 1, 2004. [Photo 2 on cover] Cassini passed through the ring plane and went into orbit around Saturn; Cassini uses the large moon Titan as its focal point for the many orbits around the planet in its primary four-year mission and follow-on missions.

Science began in earnest upon arrival. Cassini has twelve scientific instruments used to examine Saturn, the rings and its moons in a variety of light conditions and light spectra (visible, infrared, radio waves, radar, ultraviolet) and also examine plasma fields, dust particles and the magnetosphere of the planet. Cassini relies on nuclear power for its electrical systems and to heat the instruments,

because of its destination in the outer solar system. The spacecraft uses three large Radioisotope Thermoelectric Generators (RTGs) that power the systems and components, creating electrical energy from the heat decay of Plutonium Dioxide. In addition, 157 small Radioisotope Heating Units on the spacecraft provide heat for the instruments and components. Prior to launch, NASA and its contractors performed many special analyses and impact assessments to ensure the safety of this system. Cassini was not the first spacecraft to use RTGs, nor is it the last, but it does have the largest nuclear system flown on any spacecraft so far, relying on more than 70 pounds of Plutonium 238.

One of the first major tasks after arrival was the deployment of the European Space Agency Huygens probe, a small probe with a parachute system and six instruments that descended through the thick Titan moon atmosphere on January 15, 2005. Huygens sent back reams of data on the atmosphere of Titan and survived over an hour on the frigid surface. Titan, the second largest moon in the solar system, is of great interest to scientists because it is the only major moon with a thick atmosphere that includes many of the compounds that were present during the development of life on Earth, although conditions are much different in terms of sunlight and surface temperatures. [Photo 3]. As of January 2011, Cassini has performed 73 fly-bys of Titan, some at very close range. Cassini has also performed close and distant fly-bys of many of the other moons (62 moons at last count) and has done extensive monitoring of the ring system and the planet itself.

So what has Cassini discovered during its four-year primary mission, the two-year solstice mission and in its current equinox mission that ends in 2017? The findings are exhaustive and will keep scientists busy for decades; a few highlights include:

- 1) Titan has liquid lakes of ethane and methane, with associated weather systems ("methane" rains) and significant geological features, including possible "cryovolcanoes" (very cold temperatures) and hydrocarbon sand dunes.
- 2) The enigmatic moon Enceladus has an internal liquid water ocean, vents liquid water containing organic compounds from its southern pole region, has some of the youngest surface features of any solar system moon and creates the ghostly E-ring with its emissions. Enceladus and Europa (in the Jupiter system) are of great interest to scientists looking for life elsewhere in the solar system. [photo 4]

- 3) The rings are extraordinarily complex, with clumps of materials, tiny shepherd moons in the gaps, many small ringlets and even the presence of a tenuous atmosphere.
- 4) Saturn itself has huge, long-lasting electrical storms, atmospheric "waves" and bizarre hurricane-like structures at both poles.
- 5) Other moons of Saturn have unique features, including Iapetus (contrasting dark and light hemispheres and huge, linear mountain ranges), Mimas (significant surface temperature variations), and the icy moons of Rhea and Dione (organic materials).

Cassini is one of the last "great planetary exploration missions", in the same category as the Viking Orbiters/Landers, the two Voyager Spacecraft and the Galileo mission to Jupiter. Under development for nearly twenty years and surviving numerous budget cuts, Cassini and its companion spacecraft Huygens represent the culmination of rigorous systems design and development activities by agencies, companies, universities and individuals in 17 nations and 33 states. Lockheed Martin was a major contributor to this incredibly successful program, providing the launch vehicle, spacecraft integration and the main propulsion system for Cassini. For more information about Cassini, including the latest news, go to <http://saturn.jpl.nasa.gov/index.cfm>

Submitted by Barb Sande. Barb worked on the Titan program for 25 years, was on the launch support team for the Cassini launch (and many other Titan launches) and is currently in charge of special studies and analyses for Mission Success Integration at LMSSC. She and her husband Steve also volunteer for JPL as part of the Solar System Ambassador program, a public outreach initiative to help civic and school groups learn about exploration programs; the Cassini mission is one of their favorite topics. Barb's vanity plates say "Cassini".

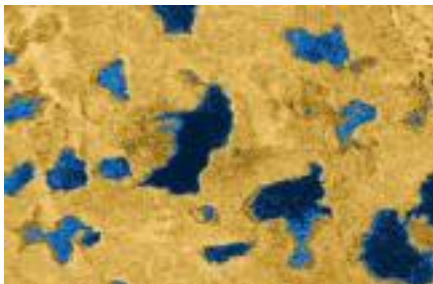


Photo 3: Ethane/Methane lakes on Titan (radar image)
Photo Credit: NASA/JPL

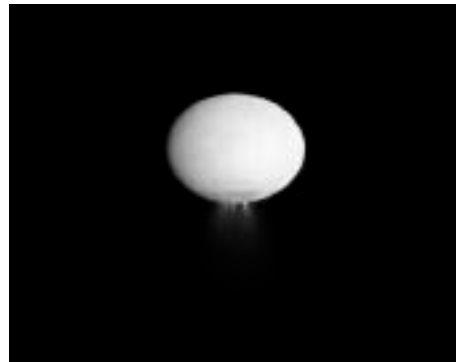


Photo 4: Enceladus venting from its south pole
Photo Credit: NASA/JPL/Space Science Institute

Bridge Club

By Dave & Kathy Martz
(martz20@comcast.net)

Bridge: A game of chance . . . perhaps. A game of luck. . . maybe. Strategy . . . always. But, if by chance you're lucky and strategic you just might win!

