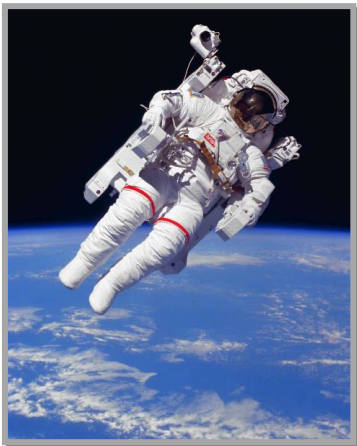




*Sponsored by LOCKHEED MARTIN*

Volume 26, Issue 2  
April 2010

# MARS STAR



**MARS EVENTS for  
This Quarter!!**

**Senior Luncheon  
July 21, 2010  
Pinehurst CC @  
11:00 am**

## **OFFICERS**

President	Bo Rodriguez	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 Snodgrass	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)	Carlos de Moraes	303-781-7166

## **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
<b>Reporting:</b>		
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 Canav	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	303-798-6502
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	303-770-9166
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)	1-800-244-6224
(Hourly Only)	
Kaiser Permanente	303-338-3800
PacificCare – 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**

**MARSWEBSITE: <http://www.marsretirees.org>**

## **IMPORTANT REMINDER**

**SENIOR LUNCHEON  
JULY 21, 2010  
PINEHURST CC  
@ 11:00 am**



## President's Corner

By Bo Rodriguez

([boandpat@comcast.net](mailto:boandpat@comcast.net))

I want to express my deepest thanks and appreciation to Ralph Dergance for his superb leadership as the President of MARS Associates these past two years. His dedication to grow and strengthen the organization has brought about much success. As your new president, I look forward to serving you for the next two years. I am eager to begin working with our team of officers, directors, clubs and volunteers to enhance social, recreational and other beneficial opportunities for you.

I hope each of you in attendance at the Annual Meeting enjoyed the event as much as I did. This year the Annual Meeting was held at the Crystal Rose special event center in Littleton. Congratulations and thanks to Bart Wright, Linda Stearns, and the entire team for planning and accomplishing this successful Annual Meeting. Our featured presenter was Dave Haines, Vice President, Finance and Business Operations who gave us a presentation about the State of Lockheed Martin Corporation with particular emphasis on the Space Systems Company. I'm sure everyone there for the power point presentation came away generally informed on the company's current business stability and it's near term challenges. Dave did touch on the corporation's contribution into its pension plans to assure their soundness. He concluded his presentation by answering questions from the audience.

Special thanks and recognition was extended to members for their service as officers or Board of Directors to the organization:

- Ralph Dergance for his service and leadership as President;
- Bart Wright for his four years of service as VP of Activities;
- Larry Major for his four years of service as Chairman of the Board of Directors;
- Roger Chamberlain for his four years of service as a member of the Board of Directors.

Introductions and congratulations were extended to the new officers and Board of Directors, as well as

our current incumbents. Al Sanders who replaced me as President Elect for MARS Associates for the next two years. Al and I will be working closely together to identify the organizational challenges that lie ahead and we will collaborate with the other team members to bring about positive results. Dale Benesch along with assistance from Al Hartford are replacing Bart Wright in managing the role and responsibility of VP-Activities. Gene Cody and Bev Dare join the Board of Directors replacing Larry Major and Roger Chamberlain who have completed their term in office.

Congratulations to Hazel Chapman for being presented Volunteer of the Year at our Annual Meeting for her continued dedication in managing the volunteer efforts for MARS Associates. Hazel was chosen from several nominees reviewed by the nominations committee. Over the years Hazel has assembled MARS member volunteers at variety of events such as LMSSC blood donor drives, LMSSC affinity group events, MARS Star quarterly mail-out just to name a few. In addition, she volunteers her time to provide income tax preparation assistance to needy seniors.

Recently Vern Selby, an active leader of MARS Associates lost his battle to cancer. Over the past many years, Vern had dedicated much of his time and effort to improve the viability of this organization. Vern's service with MARS Associates in recent years includes President Elect then President and most recently a member of the Board of Directors and editor of the MARS Star until his passing. To Vern's wife Mary Ann, and his family we thank you for sharing his life with us.

As you may recall, late last year Lockheed Martin Corporation introduced LM Healthworks Plan to replace all of their medical insurance plans with the exception of Kaiser Permanente for both retirees and active employees that were under 65 years of age at the beginning of 2010. Kaiser Permanente was retained in California and Colorado as a temporary measure due to the complexity of accommodating the large number of Kaiser Permanente enrollees into the LM Healthworks Plan. **Over age 65** (Medicare eligible) enrollees were not affected and were able to retain their medical insurance plans in 2010.

For those retirees that are enrolled with Kaiser Permanente medical health insurance this year and are concerned about continued enrollment for the 2011 calendar year, MARS Associates can offer this update.

Recently Ralph Dergance and I met with Rich Kludt, Vice President of Human Resources of Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company who informed us that no decision has been made with regard to whether or not Kaiser Permanente will be offered as a medical health insurance plan in 2011. Rich went on to say that employee and retiree focus groups are planned for early May in Denver, CO, Sunnyvale, CA, and Palmdale, CA to gather information that will assist in determining the future relationship with Kaiser Permanente.

March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010 marks the **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of MARS Associates**. My resource indicates that the original Board of Directors included Eugene Darrow, Dallas Clippinger, Charles Gunnison, Ned Koch, Howard Carley, Joseph Burghardt and Frank Muller. This calls for a special celebration at our Annual Picnic.



### **Next Up!!!**

By Allen Sanders  
([ALSAL75@comcast.net](mailto:ALSAL75@comcast.net))

I am pleased to again be serving MARS Associates as a newly "elected" Officer, this time around as the President Elect. As this column discussed last quarter under Bo Rodriguez, we are always looking for folks to lend an active hand in guiding the organization, helping with volunteer activities, and participating in the clubs. Each open office in MARS usually has only one candidate, and that one is often difficult to obtain. Hence the quotes above around the word elected, and the repeat names that often come around more than once in the MARS Officers and Directors' lists. This is your organization, and the more ideas, inputs and participation received from different members' points of view; the better it will serve all. If nothing else, call me with your comments and inputs & I will endeavor to address them within the MARS framework.

If you missed the Annual Meeting on March 10, 2010, at the Crystal Rose, you missed a good one.

Besides lunching and visiting with old friends, you would have been treated to an interesting and exciting presentation by Dave Haines, Vice President, Finance and Business Operations With Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company.

