

The Navy Yard Association Newsletter



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Benefits Officer.....Robin Leong
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NYA Bulletin Board

If you wish to reach more than 700 of your fellow NYA members, this bulletin board is available for your use to post information. Contact Connie Raguindin or send e-mail to benefit@mareislandnya.com

Shop 38 Luncheon
Vallejo Elks Club, 2nd Wednesday each month

Vallejo Chapter of NARFE Meeting
Florence Douglas Senior Center, 333 Amador St.,
Vallejo; 2nd Tuesday each month at 1:00pm.
POC: Al Robinson; (707) 642-5834

Napa Chapter of NARFE Meeting
Napa Senior Center, 1500 Jefferson St., Napa, last
Wednesday each month at 1:30pm.
POC: Dick Campion; (707) 253-7242

Mare Island Historical Park Foundation
Mare Island Quarters "A," 3rd Monday quarterly (Jan,
Apr, Jul, Oct) at 10:00am

Even in these post-Shipyard times, the NYA has reached yet another milestone. The Navy Yard Association is the longest continuous member of the Vallejo Chamber of Commerce! This milestone highlights the presence of the NYA in our communities and lives.

Local residents may recall the historic first sale of property on Mare Island in June of this year. Now, a date has been set and a registration process put in place for the opportunity to purchase a soon-to-be-built upscale residence on the historic Mare Island. If you are interested and have access to the internet, you can get the latest news and details at Lennar's website, www.lennarmareisland.com.

As 2004 draws close, I wish you all a joyous holiday season and a healthy, prosperous New Year.

President's Corner

Ralph McComb

As the year draws to a close, many of us find time to ponder the events of the past year and all the different things that have affected our lives and added to our purpose. For me, the Navy Yard Association of Mare Island is one of those things.

Steeped in proud tradition, the NYA has been a voice to be reckoned with for more than 80 years. At its peak, Mare Island Naval Shipyard's most influential lobbying group had more than 7,000 members. Although our membership is not as strong and the Shipyard has closed, still we endeavor to be an organization that supports its members.

Volunteers Needed!

If you are interested in volunteering with the Mare Island Historic Park Foundation, please call (707) 557-1538

Membership update

Jim Porter

I offer a hearty "Welcome" to our new members, with special thanks to those who encouraged them to join. Sponsors of new members received an NYA mouse pad for their

efforts. If you bring in more than one new member, you're eligible to receive another gift!

John Bonsall, Jerry Bull (recruited by Sue Lemmon), Michael C. Delilo (recruited by Doug Ghiselin), Philmore E. Fisher (recruited by Charles Johnson), Walter M. Garrison (recruited by Jim Porter), Randy L. Hammond, Hiwatha Johnson (recruited by Walter Garrison), Phyllis Laflamme (recruited by Phyllis Honodel), Robert Dopheide (recruited by Lewis Knief) and George Worthen

We pass our heartfelt sympathies to William Holton, who lost his wife Candy on October 15, 2003. Candy Holton worked in Shop 38 Training; and she retired from Mare Island. Bill and Candy were married 35 years.

We've learned that new member Hiwatha Johnson passed away in late November. Our sympathies go out to his family.

Current membership stands at 637, with 449 having dental plan memberships. We also have the e-mail addresses of 177 of our NYA members. Our goal is to have no net loss of membership in 2003. Towards this goal, we have twenty-nine memberships to go.

Your NYA Officers and Directors, as always, continue to look for ways in which to provide more benefits to our members and more support to our communities, as well as continuing efforts to increase our membership. If you have any ideas or suggestions on how we can better serve our members and our communities, or if you would like to contribute to the newsletter, please contact your Directors or send us e-mail at benefit@mareislandnya.com.

In closing, I wish you all a peaceful and joyful holiday season and a bright New Year.

Update on the Status of Planning for Mare Island Naval Shipyard's Sesquicentennial Anniversary

The Sesquicentennial Anniversary of the establishment of Mare Island Naval Shipyard will be celebrated in September 2004.