In December we had more players (32) than we've had in the last 36 months. In December, we celebrated the 25th Anniversary of MARS and the Christmas Holiday. What a great time everybody had while we partied and played bridge.

We welcome all MARS members to come and join us at our monthly get together. We play on the **3rd Friday of each month at the Buck Community Recreation Center (Littleton) from 10 AM to 2 PM** (pack your lunch). The club provides the cards and all requirements for the games as well as coffee, tea, and hot water for your enjoyment.

Couples, as well as singles, are welcome. If you don't have a bridge partner, the club can assist in finding one for you if you let us know in advance.

If you have any questions, please contact any of the following Bridge Club Officers:

Presidents:
Dave & Kathy Martz, 303-683-9524
Vice-Presidents:
Bill & Connie Lutes, 303-470-5982
Secretary:
Dick Farrell, 303-798-6502

The 4th Quarter 2010 winners are as follows:
October 15 (4 1/2 tables)
1st – Mike Davis & Trudy White

- 2nd – Ernie & Cecile Berliner
3rd – Dave & Kathy Martz
4th – Ed Cortez & Theodore Bornhoeft

November 19 (5 ½ tables)

- N/S 1st – Theodore Bornhoeft & Ed Cortez
2nd – Bill & Connie Lutes
E/W 1st – Bill & Mavis Kacena
2nd – Dave & Kathy Martz

December 17 (8 tables)

- 1st – Raymond & Ellis Weinrich
2nd – Bill & Mavis Kacena
3rd – Len Johnson & Joni Rosenberger
4th – Loman & Pat Park

Dinner Club

By Ralph & Carole Dergance
(rhdergance@msn.com)

Your Dinner Club just keeps on enjoying very fine, cost-effective meals in 2010. The level of participation increases with each year. We also continue to receive suggested venues from our members.

We began this quarter on **October 12** when **57** Associates were treated to a wonderful luncheon at the **Café de France**. We then closed the year at **The Garden Terrace** in the Inverness hotel on **November 10** where **66** members enjoyed the usual superior buffet.

2011 will begin with a return to the **Wild Ginger** in Littleton on **January 12** for their fantastic Thai food. Back by VERY popular demand, we will then partake in a private gourmet Sunday brunch at **Opus** on **February 20**. Our usual light rail venture to **The Buckhorn Exchange** for lunch will be held on **March 16**. We will then venture all the way to **The Golden Hotel** for a dinner on **April 20**. Other events locked-in for 2011 are dinner at **Pinehurst CC** on **May 18**; lunch at **Mount Vernon CC** on **June 15**; and dinner at **240 Union** on **August 17**. There is no event scheduled for July as your Dinner Club presidents will be out of town for most of the month. The remainder of our events for 2011 are currently in the planning phase, and we welcome all suggestions for venues from our members.

Thanks to your continued enthusiastic support, many of our events reach capacity **well within a week or two of the STAR mailing**. Therefore, you are all advised to get your checks in early.

Please remember that you may send a single check if you choose to simultaneously reserve spaces for multiple Dinner Club events. Please do not combine Dinner Club events with other MARS events (i.e. Holiday Celebration, Annual Meeting, Senior Luncheon, Picnic, Dues, etc.) on a single check. **Also, please remember to include the name(s) of guest(s) on the sign-up slips. This will greatly simplify preparation for your events.**

We look forward to the continued success of the MARS Associates Dinner Club. We encourage all Associates and their guests to join us for very enjoyable, affordable, and satisfying culinary events.

Remember this sage advice:

"Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young. The greatest thing in life is to keep your mind young." **Henry Ford**

Buono L'appetito!!!!!!!

Golf League

By Gregor Smith
(Gregor.Smith@bodywise.net)

Our 2010 season was filled with highly competitive rounds of differing events from individual play to team events like 4-man best ball, 4-man Modified Stableford, two-man best ball, etc. With Individual events having four flights based on CGA certified handicaps, and a competitive mix of teams, all have excellent chances to win prizes. Play had a little rough start due to weather in early spring, but then we had very nice weather up thru the last Thursday in October.

We play two beautiful courses that get better each year. They were both modified significantly in the past three years and each offers their own challenges. Broken Tee has some tight fairways and lots of water that comes into play. Common Ground has open fairways with challenging greens and numerous fairway bunkers to add to course management strategy. Common Ground was rated one of the top 20 new courses open to the public at anything close to the price we pay (\$10.00 off regular green fee).

Our pace of play improved this past year and we believe we have ways to get even better going forward.

We look forward to even better times ahead in 2011, beginning on the seventh of April. We're always looking for new members to join the league and add to the competition and fun, especially on the 19th hole. Remember that spouses of MARS members are also eligible and welcome. For questions or interest, please contact Gregor Smith (720-320-7493), Paul Boykin (303-346-4814).