As we embark upon a new fiscal year, our need to grow or even retain our membership is a challenge. Each year about this time, the VP of Membership and her committee of volunteers are very busy contacting members that have not submitted their annual membership dues to encourage them to do so. If you fall into this group, kindly consider submitting your membership dues.

This year we will continue to participate in the Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company's quarterly retirement briefing sessions to encourage those employees contemplating retirement to consider joining MARS Associates. We can also use your help to increase membership by inviting a friend or associate who is retired or planning retirement from Lockheed Martin Corporation or successor/predecessor corporations or United Launch Alliance to join MARS Associates. Let them know who we are and what benefits are available to them as members. Refer to your quarterly MARS Star for information on event schedule dates, important telephone numbers including benefits. Also direct them to our MARS website <http://www.marsretirees.org> for information.

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### **From the Editor's Desk**

By Ken Jones  
([pudnhead1@msn.com](mailto:pudnhead1@msn.com))

*Here's how a typical MARS retiree spends his or her day! I don't think so...*



Ron Slovikoski, retired heritage Martin Marietta Titan employee from Lakewood, Colorado took third place in the NASTAR Nationals!! There were 1200 racers from 42 different states competing. Nineteen skiers competed in the 65-70 men's age group and "Racing Ronnie" took the Bronze! **Look out Lindsey!**



## Activities Updates

By Dale Benesch  
([dalebenesch@yahoo.com](mailto:dalebenesch@yahoo.com))

The **2010 Annual Meeting** was held on March 10, 2010 at the Crystal Rose in Littleton. Pictures of the annual event are included in this Issue on pages **19, 20, 21** and **22**.

The **2010 Senior Luncheon** will be held on Wednesday, July 21, 2010. We are returning to the Pinehurst Country Club after a wonderful event in 2009. Hope all you "over 75's" will attend!

The **2010 Annual Picnic** has been scheduled for Wednesday, September 8, 2010 at Clement Park.



## Senior Fare

By Don Jackson  
([donnvet@yahoo.com](mailto:donnvet@yahoo.com))

As reported elsewhere in this issue, our Annual Meeting was a highly successful event. One of the highlights of the meeting was the recognition of the MARS Volunteer of the Year. Our 2009 Volunteer of the Year is Hazel Chapman. Hazel, a long time member of MARS has been the coordinator of all personnel requirements for mailing the MARS Quarterly and other Special Events. She also continues to support all LMSSC activities such as special mailings and arranging for the necessary MARS volunteers to participate in those activities. Hazel coordinates all of the Health Fairs and any other special requirements, arranging for MARS members to support these and other events. Ms. Chapman has taken the responsibility for these important tasks for many years. Her continued work with LMSSC goes a long way toward maintaining relationships, and perks we receive from our parent company.

Also participating in our fun-filled and very informative luncheon were representatives from six of the organizations that provide benefits and services to the MARS community.

Attendees from our traditional and long-term supporters were as follows:

AT&T Mobility - Our AT&T point of contact is John Keniston 303-948-7310.

Delta Dental-Kay Girodo who has replaced Rose Mason 303-889-8609.

Peliton Benefits - The team of Ken Thomas, Leslie Goldsberry and Traci Vadney 303-840-4798/303-771-1800. (Peliton provides access to medical, dental, vision and long term care services.)

More recent additions to our benefits pool come from:

Sam's Club Member Services represented by the team of Jasmine Goss and Sandy Atencio, (303-799-3972)

Kaiser Permanente - Shauna Broadus  
Medicare Associate Account Manager (303-306-2535)

HM Brown - Megi Scowcraft and Joel Bush  
(303-414-2360/303-414-7710) will help you locate the automobile of your choice without the typical car lot hassles.

Continued support by these companies result in nice benefits for our membership.

For a list of specific benefits and offers from our traditional supporters, please visit the MARS web site: <http://marsretirees.org>. For the new groups, please visit their websites at [www.samsclub.com](http://www.samsclub.com), [www.kaiserpermanente.org](http://www.kaiserpermanente.org) or [www.hmbrown.com](http://www.hmbrown.com).

Additional savings and answers to many other questions can also be found on the MARS website. If you don't have access to a computer, please call the numbers listed here or contact me directly.



## Membership

By Linda Stearns

([linda80120@comcast.net](mailto:linda80120@comcast.net))

### MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

As of March 15, 2010, MARS Associates' active membership is 1,674 including 880 senior members (at least 75 years old, as of February 28, 2010). Please welcome the following new and returning members:

#### Colorado

Aurora	Julie and Patrick Andrews Barbara and Benjamin Espinoza Frank Garred Wayne and Sherri Laws
Castle Rock	Robert and Janna Scarborough
Centennial	Carter Jones * Debra Kelly Barbara and Jack Pettus

Boyd and Marcia Reyburn

Colorado Springs James and Judith Anderson  
Duane and Donna Imhoff  
John and Lyn Kerschen  
Leroy and Carolyn Peer  
James and Sandi Thomas  
Doug and Leigh Tomerlin

Conifer Anne Peterson

Denver Phillip Gold  
David Lucero \*

Falcon Donald and  
Sally Heseltine

Littleton Kenneth Kordes  
Thomas and Linda Megna  
Joan and Adrian Van Loozenoord

Monument Kathlyn and William Giesecke

Westminster Robert and Gloria Van Meter

#### Other States

Blue Eye, Robert and Louise Jones  
Missouri

Atco, William Dilworth  
New Jersey

Georgetown, Michael and Dede Leeds  
Texas

Poulsbo, Justin Morgan and Lynne Hart  
Washington

\* Rejoined after absence

### MEMBERSHIP DATA

#### 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.

When renewing your membership, please verify all of your personal information including spouse or significant other on your form. The treasurer collects the mail and removes the checks before I receive your forms, so I don't see that information to verify or update the MARS records! If you have given permission for your email address to be posted on the website, please take a moment to verify that it has been posted correctly. Let me know of any changes.

#### Addresses & Phone Numbers

Have you missed any of the STAR mailings, with newsletters, flyers and information about MARS and Lockheed Martin activities? Every quarter, there are a number of packages that do not arrive because members' addresses have changed without our being aware and bulk 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! But you can help! Please notify me promptly by letter, e-mail or phone call of any address, telephone number or email change and do not miss out on your MARS STAR mailings. If you regularly spend part of the membership year away from your address of record, let me know what your alternate address is and when you are there. We will send your STAR mailing to that address!

#### Spouse Information

The MARS database includes the names of members' spouses or significant others. The initial data came from the application form you submitted when joining MARS. If there are changes to this information, please bring it to my attention.

