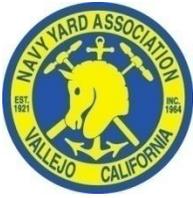


# The Navy Yard Association Newsletter



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 Vice President.....Jim Porter  
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 Benefits Officer.....Robin Leong  
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## NYA Bulletin Board

If you wish to reach more than 500 of your fellow NYA members, this bulletin board is available for your use to post information. **Send an e-mail to Veronica Laird at [vcullum@hotmail.com](mailto:vcullum@hotmail.com) (use the subject line "NYA Bulletin Board")**

### Shop 64 Breakfast Meeting

Rotating between Vallejo, Suisun, Fairfield, Vacaville, & Napa  
 Third Friday each month at 9:00am  
 POC: Jim Davis; (707) 226-1119

### Vallejo Chapter of NARFE Meeting

Florence Douglas Senior Center, 333 Amador St., Vallejo  
 Second Tuesday of each month at 1:15pm  
 POC: Robin Leong; [robin\\_leong@netzero.net](mailto:robin_leong@netzero.net)

### Napa Chapter of NARFE Meeting

Napa Senior Center, 1500 Jefferson St., Napa  
 Last Wednesday of each month at 1:30pm  
 POC: Dotty Mufich; (707) 226-3642

### Delta Chapter of NARFE Meeting

Denny's at Hwy 4/Somerville, Antioch  
 First Monday of each month at 12pm (Feb, Apr, Jun, Sep)  
 POC: Bob Martin, (925) 458-1260

### Mare Island Historic Park Foundation

Mare Island Quarters "A" or "B"  
 Fourth Monday quarterly (Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct) at 10:00am  
 POC: Ken Zadwick; (707) 557-1538

### Nuclear Inspectors' Luncheon

The Sardine Can, Vallejo  
 First Tuesday of each month at 11:30am  
 POC: Lea Zajac; [ldzajac@aol.com](mailto:ldzajac@aol.com)

### Ocean Engineering Luncheon

Sports Bar inside the Marriott Hotel, Napa  
 Last Wednesday of each month at 11:30am  
 No POC at this time

### Nuclear Engineering Luncheon

Locations vary each month  
 Each Friday at 11:30am  
 POC: Allen Green; [aalgreen@napanet.net](mailto:aalgreen@napanet.net)

## President's Corner

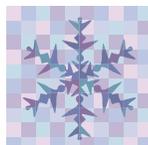
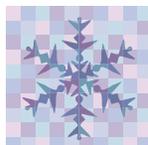
Ralph McComb

Some might think that Mare Island died when the Shipyard closed. But, as you'll read in our December newsletter, there's still plenty of life happening on and around Mare Island. The holiday season often is a time for introspection; and, as I reflect on the many memories we've shared over the years, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of you members for keeping us as a part of your life.

The holiday season also reminds me of how much I appreciate those special people who are the living, working parts of the NYA: the NYA Officers and Directors who give selflessly of their time to our organization and ask nothing in return. So, to Bruce, Lloyd, Robin, JP, Veronica, Sonya, Howard, Mary Ann, Gordon, Jan, Rudy, Rich, Carmen, Mary, Dennis, Dave, their families, and all those who help out when they can, please accept this simple but heartfelt acknowledgement of and thanks for your contribution.

And, whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, or Kwanzaa, we wish you all the merriest of holiday seasons and a happy and prosperous 2015.

Please feel welcome to send us your thoughts, ideas, or suggestions for how the NYA can be better. Keep an eye out for any outings we may plan in the coming year.



## **Around Mare Island...**

Bruce Christensen

The following are some of the current goings-on around Mare Island:

### **Demolition of Badge and Pass Office Not Easy**

In September, the old Badge and Pass Office (Building 513) was converted to a pile of rubble, and that was—as they say—the easy part.

In October, the Vallejo Times-Herald reported that the discovery of unforeseen hazardous materials had driven the cost of demolition and disposal of the building debris from the original estimate of \$130,000 to almost a million dollars. Prior to the demolition work starting, significant biological hazards inside the building, limited the amount of inspections that could be performed. Once the building came down, it was apparent that there was asbestos, lead, and other hazards that would necessitate disposing of all of the mixed debris at a hazardous waste disposal site. The City Council reluctantly approved the additional funding and by the end of the November, the building debris was gone.

### **North End of Mare Island Finally Receiving Attention**

The week of November 10, 2014, the City of Vallejo began hearings for the reuse proposals received by October 1, 2014. Based on the hearing results, City staff recommendations for the reuse of the north end of Mare Island will be provided by December 2014, and the City Council will take action on those recommendations in January 2015. Included in the proposals from eleven different groups were plans for:

1. Business parks, including offices and industrial facilities.
2. Mixtures of retail, hotel and convention facilities.
3. Major resorts with Indian gaming.