Photography Club

By John Flater
(jfflater@msn.com)

The MARS Photography Club meets the second Thursday of every other month at 1:30 PM in the Littleton Bemis Library meeting room. Scheduled meetings for 2011 are February, April, June, August, October, and December. Meetings feature a program of projected images presented by members or invited guests. **Visitors are welcome even if they are *not "photo geeks"*.**

Frequently, at our meetings, the subject of the presentation is a TRAVELOGUE in which the presenter shows slides/video of a vacation, with narration. If you enjoy seeing images and hearing experiences from others' travel vacations, give the MARS Photo Club a try. After the presentation we have a coffee break during which members can share travel and photography tips.

Some programs by members or invited guests are related to photographic techniques and tools usually illustrated by slides, prints and/or equipment. **If you and/or your significant other are interested in film or digital photography** join us then for interesting programs, fascinating photos and an opportunity to upgrade technical and creative photographic skills by sharing knowledge and experiences. New members are always welcome at our meetings, so bring a friend if you like. Ideas, comments and suggestions for programs are appreciated.

In addition to the presentation, our meetings usually include a competition of images taken by club participants. The image subject matter may be Open (any subject) or for some competitions a specific subject matter. The competition has

categories of color and/or monochrome (usually black and white) prints. A participant may submit up to three prints. Awards for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and Honorable Mention may be made depending on the number of images entered. Entries are judged and critiqued by invited judges or club members. After each meeting competition, the **Photography Club** page (section) of the MARS web site <http://www.marsretirees.org> is updated to show thumbnail images of the winning pictures and future meeting topics.

October 14, 2010

At our meeting in October John Chapter presented a program about how antique photographs of locations in/near Rome led him to do some interesting research. The challenge was to determine if subjects still existed and where the photographer and his camera were located to take the pictures. To do this John showed many photos that he had taken on a previous trip to Rome and vicinity. The monthly club competition subject was **"Open"**. John Chapter as judge selected the following winners:

1 st Place: "Rust and Shadows"	Larry Stearns
2 nd Place: "New Zealand Springtime"	John Flater
3 rd Place: "Sunset at Lake Wilson"	John Flater
Honorable Mention: "Serenity"	Joe Presta

December 10, 2010

The club's annual holiday luncheon was held at Country Buffet on South Wadsworth at 11 AM. Conversation during the meal touched on photo equipment and methods (no surprise). There was no photo competition but several members brought three favorite slides to project and share with all present for the program.

Future Meetings:

February 10, 2011

Ed and Nancy Bathke will be making their Antarctica **TRAVELOGUE** presentation. **MARS members that have thought about a visit to the land of ice and snow should not miss seeing images and hearing experiences from the Bathkes.** There is plenty of time to arrange your calendar schedule.

To verify meeting dates, competition subject and **program** topic go the main MARS web site <http://www.marsretirees.org>, then - click **"Photography"** on the Clubs button at the lower left to get the photo club's webpage. Here you'll see **Check the Meeting Schedule below..** If the

Program has the word **TRAVELOGUE**, it's a vacation show-and-tell; the Competition topic is also listed. Come and enjoy both.

Competition reminder: Meeting photo competition entries may be prints as small as 4"x 6" to make it more practical for those using digital cameras to print images on their own printers. All submissions must be affixed to a matboard/cardboard or foam backing of at least 8"x10" or as large as 16"x20" for ease of handling and display.

Club Officers for the year were:

OFFICE through JULY AUG to YEAR END

President	John Chapter	John Chapter
Vice-President	Jim Kummer	Jim Kummer
Secretary	John Flater	John Flater

Planner's Report

By Dolph Hellman

marblehead8hell9dw3@hotmail.com

None of the planners submitted anything for this issue so I would like to tell you about rediscovering my love for reading and some suggestions.

Since retirement, I have the pleasure of reading an hour or so before bed. Something that I'm sure all of us were unable to do when we were working.

I could do many articles on my favorite authors, and may if I have nothing to write about, but for now let me talk about two writers of fiction.

The first is John Irving. He is my favorite American writer who has been praised for his Dickensian style. He has written over 14 works of fiction and non-fiction. He tells grand stories of characters that live in New England. You can Google him and find all his works but let me address my two favorites.

Cider House Rules is a charming and witty novel whose underlining theme is "women's rights" There was a movie made with the same title (available on DVD) which stars Michael Cain, and earned John Irving an Oscar for the Best Adaptive Screenplay. Great Movie! Great Book!

Another Irving novel, my #1 favorite, is *A Prayer for Owen Meany*. I re-read it, at least, every other Christmas. It is the story of two boys, best friends,

growing up in New Hampshire. It is complicated, hilarious and heart breaking. It never fails to make me laugh out loud and later cry. Its underlying themes are belief in God and the tragedy of war, specifically Vietnam. I read it around Christmas because of a section involving a children's Christmas pageant.

While reading it a few weeks ago I was struck by the similarity of what our leaders said then and what they say now. A movie was made covering only parts and is not worth your time. It is titled *Simon Birch*.

My second recommendation is author Stieg Larsson. His last 3 books, *The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo*; *The Girl Who Played With Fire*; and, *The Girl Who Kicked The Hornets Nest*, have all become international sensations as crime novels.

