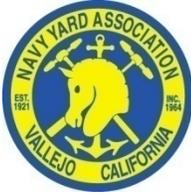


The Navy Yard Association Newsletter



President.....Ralph E. McComb, Jr.
Vice President.....Jim Porter
Treasurer.....Lloyd Mahan
Benefits Officer.....Robin Leong
Recording Secretary.....Sonya Domingo
Executive Secretary.....Veronica Laird

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NYA Bulletin Board

If you wish to reach more than 600 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 (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

Shop 38 Luncheon

Denny's, 4355 Sonoma Blvd (Hwy 29/37 intersection), Vallejo
Second Wednesday of each month (except July/August)
POC: Rudy Lukes, (707) 643-3225

Vallejo Chapter of NARFE Meeting

Florence Douglas Senior Center, 333 Amador St., Vallejo
Second Tuesday of each month at 1:15pm
POC: Bill Lewis; (707) 643-6032

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

Mare Island Historic Park Foundation

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

Nuclear Inspectors' Luncheon

The Sardine Can, Vallejo
First Wednesday of each month at 11:30am
POC: Dick Barlow; (707) 642-6022

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

President's Corner

Ralph McComb

Welcome to the 2013 Annual Navy Yard Association Membership Drive! I think we've come up with a couple of interesting things for you this year.

In addition to all the membership details explained later in this newsletter by our esteemed Benefits Officer, Robin Long, we are implementing an idea shamelessly borrowed from another worthwhile association: if you sign up 3 new members *or* 3 people who haven't been a member in 3 years or more, your membership for 2013 is *free!* Now, I know it's only \$15, but it is one small way of saying thanks for helping us all to stay connected. Why not give it a try?

This year, we are planning our fun-filled annual reunion celebration on October 5, 2013, from noon until 3pm in the Mare Island Historic Park Foundation Museum (Building 46) on Mare Island. Admission is free for all members (and one guest each) and \$15 for everyone else. This year's reunion will include self-guided tours of all the great work completed in the past two years by John Chamberlin and company; a great lunch prepared by Sonya, Veronica, and their families; door prizes, raffles; and lots of great memories shared with friends from our past. Hope to see you all there! Details will be included in future issues of the newsletter and on our website.

Also this year, we are planning an outing to an Oakland Athletics baseball game this summer for any member willing to pay the discounted group rate ticket price. Come join us on at 1pm on Sunday, July 28th, and watch the A's play ball. This



is a giveaway game, and everyone in our group is guaranteed to receive an Oakland A's jersey with their paid ticket! Please contact us by July 1st, if you are interested in going to the game with us.

Finally, it is with a sad heart that I report the passing of a friend to many and an overall great guy, Don Martin. Don, who worked first in the pipe shop and later in the safety branch, will be missed by all who knew him.

Around Mare Island...

Bruce Christensen

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

Mare Island Progress in 2012

Lennar Mare Island (LMI) LLC reports the following changes at Mare Island during 2012:

- Eleven new businesses opened, bringing the total number of companies doing business on Mare Island to 90.
- The lease rate of buildings on Mare Island within the LMI footprint increased by 10 percent—to the point where there are now approximately 3.2 million square feet of commercial space occupied, including more than 50 historic buildings that LMI has returned to productive use.
- LMI has remediated approximately 360 acres for reuse; however, approximately 250 acres of land in the Lennar footprint remain to be prepared for reuse.
- The number of permanent jobs at Mare Island is now 2,100; still well below the approximately 4,000 jobs lost when the shipyard closed in 1996.
- In addition to the hundreds of private residents on the Island, there are approximately 1,500 students attending classes on Mare Island.



Allied Defense Recycling is now *Mare Island Shipyard*

The company that operates the two largest dry docks on Mare Island has officially changed its name in hopes of gaining more ship repair (and possibly shipbuilding) work. A spokesperson for the Shipyard stated; “We are not a scrapyard. We are a full service shipyard. Including dismantling, it also includes repairs and ...new shipbuilding.” On February 21, the former USS VANCOVER arrived from the Suisun Bay Reserve fleet and was dry docked by Mare Island Shipyard for hull cleaning and repairs prior to being towed to Brownsville, TX for dismantling. The VANCOVER, an amphibious transport dock ship, was built in 1962 and decommissioned in 1992. The ship served in the Vietnam War and has been moored at Suisun Bay since 1997. More than half of the ships in the Suisun Bay Reserve Fleet have been scrapped, and the remainder are scheduled to be dismantled by 2017.