#### In Memoriam Data

The sources of the information in this section of the STAR include 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](mailto:linda80120@comcast.net).

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## **MARS Associates**

## **In Memoriam**

By Roy Kannady  
([KANNADYR1@ASME.ORG](mailto:KANNADYR1@ASME.ORG))

### **Members**

Ballantine, Madonna M. (D: Mar '10)  
(Survived by Jerome A. "Jerry")  
Loveland, CO

Brown, Robert H. "Bob" (D: Mar '10)  
(Survived by Donna J.)  
Evergreen, CO

Chadbourne, Norman Carl (D: Feb '10)  
(Preceded by Sylvia (D: Sep '00))  
Littleton, CO

Demoret, Ruth Imogene "Imy" (D: Feb '10)  
(Survived by Robert B.)  
Littleton, CO

Evers, Cynthia Romaine "Cindy" (D: Mar '10)  
(Survived by Rodney J.)  
Lakewood, CO

Gustafson, Glen D. (D: Sep '10)  
(Survived by Janet L.)  
Madison, WI

Henthorne, Sallie L. (D: Mar '10)  
Littleton, CO

Hessel, Esther Lois (D: Jan '10)  
(Survived by Albert H.)  
Thornton, CO

Ingerson, Roger S. (D: Feb '10)  
(Survived by Eleanor A.)  
Kerrville, TX

Johnson, Gerald Roland (D: Feb '10)  
(Survived by Dolores F.)  
Englewood, CO

Koshak, Donna Beryl (D: Nov '09)  
(Preceded by John F. (D: Jan '02))



Denver, CO

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Kraft, Donna Mae "Toots" (D: Feb '10)  
(Survived by Virgil D.)  
Superior, CO

---

Lauman, Ferdinand J. "Ferd" (D: Jan '10)  
(Survived by Mary H. "Helen")  
Denver, CO

---

Marsh, Vada Diane (D: Feb '10)  
(Survived by G. Thomas "Tom")  
Littleton, CO

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Modahl, Ann S. (D: Aug '09)  
(Survived by Alf C.)  
Longmont, CO

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Morehead, Paul H. (D: Dec '09)  
(Preceded by Marian Jeanette (D: Jul '09))  
Littleton, CO

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Pettus, Jack D. (D: Jan '10)  
(Survived by Barbara M. "Bobbie")  
Centennial, CO

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Simon, Wayne Eugene (D: Jan '10)  
(Survived by June H.)  
Evergreen, CO

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Welch, Arthur Woodrow "Art" (D: Mar '10)  
(Preceded by Sally S. (D: Apr '08))  
Englewood, CO

### ***Non-Members***

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Bryslan, Raymond C. (D: Feb '10)  
(Survived by June R.)  
Aurora, CO

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Heinefield, William Booth (D: Dec '09)  
(Preceded by Marie K. (Jun '08))  
Baltimore, MD

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Werner, Friedrich C. (D: Dec '09)  
Denver, CO

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## **Historian's Corner**

By Ed Bock  
([bock10245@comcast.net](mailto:bock10245@comcast.net))

### **MX-774 ATLAS DEVELOPMENT VEHICLE**

Project MX-774 was the first step by the United States to develop an Inter Continental Ballistic Missile (ICBM). In 1945, the US Air Force invited industry to submit proposals for R&D of four missile types, the largest capable of hurling a warhead 5,000 miles and impacting within 1,500 feet of its intended target. By early January 1946, engineers at Convair's Vultee Field Division in Downey had two types of 5,000-mile missiles on their drawing boards. One was subsonic, winged and jet powered; the other was supersonic, ballistic and rocket powered. In April, Convair was awarded a \$1.4M contract for a one-year feasibility study of the two designs. In June 1946, detailed design work began under a \$2.0M USAF contract to develop the rocket powered version, designated the MX-774, a derivative of the V-2 rocket that incorporated significant improvements. At the beginning, very little information about the V-2 was available; Life Magazine pictures were scaled to obtain initial design and configuration data. Outwardly, the MX-774 was a single stage; liquid oxygen and alcohol propellant missile that looked a lot like a V-2.

Convair's project leader was an emigrated Belgian mining engineer, Karel J. "Charlie" Bossart. He was an inspirational and innovative force that remained with the MX-774 development through the maturing of the Atlas ICBM and subsequently the Atlas Space Launch Vehicle. Charlie Bossart became known as the "Father of the Atlas." The most significant MX-774 innovations were:

Four 2,000 pound thrust swiveling rocket engines (2 in pitch and 2 in yaw) replaced the carbon turning vanes in the V-2's exhaust to provide thrust vector control. Carbon turning vanes on the V-2 eroded during flight, compromising steering accuracy. This was the first known use of swiveling engines, which evolved into gimbaled engines on the Atlas;

A separable nose cone was used to improve reentry accuracy versus V-2's approach of keeping the payload attached to the spent rocket stage. Discarding the rocket stage before re-entry eliminated a very high heating and aerodynamic



loading environment, allowing the rocket structure to be significantly lighter;

A vehicle structure that used integral propellant tanks instead of the V-2's separate propellant tanks enclosed within a structural/aerodynamic outer shell. The tanks in the MX-774 were 0.081-inch thick aluminum, and improved the V-2's propellant-to-airframe weight by a factor of three. Charlie Bossart did propose using pressure stabilized stainless steel tanks like those later incorporated into the Atlas design, but the development and tooling cost for the MX-774 was prohibitive;

Also needed was a new electronic guidance system to steer the MX-774. The V-2's guidance was very elementary, provided by gyros, and was highly inaccurate. Jim Crooks, a recent electrical engineering graduate from Kansas State, led the development of a new guidance system consisting of a combination of ground stations and on-board avionics. His team designed what became the Azusa missile tracking system along with ultra-sensitive autopilots, transponders, and other electronics packages that comprised the MX-774's on-board guidance system.

Although the MX-774, a single stage 5,000 lb vehicle, was the first to demonstrate these innovations, the Atlas ICBM subsequently incorporated a stage-and-a-half design to meet performance requirements. This unique approach dropped off two booster engines and their support structure, but retained all propellant tankage. This permitted all Atlas engines to be ground started and confirmed to be running correctly before the vehicle was released. This eliminated a presumed reliability problem with starting rocketed engines in flight, but complicated booster section staging.

The USAF initially funded the construction of 13 test vehicles, but funding reductions cut the number actually built to three. Each MX-774 vehicle was static test fired at San Diego's Point Loma using a test stand made from a modified oil well tower. The flame deflector was a flat concrete pan flooded with city water from a 4-inch line.