Stieg died of a heart attack before he reached his 50th birthday, and before the books were published. Very sad for him, not realizing his success, and sad for his fans that there will be no more novels (It is reported that he planned on writing 10). These 3 books have sold over 40 + million copies worldwide and sales are continuing to rise.

The heroine is 4'9", 90-pound wisp of a girl named Lizbeth Salander. Lizbeth dresses "punk rock", is anti-social, uncommunicative, and determined to do things her way. She is a "computer hacker" extraordinaire, and doesn't take s**t from anyone. The 1st book involves her and a journalist, Mikael Bloomkvist, taking on a 40-year-old abduction and murder of a teenage girl.

The second book deals with Lizbeth being accused of 3 murders and the third book with her, mostly non-violent, revenge. The books are translated from Swedish and take place in Sweden, so I would strongly suggest that you get a map of Sweden. I got mine at AAA.

When reading an American novel and the author says, "I'm going to Cleveland", you know where he's going. When Salandar says, " I'm going to Uppsala, or Malmo, or Goteborg," you better have a map!

The first two books are in paperback and the third is still in hardback. The waiting list at your local Library for any of the 3 books is very, very long.

There are also 2 maps online, which are very helpful, in reading the 1st novel, by detailing the fictitious island of Hedeby. Both the island and the town of Hedestad are fictional places.

Like Russian novels, these have names that are unfamiliar and hard to pronounce. You may want to jot down the supporting characters. I have read all three books and have also listened to recorded editions so that I could hear how the names and places were pronounced and to better understand the intricacies of the novels.

All three have been made into Swedish language movies with the same actors for all three. The first two are available on DVD. The 3rd is currently in theaters and the DVD is scheduled to release in late January 2011. The movies are good with the 3rd earning the highest praise.

I recommend, as with any movie made from a book, reading the book first, but if you're not a reader or you can't wait to get the book through the library, you can still enjoy the films.

I have found that the English dubbed setting, with or without subtitles, is the best way to view them. Swedish is pretty distracting to hear (unless you're Swedish) and the dubbed version is very well done.

These 3 novels by Larsson are complicated, but very rewarding. I have yet to meet a person who has not loved the books and especially Salander. She is the most extraordinary heroine I have ever met. It's best if you read the books and see the movies in order.

Perhaps the greatest compliment to the popularity of the books is that the *Girl With The Dragon Tattoo* movie is current being re-made by Hollywood, with Daniel Craig and Rooney Mara as Bloomkvist and Salander.

Both of these authors write detailed and intricate stories with many subplots. At times, like in the beginning of *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, you wonder why we are dealing with a libel charge against Bloomkvist. Read with "faith", as it all comes together. Enjoy!

The Planners meet the first Thursday of each month at 11:15 a.m. at the Country Buffet on South Wadsworth, just north of Bowles. All you retirees are invited to come anytime, even you engineers. Call Dolph Hellman at 303-794-0852 if you have questions or need directions.

The MARS Associates Website

By Paul Bingham
(pbingham@central.com)

Your EzBytes Computer Group does two things; we operate the MARS web site at MARSRetirees.org, and we teach computer classes for both Windows and Macintosh computers.

On the MARS web site, we provide useful information for you, the members, about activities of the various clubs, discounts and other business-related information, insurance company contact information and schedules for our computer classes. Also, each month, one or more site-of-the-month items are posted. These are web sites which we, the web site committee, feel are of benefit to the membership.

MARS members are encouraged to submit suggestions, for site-of-the-month, to Jim Kummer (jkummer@comcast.net, 303-986-3966). Here are the site-of-the-month offerings from last quarter:

October - www.votesmart.org

Information on the candidates

November - www.exploratorium.edu

Online museum of science, art and human perception

December - www.animatedatlas.com/movie.html

Animated portrayal of growth of USA

The following are a couple of useful links:

Denver traffic link:

<http://autos.msn.com/everyday/trafficreport.aspx?metro=27>

Colorado Road Conditions link:

<http://www.cotrip.org/home.htm>

FREE SOFTWARE: I thought that would get your attention. I'm writing this column with free software that I thought you'd be interested in knowing about. And, when I make changes to the web pages for which I'm responsible, I've been doing that with free software too.

So, what are they? The first is software called "OpenOffice." It is essentially Microsoft Office. It has a word processing program called Writer, which I'm using now, a spreadsheet program called Calc, a Database program called Base, a graphics program named Draw, and a presentation program named Impress and it is a free download. To obtain an equivalent program from Microsoft, including a database, costs about \$400. OpenOffice may be downloaded from OpenOffice.com. Frequent

updates are also available at this same URL. "The suite started out as a proprietary product called StarOffice developed by StarDivision in Germany, but this changed when it was purchased by Sun Microsystems in 1999. Sun released the software under a permissive license in 2000 in the hope of gathering a community of developers around the application that would then build and improve upon it, allowing it to emulate the success of other open source projects such as the Mozilla browser suite, which spawned Firefox. The intention of the project is to compete with Microsoft Office, and it therefore borrows much of the structure of Microsoft's flagship suite and also supports its file formats. The latest version of OpenOffice.org can open files created using Microsoft Office 2007. OpenOffice.org's native formats - collectively called the Open Document Format (ODF) have been adopted as an international standard and are in use across a growing range of applications. It has been released for Windows, Linux, Solaris, and Mac OS X." * (*Ref: Beginning OpenOffice 3, A. Chappelle, 2009, Apress)

The second free program is "Komposer." Komposer is an open source web development tool built on NewView, which I also used for awhile. It is easy to use and includes one-button publishing. It has been released for Windows and Mac PPC but not Intel Mac.

