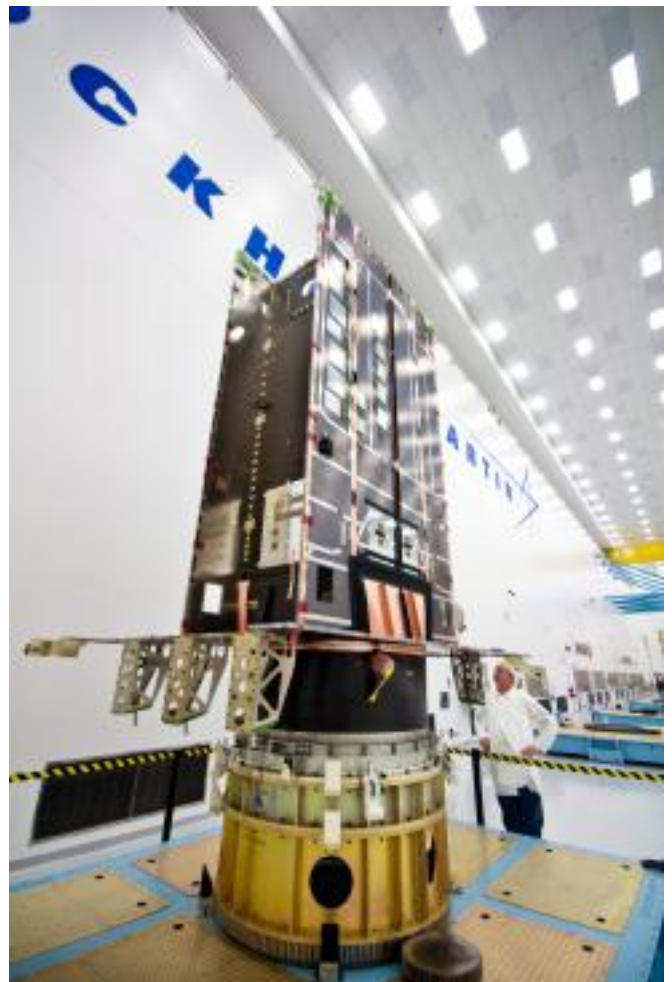
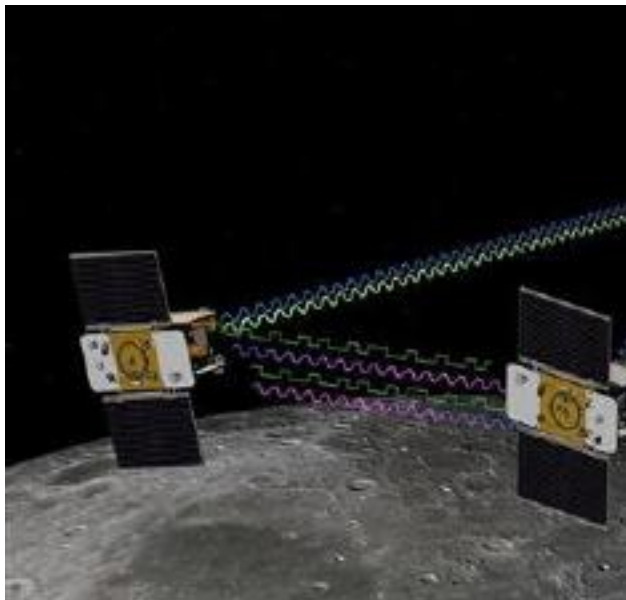




Sponsored by LOCKHEED MARTIN

Volume 28, Issue 1
January 2012

MARS STAR



MARS Activities This Quarter

MARS Annual Business Meeting
14 March 2012
at the Crystal Rose Event Center

Renew Your Membership!!

OFFICERS

President	Bo Rodriguez	303-798-9157
President-Elect	Allen Sanders	303-973-4135
VP Activities	Dale Benesch	303-730-7643
VP Business	Bill Schrott	303-683-9566
VP Communication	Bob Snodgress	303-660-8408
VP Membership	Barb Espinoza	303-338-0338
Treasurer	Duane Del Duca	303-904-9530
Secretary	Linda Stearns	303-797-3557
Historian (JAN)	Dr. Ben Clark	303-979-4178
Historian (APR)	Ed Bock	303-683-0766
Historian (JUL)	Jim Rivers	303-978-9971
Historian (OCT)	Bill Cossaboom	303-795-3226

MARS STAR

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Co-Editor	Tom Pighetti	303-979-7933
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Cape Canav	Dick Olson	321-452-4015
Orlando	Andrea Lawrence	407-340-8602
Vandenberg	Charlie Radaz	805-733-2051
ULA	Christa Bell	303-269-5551

CLUB CONTACTS

Bridge	Dave & Kathy Martz	303-683-9524
Dinner	Ralph/Carole Dergance	303-795-9475
Golf	Floyd Teiffel	303-797-3512
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	Terrie Hamen	303-840-5426
Director	Bob Lines	303-973-8838
Director	Al Nemes	303-972-1800

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	1-800-610-0201
Kay Girodo	1-800-610-0201, x609
kgirodo@ddpco.com	
Peliton Benefits	303-850-4798
LTC/Vision/Dental	
Joann Beielor	x771
Janet Saxon	x776

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

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

Cover:

L: An artist's concept of the Gravity Recovery and Interior Laboratory (GRAIL) mission's twin spacecraft in orbit around the moon. REUTERS/NASA/JPL

R: The Global Positioning System pathfinder, known as the GPS III Non-Flight Satellite Testbed (GNST), will undergo final assembly, integration and test activities in a new facility designed to maximize efficiencies and reduce costs of satellite production.



President's Corner

By Bo Rodriguez
(boandpat@comcast.net)

With the holiday season behind us and as I conclude my term as your President effective February 29, 2012, I want to wish all of you a healthy and happy New Year. I also want to extend my gratitude to you for your participation and caring support that you've extended to me and the entire MARS Associates Board of Directors and officers over the past two years. I have greatly enjoyed serving as your President and I know you will join me in welcoming and supporting Allen Sanders as he assumes the responsibility as our new President in the quickly approaching new fiscal year.

Our MARS Annual Holiday Celebration was held on December 7, 2011 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Highlands Ranch, Colorado to a capacity crowd. Unlike past Annual Holiday Celebrations, this year's event was a luncheon affair where everyone had a great time visiting with friends and renewing old friendships. My wife Pat and I personally enjoyed seeing and talking with many of you during this festive affair. Congratulations to Linda and Larry Stearns, the winners of the grand prize drawing. I would like to offer a special thank you to Dale Benesch, our Vice President of Activates and Barb Espinoza, Vice President of Membership along with their supporting cast for making this event a success. Also, thanks to our photographer Ted Bornhoeft for the many photographs that appear in this issue of the MARS Star. Toys and monetary contributions were brought to the event by many of the attendees to support Operation Santa Claus (a non-profit program supporting needy families with kids) administered and run by Lockheed Martin and United Launch Alliance employees. In case you are wondering why we changed from the evening dinner and dance to a mid-day luncheon; the decision was easily made after many of you responded to our request for suggestions to improve the Holiday Celebration event. This year we realized an increase of approximately fifty additional attendees over last year's event. Next year, I expect we will seek out a larger venue, make some improved accommodations in service, and incorporate a few added features to enhance the celebration.