Blu Homes

This modular “green technology” home builder has resided in the old Mare Island Inside Machine Shop for a little more than one year and has increased its employee count to over 100 workers. In October 2012, Blu Homes was featured in *SUNSET* Magazine as the “Builder of the 2012 Idea House.” As such, the Blu Home technology best fulfilled *SUNSET* Magazine’s theme for a wine country getaway, built to modern, green design standards. For more details on the *SUNSET* Magazine Idea House feature, visit www.sunset.com/home/idea-houses.

Mare Island Railroad Service

The Mare Island Railroad Service (MIRS) continues to have difficulties in dealing with the City of Vallejo and LMI regarding maintaining the railroad tracks on Mare Island. One major business—ALSTOM Transport, Inc.—that repairs and refurbishes railcars cannot remain on Mare Island if there are no tracks on which to transport railcars into their shop. Several other Mare Island

businesses would utilize rail service if available, but those businesses are able to transport materials and products by truck if rail service is not available. Unless an agreement can be worked out by early 2013, it appears that Mare Island stands to lose two major businesses; MIRS and ALSTOM.

Mythbusters visits Mare Island

On February 8, the TV show, *Mythbusters*, filmed an upcoming episode aimed at putting to test various zombie-related myths. The hour-long episode filmed on Mare Island reportedly will feature guest stars from AMC's hugely-popular show, "The Walking Dead." Details as to the date of the program filmed at Mare Island were not made available; keep an eye on your local cable listings.

**17th Annual Characters Saloon
Mare Island Reunion
Friday, April 5, 2013 at 3pm**

For the 17th year, Characters Saloon at 315 Tennessee Street in Vallejo will host its annual Mare Island Reunion. This exciting event will include free beer and heavy appetizers (provided by Characters Saloon); donations are gratefully accepted on the day of the event.

Come join your former co-workers for a beer and some great storytelling!

No reservations needed – just show up for a great time!

Mare Island Historic Park Foundation

Bruce Christensen
Dennis Kelly

MIHPF Museum Membership now Offered

The Mare Island Historic Park Foundation (MIHPF) has made a change to the former partnership program. The program is now known as Mare Island Museum Membership. Membership

is for one year, renewable annually, and is fully tax deductible.

Attached to the back of this newsletter is an application for memberships at the individual, family, student, and out-of-state levels. Benefits of annual membership are unchanged and include free admission to the Mare Island Museum and to the Museum Library, 10% discount in the Museum gift shop, advance notice via e-mail of new exhibits or events sponsored by the foundation, free newsletter via e-mail, and helping to preserve the history of Mare Island Naval Shipyard.

If you are interested in becoming a Mare Island Museum Member, please complete the attached application and remit to MIHPF; Attention: Membership, 1100 Railroad Avenue, Vallejo, CA 94592.

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

NYA Membership at the close of our fiscal year (August 31, 2012) was 584. This was slightly lower than our membership number of 605 for the previous year. Currently, our dental plan membership stands at 271 members.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

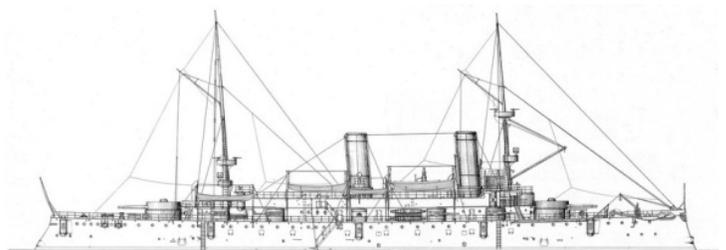
INSTRUCTIONS. 1. If your newsletter contains a self-addressed return envelope and a card strip with your contact information on the left-hand side, here's what you need to do: First review the data on the card, mark any changes directly on the card, cut the card on the dotted line, keep your membership card, and return the contact

information portion of the card strip along with your dues in the envelope provided. 2. If your newsletter contains your membership card but does NOT contain a self-addressed return envelope, no dues are necessary.

Welcome back to returning members Louis Sowersby (from 2009) recruited by Phyllis Honodel.

Welcome new members Shubert Yee (recruited by Rudy Balli) and John Kozak, who was presented with a gift membership by his friend, Hubert Welch.

We offer our sincere condolences to the families and friends of Joseph McCouf, Robert Deeming, and Phillip Reed for their loss.