Your website committee members are: Jim Kummer, Linda Stearns. Duane "Smitty" Smetana, Bob Knickerbocker and Paul Bingham

Denver News /What's New

By Pat Kenning
(patamk@yahoo.com)

Richard Moog - MARS retired engineer, Mr. Fix It, author

Those who carefully read the Star, may recall my pleas for retirees to come forth with what is going on in their present lives besides travel & travel.

So far, only Richard Moog has responded by sending me his impressive biography and a copy of a booklet as an example of the writing and self publishing activities he has been engaged in. Mr. Moog has published many prestigious technical papers, including "We Are the People and We Have the Power" a thoughtful analysis of our current government.

Born and raised in Eveleth, MN where the US Hockey Hall of Fame is located, he married his sweetheart Nancy and has 3 grown children living in California, District of Columbia and Littleton.

His University of MN Engineering Degrees prepared him for Naval service, engineering for Braniff Airlines, Douglas aircraft, among others, culminating in a distinguished 30 year career at Lockheed Martin. He retired in 1990, and for the next 15 years, he volunteered as Mr. Fixit at a local nursing home. They were very sorry when he left due to health concerns.

Mr. Moog can be contacted at rdmoog@yahoo.com

Please give Pat a call or send her an email with your input for publication in the next STAR newsletter.

RAMM - Baltimore News

By Dottie Ruth
(dottruth725@comcast.net)

Well, the holidays are over and we are now trying to get rid of our Christmas fruitcake. It doesn't seem to be Christmas without one, yet it never seems to be consumed, it just sits there scenting the room with the aroma of rum. I hear they're good eating, even after you find one 26 years later, hidden in a closet. Must be that 40% alcohol they've been soaking in.

The year 2010 was pretty good to us. We had our annual picnic, our Spring and Christmas dances, though this year I did hear more sounds from bones cracking than from the music being played. We also celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Glenn L. Martin Maryland Aviation Museum. We're very proud of our museum and the preservation of the Glenn L. Martin history it contains. See what is going on at www.marylandaviationmuseum.org.

This year of 2011, the Retiree Association of Martin Marietta will celebrate their 25th anniversary. The RAMM's are small in members now. Where we once had over 1300 members we now have 325. Our average age is in the late 80's so it is obvious why we have dwindled, but what a fun group we are. About 100 of our members come to our monthly meetings and half our members attend the dances - with canes, walkers, and even wheelchairs. How's that for our old Glenn L. Martin retirees? Yes, you can't stop old-timers from having fun.

January and February can be pretty depressing months, especially for the elderly, when we are kept indoors by weather not appropriate for us. A 92 year old man once described happiness as follows: "Happiness is something you decide ahead of time. I make a decision every morning when I wake up. I have a choice; I can spend the day in bed recounting the difficulty I have with parts of my body that no longer work, or get out of bed and be thankful for the ones that do. Each day is a gift and as long as my eyes open, I'll focus on the new day and all the happy memories I've stored away –just for this time in my life. Old age is like a bank account. You withdrawal from what you put in and I'm still depositing!"

So when you have a bad day this winter, withdrawal from the deposit you put in on your good day.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy 2011!

Cape Canaveral News

By Carl Welton

weltonck@aol.com

The 7 October Retiree Luncheon was attended by about 25 retirees. Tom Booth was down from Denver and visited with us. It was interesting talking with Tom and getting his perspective on the differences in the Denver plant since I retired from Martin Marietta at the end of 1994 and now. How the addition of the General Dynamics Atlas and Centaur personnel along with the Lockheed personnel have changed the attitudes and working conditions at Denver. Just laid off from USA, Mike Hunter attended with proud dad Roy Hunter. I remember Mike from when he was working for Martin either the Space Lab and/or the tank contract as a Tracking and flight Safety Engineer. Flying weather was good so Ed McMechen was down from Belleview Florida and brought along his brother Guy. Gordon Newman came down from Edgewater and Bob Matchner back from his travels. Dick Hinshaw brought Dean Willoughby who made his normal loud entrance and announced good news that after his third chemo cycle his cancer was now in remission. Harry Holmes told me that former Activations Chief Ralph Taylor passed away several weeks ago. Several other retirees in attendance we have not seen recently were Berry House, Abe Smith, and Walt Starkey.

The 4 November luncheon was attended by 23 retirees. Rich Tennis was down from White Springs

for both the luncheon and the Saturday BBQ and Car Show. Herb Pugh is back on the Space Coast from the Mississippi Gulf Coast for the winter. Other retirees in attendance that we had not seen recently were Don Anderson, Ken Hawes, Nick Geso, Cecil Snipes, Sylvia Sansing, and Larry Gleason.