Start making your plans for our first event for 2012. It will be the **Annual Business Meeting** scheduled for **Wednesday, March 14, 2012** at the Crystal Rose event center. Dale Benesch's article entitled **Activities Update** touches on the event. A flyer enclosed in this mail-out package contains specific information including time, location, luncheon menu, and cost to attend. Since the venue has limited seating, plan to make your reservations early. In addition to a presentation provided by our special guest speaker, we 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 event.

Several years ago the MARS Associates bylaws were changed to reduce the need for mailing out ballots for electing officers and members of the Board of Directors when only one member in good standing was identified and willing to serve in an open elected position. Finding members willing to fill open positions has become extremely difficult in recent years, and this year's nominating team could only identify one person to serve in each of the open positions. In **Bill Schrott's** article entitled **Senior Fare**, he summarizes the changes and identifies the new officers and Board of Directors that have volunteered to serve for the next two year term. I extend my heartfelt thanks to those members that have stepped forward to fill these important positions in order to advance the cause of the MARS Associates organization.

Also included in this mail-out package is your membership renewal form. Please take the time to fill out the form and return it promptly with a check for your annual dues. As you may know, MARS Associates is classified as a "social club" (IRS 501c-7 designation) a non-profit organization with the purpose to provide a variety of social, recreational and educational activities to its membership. Our leaders continue to strive to maintain and expand where possible our major events such as our Annual Business Meeting, Senior Luncheon, Annual Picnic, and the Annual Holiday Celebration for our membership. In the past two years, we've incorporated an annual baseball event featuring the Colorado Rockies baseball club and one of their major league opponents into our major events schedule. Bob Lines has been in touch with the Colorado Rockies Baseball Club to work out details for an August 15, 2012 event. I anticipate detailed

information about the event to be in our next mailing of the MARS Star. Please plan to attend any or all of these events which are supplemented in part through our annual dues. In addition, our MARS Associates clubs that include the Bridge Club, Dinner Club, Golf League, Photography Club, Planners Club, and EzyBytes continue to provide terrific social, recreational, and educational/learning experiences for those that participate. I encourage you to contact the club's officers listed on page 2 of this issue of the MARS Star if you're interested in participating in the club's activities.

Speaking of activities, let's try Wallyball for Seniors! All MARS members are cordially invited to participate in Wallyball for Seniors. This is a recreational and social opportunity for seniors. Anyone interested can drop in at the Englewood Rec Center any Tuesday or Thursday at 10 am. Play is from 10:00 to noon. All fitness, ability and experience levels are welcome. Cost is \$1 each time you show up. The Englewood Recreation Center is located at 1155 W. Oxford Ave, two blocks east of S. Santa Fe Drive.

What is Wallyball? Wallyball is like volleyball, except it is played indoors in a racquetball court that has a volleyball net across the middle. What makes it especially fun is that you can hit the ball off the side wall, so the ball can come from a lot of different directions (one does have to stay alert)! And Wallyball is more aerobic than volleyball because the ball is confined to the court, resulting in more continuous play.

The Wallyball for Seniors group has no affiliations or membership requirements. Attendance is not limited to members of the Englewood Recreation Center or to MARS members. However, a number of regular attendees are MARS members. The group has been playing regularly for over ten years. If you have any questions, feel free to call fellow MARS member Damon Ostrander at 303-738-1996.



Next Up!!!

By Allen Sanders

[\(alsal75@comcast.net\)](mailto:alsal75@comcast.net)

Hope you had a wonderful Christmas and will have a happy and healthy 2012. Thanks to all who shared their Holidays with other MARS members at the MARS Holiday Celebration, and a special thanks to all who contributed toys and money to Operation Santa Claus at the event. The luncheon was a great success and we have received quite a few favorable comments about the venue and the switch to a luncheon format.

Also, I was privileged to represent MARS, along with Duane Del Duca, at the November meeting of Operation Santa Claus and we presented them a check for \$1650 in memory of the MARS members who passed away this past year. Fifty toys and \$325 were collected for Operation Santa Claus through your generosity at the Holiday Celebration.

There is an informal Lockheed Martin retirees group in Colorado Springs made up primarily of Lockheed Martin 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 on November 17 at their Lockheed Martin cafeteria; I joined them, representing MARS. They had a very good turnout and I enjoyed the food and fellowship of the organization. I left copies of MARS information sheets and applications. If anyone who lives in Colorado Springs is interested in contacting the group, give me a call for the details of their organization.

This is the fifth STAR that contains a hidden MARS membership number. If the number is yours, call me or any MARS Officer and your next membership renewal is free!! The numbers in the four 2011 STARs were for Arthur Whitmore, Jack Dennis, Dennis Perelman, and James Orem. None identified their number and cashed in on their one free membership renewal. Recall, your membership number was assigned sequentially by the VP of Membership when you joined MARS and was provided on the Membership Card. But 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, and your number is printed for reference on the STAR package mailing label.

We would love to hear from more of you on what MARS can do better for you. Different clubs, changes in the offered activities, STAR articles, you name it. Help shape your organization to provide

maximum benefit to you by calling or emailing any Officer, Director, or club president.

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: Free Income Tax preparation for low/moderate income taxpayers; The Denver Children's Museum is in need of Exhibit Volunteers to help build, test, and perfect rockets, hovercrafts and other fascinating creations to teach children about the principle of flight; Link To Learn is seeking MARS member volunteers to participate in their live web video classes, interactively sharing field experiences in Aeronautical Engineering, Structural Engineering, Astrophysics, and Celestial Navigation; The Denver Museum of Nature and Science has opportunities for volunteering that include out-front and behind-the-scenes activities; ArtReach volunteers provide art and cultural experiences to at-risk and underserved populations; McLain Community High School Literacy Program needs volunteers to be evening tutors, after the short, free training session is completed, to raise students' reading levels in order to take the GED test. Tutors are needed in reading, social studies, math, and language arts; Tutors are needed in math and science at Littleton, Dakota Ridge and Green Mountain High Schools.

From the Editor's Desk

Error Reporting

By Tom Pighetti

If you come across an error when studying your STARS, please contact us so corrective action can be taken. Send e-mail to tpighetti@q.com or shupel@comcast.net or snail mail to MARS Associates. Attn: Editor, Post Office Box 1128, Littleton, CO 80160-1128. Thanks in advance.

Special News

No article submitted this quarter.