The three test flights at White Sands in July, September and December 1948 were not fully successful, with premature engine shutdown marring all three tests. But each vehicle performed better than its predecessor. Problems in addition to premature engine shutdowns included parachute deployment failures, propellant tank pressurization control problems, and engine LO2 inlet valve issues

(which apparently caused the early engine shutdowns). Also encouraging was the fact that in reaching supersonic speeds, the MX-774s had passed through the most critical vibration, control, pressure and aerodynamic environments. The test flights did validate the improvements made, and were instrumental in the subsequent USAF contract awarded to Convair in late 1950 for development of the Atlas ICBM.

Source: Atlas, The Ultimate Weapon by Chuck Walker, published in 2005.

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## This STAR's Feature Article

By Tom Pighetti, Co-editor of the STAR  
([tjpighetti@q.com](mailto:tjpighetti@q.com))

### Question from the Crowd

*"Now that New Horizons is strictly in PDF format, how about distributing (to those who opt in) the MARS Star via email (in PDF format) and save some postage?"*

This is a suggestion that has been discussed several times. The primary reason for not doing this in the past has been the need for current and accurate email addresses. You would be amazed as to how many are out-of-date, contain errors, etc. even though the members are asked to keep the organization apprised of any changes. Just this year, about 45% of the email addresses for the nearly 1700 members have changed and a full 20%-plus of the membership professes not to have email. Some change their e-mail addresses as often as their sox.

Our membership is made up of a great variety of age groups, personalities and memory levels. There are many seniors who do not have computers and would not be computer literate enough to even open a PDF file. Still another issue is the ability to keep track of who is and who is not getting a hardcopy, and then manage the label lists.

For standard mail, there are incentive postage rates based on the number of pieces in the mailing.

The organization needs to maintain a certain number, or the mail does not qualify for a reduced rate, so all remaining newsletters would have to be sent first class—LMSSC, who pays for the mailing, may object to that.

Maybe in a few more years when more of the computer-phobic people are gone, and the bulk of the membership is technology-adept, MARS can move to a softcopy and/or web-based system, but I don't believe we are there yet.

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## Bridge Club

By Dave & Kathy Martz  
([martz20@comcast.net](mailto:martz20@comcast.net))

With the weather warming up, many like to get out and enjoy the fresh air. As well as exercising our bodies, we need to exercise our minds! Bridge is an excellent way to do both and have fun with other retirees at the same time.

We welcome all MARS members to come and join us at our monthly get together. We play on the **3<sup>rd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2010 winners are as follows:

### January 15 (6 tables)

1<sup>st</sup> – Joe Pohlen & Maurice Larue

2<sup>nd</sup> – Stu Scales & Trudy White

3<sup>rd</sup> – Ed Cortez & Ted Bornhoeft

4<sup>th</sup> – Bill & Connie Lutes

### February 19 (6 tables)

1<sup>st</sup> – Ted Bornhoeft & Tim Budzynski

2<sup>nd</sup> – Bob & Tina Crisler

3<sup>rd</sup> – Dave & Kathy Martz

4<sup>th</sup> – Ernie & Cecile Berliner

### March 19 (4 tables)

1<sup>st</sup> – Ted Bornhoeft & Ed Cortez

2<sup>nd</sup> – Stu Scales & Trudy White

3<sup>rd</sup> – Dave & Kathy Martz

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## Dinner Club

By Ralph & Carole Dergance  
([rhdergance@msn.com](mailto:rhdergance@msn.com))

Your Dinner Club just keeps on enjoying very fine, cost-effective meals in 2009. The level of participation increases with each year. We also continue to receive suggested venues from our members.

We have already booked exciting events for all of 2010. We started the year on **January 18** with lunch at **Café Terracotta** where 63 Associates enjoyed a good lunch in spite of rather slow service (we saturated their kitchen's capability). We then had lunch for 59 members (nine no-shows was an all-time high) at **Romano's** in Highlands Ranch on **February 11**. We then enjoyed our ritualistic venture to **The Buckhorn Exchange** on **March 18**, where 75 members had a ball in this unique venue. We will be treated to dinner at Littleton's five-star restaurant, **OPUS**, on **April 13**. We return to **Pinehurst Country Club** for dinner on **May 12** followed by our annual trek to **Mount Vernon Country Club** for their outstanding buffet and view on **June 16**. We will then have dinner at one of the Club's favorites, **240 Union** on **July 15**. We take our usual break in August and will return to **The Arrowhead Golf Club** for dinner and spectacular scenery on **September 15**. On **October 12** we will be treated to a luncheon at the **Café de France** in Aspen Grove and will close the year at **The Garden Terrace** in Inverness on **November 13**.

Thanks to your continued enthusiastic support, many of our events reach capacity 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 space for multiple Dinner Club events;** however, please do not combine Dinner Club events with other MARS events (i.e. Holiday Dance, Annual Meeting, 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:

***"There is no sincerer love than the love of food."***

**George Bernard Shaw**

**Buono L'appetito !!!!!!!**

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## Golf League

By Gregor Smith

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

The MARS Golf League continues alternate play between Broken Tee Golf Course in Englewood and Common Ground Golf Course in Aurora. Play begins the first Thursdays and continues each Thursday through October.

Both courses are in excellent condition and it should be a great season. We are focusing now on improving our pace of play and keeping our players and both courses happy with our league. The results of each week's play can be found on the MARS golf web site. We have an annual tournament the first two Thursdays of September this year. Our annual banquet is scheduled for the second of October.

As always we extend an invitation to all retired Lockheed Martin employees and their spouses to join the league and enjoy golf with us. It is both healthy and challenging. We play a variety of individual and team events for cash prizes under the USGA rules and handicap system. Anyone can win, as there are winners in four flights as well as closest to pin on two holes per round. Come join us for exercise, fun and fellowship! If interested, contact Gregor Smith at 720-320-7493.

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## 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 2010 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. After the presentation we have a coffee break during which members can share travel and photography tips. If you enjoy seeing images and hearing experiences from others' travel vacations, give the MARS Photo Club a try. Look for the special photo club Travelogue flier insert in this MARS *Star* mailing for more details.

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 Associates website (<http://www.marsretirees.org>) is updated to show thumbnail images of the winning pictures and future meeting topics.

### February 11, 2010 Meeting

The meeting was held at the Littleton Bemis Library and the program was a TRAVELOGUE presented by Jack Rombach, on his European River Cruise. Many of the club members and six guests attended the meeting. Both guests and members enjoyed the excellent photos of many historical landmarks and scenery along the cruise route. There were a number of questions about details of the travelogue route. Members extend a welcome to guests to future meetings.