Saturday 6 November turned out just darn cold for Dick Olson's and Bob Rodamer's 11th Annual Retiree BBQ & Car Show. But the crowd was bigger, more neat cars to look at, plenty of food and great music. Among the former Titan Launch team members I saw and talked with were: John Harris, Wendy Fields, Al Schaffle, Richard Rogers, Cecil Snipes, Bob Matschner, Butch Ford, Ed and Guy McMechen, Rich Tennis, Harry Holmes, Jimmy Weddle, Jim Cotton, Jim Milby, Art White Jr, Hank Ambrosch (taking lots of pictures), Bill Masterson, Joanna Serabia, Roy Hunter, Donna Dunn and many of the retirees' wives. All I can say is "thanks a bunch to both Bob and Dick and to their wives for all the work and if you were one of the few that missed it, you missed a great one".



Some of the Entries at the Car Show

The 2 December luncheon drew about 35 retirees including Bill Case, Ken Williams, Charley Holste, Dave Tufts, Judi Kline and Ron Frisbee who we had not seen recently. Hank Ambrosch arrived with a broken ankle and handed out a bunch of DVD's from the 165 pictures he took at the BBQ & Car Show. Don Anderson and Nick Geso both mentioned that 93 year old retired tech Don Gess passed away on 19 November 2010. Walt Starkey volunteers at the new AF museum located at the old Florida Solar Energy Center outside the Cape South Gate. The museum is available to everybody. They have relocated a lot of the displays from the Complex 26 museum which is available only to badged personnel.

Both T.C. Coberly and Jerry Moskovitz passed along information that 93 year old former Aerojet and later Martin Inspector Vern Foelgner fell and broke his hip but is now completing rehabilitation. Vern lives with his son in Bonita Springs Florida.

Caught up in the first of the large 1,100 employee Shuttle Program lay-offs several weeks ago were George Pestik and Tom Tyczkowski who along with Ken Shipe had answered Norm White's call for retired engineers to work for Analex as temporary NASA Engineers several years ago. Speaking of Ken Shipe we swapped e-mails recently. Ken and Dottie were in Aberdeen North Carolina building a Habitat for Humanity house and they plan to slowly migrate to Central Florida by mid November and stay in the area until mid February. Understand Reed DeLaVergne has been in the hospital since late June with a broken femur in his left leg. Another sign of the economic times and the down turn of the space program here at the CAPE, Bernard's Surf closed last week. Rusty Fisher and the Fisher Family sold the Bar and Restaurant several years ago. Attended the Missile, Space and Range Pioneers dinner in November, Scott Henderson Director of Mission Success for the Space X Program was the speaker. It was interesting to hear owner Elon Musk's and the Space X approach to cost competitive reliable commercial aerospace. It is much different than the current government programs we worked in. Will it work? It will be interesting to watch over the next 10 years. I had an e-mail from former Titan I, II and Gemini Quality Planner Lou Poley saying he will be visiting on the Space Coast early next year and plans on making the February luncheon. Lou also bid many of the Complex 40 and 41 Titan IV rebuild contracts for Olsen Electric. Visited retired AFQA guy Roy Durso in the hospital. Roy was with us on Titan III in the late 1960's and then transferred to VAFB where he was the AFQA Chief of the Titan program there. His wife worked for Martin and ran the Titan Data Center there prior the returning to Florida and working for Martin Orlando.

On 6 October 2010 retired Payload Technician Dale Polk died from Cancer. Dale was a 30 year veteran of the Space Program here. The last 16 years with us on the Titan program. Before joining us he worked on the Mercury, Gemini, Apollo, and Shuttle programs. After retiring from Lockheed Martin he and his son started and ran several small manufacturing companies in the Titusville area, Dale also helped build several churches in North Brevard County. Dale worked for Dean Willoughby as a Mechanical Tech and later Cecil Snipe as a Payload

Tech. Both will tell you Dale was a real craftsman and could make anything with his hands. As a Payload Tech Dale traveled many times with Cecil working on highly classified programs and was a major contributor to the payload team's successes.

On 7 October 2010 retiree Sadie Lewis passed away at the Duke University Hospital in Durham North Carolina where she was being treated for cancer. It is our understanding that her daughter was having a Memorial Service there and they planned to have a Memorial Service here locally at a later date. I will always remember a lady with a big smile when she was the company mail person. After I retired she went to work in the Reproduction Area for Jerry Teague and was the always helpful lady there. Sadie came and had lunch with the retired group on several occasions.

Just found out retired 6555th ATG civilian engineer Joe Kainer passed away 20 September 2010 from cancer. Joe was with us on the Titan program for many years. He represented the government's interests very well. He was a very knowledgeable engineer and in his quiet way contributed to the overall successes of the Titan program more than he was probably ever recognized for. He was a friend to many of us and we always enjoyed the times he came and had lunch with the Titan Program retirees monthly. We will miss him.

If you worked on any of the Martin or Titan programs at the Cape, Denver, Vandenberg, or wherever come join us for lunch at Kay's BBQ located on SR 520 just west of Clearlake Road in Cocoa on the first Thursday of each month. You should be there between 11:00 and 11:15. You will meet many of your old friends.