Activities Updates

By Dale Benesch
(dalebenesch@yahoo.com)

A great time was had by all at the Hilton Garden Inn on December 7 for the Holiday Celebration. It was their fifth anniversary to the day, since opening. It was nearly a completely full room and the weather was good. The room was tastefully decorated, 188 meals were served and the food was excellent in most cases, a few minor complaints were received. It was noted that drinks were not served at the tables. A small magnifier was placed at each seat and Linda Stearns was the lucky winner of the door prize. Looks like MARS will do a luncheon again next year.

The annual meeting will be at the Crystal Rose again in March. Included with your MARS Star is the Annual Meeting information flyer (with a sign-up sheet attached). Promptly complete and mail in the attachment along with a check to reserve your spot.

Planning ahead? 2012 dates:
Annual meeting: March 14, 2012
Senior Lunch: July 11, 2012
Colorado Rockies Baseball Game & Picnic:
August 15, 2012
Picnic: September 12, 2012
Holiday Event: December 5, 2012



Senior Fare

By William Schrott
(wmschrott@msn.com)

Hope all of you had a great year and are looking forward to 2012. A lot of us that belong to the many clubs within the MARS Associates have been

waiting for the New Year and the coming spring. I personally am waiting for golf to start. After the weather breaks, I'll start practicing; since I have one of the highest handicaps in the league.

This time of the year we hold elections to fill open positions for officers and board of directors. In the last two issues of the STAR, we requested that people come forward and throw their hat in the ring to fill openings for officers and directors. I also held a nomination committee meeting to identify potential candidates. This process resulted in only one person coming forward per office opening. The only office that is not an elected office is the President. Allen Sanders, the President Elect, automatically assumes the position of President.

The bylaws of the MARS Associates allows for no election when the above conditions exists. The bylaw states:

"Section 3A. Alternate Method of Election When by December 31 only one name has been identified for an officer's position or for a member of the Board of Directors, the BOD can appoint the individual to the position without voting by the membership. The VP of Business will submit the nominees and or recommendations to the BOD after December 31. **(Revised 3/07)"**

Following the direction of this bylaw, the following candidates are listed below and were presented to the Board of Directors for appointment approval at the **January Board of Directors meeting**. The Board of Directors unanimously approved the candidates for the positions noted:

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>NAME</u>
President Elect	Duane Del Duca
VP Activities	Bob Lines
Treasurer	Bart Wright
Director	Gene Cody***
Director	Bev Dare***
Director	Terrie Hamen**
Director	Larry Major *

*Larry will complete the rest of term of Director Bob Lines
 **Terrie Haman will serve in her first two year term
 ***Gene Cody and Bev Dare will serve in their second two year term

Each office is a two year term and will be up for election 3/2014. The only exception is Larry Major whose term will end 3/2013.

Again this year, the Vernon Selby Memorial "Volunteer of the Year" award will be presented at the Annual Meeting. The intent of this award is to acknowledge the accomplishments of MARS Associate members by their contemporaries. The guidelines and the nomination form are included in this mailing package. To have your nominee included in the selection process, all forms must be received by February the 18th.

The next big event is the Annual Meeting in March where the new and current officers and directors will be introduced to the membership. I also plan to have all of our vendors be in attendance. This will give members access to the vendors to review their products and have questions/concerns be addressed.



Membership
 By Barb Espinoza
barb.j.espinoza@comcast.net

Included with this mailing are Dues Notices for renewal of 2012 MARS Associates membership. Please take the time to update your information (address, phone number, email address or spouse information). Renewal applications must be received by March 1, 2012.

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

As of December 31, 2011 MARS Associates' active membership is 1,592 including 819 senior members (members who are age 75 and above). We added 119 new or reinstated members during 2011. Please join me in welcoming the following new/reinstated members since September, 2011:

Colorado

- Arvada Bill & Diane Leckemby
- Castle Rock Evan & Jeanne McCollum
- Centennial Randy & Kathy Henderson

Colorado Springs	Russ & Freddie Bogardus
Denver	Lynette Bickel
Evergreen	Elliot & Barbara Troy
Highlands Ranch	Kamal & Aida Bekhit Larry & Barbara Davis Mike & Chris Melo Mike & Paula Pahl
Littleton	Gerry & Sharon Boisvert Deanna Dahl Jim & Patricia Depperschmidt Roy & Rebecca Gibson Wade & Ann Hancey Ruth & Paul Martin Dan & Christine Mendoza Nancy O'Neill Christine Rasmussen Matt & Debra Vlcek
Sedalia	Leonard & Jill Demchak

Other States

Norristown, PA David & Karen Enlow

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 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. Senior membership status (age 75 and above) is based on the retiree's date of birth, even for the surviving spouse member.

Addresses & Phone Numbers

When you move please remember to include the MARS membership team in your list of people to contact. Notify me promptly by letter, e-mail or phone of any change to home address, phone number or email.

The United States Post Office will not forward bulk mail, therefore, each quarter a number of packages are returned. Not only does the USPS charge for any returned mail but, most importantly, you do not receive the STAR and other important information regarding MARS and Lockheed Martin.

If you regularly spend part of the year away from your address of record, let us know your alternate address and the dates you are there. We will send your STAR mailing to that address!

Spouse Information

Our data base includes the names of members' spouse or significant other. Original information was obtained from the membership application form submitted when you joined MARS. Please let me know if there are changes to this information.

In Memoriam Data

This section includes published obituary reports and information received directly from MARS members or their families. Please contact me or Roy Kannady with any information regarding the passing of a member or their spouse. We want to make sure their passing is acknowledged in the ***In Memoriam*** section of the STAR.

Please contact: Barb Espinoza, VP Membership, at: MARS Associates, P.O. Box 1128, Littleton, CO, 80160-1128; Phone 303-338-0338; or email barb.j.espinoza@comcast.net.

MARS Associates In Memoriam

By Roy Kannady
(kannadyr1@asme.org)

Members

Aldinger, Douglas L. (D: Sep 2011)
Denver, CO
[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/63NR7S9](http://TINYURL.COM/63NR7S9)

Brandenburg, John E. (D: Nov 2011)
(Survived by Anna F.)
Waterloo, IA
[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/D4DCE2M](http://TINYURL.COM/D4DCE2M)

Coston, Neeoma L. (D: Nov 2011)
(Survived by Theodore J. "Ted")
Loveland, CO
[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/BMXOT37](http://TINYURL.COM/BMXOT37)

Drake, Marie E. (D: Dec 2011)
(Survived by Donald L.)
Littleton, CO
[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/7GR4LZJ](http://TINYURL.COM/7GR4LZJ)

Emas, Sharon I. (D: Sep 2011)
(Survived by James C. "Jim")
Littleton, CO
[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/3TD7TPL](http://TINYURL.COM/3TD7TPL)

Grant, Dorothy M. (D: Dec 2011)
(Survived by Charles S. "Charlie")
Centennial, CO
[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/NTDCTV](http://TINYURL.COM/NTDCTV)