The President of the United States has been invited as a keynote speaker at next year's ceremony. In a recent letter received from the White House, Lou Burgelin—who is heading the planning efforts—was notified that although the President's calendar has not yet been set for that time period, the President is well aware of the significance and opportunity presented by this invitation. The White House will notify Lou as soon as the calendar has been set.

Volunteers are still needed to assist in the many tasks still to be completed for the celebration. If you are interested in helping with this gala event, please contact Lou Burgelin at (707) 644-5551.

Street name changes take effect on Mare Island

In a letter dated November 7, 2003, the City of Vallejo announced the changing of 18 street names on Mare Island. The change, in which the Vallejo City Council approved Resolution No. 03-384-N.C., took effect in mid-November.

The following street names were changed:

<u>Old Street Name</u>	<u>New Street Name</u>
3 rd Street	Connolly Street
5 th Street	Kansas Street
6 th Street	Arizona Street
9 th Street	Rickover Street
12 th Street	Bagley Street
13 th Street	Oklahoma Street
14 th 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

**Eighth Annual Flyway Festival
January 23-25, 2004**

This is a great time to view Mare Island in a different light—as a playground for both people and wildlife. Join the free field trips around the island on which you once worked. There are great activities for young children.

For a brochure with a list of the activities, call Myrna Hayes at (707) 557-9816 or visit their website at: www.sfbayflywayfestival.com

Benefits Officer's report

Robin Leong

Hope you all had a splendid Thanksgiving.

Once again, we are able to offer free Notary Public service to our members. To schedule an appointment, please leave a message on the NYA answering machine (call 707.562.1812) or send an e-mail request to benefit@mareislandnya.com.

Possibly the best benefit this Christmas would be to protect your own annuity and/or minimize the money leaving your bank account. The best way to accomplish this is to belong to the National Association of Retired Federal Workers (NARFE). NARFE is your lobbying group in Washington, DC—where bills are passed that affect *your* Federal retirement. In the past, your NYA has “ridden on the coattails” of NARFE-sponsored bills. However, we have

done our part by writing letters to our Congressional representatives in support of these bills. You might want to consider writing to support these types of issues, too. For example, here is something you could write about: Would you like to save about \$434 per year? If so, consider asking your Congressional representative to support premium conversion HB 1231 and SB 623. These bills would provide for the deduction of health benefits from your gross income, resulting in a lower reportable income—thus the annual savings!

Another set of bills you might consider supporting with a letter are HB 594 & SB 349 (Repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions).

We recently participated in the Open Season Health Fairs of U.S. Department of Agriculture in Albany, and the US Forest Service in Vallejo. This was part of our efforts to advertise our dental benefits to other Federal workers. Next year, we hope to be able to staff a booth at the Travis Air Force Base health fair.

We have discovered new uses for our retired DOD cards. Have you gotten yours yet? You can purchase a book which provides information on how to get in to “Temporary Military Lodging in the World.” Use your retired DOD card to make reservations. If you are retired military, use (800) 527-2345 to order book #K716N. It costs \$13. You can ask an active or retired military member to purchase it for you, or go to the nearest Military base, and show your retired DOD card to purchase the book. Another book is “Military RV Camping & Outdoor Recreation,” order #K198Y, which costs \$11.29. This book gives information on which bases have RV hook ups and golf courses.

You can use your DOD retired card to get reservations on unused Resort Condominiums International (RCI) properties. If you have access to the internet, visit www.GeTravelOp.com or www.afvclub.com/search.asp to find out about

the Government Employees Travel Opportunities Program. When you are ready to arrange a vacation, please call (877) 867-3639. You may also send an e-mail directly from their website. These timeshare Condos can sleep between 2-6 and rent at just \$249 a week. Many are in luxurious settings. Your directors were excited when we found out about this "new" benefit. It's actually better than staying at a military base (except for the places in Hawaii).