In November, the Vallejo Times-Herald reported that three of the eleven proposals were disqualified for falling short of the City's expectations. It was also reported that the groups proposing gaming casinos are indicating that there could be as many as 2,000 to 4,000 jobs created, many of which would become permanent. The gaming proposals also include estimates of tens of millions of dollars per year being generated for Vallejo, depending on the size of the facility.

### **Former Head of the Mare Island Naval Support Activity Passes**

On Veteran's Day 2014, retired Navy Captain Jack Nunneley passed away at the age of 87. In 1966, Commander Nunneley became the first Commanding Officer for the Gold Crew of the Mare Island Naval Shipyard-built nuclear submarine, USS VALLEJO, SSBN 658. After completing his tour as the VALLEJO Commanding Officer in the mid-1970s, Captain Nunneley became the Head of the Mare Island Naval Support Activity (former Mare Island Naval Station). After retiring from the Navy, Nunneley (a native Californian) made his home in Vallejo and actively supported the Vallejo Naval and Historic Museum and assisted in the founding of the Mare Island Museum.

### **Mare Island Brewing Company Now Open on a Regular Schedule**

In September 2014, the Mare Island Brewing Company announced that it will be open for business in the Ferry Building on the Vallejo Waterfront, Thursday through Saturdays from 5-10PM, and on Sundays from 3-9PM.. So that former Shipyard workers will feel more at home, the taproom is decorated in Mare Island Naval Shipyard memorabilia. The available beers at the taproom include Saginaw Golden Ale, Coal Shed Stout, Hydraulic Sandwich IPA, and Farragut's Farmhouse Ale. The Brewing Company also serves wine and soft drinks and offers a food menu.

### Mare Island Ale Works to Set up Shop on Mare Island

In October 2014, the Vallejo Times-Herald reported that a new microbrewery, including a tasting room, will be constructed at a former warehouse located at the north end of Mare Island near Alco Iron and Metals at the corner of “L” Street and Azuar Drive. There are currently no details as to the date when the microbrewery will be open for business.

### Coast Guard Icebreaker Completes Repairs at Mare Island

On November 12, 2014, the Vallejo Times-Herald reported that the Icebreaker USS POLAR STAR completed its recent dry dock availability and departed Mare Island. The primary mission of the 38-year-old vessel is to break through ice to deliver the yearly supplies to researchers stationed at the U.S. McMurdo Research Station and other U.S. Research Stations in Antarctica. The POLAR STAR is the only remaining U.S. Icebreaker and is currently operating eight years beyond its originally scheduled decommissioning date.

### Mare Island Trivia

In 2003, to avoid confusion between the street addresses on Mare Island and those in mainland Vallejo, the following Mare Island street names were changed as show below:

<u>Old street name</u>	<u>New street name</u>
3rd Street	Connolly Street
5th Street	Kansas Street
6th Street	Arizona Street
9th Street	Rickover Street
12th Street	Bagley Street
13th Street	Oklahoma Street
14th Street	Nereus Street
B Street	Grayback Street
C Street	Pintado Street
D Street	Wyoming Street
Acacia Avenue	Independence Street
California Avenue	Nimitz Avenue

Curry Street	Connecticut Street
Henley Street	Dart Street
Lincoln Avenue	Minnesota Street
Murphy Lane	Utah Street
Pine Street	San Pablo Street
Young Drive	Perry Drive

### **Mare Island Historic Park Foundation**

Bruce Christensen  
Dennis Kelly

### Christmas Concert at St. Peter’s Chapel

On Sunday, December 21, 2014, the Vallejo Choral Society will present the 19th Annual Christmas Concert at St. Peter’s Chapel at 2:00PM. Tickets are \$15 and are available at the Mare Island Museum, the Vallejo Visitors and Convention Bureau, and the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum; or you can call (707) 557 4646 to purchase tickets via a credit card. **No tickets will be sold on the day of the performance.**

Following the concert, there will be a reception at Mare Island Quarter’s “A” for all concert attendees.

### Repair of August Earthquake Damage to Historic Buildings will be Costly

The August 24, 2014, earthquake measuring 6.0 will result in significant repair costs to historic buildings around Mare Island. Following the rains in November, earthquake damage to the Museum (Building 46) roof resulted in significant leaks. Tarps are being used as a temporary measure to control the leakage.

The permanent repairs to correct the damage to the 160-year old building are estimated to cost in excess of \$200,000. The Mare Island Historic Park Foundation plans to work with the Federal Emergency Management Authority (FEMA) to obtain the funds to make the required repairs. FEMA representatives, along with MIHPF President Ken Zadwick, inspected the earthquake damage to the Museum on November 24, 2014.