Hale, Merle H. (D: Aug 2011)
(Preceded by Henrietta Skinner-Hale (D: Apr 2011))
Colorado Springs, CO
[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/3UUYEWH](http://TINYURL.COM/3UUYEWH)

Hamblen, Harold E. (D: Nov 2011)
(Survived by Josephine A. "Jo Ann")
Centennial, CO
[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/6QH8BPJ](http://TINYURL.COM/6QH8BPJ)

Hemelstrand, Kenneth C. (D: Dec 2011)
(Survived by Della I.)
Littleton, CO
[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/795VQRF](http://TINYURL.COM/795VQRF)

Kullas, Albert J. (D: Dec 2011)
(Survived by Joyce G.)
Littleton, CO
[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/C2Q4WEM](http://TINYURL.COM/C2Q4WEM)

McKinney, Charles C. "Chuck" (D: Sep 2011)
(Survived by Wanda C.)
Sun City, AZ
[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/7MZGWM3](http://TINYURL.COM/7MZGWM3)

Schuler, Wallace B. "Wally" (D: Aug 2011)
(Survived by Twila J. "June")
Oshkosh, NE
[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/42JURAV](http://TINYURL.COM/42JURAV)

Walker, Ralph W. "Mike" (D: Oct 2011)
(Preceded by Kathleen (D: Mar 1975))
Littleton, CO
[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/6FDBE7D](http://TINYURL.COM/6FDBE7D)

Warren, William E., Sr. (D: Sep 2011)
(Preceded by Theresa N. (D: Jul 1998))
Baton Rouge, LA
[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/DXJDEY4](http://TINYURL.COM/DXJDEY4)

Weisenhorn, Lela M. (D: Oct 2011)
(Survived by Edward "Ed")
Aurora, CO
[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/3R3A642](http://TINYURL.COM/3R3A642)

Whitaker, Cynthia (D: Oct 2011)
(Survived by Joel F. "Fred")
Littleton, CO
[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/5UL6AJK](http://TINYURL.COM/5UL6AJK)

Non-Members

Davis, Theodore "Ted" (D: Aug '11)
(Survived by Nancy)
Englewood, CO
[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/5VM2J2M](http://TINYURL.COM/5VM2J2M)

Goodwin, Wallace E. "Wally" (D: Oct '11)
(Survived by Doris "Dot")
Littleton, CO
[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/62XCMDO](http://TINYURL.COM/62XCMDO)

McDonald, James J. "JJ" (D: Feb '11)
(Survived by Rose Lee)
Temecula, CA
[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/855PS5K](http://TINYURL.COM/855PS5K)

Historian's Corner

No article submitted this quarter.

Bridge Club

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

Bridge Trivia: In 2009, a bridge player, Leo LaSota of Glen Burnie, Md, won 3,597 masterpoints, nearly all of them won playing on a computer! He did win a few, 257 points, during in-person play that year. His masterpoints total in one year is nearly 12 times as many as a player needs to make Life Master!

In December, this fun group of bridge players celebrated the holidays with our Annual Potluck. Good times and good food were enjoyed by all!

We miss seeing a few of our long-time players that have not been able to join us the past few months and we send good wishes their way! Happy New Year to all!

Come and join us at our monthly get together. We welcome all MARS members. 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 Kacena, 303-973-2685

Secretary:

Theodore Bornhoeft, 303-933-9730

The 4th Quarter 2011 winners are as follows:

October 21 (5 tables)

1st – Theodore Bornhoeft & Nica Romero

2nd - Fred & Mary Ems

3rd – Ernie & Cecile Berliner

4th – Ray & Ellie Weinrich

November 18 (7 tables)

1st – Ed Cortez & Theodore Bornhoeft

2nd - Joe Pohlen & Maurice Larue

3rd – Bob & Tina Crisler

4th – Bill Kacena & Nica Romero

5th - Ernie & Cecile Berliner

December 16 (6 ½ tables)

North-South

1st – Ed Cortez & Theodore Bornhoeft

2nd tie – Bob & Tina Crisler
and Loman & Pat Park

East-West

1st - Dick & Madeline Maginn

2nd – Curt & Phyllis Brudos

Dinner Club

By Ralph & Carole Dergance

(rhdergance@msn.com)

Your Dinner Club just keeps on enjoying very fine, cost-effective meals in 2011. Your level of

participation just keeps increasing with each year. We also continue to receive suggested venues from our members.

We began this quarter by thoroughly enjoying a private Sunday afternoon dinner on **October 16** at a new venue - **Sansone's Bistro** in Greenwood Village. This restaurant did not disappoint any of the **55** Associates in attendance. We then closed out our year when **64** members and guests were AGAIN being treated to the superior luncheon buffet at **The Garden Terrace** in Inverness on **November 9**.

We will begin 2012 with a luncheon at a new venue, **The Chinook Tavern**, on **January 16**, followed by a private brunch at **Opus** on **February 19**. We will then revisit the **Buckhorn Exchange** on **March 21** for lunch. This will be our 10th consecutive year to partake of the unique atmosphere and menu of the historical landmark restaurant. On **April 11** we will have lunch at the new **Tavern** in downtown Littleton. There will be no event in May since your club presidents will be traveling at that time. We will then return to **Pinehurst Country Club** for yet another superior dinner on **June 20** followed by our annual trek "up the mountain" for a buffet luncheon at **Mount Vernon Country Club** on **July 18**.

Events for the remainder of 2012 have been booked:

- Dinner at 240 Union on August 22;
- Luncheon at Lucile's in Littleton on September 19 (new venue);
- Luncheon at Café de France on October 17; and
- Luncheon at The Garden Terrace on November 7.

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.

As we have reported for the past three quarters, we have decided that it is time for us to step down and move on to other activities after 12 years of running the Dinner Club. We already have booked all of the events for 2012, making the transition to the new presidents quite simple. With 12 years of history, we have developed a financial system, programs that prepare the monthly fliers, a data base of restaurants and associated contacts, a zero-cost checking account, a meal identification system when needed, name tag format and software, etc. All of this capability will be available to the new presidents thereby further simplifying the transition. Please contact us if you want to help your fellow MARS Associates by assuming the leadership of the Dinner Club. It is really quite simple to run and is very rewarding. It is still our plan to turn over the leadership of this club at the end of the next MARS Associates operating year (on March 1, 2012).

Some "food" for thought:

"Food is our common ground, a universal experience." [James Beard](#)

"I don't like food that's too carefully arranged; it makes me think that the chef is spending too much time arranging and not enough time cooking. If I wanted a picture I'd buy a painting." [Andy Rooney](#)

"There is no sincerer love than the love of food." [George Bernard Shaw](#)

"You better cut the pizza in four pieces because I'm not hungry enough to eat six."
[Yogi Berra](#)

Buono L'appetito!!!!!!!

two seven nine one

Golf League

By Paul Boykin
(flashboykin@aol.com)

As this winter finds most Colorado golf courses under several inches of snow, there are many courses and retailers offering indoor and outdoor hitting ranges and putting greens. This is a perfect time to sharpen up your game as well as research and perhaps purchase the latest stroke saving

equipment! It is also a great time to improve strength and flexibility. Needless to say our physicians should be consulted before engaging in such activities.