When we announced that benefits were available via e-mail, there was a rush of requests for retired DOD cards. Many asked how to get one. I then discovered that we had no one authorized to sign the requisite Form 55. Your NYA President, Ralph McComb, contacted Larry Bartholomew at Puget Naval Shipyard. Larry has agreed to sign the cards, and we've also found another person at Mare Island who is authorized to sign the cards. What do you need? You need a recent passport-sized photograph of yourself and your Form 50, which shows you retired from Mare Island. Then, call Helen Morgan at (707) 562-3374 for further instructions on when to meet her with your paperwork and vital statistics. I believe Helen is contracted for only one more year. So, if you want to get a DOD card, you should get one before September 31, 2004. Thanks to Helen and Frankie Redmond for all you do for us!

Reminder. "California Consumers May Now Claim Their Share Of \$1.1 Billion in Microsoft Antitrust Settlement Benefits.

(Please forward this to your Friends, Family and your employer's Computer Systems Manager.)

California consumers may now obtain substantial benefits from the settlement of an antitrust/unfair competition lawsuit against Microsoft Corporation. Making a claim is easy. Up to five eligible product purchases and \$100 in benefits may be claimed by simply writing down your eligible Microsoft software purchases and

signing your name. No proof of purchase is required. If you have more than five eligible products, even larger amounts may be claimed by providing additional information about your purchases.

You can obtain a Claim Form by going to www.microsoftcalsettlement.com and clicking on the "Get A Claim Form" button or by calling 1-800-203-9995. Some consumers may also receive a Claim Form in the mail but there is no reason to wait.

Settlement benefits will be awarded in the amounts listed below for EACH COPY (including each upgrade copy) of the following Microsoft products you acquired between February 18, 1995 and December 15, 2001 (either with your purchase of a computer or separately) for use in California: Windows or MS DOS - \$16 each, Office - \$29 each, Excel - \$26 each, Word, Works Suite or Home Essentials - \$5 each.

Benefits can be converted into cash if sometime after July 18, 2003, you purchase a desktop or laptop computer, printer, scanner, monitor, keyboard, mouse, trackball or desktop computer software sold by any vendor for any operating system. Consumers are free to keep their settlement benefits, give them away as gifts or donate them to local schools or charities."

Have a happy, warm, and safe holiday.

Mare Island Post Office to Close

The Mare Island Station of the U.S. Postal Service will be closing in the coming months, although the exact date has not been announced.

While, the NYA has had the same post office box for more than 50 years, we will soon have a new address. Please watch upcoming newsletters and our website for the new address.

Mare Island Historic Park Foundation seeks support to bring DRUM back to Mare Island

Kenneth Zadwick, President of the Mare Island Historic Park Foundation (MIHPF), recently issued a letter encouraging support in the effort to bring the USS DRUM (SSN 677) back to Mare Island. Ken hopes that the DRUM—which is currently being stored at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, WA—will become a key addition to the Historic Landmark properties managed by the Foundation. Those properties include the Artifacts Museum (Building 46), St. Peter's Chapel, and the Shipyard Commander's Mansion.

In his letter, Ken notes that Congress has authorized the MIHPF and the City of Vallejo to return DRUM to Mare Island, where she will "become a museum at the Shipyard where she was built." He further notes that the DRUM will be the only submarine of its class to be placed on public display.

In order to bring the DRUM to Mare Island, the MIHPF and the City of Vallejo must meet the requirements of the Navy. Although much work has already been done, there is still much to do. And, there are certain time-sensitive requirements that must be met in order to prevent the DRUM from being cut up for salvage before she can be returned to Mare Island. Your donations or multi-year pledges will help to assure the success of these efforts. *There is only a limited time to raise the needed funds.* To find out how you can contribute to this worthy effort, please contact the MIHPF at (707) 557-1538.

Items of interest....

[Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park](#). The November 2003 issue of the Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historical Park Newsletter

contained a comprehensive overview of the efforts to bring this historical park into being.

The City of Richmond and the National Park Service are working on developing the purpose, significance and primary interpretive themes for the park, as well as determining issues and concerns, and gathering and analyzing information. The next phase will involve developing alternatives for establishing and managing the national historical park.