The meeting photo competition subject was "Travel" with John Chapter as the judge. Winners are listed

below and the photos may be viewed on the MARS website.

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Jim Kummer	"St. Petersburg Church"
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Spence Bullard	"Night Launch"
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	John Flater	"Atlantis at Night"
Honorable Mention	Jack Romback	"German Castle"

#### **Future Programs:**

##### **April 14, 2010 Meeting**

For this month only there is a change to the meeting date for the MARS Photo Club meeting. The program presented by John Chapter will be titled *"The making of the 2010 Littleton Museum's Eye of Camera's Winner's Show"*. John Chapter will have 40-framed pictures and is sharing the show with Fritz Penning who will have about the same number of pictures. The show runs from April 16, 2010 through May 30, 2010 during normal museum hours. The meeting at the Bemis Library is from 1:30pm to 3:30pm, as usual.

#### **Future Meetings:**

Go the MARS Associates website (<http://www.marsretirees.org>) and click on "Photography" on the Clubs button at the left to get to the photo club's webpage. Here you'll see "Check the Meeting Schedule below". If the Program has the word **TRAVELOGUE**, it will be 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.

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## **Planner's Report**

By Dolph Hellman

([marblehead8hell9dw3@juno.com](mailto:marblehead8hell9dw3@juno.com))

Last summer, in July, Merriam Trube, with his significant other took a trip to Alaska. Here is his recounting of the trip.

#### **Prince William Sound on the Sprit of Columbia**

We were on a small ship with only fifty passengers. A seven foot draft is perfect for getting up close in the shallow water to see the glaciers. Prince

Williams Sound is not wide-open water like Puget Sound.

Prince William is a labyrinth of flooded valleys that have been carved by glaciers. Some of Channels were only 100 yards wide. They do get fog so navigation of the first order is required. The captain said, Yes, along with all the electronics he depends on tracking position with pencil on the chart, going slowly, watching the depth sounder and having a lookout on the bow.

We saw glaciers a mile across, 300 feet high and 300 feet below the water. They calved every 30 seconds, usually small, sometimes huge.

We saw Orcas, Humpbacks Whales, Sea Otters, Sea Lions (with males weighing 2000 pounds), Seals, Kittiwakes (nesting on the cliff by the thousands), Puffins, Murrettes, Bald Eagles, Gulls, Ducks, and had dinner with the Captain - he also a fine specimen of 6'4" tall, 65 year old Swedish sea master with tales to tell.

Columbia glacier was 7 miles up from our closest approach. Grounded icebergs at the moraine where the water was only 30 feet deep stopped us. No way to pass, so we eased up to the blue ice to within kissing distance.

Oyster Dave came aboard for a talk about raising oysters way out there, alone except for his cat. Not doing it for money, but for the independence!

Three nights, about twenty glaciers all, the wildlife and that's enough - back to Anchorage.

#### **Denali**

Rode the train about 200 miles to Denali National Park. It went on to Fairbanks. This was a luxury - a dome car above the dining area. Lots of room and we could really see. On the way up we could see Mt McKinley with hardly any clouds. Glacier rivers, big and fast were flowing right by the tracks. They are full of gray powdered silt from the grinding ice. Later we crossed clear streams and could see a few bright red salmon.

Nice room, but up early for the 6:20 AM bus ride (all 90 miles) to the end of the road. Good views of Denali (Mount McKinley) and spectacular scenery, 21 Dall sheep up on a high grassy ridge, near the cliffs; that is their protections from the wolves.

Then a grizzly bear sow with cub, then another.

Saw thirteen bear by the end of the trip. Moose, golden eagles, and caribou we saw. Did not sight wolves. There are no elk or deer in the park. Winter is too much for them up there.

Two nights in the lodge, then train back to Anchorage, one last shopping spree and bed. 4:30 AM up far shuttle to the airport and on home at 10:00 PM, pooped!

There was a river channel just behind the lodge and on our walk - rather stroll - we found a small bear track in the mud on the bank. Not fresh but decidedly close. Anyone for a stroll in the Dark?? In the park, of course!

#### **Future Meetings:**

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.

#### **Memoriam to Paul Griffth**

I'm sorry to report that Paul Griffth died on 2/28/2010. Paul was 80 and worked for Martin over 25 years. Paul was my first mentor when I joined Martin in 1968. He always saw the bright side of things and was a joy to be around. He was a good mentor, a fine planner, and all-round great guy. We will miss him.

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## **The MARS Associates Website**

By Paul Bingham  
([pbingham@central.com](mailto:pbingham@central.com))

#### **Your MARS Associates website:**

Two of the items you'll find on your MARS website are an "E-mail directory" and a "Site Of The Month".

#### **E-mail Directory:**

Having just finished looking up the e-mail address of a friend, I sent him a message. It "came back" as a message in my inbox which said the e-mail I had just sent was undeliverable because the address I used was incorrect. So I checked the e-mail directory on the MARS Associates website for his e-mail address. Sure enough, he had changed it, and I found his new one there. So, with his new address on my message it went through just fine. This little exercise took less time to do than it took me to tell about it. So what am I saying? I have two reasons for mentioning this situation. First, it is to show that

your MARS website e-mail directory is a good place to find the e-mail addresses of your former working friends. It is especially handy for your friends who live outside the local calling area. Second, it is to suggest that if you haven't sent your e-mail address into the directory, you might consider doing so. It can be extremely helpful to someone wanting to correspond with you. Again, this is especially handy for your friends who live outside the local calling area. And no, the website Committee does not sell or otherwise distribute the e-mail directory.

#### **Site-Of-The-Month:**

The Site of the Month is chosen from all of the sites that the committee has reviewed during the month. It is the site that we feel will be the most useful considering current events and season of the year. It is to your benefit to check it each month at "<http://www.mars-assoc.org>".

In addition to the "Site Of The Month", and the directory of e-mail addresses, the MARS website also contains a schedule of activities, speakers, etc., for each of the MARS clubs. Each club has a separate page with its schedule of activities and telephone numbers of people to call to make reservations or obtain more information directly from the club. Each club page also has links to other websites of interest to club members. There are many more items of value to you on your MARS website.

#### **Computer Access:**

Don't have access to the Internet on a computer at home? No problem. Almost all libraries now have computers with Internet access and they have someone there who, if asked, will be glad to help you get started. In addition, several libraries have free Internet classes. An hour spent in a class will get you on your way to finding valuable information, both on your MARS Associates website, and the Internet in general.