Golf league officials are already engaged in preparing for another year of golf for MARS members and spouses! We invite all those interested in playing golf this season to join us. Our goal is to create a pleasing and challenging experience for both men and women. The courses and formats we play accommodate all handicaps and skill levels. While we schedule play for each week during the season, our schedule allows for flexibility of participation as the member determines when and how often they will play. The cost to join and play is very economical especially given the fine courses we play. When you add the league prizes offered each week (and during our annual championship tournament), MARS League golf is a can't miss opportunity!

If you are an interested golfer, please keep an eye out for our 2012 league kick-off meeting which will take place during the month of March.

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 2012 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 program we have a coffee break during which members 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 and guests 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.

August 11, 2011

This Photography Club meeting scheduled for August 11 at 1:30 PM in the Littleton Bemis Library was cancelled due to meeting room availability conflicts. The Program and Competition topics are **To be Announced.**

October 14, 2011

The Photography Club meeting was Friday October 14 at 1:30 PM in the Littleton Bemis Library meeting room. The program by Jack Rombach was a travelogue presentation entitled "*Visiting Turkey*". His presentation originally scheduled for **August 11, 2011** was rescheduled for August 12 and then cancelled (as noted above). Unfortunately his presentation deserved much better treatment. Jack had prepared a CD with 144 images and they all looked great. It was very interesting as Jack showed and described places that most of us had only seen or read about in travel and history books – plus many others. Thanks, Jack. The regular club photo competition included very interesting photos of **Open** subject matter. Judging was by John Chapter and winners were:

- 1st Place "**Three Columbines**" **John Flater**
- 2nd Place "**Flash Bang**" **Larry Stearns**
- 3rd Place "**Bright Colors**" **Larry Stearns**
- 4th Place "**Super Sunset**" **John Flater**

December 9, 2011

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

February 9, 2012

The program topic is to be determined.

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:

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>through JULY</u>	<u>AUG to YEAR END</u>
President	John Chapter	John Chapter
Vice-President	Jim Kummer	Jim Kummer
Secretary	John Flater	John Flater

MARS Website: <http://www.marsretirees.org>
See the Photography button for further info.

Planner's Report

By Dolph Hellman
(marblehead8hell9dw3@hotmail.com)

This month's article is contributed by Merriam Trube.
Thanks a lot, Trube!

San Juan Oct. 2011- Fly-fishing with Dottie

We drove down on Wed. 19 Oct0ber - Just Dot and

Merriam off on a new adventure.

Great ride down. As we came off Kenosha Pass there was South Park spread out before us. Cattle, antelope and we think a small herd of elk. The mountains to the west had a dusting of new snow so the jagged structure of the rock still showed thru, awesome as ever. Later, coming down to the Arkansas River we were treated with a look at Mt Antero with its treasures of Aquamarine blue crystals. The cottonwood trees along the river were in full orange foliage, bright in the sunlight.

Another treat waited at the top of Poncha Pass where the San Luis Valley spreads out between the Sangre de Cristo Mountains on the left, also bright white and the lower Saguache range to the right. One small herd of antelope was seen and Blanca Peak and the Sand Dunes in the distance. Crossing the Rio Grande the colorful cottonwoods greeted us again all the way to Wolf Creek Pass.

Deep snow in the woods from 10,000 feet up and the ski area is ready to go. There were spectacular aspen yellows, greens, and touches of red on the way down. Entire mountainsides at the peak of aspen color laid out just for our delight.

Then pie, coffee and gas in Pagosa Springs for the route thru Duice, the Apache reservation, and on to the overlook at the Navajo Dam and its tail-waters where we were to fish. We passed many gas wells, part of the 35,000 wells in the San Juan basin going down to Farmington. The earth filled dam is several hundred feet high and creates Navajo Lake which provides irrigation all the way to Shiprock. I showed Dottie my panoramic photos marked up with notes: "Dry files here, you can wade across there belly deep; here is where I fell in; use San Juan worm in this run". This is only the second time this lady has been on a premier trout fishing river and she was eager to get going. It was pretty late so we settled for bunking at the Fisheads resort and restaurant chow.

We had three days and did wade fishing and with a guide in his boat. The best time was wading the shallow back channel at the Munoz parking area. Just a short walk from the car brings you to the trail to the water and we had it all to ourselves.

We could see several trout rising and nymphing just below the surface. Some of the trout could be clearly seen. Some were probably 20 inches in length, a trophy anywhere. The water was only knee deep with weed beds for cover and some deeper holes. It was a trout heaven for sure.

Dottie knows how to cast. As her guide, I rigged up her outfit. Her rod had a tapered leader down to 6x which is pretty thin. Since the water was what we call slick with no ripples and shallow I tied on a two foot tippet of 7x. This is only one step heavier than a spiderweb and has a strength of one and a half pounds - Just the ticket for these conditions. I tied on the tiniest dry fly that they make, a Number 26 Parachute Adams.

Dottie repeatedly cast to a nice trout that was feeding 20 feet away. It not only did not take her fly but did take one about six inches from hers. I looked carefully at the flow where we were standing and when your eyes are a foot or eighteen inches from the surface you see many odd and wonderful things. Some insects were only 1/16th of an inch long, probably not what the large trout were feeding on. Others were half the size of her fly. So it was time to resort to the ultimate "San Juan river trick". I took her little fly and using my clippers I cut off half the feathers, the tail, and the white parachute on top. Now it would be numbered as a 32.

Dot made a few back casts and placed it gently about three feet above the fish. Wait, wait, SPLASH, the fish was on. It took off upstream with line coming off the reel making the finest hum you love to hear. He took all the fly line and 50 feet of backing then jumped flashing his rainbow colors in the sunlight. When he came back downstream Dottie reeled like mad to keep tension on the line and the hook. After about fifteen minutes I was able to net him for her so we could admire that 19 inch rainbow, free the hook and let him swim away so that we may meet again another day.

I caught a couple and then she got near another nice fish. This time she had on a Number 26 grey nymph with a tiny bit of soft lead to break the surface tension and let it sink just below the surface. This trout didn't want it so she went thirty feet upstream to another trout. This one made a big subsurface swirl as he took the nymph and treated us to the same kind of performance as the first. Then the wind came up, surface action ceased and it was time to head for Aztec.

About the guide and the boat - he only fishes the Texas Hole. It is 17 ft deep 200 yards long with big fast current in the middle and back eddies on the sides. The deal here is a fly with 2 small split shot suspended 8 ft below a "thlngamabobber". You throw out near the fast water at the head of the run and then float downstream watching the bobber until the rig drags bottom. Then he rows back up

and tells you "watch the bobber". After an hour of this with no action, the boredom quotient was extreme. We spent half a day with this and got three fish. Never again!!