**Become a Plankowner of the Mare Island Historic Park Foundation!**

The Mare Island Historic Park Foundation (MIHPF) continues to offer its Plankowner Program to those interested in preserving and displaying the history of Mare Island. As a reminder, the MIHPF is a not-for-profit 501(C)(3) foundation.

Those interested in becoming a Plankowner may do so at any of the following levels:

- Ensign.....\$25+
- Lieutenant.....\$100+
- Commander.....\$500+
- Captain.....\$1,000+
- Rear Admiral.....\$5,000+
- Vice Admiral.....\$10,000+
- Admiral.....\$20,000+
- Other.....\$\_\_\_\_\_

To enroll in the Plankowner Program, please send your tax deductible donation check to:

Mare Island Historic Park Foundation  
328 Seawind Drive  
Vallejo, CA 94590

To donate by VISA or Mastercard,  
Call: 707-280-5742

**MIHPF Needs Volunteers**

The Mare Island Historic Park Foundation (MIHPF) is the major force in the maintenance and preservation of historic properties and promotion of Mare Island’s past.

Do you have a few hours each week when you can volunteer as a docent, tour guide, or to do gardening or maintenance work in the Mare Island Historic District? If so, the Mare Island Historic Park Foundation (MIHPF) will be glad to put you to work!

Some of the sites for which the MIHPF is responsible are the St. Peters Chapel, Officers’

Mansions (Quarters A and B), the Mare Island Museum (Building 46), and the grounds surrounding each of these sites. If you wish to volunteer, please call 707-557-0662 or 707-280-5742 and leave your contact information or send an email to: kenzad01@sbcglobal.net or JIG313@aol.com.

Also, anyone interested in becoming a member of the MIHPF Board of Directors is cordially invited to attend the next Board Meeting as a guest.

**Membership update**

James Porter

Current membership stands at 518. Our dental plan membership is holding steady at 240 members.

Remember, membership in the NYA is required to enroll in the dental plan; however, you don’t have to give up your NYA membership if you no longer need the dental plan. All you need to do to stay connected with the NYA is pay your membership renewal fee of \$15.

Welcome to new member William G. Schneider (recruited by Marlin Forthun).

We offer our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Gerald Leon Schiefferly, who passed away on November 18, 2014.

Thanks to those of you who’ve asked us to send their NYA newsletter by e-mail! Now that we are paying first class postage on newsletters, we encourage everyone to have their newsletter sent by e-mail. (A side benefit is that the e-mail version of the newsletter is in color!) Not only does it reduce our environmental footprint and save money, receiving the newsletter electronically allows you to easily search and retrieve information. Could we call that a win-win-win-win situation?

Another side benefit is that Benefits Officer Robin Leong can send you important, timely updates (the type of things that occur in between

newsletters). Remember that we do not share our e-mail list with anyone.

Wishing all of our NYA family and friends the happiest of holiday seasons!

## **Benefit Officer's Column**

Robin Leong

Hope you all had a great Thanksgiving!!

There isn't much happening on the benefits front, although I'm always keeping an eye out for new benefits for our members.

One of our most popular benefits is FREE notary public service. This service is most graciously provided by NYA Officer and Director Sonya Domingo. To make an appointment for notary service, you can reach Sonya by phone at (707) 326-5275 or via e-mail to K-S-Domingo@sbcglobal.net. Please remember to give Sonya a minimum of 24 hours notice for notary appointments.

Several members have asked me to send them the information on getting a retired DOD identification card, so I've included that information again in this column, although you can always find that information in previous issues on our website.

### **Benefits**

Here is the contact information for our dental plan administrators, Integrity Administrators, Inc.:

Integrity Administrators, Inc.  
1787 Tribute Road, Suite E  
P.O. Box 13128  
Sacramento CA 95813-3128

Phone: 916-921-3388 or 800-562-9383  
Fax: 916-921-3383

E-Mail: brentjones@integrityadmin.com  
OR  
kfranklin@integrityadmin.com

## **DOD Retiree Identification Card**

When my DOD retiree identification card was stolen some time ago, I discovered there are changes to the process of obtaining the card. Hopefully, sharing my experience will save you some time

First, I recommend scheduling an appointment online at <http://www.travisfss.com/id-card-appointment/> or phone (707) 424-5604 or 424-8468. For this scheduled appointment, go to 540 Airlift Dr. Building 381 at Travis AFB. If you schedule an appointment using the <https://rapids-appointments.dmdc.osd.mil> site or by calling (707) 424-2345, you need to go to Travis AFB DEERS at 531 Waldron St, Bay G (Building 239). The main point here is to write down where you should go to get your DOD card when you make the reservation. Then, tell the badge and pass person where you need to go. Otherwise he might do as he did for me and direct you to the wrong place.