Another place to learn about Internet use is the Buck Recreation Center located at 2004 Powers Avenue in Littleton, Colorado. Also, the EzBytes Computer Club has classes on Internet use, and other classes from introductory to advanced for both Macintosh and Windows type computers. Class schedules are posted on - guess where - yep, your MARS Associates website.

#### **ComputerEdge Magazine:**

ComputerEdge is a very useful weekly magazine that covers both IBM and Macintosh computers, which is very unusual. Many of you have probably seen it. And best of all, it is free. The magazine has articles

on basics, more advanced items, a troubleshooting column, and much more. In addition, the magazine has a website where this week's issue can be found, plus more helpful information. You may subscribe to it and receive it in your email regularly. The URL is [www.computoredge.com](http://www.computoredge.com). Jack Dunning, Publisher, is doing an excellent job. Watch for it. You will probably find it to be interesting and useful.

Your Website Committee consists of Jim Kummer, webmaster, Linda Stearns, Smitty Smetana, Bob Knickerbocker and yours truly, Paul Bingham.

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## Denver News /What's New

By Pat Kenning

[patamk@yahoo.com](mailto:patamk@yahoo.com)

What's new in Denver? Biography included of the new MARS Associates VP of Activities, Dale Benesch.

Recycling is good - not only for water, paper, etc., but also for people too! Just ask Dale Benesch, our "new" recycled VP of Activities. He took that job from 2002 to 2004 and then went on to other things. When asked to serve again in 2010, he said YES! Thanks, Dale.

A Colorado native and farm boy, born in Hobson, Colorado, a small south central community. The family moved to Salida where the schools were better. Drafted by the Army during the Korean conflict, Dale never left the states, learning radar repair and electronics, he was stationed near Philadelphia. He then spent 17 years in New Jersey where he married and had 2 children, now grown with 2 children each, who still live there. In 1981, Martin Marietta hired him as a quality engineer without a college degree! ("The school of Hard Knocks," he laughs.) He retired in 1989.

Dale's hobbies include activities in the great outdoors, more specifically time spent in his garden and yard. He is a tireless promoter of Joni Janak and her band, which plays at the annual Holiday dinner dance. Dale has been selling her CD's for the past 14 years. She has also performed in the Littleton Museum concert series, Evergreen Jazz Festival, and many other venues.

If you have any ideas for new activities, just call Dale. He's recycled and ready to go again!

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## Cape Canaveral News

by Carl Welton

[weltonck@aol.com](mailto:weltonck@aol.com)

On 7 January 2010, the weather was cold, windy and just plain nasty in Florida, but the luncheon turnout was good. It was great to see 90-year-old Sam Gentile. He and Ed Carpenter kept every one sitting around them entertained with stories. The other end of our table got all the ins and outs of "old car collecting and refurbishment" from Jack Corfield and Dick Olson. First time we have seen Jack Johnston since they returned from their summer home in Black Mountain North Carolina. Ed McMechen flew down from Belleview Florida and brought along his brother Guy, who is my former Quality Engineering friend from Titan II silo activation days in Little Rock Arkansas. It was also good to see Bill Case and Dewey Strickland again.

Thirty-eight retirees attended the 4 February 2010 luncheon. Among the retirees we had not seen recently were Chuck Kuhn, Bob Simpson, Bob Matschner, Roger Wright, Nick Geso, Earl Dunn, Don Anderson, Gordon Newman, Dave Tufts, and Brooks Kilgore. We had one new first timer, LOCC Lead Engineer Ron Frisbee. The back table at Kay's was full of Titan propulsion guys, both Martin and Aerojet.

We had another good crowd at the 4 March luncheon. It was great to see Dean Willoughby after he missed several months. Rich Tennis was down from White Springs and also really looking good. Neat to see Gus Williams, hope he will bring his wife with him some time. Others we had not talked to recently were Herb Pugh, Joe Kiripolsky, Ken Williams and his wife, Harry Holmes, Dick Hinshaw and Chris Hutchmacher.

We have heard from several sources that former Quality Inspector Wayne Preston had passed away recently. Visited with Eddie Robert's and his wife in the Red Lobster Restaurant in early January. Eddie had his left arm in a sling from rotory cup surgery. Probably strained from lifting all those big fish into his charter boat during his years as a captain. He said his rehabilitation was proceeding on schedule. Christmas card news this year from retirees who do not attend a luncheon periodically indicates that: Norm Fox may become an RV'er again soon. Roy Farrell is still in Saratoga Springs New York. Tom and Linda Knapp spent October visiting Prague, Budapest, and a cruise on the Danube, Croatia, and Belgrade. Ninety two year old former Titan Inspector Vern Foelgner is still in Bonita Springs Florida. Mundy Macias is still in Sunrise Florida. Ken and



Dottie Shipe are now in California searching for the warm weather. Former Payload Inspector Karl Leach is working in Nashua New Hampshire. Found out in late January that former Titan Quality guy Bob Listy is currently in the Wuesthoff Progressive Care Center in Viera. You can read the bi-monthly Lockheed Martin employee newsletter online at <http://www.lockheedmartin.com/newhorizons>. Larry Gleason and I attended Jack Hagan's funeral service in St. Augustine and spent some time after the service with Jack's brother in-law former Quality Planner Lou Poley who now lives in Pocono Pennsylvania. Found out Bob Klein and Chuck Kuhn are both volunteer distributors for Meals on Wheels. Congratulations to the ULA crew for the successful Atlas Centaur launch on 11 February from CX-41. Understand retired Quality supervisor Jim Cotton's oldest son was run off the road by a Lynx bus in early February and suffered a head injury while riding his motorcycle. Jim says his son is hospitalized in Orlando and remains in a coma. Yes he was wearing a helmet. Understand Dewey Strickland has been a guest of the Cape Canaveral Hospital during February and early March. I spent time helping former VIB Ground Station Supervisor Ted Davenport's daughter Maureen Ries learn about her father.