In Aztec I wanted to show Dottie the Anasazi ruins that contain over 100 rooms that are 1,000 years old. The best feature there is the Great Kiva that has been reconstructed. It is a below ground circular structure for religious ceremonies as are the small family kivas like those at Mesa Verde. This one is huge, 100 feet in diameter. The roof is supported by four pilasters - twenty feet high. They are four feet square and constructed with alternate layers of 3" diameter wood poles and carefully finished rocks - An amazing structure.

Chaco Canyon National Park was the next day. From Farmington it's about 70 miles, 16 of it dirt washboard.

The canyon goes for ten miles or so and is less than 1/2 mile wide. The floor is flat except for the winding watercourse in the center about 20 feet deep. In olden days there must have been a wetter climate with steady irrigation available. There are over ten ruins; the largest is Pueblo Bonito with six hundred rooms, some four stories high. One back wall still stands four stories high. There are many kivas and plazas. Archeologists have found 150 houses scattered around the Cuba, Gallup, Shiprock, and Aztec area. There must have been thousands of people in this flourishing civilization and all of them knew they would be there forever. Just as we feel today.

Building started about 800 AD, peaked in 1100 and disappeared in 1200 due to a 70-year drought. The same fate has befallen many cultures around the globe. Is it the Malthus theory that we breed faster than we can provide the food? Is overpopulation a big problem today? Is China the only country trying to control this situation? Does anyone care?

We walked thru the ruins, awed from knowing they are 1000 years old. There were two little purple asters growing in the desert by the trail so we left a bright "good luck" penny by each one.

The dancing raven put on a show for us as we departed. He was flying just below the rim of the canyon's rock wall. The blue sky above and bright sun made his dark shadow. The walls are jagged going in and out, and so his shadow was high close to him when he was close to the rock. The shadow danced way down when he crossed an opening in

the wall. We watched him for three hundred yards entranced by this dancing shadow.

Coming home we did the Durango to Silverton trip by car, not the narrow gage. Then we went over Red Mountain to Ouray with lots of abandoned mines along the way. Why? With gold at \$1700 per ounce perhaps some could reopen. Anyone want to go down a 100 year old mineshaft to see if the timbers are still robust? Nah! Finally past Paonia, there are lots of coal mines being worked. Glad we worked on spacecraft above ground. Good trip, just car and gas.

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. Call Dolph Hellman at 303-794-0852 if you have questions or need directions.

MARS Website: <http://www.marsretirees.org>
See the Planners button for further info.

The MARS Associates Website

By Jim Kummer
(jkummer@comcast.net)

The MARS website gets some 250 to 300 visits per week by MARS members who know where to go for valuable information they can use. They know, for example, that the calendar found on the back page of the MARS STAR can also be seen on the website "Events" page. On the first inside page of the STAR one finds the MARS officers, the STAR volunteers, and important phone numbers. All of these can also be found on the website pages. So, if you've misplaced your latest STAR issue, the information is always readily accessible on the MARS website.

MARS members seeking volunteer opportunities know to look at the "Volunteer" page on the website. And, if you're planning a trip or a move, the "Senior Fare" discount page lists car rental and moving company discounts. Discounts there also include golf, Rockies tickets, cell phones, computers, and others too numerous to mention.

So maybe Santa brought you a new computer, or you bought one through the discount page on the website, and now you need instruction on how to use it. Simply visit the "Ezy Bytes" page to find MARS sponsored classes for Mac and PC applications. These classes will instruct you in tasks

such as word processing, spreadsheets, and email. Email-savvy computer users know they can go to the MARS webpage to locate email addresses of their former co-workers who are MARS members.

The MARS website committee members take extra measures to ensure that your email address listed on the MARS website is not subject to harvesting by SPAM operators. Accordingly, you can authorize your email address to be listed on the website without fear of such abuse.

The MARS Bylaws and Policy Manual are available for review on the website. New members and recently deceased members are listed, and all the health benefits available to MARS members are detailed. MARS clubs are chronicled as well.

For the browsing pleasure of MARS members, the website committee posts a "website of the month" - an educational or amusing site to visit. Here are the monthly sites from the last quarter.

- [October - Active Weather Map](#)
USA weather at the click of the mouse
- [November - www.TED.com](#)
Riveting talks by remarkable people
- [December - www.openculture.com](#)
Free cultural and educational media

See for yourself what's there; visit often the MARS website at www.marsretirees.org

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

Denver News /What's New

By Pat Kenning
(patamk@yahoo.com)

Your humble reporter knows many MARS members are doing great things in their communities thru volunteering, sporting events, travel, etc... If you could take time to call Pat Kenning, 303-794-0357 and tell me what's going on in your life, you could not only see your name in print but perhaps inspire others to give me a call also! Think about it. I look forward to a flood of news items for the next issue! Thanks. Pat Kenning

RAMM - Baltimore News

By Dottie Ruth
(dotruth725@comcast.net)

Nothing special occurred at our September and October meetings, just all members attending with stories of vacations with families during the hot summer months. At our November meeting it was announced that our treasurer, John Delappe and his wife were moving permanently to Florida. This necessitated a change in our officers. Ed Dopkowski is now the RAMM treasurer and Dick Randall our vice-president. We will miss John and Anna, but they remain members and will continue to keep in touch with those here in Maryland.

December 8th we had our Christmas Party attended by 114 members and friends, one in a wheel-chair, a couple using walkers, and many with canes. Even with their physical health problems I heard no complaints, they were there to enjoy the part and renew friendships. I marvel at this generation of ours. We've struggled and lived through many events of history - The Great Depression, Wars, deaths of loved ones, etc. We are a strong and proud generation and I'm thankful to be part of this wonderful group.

The RAMMs have no meetings in January or February, but a committee is already planning our Spring Fling Dance in May. The newsletter will continue to reach our members each month, keeping them informed as we all anxiously await the passing of our cold, snowy winter and the arrival of a warm sunny spring.

We wish all our fellow retirees a happy and healthy 2012

Cape Canaveral News

By Dick Olson
(Olsons5145@aol.com)

EN: It's with great sadness that we report the passing of our Cape Canaveral reporter, Carl Welton on 8 August 2011. Carl retired from Martin Marietta after 33 years of service. He continued to be very involved with the retirees from Martin. Carl was dedicated to the monthly newsletter he wrote which continued his communication with each and every one in the Martin retirement community. Thanks to Dick Olson for picking up the baton.

Had about 25 retirees at the November luncheon. Besides the regulars Rick Angel drove down from Georgia to have lunch with us and to get with the "working group" at Beef O'Bradys this afternoon. Hear that Mary Jo Kilburn is in the area and will be at Beef's this evening. Hope some of you had a chance to see her.