REALM (Orlando News)

realm.fl.news@gmail.com

By Andrea Lawrence

andrea.j.lawrence@gmail.com

With the holiday season over, REALM members are planning several events for the Spring. Upcoming activities include a cruise to Panama in March, two plays, and two or three Lunch Bunch gatherings at Orlando area restaurants and country clubs.

The science fair season has begun and our members are part of the cadre of judges who review and

judge the work of local students. We will support 8 to 10 fairs this season.

On January 31, the new board of directors takes the reign from the 2010 officers. President Harold Cates was elected to a second term, which provides a great opportunity for him to continue his initiatives to increase REALM's support to the community.

MARS members are invited to read REALM News online at <http://www.realm-fl.org/newsletters.htm>

News From Michoud

By Greg Kaminski (no email)

No article submitted by Greg for Michoud this quarter.

Martin Marietta Retiree's Club (Vandenberg News)

By Charlie Radaz
(fcmjradaz@aol.com)

On the 30th of September we met in Lompoc at the Embassy Suites for visitation among members and guests, a nice lunch and a very special talk by a World War II Army Air Force pilot, Harry Schlueter, who lives in Vandenberg Village. We had 26 members and guests privileged to meet and hear about Harry's experiences in China "Flying the Hump" from India to China transporting much needed supplies. Starting in 1995, the 50th anniversary of V-J Day, China started a series of visits hosting WW II vets, honoring and thanking them for their efforts during the war. Harry has visited China on a number of these opportunities that are held every five years, and can reminisce about visiting familiar places and noting the changes made in recent years.

Our October 28th meeting was held at the Santa Maria Inn with 32 members and guests. Our Immediate Past-President 'Bud' Gurnet gave a welcomed program "Reviewing the U.S. Constitution". Bud started with the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence and described the fate of these courageous men; very few had long lives. After reviewing the Constitution and Bill of Rights, Bud urged everyone to be sure to vote on Election Day!!!

We did not meet in November since the last Thursday is Thanksgiving Day.

While not a part of the Martin Marietta Retirees' Club activities, I will mention for some that can remember or have heard of the sudden demise of OSTF and the first Titan I at Vandenberg on 3 December 1960. A small cadre of us recognized the 50th anniversary of the event by visiting the site, the museum and had lunch at the Officer's Club together revisiting the many stories about the explosion, etc. The local newspapers and Air Force Historical Preservation folks were on hand and interviewed us for Cold War History records. I was proud to present a 'Thank You' card and Beer Stein from our group to Finny Grossi, a fine German lady (now living in Lompoc), that was the "Roach Coach" driver serving all of us missile guys at the sites those 50 years ago!!!!

The last meeting of 2010 was our annual Christmas Luncheon held again this year at the Radisson Hotel at the Santa Maria Airport and enjoyed by 47 participants. Our entertainment was a four-person ukulele group which our President "Robby" Robinson arranged; rumor has it that he is a member of this group! Speaking of Robby, he celebrated a big one December 28th...his 80th!!!!

Our next meeting will be 27 January at the Embassy Suites in Lompoc with what has become an important event....our member and tax expert, Bill Hughen Sr. will present an update of the latest tax laws for our guidance.

Our Club normally meets the last Thursday of each month at noon. We rotate meeting locations between Santa Maria, Lompoc and Buellton. All former employees and associate contractors are welcome to attend, visit and informally share stories; call Aubrey Collins (805) 937-8299 for location and reservations.

United Launch Alliance News

By Jill H. Altenhofen
(jill.h.altenhofen@ulalaunch.com)

United Launch Alliance Enters its Fifth Year with 45 Launches in 48 Months of Operation

As 2010 nears its end, United Launch Alliance (ULA) celebrates its fourth anniversary with 45 successful launches. ULA closed out 2010 in impressive fashion with the launch of the fourth Delta IV Heavy in

program history. The Nov. 21 launch capped a year of 100 percent mission success, including the launch of four Atlas V, one Delta II and three Delta IV rockets.

Among the 2010 payloads were several “firsts” for the Air Force including the first next generation GPS satellite, the first Advanced Extremely High Frequency satellite and the first Orbital Test Vehicle. Two launches each for NASA and the National Reconnaissance Office and a commercial launch completed the year.

In addition to eight launch successes in 2010, ULA also achieved many other accomplishments this year, including:

- A \$6.7 million contract award from NASA to participate in the Commercial Crew Development (CCDev) program for the development of an Emergency Detection System (EDS), which is the final significant element necessary for a safe and highly reliable human-rated launch vehicle.
- The celebration of 50 years of launch for one of the most successful rocket programs in U.S. history—the Delta program, which began with its first launch May 13, 1960. The launch of the 350th Delta rocket also occurred in the program’s 50th anniversary year with the launch of COSMO-SkyMed 4 aboard a Delta II.
- The launch contract award for the first Block II and fourth Wideband Global SATCOM (WGS-4) satellite. The WGS system is the first satellite constellation to launch on both the Atlas and Delta vehicles since ULA’s inception, demonstrating our operational flexibility.
- Further support of NASA’s Mars exploration programs with the launch contract award for the Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution (MAVEN) mission.
- Participation in President Obama’s Change the Equation (CTEq) program, a CEO-led initiative to cultivate widespread literacy in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) across the nation.
- *The evaluation and implementation of slot manifesting initiatives to enhance overall manifest scheduling responsiveness in coordination with key customers.*
- Membership with the Commercial Spaceflight Federation to strengthen business relationships with ULA’s existing commercial partners

including Bigelow Aerospace, Sierra Nevada Corporation, Space Florida and XCOR Aerospace.