It is with sadness in my heart I tell you of the passing of retired 35-year propulsion engineer and launch operations mechanical lead engineer Ken Jeffers. Ken had a short struggle with cancer and left us on Monday 25 January 2010. Ken was a friend to anybody who had the privilege of ever working for him, with him, or around him. Ken was a leader of men, not by words but by action. Ken was as good a technician and mechanic as ever picked up a wrench. He was as knowledgeable about the equipment and systems he was responsible for as anyone I ever knew. Ken was a lover of open wheeled dirt track racing primarily sprint cars and midgets and was the owner and driver of an antique sprint car. Races at tracks in Florida, Tennessee, Iowa, Oklahoma, Ohio, Indiana, Kansas, and Charlotte, North Carolina will not be the same without Ken. I had an e-mail from former Gemini Program Quality Supervisor Mike Mikesell telling of the death of John T. (Jack) Hagan on Saturday 23 January 2010 in St. Augustine Florida. When I came to the Cape in 1963, the Cape was a separate Division of Martin Marietta and Jack Hagan was the Director of Quality and Safety. At the end of the Titan II flight test program Jack continued as Quality and Safety Director for both Gemini Titan and Titan III but concentrated on the Gemini Program. At one point when the Gemini Program was having Missile

Erector reliability problems retracting during launch countdowns Joe Verlander designated Jack Hagan as the Erector Director with words to the effect "it better come down on time or you are gone." It did and at the end of the Gemini Program Jack Hagan went on to become the Vice President of Corporate Quality for the ITT Corporation with an office in New York City. Jack introduced many of the Martin Cape Quality staff to the American Society of Quality Control, including myself. Jack associated himself with Phil Crosby and he authored several noted books on managing quality and reliability in the corporate world. We lost another one of the early Titan team members. Sam Manuel passed away Thursday 4 February 2010 while in the Wuesthoff Progressive Care Center in Viera. He had been in the hospital for a week prior to being transferred to the care facility more than a week ago. Sam retired after 39 years with Martin, it was the only job Sam ever had. Sam started his career with Glenn L. Martin as a technician here at the Cape, transferred to Quality as an electrical inspector at the start of Titan III. Sam advanced to an Assistant Quality Supervisor in the Electrical and Flight Controls Systems. At the start of Titan IV Sam advanced to Quality Supervisor and changed to the Instrumentation Systems and become responsible for ground systems including the new LOCC. As a Quality Supervisor Sam was extremely effective because of his technician experience and his understanding of what was difficult for a technician to accomplish. He was also extremely concerned about the inspectors who worked for him. He was the type of supervisor anyone would want to work for. He was a good listener. Retired Quality Engineer Lawson Vest's wife Joan passed away on 5 February 2010 in a nursing home in Chiefland, Florida. She had been fighting cancer for several years. Many Retirees attended the viewing for Sam Manuel including Paul and Betty Daymude who we had not seen for almost a year. On 21 February, 96 year old retiree Harriet Stoneburner passed away. Harriet worked in the Operations Support Office on the Gemini Program and in the Procedures Group for Ken Boone and later Leroy Wright on Titan III. She was also a member of the retiree lunch group for many years. On 2 March Barbara Andrews passed away. For those of us who traveled, Barb was the best ever Travel Coordinator. She was easy to work with always doing the little extra things to make your trip as pleasant as possible.

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 a.m. You will meet many of your old friends.

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## REALM (Orlando News)

([www.realm-fl.org](http://www.realm-fl.org))

By Andrea Lawrence

([andrea.j.lawrence@gmail.com](mailto:andrea.j.lawrence@gmail.com))

Lockheed Martin's Florida retirees continue enjoying the benefits of the mild weather. The popular Lunch Bunch kicked off with over 100 members and guests enjoying camaraderie and good food at area restaurants during February and March and everyone looks forward to another great turnout in April, May and June.

Folks are busy with travel, too. The cruise to South America got a shaky start with the earthquake there. Many travelers have interesting stories about how they finally got aboard ship for a late sailing. But the pictures show the wait was well worth it. Another cruise to the Bahamas sets sail in May.

Several trips are planned locally to enjoy theater, gambling, and touring; and longer distance trips are in the development stages. In addition, special interest groups are planning picnics and reunions for people who worked together on programs such as Pershing and Sprint.

Dr. Harold Cates has taken the reigns as president of REALM and past-president Chet Winsor is serving as chairman. The board of directors is enjoying an infusion of new faces and new ideas.

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## News From Michoud

by Greg Kaminski (no email)

**Turn off the lights; the party is over!** The prime business for Lockheed Martin at Michoud has been the external tank for the Space Shuttle Program. The first cadre of people from the Martin Company arrived at Michoud in 1973. After 37 years this contract will finally come to an end in 2010. The contract for the external tank lasted as long, or longer, that the PBM contract with the U.S. Navy in the active days in Baltimore. We don't expect to see another contract here at Michoud to match this one.

The last of the external tanks are now in final assembly with the last tank, (sequence number 138), scheduled for delivery on 06/29/2010. It's

been a most interesting program and we are proud of our accomplishments. Many of the earlier generations of external tank workers have spent their entire working careers on this one single contract. For the current workers a sense of loss prevails as they now seek out careers in other fields and companies.

I have my doubts that any of the initial cadres of people transferred here from Denver in 1973 are still on the payroll. Many have retired after reaching their respective retirement age. Some folks returned to Denver, some went back to Orlando and a few even returned back to the Baltimore area. Like myself, a handful remained in the New Orleans area. As an example, our retirees' organization at its peak enrollment had over 60 people attending the monthly luncheon. Now we are lucky and honored when 25 attend. In the past, we participated in many volunteer community projects and had a big interest in the Christmas programs. Those activities have all but ended. However, we still have the local politicians come to the plant to speak to us about the community affairs and the future of our city.

I would like to thank all the folks who moved here to this area to help us build the external tanks and of course, thanks to those employees who were hired from this area.

To those of us who came from other areas, I can say we all experienced the warmest of welcomes and introduction into the New Orleans culture. It has been a great experience and lots of fun. There are no words sufficient enough to describe "riding on a float and tossing beads to the public" during the Mardi Gras parades.

Additionally, we who immigrated here had to learn a whole new vocabulary and how to relate to things like hurricanes, flooding, evacuations, traffic jams on the interstate, King Cakes, Masking at Mardi Gras, decorations, Kings and Queens, costume balls, parades and seeing the greatest free show in the French Quarter on Mardi Gras day. Not to forget the introduction of new foods as created by the Cajuns.

With regrets, I say this may be the last report from Michoud. My social calendar has been replaced by a medical calendar consumed with making and keeping medical appointments. My age is taking its toll on my free time and as one might imagine, I have not been able to get another volunteer to take over the task of reporting the "News from Michoud". So, as I wind down this report, I am obliged to say

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"thank you" for reading my reports over these past years, and I will miss you all.