I went to Travis AFB, but there are other places in the San Francisco Bay Area you can obtain the retired DOD identification card. You can go to the US Coast Guard station in Alameda. Just Google "USCG Alameda," then click on "Personnel Support." Then, click on "ID cards." You'll be taken to the following site: <http://www.uscg.mil/baseAlameda/PSD/IDs.asp>

The PSD Customer Service Center is chartered with issuing ID cards. The location is: Coast Guard Island, Building 21, 2nd Floor (for elevator access use Campbell Blvd entrance). The main customer service center phone line is: (510) 437-3829. Also, you can make an appointment online at: <https://rapids-appointments.dmdc.osd.mil/> (note: this is the same website used for making appointments at Travis AFB).

Remember to bring two (unexpired) forms of ID to receive a new DOD retired ID card. One must be a state/government-issued photo ID. Please visit <http://www.uscis.gov/files/form/i->

[9.pdf](#) for a complete list of acceptable forms. For first time retired DOD ID applicants you need your Standard Form 50 showing that you retired from a DOD entity.

## **Mare Island Museum Announces New Exhibit**

Dennis Kelly

The Mare Island Historic Park Foundation is proud to announce the opening of a new Spanish American War Exhibit highlighting the critical role Mare Island played at a pivotal moment in our nation's history.

You can see the exhibit in person at the museum or visit it virtually at <https://www.facebook.com/MareIslandMuseum>.

### **What are some of the more unusual items you will see?**

You will see a radio controlled (RC) model of the USS OLYMPIA (CA6) a protected cruiser that was built at Union Iron Works in San Francisco and was serviced at Mare Island before leading the United States fleet into battle at Manila Bay in 1898. And you will see old photographs from the period displaying the technology of the "new" steel navy.

If you've never heard of the RC combat warship hobby before, here's a quick introduction. People build RC 1:144 models of ships arm them with BBs and ball bearings, and then go out for battles on a pond. The ships shoot each other, and they actually do sink but then are easily repaired and

battling again in an hour. The hobby is popular in the US, Canada, and Australia, but currently limited in some other areas due to complex gun laws.

### **What may you be surprised to learn?**

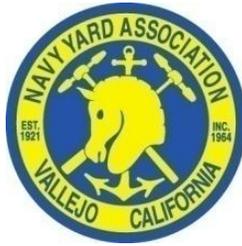
I suspect you will be surprised by the complex systems and construction of the new steel navy that Mare Island was called upon to build, maintain and repair during this era. Most are also surprised to find that an impressive monument they have seen many times is actually a monument to the Battle of Manila Bay to which Mare Island had such a significant tie.

### **What will be your reaction from seeing this exhibit?**

My hope is that you will gain an appreciation for what is now a forgotten war and the key role that our ancestors and Mare Island played. This was the war that thrust the United States from 3rd world status to a world power and began the liberation of the Philippine



The new USS Olympia display at the Mare Island Museum (Building 46)



## NYA BENEFITS

BENEFITS	COST	WHAT TO DO	COMMENTS
<b>LEGAL SERVICES</b>			
 <b>Notary Public</b>	Free	To make an appointment, contact Sonya Domingo at (707) 326-5275 or send e-mail to <a href="mailto:k-s-domingo@sbcglobal.net">k-s-domingo@sbcglobal.net</a>	Please allow 24 hours - you will be contacted to set up an appointment
 <b>Living Trust</b>	10% off the prices posted on the website, at: <a href="http://www.giffordlaw.com">www.giffordlaw.com</a>	To make an appointment, contact Jean Gifford at (707) 453-1647 or (530) 759-9659	
<b>RETAIL/SERVICE DISCOUNTS</b>			
 <b>Kelly Moore Paint and Wallpaper</b>	25% off	To obtain the discount card, contact Robin Leong at (707) 643-1287	
 <b>Balbin Smog Shop Test ONLY Center</b>	10% off	Contact the Balbin Smog Shop at (707) 647-1601	Other discounts may be available – call the shop and don't forget to mention that you're an NYA member
<b>Handy Consumer Tips Emergent Benefits Job Announcements/Reunions</b>	No cost	Send your e-mail address to Robin Leong at <a href="mailto:robin_leong@netzero.net">robin_leong@netzero.net</a>	
<b>TRAVEL DISCOUNTS</b>			
 <b>Ambassador Travel</b>	Heavily discounted tours and cruises	Please contact Robin Leong at (707) 643-1287	

If you would like to receive benefits updates via e-mail, please send your e-mail address to Robin Leong at [Robin\\_Leong@netzero.net](mailto:Robin_Leong@netzero.net).