You can get the latest news and information on this exciting national historical park at their website. Visit www.nps.gov/rori/.

[USS Saginaw wreck discovered](#). The October 18, 2003, issue of the Honolulu Advertiser carried the story of the discovery of the 133-year-old wreck of the USS Saginaw—the first American warship built on the West Coast.

The Saginaw, which was built with both steam and sail power, was lost in 1870 on Kure's eastern reef (approximately 1,000 miles northwest of Kauai and 60 miles beyond Midway island). While all 93 men aboard survived the wreck, four crew members later died in the efforts to rescue of their fellow crew members.

The Navy never relinquished title to the Saginaw, and the Naval Historical Center will now determine whether or not any further salvage efforts will take place.

And then there was Yesterday

Sue Lemmon
Mare Island Shipyard Historian

JANUARIES BYGONE

The months of January seem to come around more frequently and some of them were especially full of activity at Mare Island Naval Shipyard.

A recent count reveals that January was the most popular month for getting ships into the

river. Accurate dates are unavailable for many craft, including dozens of tugs, landing craft, and barges. From information available today, eighteen launchings occurred during the first month of the year.

Six of those were submarines, starting with GUDGEON in 1941, followed by SEAHORSE (1943), SPADEFISH (1944), STICKLEBACK (1945), HALIBUT (1959), and KAMEHAMEHA (1965). The least popular month for launchings was November with only seven.

Honors for earliest-in-the-year category goes to the tug CASTRO on January 2, 1906, while the latest December splash was the sub tender FULTON on December 27, 1940.

January was not the optimum month for Change of Command ceremonies; there were only six. Honors for most of these rituals go to June and July, each with fifteen. March, April, and May each had eleven and the other months followed with diminishing numbers down to December with just two.

Off to a good start was Commodore J. R. Goldsborough, who became Mare Island Commandant on New Year's Day, 1870.

While some months have two national holidays, January has just one in addition to New Year's Day. Beginning in 1986 we honor the memory of Martin Luther King, Jr. on the third Monday.

It was 67 years ago (1937) that President Franklin D. Roosevelt became the first chief executive to be inaugurated on January 20 instead of March 4, because of the 20th Amendment to the Constitution.

While it will not be a legal holiday and we don't know who will be featured, you can safely mark January 20, 2005, as Inauguration Day on

your calendar. Between now and then be prepared for an onslaught of political polemics.

On Mare Island.....

The efforts to re-use existing facilities on Mare Island in a commercial setting have been quite successful. Roy F. Weston, Inc., continues to market the property, and many businesses are realizing that Mare Island has a lot to offer.

Following is a current list of Mare Island Tenants. At the request of several members, we now show the type of business (according to the master tenant list)

Alco Iron and Metal (Light Industrial)
Architectural Metal (Design, fabrication, etc.)
Aurora Manufacturing (Vinyl windows/doors)
Babcock Construction (Light construction)
BattleBots (Repair station and storage)
Berkeley Farms (storage/office)
C.S. Marine Constructors, Inc. (marine construction/repair)
California Conservation Corps (dormitory/classroom)
California Department of Transportation (CalTrans)
Cagwin & Dorward (MI landscape maintenance)
California Drywall/Lathing Apprenticeship and Training (apprenticeship and training)
California Manu Corp. (storing, surveying a cruise ship)
Carpenter Group (light industrial)
Cerberus & Company (workers comp. investigators)
CH2M Hill Constructors (environmental consultants)
Chaudhary & Associates (engineering, surveying, planning)
Cooper Crane & Rigging (equipment storage)
Curtis Coleman (furniture restoration, woodworking, reproductions)
Davis Electric (electrical contractor)
Delta Excavating (storage for underground site work)
Experteers (printing, sewing, distribution and sales)