The weather finally cooperated and the Old Car BBQ went off with just a few hitches. It didn't stop raining until noon so we had fewer cars than usual but did manage to eat all the food and drink all the beer and I think everyone had a good time. It is great to see some of the folks that are still working and retirees that don't make it to the luncheon. We plan to hold it for at least one more year.

Had a pretty good turnout for the December luncheon considering it fell on the first day of the month; it kind of sneaks up on you.

Don Gudzone and George Pestik made a rare appearance and a bunch of the regulars including Hal Castleton, Roger Wright, Abe Smith, Bob Rodamer, Harry Holmes, Mac McDaniels, Nick Geso, Don Anderson, Stan Freas, Dick Hinshaw, Ken Hawes, Brooks Kilgore, Larry Gleason, Jim Weddle, Phil Pendleton, Larry Cuppet, Walt Sharkey and Bob Matchner attended.

A couple sad items to pass along. I forwarded Tom T's e-mail concerning the passing of Dave Dow's wife Jay. Do not have any details on funeral arrangements at this time. Also, Roger Wright mentioned that Don Shigley had passed away. His obituary was in yesterday's paper. The memorial service will be held at 2:00 Saturday at the North Brevard Funeral Home in Titusville.

Had about 26 people show for the first retiree luncheon of the year. Nick Geso, Dick Olson, Jerry Moskovitz, Don Anderson Roger Schmidt, Cal Mosier, Bill Rhode Roger Wright, Chris Hutchmacher, Abe Smith, Harry Holmes, Herb Pugh, Larry Cuppit, Jim Weddle, Larry Gleason, Ed McMechen, Guy McMechen, Dick Hinshaw, Sid Warren, Judy Klien, Joe Kiripolsky, Brooks Kilgore, Walt Starky, Bob Rodamer and Phil Pendleton who brought along Bob Bryson. Haven't seen Bob for ages. We all made it through the holiday season and want to wish everyone a happy new year.

I heard from Ann REEVES (when she worked for Martin) now Clarke and she is living in NC. She recognized most of the people who attended the last luncheon and worked with them at some point of her Martin career (1958 to 1967) and then some on the

Apollo program with Grumman (1967 to 1973). She says to tell them all hello from a former co-worker. She retired from Lockheed in Charleston in 1995.

One sad piece of news. Sylvia Sansing reported that Earl Johnson passed away on Monday Jan. 3rd. Do not have any details or information on funeral arrangements at this time. Earl spent many years in the Material department.

Following are former employees (and spouses) that have passed since the last report:

Johnson, Earl (D: Jan '12)
Brandenburg, John (D: Nov '11)
Dow (Biery), Jay Ann (D: Nov '11)
Welton, Carl (D: Aug '11)
Daymude, Paul (D: Aug '11)
Cartee, Chuck (D: Aug '11)
Nagel, Joanne (D: Aug '11)
Melcher, Tom (D: Jul '11) and Marie (D: Dec '11).

Hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and wish you a happy holiday season.

If you worked on any of the Martin or Titan programs at the Cape, Denver, Vandenberg, or where ever 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)

The first quarter is always teeming with activities. We started the year with the annual Installation of Officers and Awards luncheon at which we welcomed incoming REALM president Bill Rivera, thanked outgoing president Harold Cates, who will now serve as chairman of the board. In addition, new board members were installed. Most importantly, the club recognized the herculean efforts of several of its members who went far beyond the call of duty and volunteered to leave several of REALM's most important activities.

The first cruise of the year sets sail in February for the Caribbean. More travel plans are underway.

Our largest outreach program is our Partners in Education activity which pairs retired engineers and others with local science and engineering fairs to

judge and support the students. Our retirees agree that it is an extremely worthwhile endeavor and gives volunteers a chance to see what America's future leaders are creating in their youths.

A small committee is working with the Orlando Science Center to map out a permanent display that traces the roots of Lockheed Martin in central Florida. Since 1956, our company has contributed significantly to the growth of high-tech industry and employment. The Orlando Science Center is where the REALM-built and refurbished model of the original Martin plane is on display.

We continue welcoming new retirees into the club and are exploring why some retirees don't renew. The \$7.50 annual dues can't be the reason.

As always, we welcome other retirees to visit our website and peruse our monthly newsletter, *REALM News*. <http://www.realm-fl.org/newsletters.htm> If you see an activity that you want to join, just contact us.

Happy New Year, fellow retirees!

Martin Marietta Retiree's Club (Vandenberg News)

By Charlie Radaz
fcmjradaz@aol.com

Our July 28th meeting at Pea Soup Anderson's featured a talk by California Highway Patrol Officer Cliff Powers from the Buellton Station. He provided impressive statistics and an explanation of new laws recently passed.

We had 38 attendees at our August 25th luncheon in Santa Maria at the Radisson Hotel. The speaker was Ed Andrisek, Mayor of Buellton, updating us on activities of local interest there including the City's purchase of the Zaca Creek Golf Course.

Neil Baker was back from an extended visit with his grandchildren in Denmark, Again members Doug and Jean Gilman drove down from Paso Robles to participate.

Judy Jenkins, buyer and sub-contracts administrator, passed away on August 28, 2011. Judy was a MMRC board member for several years and was the person who started our 50-50 drawing.

Dave Patterson, Atlas Engineering Manager, died September 12th. He retired in 1997.

Paul Dailey, former member, passed away at 91 years old in Spokane, Washington.

On 29 September we met back at Pea Soup Anderson's and heard a presentation from Larry Lihosit, retired Peace Corp member, Vandenberg planner and author of several books. He gave the history of the Peace Corp and some of his own experiences around the world. Bruce Fall proudly introduced his new bride, Virginia, to the group. Lucky winners of the 50-50 drawing (conducted by Larry Loos), were Bob Rhodus and Anne Kenworthy. Retired USAF Colonel 'Bud' Gurney gave a brief overview on recently declassified NRO missions that were flown on Titan IIIB and Titan IIID from Vandenberg.

We met at the Santa Maria Inn on 27 October with 46 members and spouses/guests attending. We were privileged to have Bill Leas, Army, Infantry Airborne, WWII, and POW as the guest speaker. He was quite well spoken in describing his experiences starting with the landing in Normandy, France on 15 August 1944. He told of his capture by a German tank group during a heavy snow storm and his POW camps until he was marched into Bonn at the end of the war with Germany. 50-50 drawing winners were Anne Kenworthy and Carol Gurney.

We do not meet in November each year due to Thanksgiving in the latter part of the month.

It was sad news to learn of the passing of the following retired employees:

Tom Zidar, Peacekeeper Contracts and Configuration Management, 1 Nov 2011

James Tout, Titan Administrator, 12 Nov 2011

Kester Nelson, Titan Systems Engineer, 15 Nov 2011

Our Christmas Luncheon was held on 8 December at the Radisson Hotel in Santa Maria and over 50 participants enjoyed the visitation and fine dining arranged by member Eunice Souder.

The January 2012 meeting will be on the 26th at the Embassy Suites in Lompoc. The program will be member Bill Hugen, Sr. briefing the group on the latest Income Tax requirements.