- The launch of the 25-foot tall, 240-pound “Future” high-power rocket—the largest rocket ever launched from Colorado—designed, built and launched by ULA interns.
- The presentation of the 2010 AIAA George M. Low Space Transportation Award to ULA President and CEO Michael Gass for his leadership in combining the Atlas V and Delta II and IV launch vehicle programs while executing launches with 100 percent mission success.
- An *Aviation Week* ranking as third best company for “Valuing the Individual” in the publication’s annual feature, “Where Aerospace & Defense Professionals Want to Work.”
- More than 24,000 donated volunteer hours and \$150,000 to non-profits across the country from ULA’s matching time program, and contributions totaling \$659,000 in the company’s annual United Way campaign. Additionally, the company donated to more than 110 non-profits nationwide through the company’s other corporate citizenship programs.

“These accomplishments were no easy feat and are testament to the hard work and dedication of our 3,700 employees with whom I am privileged to work with every day at ULA,” said Michael Gass, ULA president and chief executive officer. “We strive to provide our government and commercial customers with reliable access to space, one launch at a time, and the combined expertise of everyone on the ULA team is the reason for our sustained mission success. As we celebrate our fourth anniversary, I am extremely proud of our company’s 45 successful launches to date and all that our team has achieved in 2010. I look forward to making 2011 even better.”

ULA will begin 2011 with another notable accomplishment as the first-ever West Coast Delta IV Heavy is launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., scheduled for Jan. 17, 2011. There are five Atlas V, three Delta II and three Delta IV launches currently planned in 2011.



MARS Associates Holiday Celebration

December 1, 2010



Heritage High School Girl's Ensemble



Bo Corraling the Carolers



The Group Gathers



The Group - A Different View



What did you order – Steak or Salmon?



Dinner is Served!



Dinner is Served!



A Spirited Conversation!



A Toast to Carol!



Good Food and Conversation



Kathy and Dave Admiring the Décor!



The Gathering - Finale



This Is a Great Number to Dance to!



The Last Dance!



Let's Swing & Sway!

*See More Holiday
Celebration Pictures
(Check for your Photo)
at
www.marsretirees.org*

MARS ASSOCIATES EVENT SCHEDULE

EVENT/MONTH	2011											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Board of Directors	5		2		4		6		7		2	
Officers	5	2	2	6	4	1	6	3	7	5	2	7
Bridge	21	18	18	15	20	17	15	19	16	21	18	16
Dinner	12	20	16	20	18	15	NONE	17	14	TBD	9	NONE
Golf				Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu		
Photo		10		14		9		11		13		8
Planners	6	3	3	7	5	2	7	4	1	6	3	1
EzyBytes	28	25	25	29	27	24	29	26	30	28	NONE	2
Web Committee	4	1	1	5	3	5/31	5	2	6	4	1	6
Annual Meeting			23									
Sr. Luncheon							12					
Annual Picnic								7				
Holiday Celebration												7
Items due for MARS STAR	3		28			27			26			
STAR Mailing	26			20			20			19		

DATED: Jan, 2011

Notes:

1. BOD meets the first Wed of every other month at The Egg & I near Southglenn at 09:30 am
2. Officers meet the first Wed of every month at The Egg & I near Southglenn at 09:30 am
3. Bridge meets the third Fri of every month at 10:00 am at the Buck Recreation Center.
4. Dinner Club: 1/12/11 - Wild Ginger @ 11:30 am; 2/20/11 - Opus @ 12:00 pm; 3/16/11 - Buckhorn Exchange @ 11:30 am; 4/20/11 - The Golden Hotel @ 5:30 pm; 5/18/11 - Pinehurst CC @ 5:30 pm; 6/15/11 - Mount Vernon CC @ 11:30 am; 7/11 - No event; 8/17/11 - 240 Union @ 5:30 pm; 9/14/11 - Arrowhead Golf Club @ 5:00 pm; 10/11 - TBD; 11/9/11 - Garden Terrace @ 11:30 am; 12/11 - No event.
5. Golf meets every Thu from Apr through Oct of each year.
6. Photo meets the second Thu of every other month at 1:30 pm at the Bemis Public Library in Littleton.
7. Planners meet the first Thu of every month at 11:15 am at the Country Buffet on S. Wadsworth.
8. EzyBytes computer volunteers meets at 1:00 PM the last Fri of the month except Nov when we meet on the first Fri in Dec - all meetings at the Buck Recreation Center.
9. Web Committee meets on Tue prior to the BOD and/or Officers meeting at noon at Sweet Tomatoes.
10. 2011 Annual Meeting is Mar 23 at Crystal Rose.
11. 2011 Annual Senior Luncheon is Jul 12, at Pinehurst Country Club.
12. 2011 Annual Picnic is Sep 7 at Clement Park.
13. 2011 Annual Holiday Celebration is Dec 7 at location TBD.