of clothing)
Falcon Truck School (truck driver school)
FCI Constructors, Inc./Cleveland Bridge
California, Inc. (bridge builders, retrofit work)
FRG Waste Resources, Inc. (document shredding)
Granberg International, Inc. (manufacturing and distribution of chain saw accessories)
Globalcrete, LLC (cementitious products, production and storage)
Gridley's Historic Ferry Boats (maintenance and repair of two ferry boats)
Home Depot USA, Inc. (training facility)
Island Energy (MI utility company)
Jeffco/ABC/FBC (heavy industrial, sand blasting and painting)
Juliano & Company (painting and coating)
Kiewit Pacific (fabrication/assembly, storage, and shipping of bridge components/materials)
Kinkisharyo International (assembly of light rail vehicles)
Klamath Boat Company (manufacture of small aluminum boats)
Latham Truss (heavy industrial, construction of building components)
Lennar Mare Island (Asset manager for MI)
Lords Fellowship Center (non-profit/homeless education and training program)
MACTEC (national engineering firm)
Mare Island Golf Course and Resort, LLC
Mare Island Historic Park Foundation (museum, weddings, tours)
Mare Island Technology Academy (charter school)
Meridian Architects, Inc. (architect design and consultation)
Miami Company (repair and store shipping quilts)
Minuteman Press (printer and graphics design)
Nextel of California, Inc. (wireless communication)
North Bay Construction, Inc. (general contractor)
North Pacific Group (light industrial plywood and lumber wholesaler)
Pacific Sports Center at Mare Island, LLC (indoor multi-use sports and family activity center)

PackagingARTS, Inc. (printing and packaging brokers)
R. G. Carter (light industrial equipment maintenance and repairs)
Refractory Engineering and Construction (administrative offices and equip. storage)
Reimer Associates (engineering office)
Renaissance Entertainment, Inc. (storage of props, materials related to the Renaissance Faire)
Scherer Trucking, Inc. (hauling dirt and aggregate)
Seaman's Training Center (merchant seaman training)
George G. Sharp, Inc. (repair/cleaning of ships, asbestos/hazmat removal)
Silk Road Transport (parking specialized tractor/trailer transport vehicles)
Solonics (light industrial assembly of electronic equipment)
Supreme Truck Bodies (truck body assembly)
Syar Industries, Inc. (transfer of stone and aggregate products from trucks to barges)
Theme Events, Ltd. (entertainment production services)
Timothy Rose, Artist (art studio and related activities)
Touro University (College of Osteopathic Medicine)
Transportation Commodities, Inc. (storage/distribution/maintenance for trucking company)
Tutor-Saliba (storage of structural steel for Richmond/San Rafael Bridge)
Vallejo City Unified School District (pre-school childcare; parent and adult education/training)
Vallejo Ferry Service
West Coast Financial, LLC (administrative offices; purchase/sale of residential property)
Wines Central LLC (wine bottling, shipping and storage)
XKT Engineering, Inc. (heavy industrial - steel manufacturing)

Federal tenants include:

Caretaker Site Office
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Army Reserve

San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge
U.S. Forest Service
U.S. Geological Survey
U.S. Post Office
Veterans' Affairs (Outpatient Clinic)

Your NYA
Wishes You
a Happy Holiday Season!

Breakfast Casserole II

Submitted by: Sue Schuler

A great holiday breakfast casserole that may be made the night before, and baked while opening Christmas presents.

Servings: 12

Ingredients:

- 1 (16 ounce) package ground pork breakfast sausage
- 12 eggs
- 1 (10.75 ounce) can condensed cream of mushroom soup
- 1 (10.75 ounce) can milk
- 1 (4.5 ounce) can sliced mushrooms, drained
- 1 (32 ounce) package frozen potato rounds
- 1/2 cup shredded Cheddar cheese

Directions:

1. Place sausage in a skillet over medium-high heat, and cook until evenly brown. Drain, and set aside.
2. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Lightly grease a 9x13 inch baking dish.
3. In a large bowl, beat together the eggs, condensed cream of mushroom soup, and milk. Stir in the sausage and mushrooms, and pour into the prepared baking dish. Mix in the frozen potato rounds.
4. Bake in preheated oven for 45 to 50 minutes. Sprinkle with cheese, and bake an additional 10 minutes, or until cheese is melted.