Our club normally meets the last Thursday of each month at noon. We rotate locations between Santa Maria, Lompoc and Buellton. All former employees, their spouses and associate contractors are welcome to attend, visit and share informal stories.

Call Aubrey Collins (805) 937-8299 or Neil Baker (805) 733-1847 for location and reservations.

United Launch Alliance News

By Christa Bell
(christa.m.bell@ulalaunch.com)

United Launch Alliance Celebrates Five Years of Mission Success, 56 Launches in 60 Months

United Launch Alliance was formed just five years ago, bringing together the world's two most experienced launch teams and two highly reliable launch systems, Atlas and Delta. ULA's unparalleled recipe of experience is built on the Atlas and Delta legacy of 1,300 launches during the past five decades, propelled by ULA employees and suppliers located in 46 states.

ULA's impressive record of success lies in the 56 successful launches the company has achieved in just 60 months. In total, ULA has launched 30 national security missions, 17 NASA missions and nine commercial missions.

"We're very proud of the record ULA team has amassed over the past five years," said ULA President and CEO Michael Gass. "Just this year, ULA has launched 11 missions with nearly 20 billion dollars of critical, irreplaceable assets, all of which were safely delivered to orbit. Most recently, we launched five science missions for NASA in six months."

The evidence of ULA's success is literally on orbit.

Every Global Positioning System satellite, every missile warning satellite, nearly every intelligence collection satellite, weather satellite and military communications satellite, as well as nearly every major NASA science mission—from Mercury to Pluto—has been launched successfully on a ULA or ULA heritage launch vehicle.

"We're very proud of what we're doing for the nation," stated Gass.

Since its formation five years ago, ULA has made significant progress in reducing the size of the company and making it more efficient. Compared to the heritage systems, Atlas, Delta and Titan IV, the

Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle (EELV) systems have reduced costs by greater than 25 percent.

ULA also has consolidated from five major manufacturing sites down to two sites, as well as reduced our footprint and our employment levels by more than 20 percent from the pre-consolidation point while increasing output at the same time.

Next year holds another busy manifest, with 11 launches scheduled at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida, and Vandenberg Air Force Base in California.

In addition to the satellite market, ULA is continuing its role in commercial human spaceflight and progress in human-rating the Atlas V vehicle to launch crews to the International Space Station.

"The Atlas V vehicle is the lowest risk approach to developing a commercial crew capability over the next several years," Gass said. "Atlas V is the launch vehicle of choice of three of four Commercial Crew Development (CCDEV) teams, including Boeing, Blue Origin and Sierra Nevada."

"We are honored to serve our customer and our country," said Gass. "We will continue to provide innovative, cost-effective, reliable missions for our customers and are laser-focused on providing mission success – one launch at a time."

ULA program management, engineering, test, and mission support functions are headquartered in Denver, Colo. Manufacturing, assembly and integration operations are located at Decatur, Ala., and Harlingen, Texas. Launch operations are located at Cape Canaveral AFS, Fla., and Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

Following are pictures from the Holiday Celebration.

MARS Associates Holiday Celebration

December 7, 2011



Where's the Party?



A Cordial Greeting



Checking In



Checking Out the Gift Table



Waiting for Action



Greetings



Greetings Again



Looking for the Table



Looks Good Enough to Eat

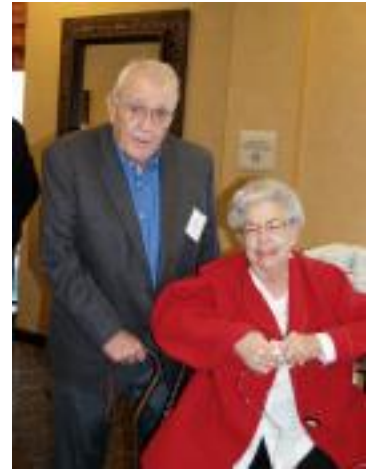
MARS 2011 Holiday Event
(Continued)



The Ivys



The Petersons



The Andrews



The Foats



The Correls



The Smiths



D Worrell & D Westerberg

MARS 2011 Holiday Event
(Continued)



The Hartfords



The Raymonds



K Thompson & M Parrish



The Warrens



The Schrotts



L Shupe & L Stearns



The Kamslers



The Richardsons



The Briers



D Foat & S Schwindt



Lisa Nicholson

MARS 2011 Holiday Event
(Continued)



The Nemeses



The Sanders



The Del Ducas



The Parks



The Fehrs



The Fullertons



The Kelloggs



The Richardsons



The Ziehms



The Harders



The Beyers

MARS 2011 Holiday Event
(Continued)



The Rogges



The Cookes



J Bagg & W Dewitt



The Muellers



The Fenskes



The Boothroyds



The Shipmans



The Marcuses



B Dare & B Espinoza



The Barnhoeft



The Boatwrights

See MARS Associates Holiday Celebration Pictures at www.marsretirees.org

MARS ASSOCIATES EVENT SCHEDULE

EVENT/MONTH	2012											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Board of Directors	4		7		2		3		5		7	
Officers	4	1	7	4	2	6	3	7/31	5	3	7	5
Bridge	20	17	16	20	18	15	20	17	21	19	16	21
Dinner	16	19	21	11	NONE	20	18	22	19	17	TBD	NONE
Golf				Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu		
Photo		9		12		14		9		11		13
Planners	5	2	1	5	3	7	5	2	6	4	1	6
EzyBytes	27	24	30	27	25	29	27	31	7	26	NONE	7
Web Committee	3	1/31	6	3	1	5	2	7/30	4	2	6	4
Annual Meeting			14									
Sr. Luncheon							11					
CO Rockies Game								15				
Annual Picnic									12			
Holiday Celebration												5
Items due for MARS STAR	3		26			25				1		
STAR Mailing	25			18			8/1			24		

DATED: Jan, 2012

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: 1/16/12 - Chinook Tavern @ 11:30 am; 2/19/12 - Opus @ 12:00 pm; 3/21/12 - Buckhorn Exchange @ 11:30 am; 4/11/12 - The Tavern @ 11:30 am; 5/12 - No event; 6/20/12 - Pinehurst Country Club @ 5:30 pm; 7/18/12 - Mount Vernon CC @ 11:30 am; 8/22/12 - 240 Union @ 5:30 pm; 9/19/12 - Lucile's @ 11:30 am; 10/17/12 - Café de France @ 11:30 am; 11/12 - TBD; 12/12 - 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. 2012 Annual Meeting is Mar 14 at Crystal Rose.
11. 2012 Annual Senior Luncheon is Jul 11, at TBD.
12. CO Rockies Game is Aug 15, a day game, details to be provided later.
13. 2012 Annual Picnic is Sep 12 at Clement Park.
14. 2012 Annual Holiday Celebration is Dec 5 at TBD.

This schedule is maintained by Allen Sanders, MARS President Elect