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## **Martin Marietta Retiree's Club (Vandenberg News)**

by Charlie Radaz  
([fcmjradaz@aol.com](mailto:fcmjradaz@aol.com))

In December we had an excellent and fun Christmas Luncheon at the Radisson-Santa Maria enjoyed by 55 members and guests and led by our out-going president, Harlan (Bud) Gurney. Our program was stories of Christmas from six of our members recalling special times from their family days. Speakers were Bob Rhodus, Aubrey Collins, April Hardy, Les Trout, Bud Gurney and Paul Dailey. Paul's story could not be "topped" since his Christmas of 1944 was spent as a tank commander fighting the "Battle of the Bulge" near Brussels, Belgium! Paul worked for Martin Marietta from 1938 until his retirement in 1983.

The January meeting was held at Pea Soup Andersen's in Buellton with 44 members in attendance and our new President, "Robbie" Robinson presiding. Member and co-founder of our club, Bill Huguen, gave the program. Bill is a tax preparer in his "retired" life and this is the second year he has given our group the latest changes and inside hints on our taxes.... both verbally and a handout as a helpful reminder.

We were at Santa Maria Inn for the February meeting with 50 attendees. Our guest speaker, for the second year in a row, was a former MMRC Vandenberg colleague, Dan Courain. Dan went east 27 years ago to work FAA with Fred Hudoff and is now the V-P for Aviation Services for Lockheed Martin. Dan gave an update of activities and shared videos of Lockheed Martin current projects/contracts.

Lompoc Embassy Suites Hotel was the March luncheon location with 28 members enjoying a buffet and talk by local Dr. Gene Pritchett. He gave a comprehensive presentation on the risks of using artificial sweeteners in packets, sodas or any other forms. He also included benefits of taking Vitamin D-3 capsules regularly.

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.

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## **United Launch Alliance News**

By Chris Chavez  
([chris.s.chavez@ulalaunch.com](mailto:chris.s.chavez@ulalaunch.com))

### ***United Launch Alliance Signs Leases, Moves***

#### ***Employees to Facilities in Centennial***

DENVER, Colo.—United Launch Alliance (ULA)—the nation's rocket company—signed leases to consolidate its Denver-area facilities, including its Denver Operations Support Center and Avionics Laboratory, in the Centennial, Colo., area.

"Upon completion of a thorough business analysis of several options, ULA will bring together 2,000 personnel, including Denver-area employees, contractors and government representatives and contractors in a campus-like environment," said Michael C. Gass, ULA president and chief executive officer. "This decision will improve our organizational and employee effectiveness, and efficiency, as well as save money for our customers. ULA is pleased to grow our presence in the City of Centennial."

Now in its fourth year, ULA is a joint venture of Lockheed Martin and The Boeing Company. Since its formation, ULA has successfully launched 39 consecutive, successful missions for the Department of Defense, NASA, the National Reconnaissance Office and other commercial customers. ULA's Atlas and Delta families of rockets each have 50 years of proven mission reliability.

ULA signed 10-year full building leases for Waterview IV (7958 S. Chester St.) and Panorama I and IV in the Panorama Corporate Center (at the intersection of Dry Creek Rd. and Chester St.). The company also executed a five-year lease for a portion of the building known as Panorama II in the Panorama Corporate Center. Additionally, ULA will decide next year whether or not to remain in its current building at East Mineral Circle.

"We are truly excited that United Launch Alliance has chosen to retain its corporate headquarters in the South Metro area and expand their presence in Centennial," said Centennial Mayor Cathy Noon. "ULA is an important component of the aerospace industry and we are proud that an employer of this

magnitude is part of the Centennial business community.”

The consolidation will start late this year—beginning with ULA employees moving out of its South Park facility—and be completed by the end of 2011 when ULA’s current leases expire at the Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company Waterton campus.

About United Launch Alliance

ULA provides reliable, cost-efficient space launch vehicles and services for the U.S. government, including the Department of Defense, NASA, the National Reconnaissance Office and other commercial customers. The company employs nearly 4,000, including 1,700 headquartered in Centennial, Colo.

*MARS Associates Annual Meeting*  
*March 10, 2010*

**Crystal Rose in Littleton, CO**

## MARS ASSOCIATES EVENTS SCHEDULE

<i>EVENT/MONTH</i>	2010									2011		
	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Board of Directors		5		7		1		3		5		2
Officers	7	5	2	7	4	1	6	3	1	5	2	2
Bridge	16	21	18	16	20	17	15	19	17	21	18	18
Dinner	13	12	16	15	NONE	15	12	13	NONE	TBD	TBD	TBD
Golf	Thur.	Thur.	Thur.	Thur.	Thur.	Thur.	Thur.					
Photo	8		11		13		8		11		10	
Planners	7	6	3	8	5	2	7	4	2	6	3	3
EzyBytes	30	28	25	30	27	24	29	NONE	3	28	25	25
Web Committee	6	4	1,29	in June	3	8/31	5	2	11/30	4	1	1
Annual Meeting												TBD
Sr. Luncheon				21								
Annual Picnic						8						
Holiday Celebration									1			
Items due for MARS STAR			28			27				3		TBD
STAR Mailing	21			28			27			26		
DATED: JANUARY 2010												
Notes:												
1. BOD meets the first Wednesday of EVERY OTHER month at The Egg & I near Southglenn at 09:30 am												
2. Officers meet the first Wednesday of every month at The Egg & I near Southglenn at 09:30 am												
Note: Combined BOD/Officers meeting in July moved to first Tuesday												
3. Bridge meets the third Friday of every month at 10:00 am at the Buck Recreation Center.												
4. Dinner Club: 03/16/10-The Buckhorn Exchange @ 11:30am;04/13/10-OPUS @ 6:00 pm; 05/12/10-PHCC @ 5:30 pm;												
06/16/10-MVCC @ 11:30 am; 07/15/10-240 Union @ 5:30 pm; No event in August; 09/15/10 - AHGC @ 5:30 pm;												
10/12/10-Café de France @ 11:30 am; 11/13/10-Garden Terrace @ 11:30 am												
5. Golf meets every Thursday April through October of each year.												
6. Photo meets the second Thursday of every other month at 1:30 pm at the Bemis Public Library in Littleton.												
7. Planners meet the first Thursday 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 Friday of the month except November when we meet on												
the first Friday in December - all meetings at the Buck Recreation Center.												
9. Web committee meets on Tuesday prior to the BOD and/or Officers meeting at noon at Sweet Tomatoes												
10. 2011 Annual Meeting is on March TBD at TBD												
11. 2010 Annual Senior Luncheon is July 21 at Pinehurst Country Club												
12. 2010 Annual Picnic is September 8 at Clement Park.												
13. 2010 Annual Holiday Celebration is December 1 at the Marriott Tech Center												