Bringing Home the USS OLYMPIA (C-6)

Dennis Kelly, OLYMPIA Project Manager

The OLYMPIA project committee continues our work to acquire this great ship.

OLYMPIA Acquisition Status

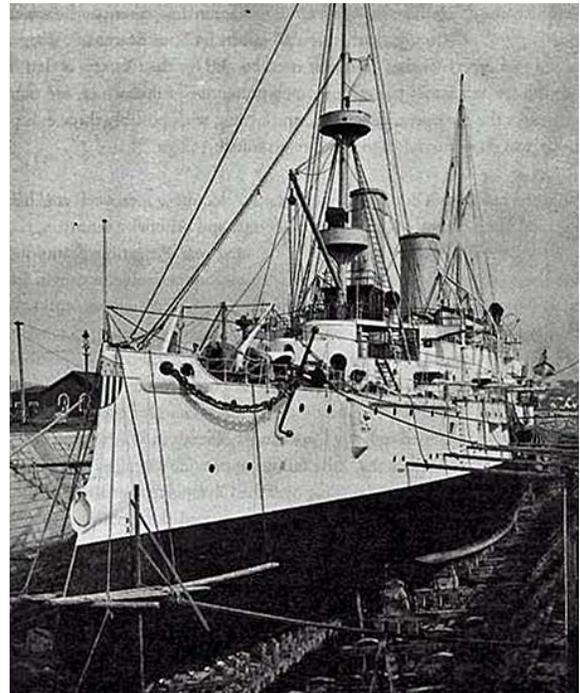
On October 30, 2012, we submitted our "Interim Phase II Report" to the ship's owners. This was a required submission, and on January 23, 2013, we received approval to continue with the acquisition process. There are now only two entities left that are pursuing the USS OLYMPIA: our effort and an effort in South Carolina. On February 27, 2013, both the South Carolina effort and ours jointly submitted a letter to the ISM requesting a 6-month delay in the next submission from May 1, 2013 to November 1, 2013. In our case, the reason for the request is to

allow sufficient time for further fundraising. We need to raise at least \$20 million to acquire the USS OLYMPIA; and we have raised less than \$10,000 to date. So, our problem is obvious. Yes, we have approached every company and individual billionaire you can think of, but we have not broken through to those who can help.

Despite our poor performance in fundraising for capitalization costs, to date we have demonstrated that the display of the USS OLYMPIA at Mare Island is **financially viable** with respect annual operating costs and revenues (we have two economic feasibility studies supporting this conclusion); the **facilities are available** (we have secured a letter of intent to lease Dry Dock 1 which will allow us to display the ship safely out of water); and, we have established a **significant historical connection** between the USS OLYMPIA, the Asiatic Squadron of which she was a part, and the Bay Area and Mare Island. Therefore, the addition of the ship to the **Mare Island Historic Park Foundation's ongoing operations** is not only viable, but proper.

What remains is to raise the capitalization funds for our effort. When we overcome that hurdle, the USS OLYMPIA will be set to pass through the Golden Gate for the first time in 117 years—since she last left Mare Island on an August morning in 1895. By displaying this important national asset in the place of her origin in the San Francisco Bay Area, we will be fulfilling the long-held goal of the City of Vallejo and the Mare Island Historic Park Foundation to provide for such a ship display in Dry Dock 1.

Interested? If you are interested in assisting with the important task of saving and bringing the USS OLYMPIA back to Mare Island, please donate to the MIHPF at <http://www.mareislandmuseum.org/> and click on “ships”, “OLYMPIA” or contact Dennis Kelly directly at drkelly107@gmail.com. Write to: 107 Lassen Pl, Petaluma, CA 94954 or call 707-778-0915.



USS OLYMPIA in Mare Island Dry Dock 1 - 1895

Learn more about our effort at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=93M_8YE1RT0

Benefit Officer's Column

Robin Leong

Happy Belated Chinese New Year and Happy Easter! Hope this post-holiday season finds you in good health and spirits. May the Year of the Snake 4711 bring you good health, prosperity and happiness.

Benefits

If you haven't already noticed, our website (www.mareislandnya.com) has been completely revamped. The whole site has a new look and is easier to navigate. The only thing missing from the site right now are our dental plan brochures. They are being re-formatted and will be posted in the near future. In the interim, you can contact me or the dental plan administrators for more information.

Last year, the NAONE Trust changed dental plan administrators due the retirement of our former administrator Laurie Nicolary, President of Premier Claims Administrators. The NYA dental

plans are now administered by Integrity Administrators, Inc., whose main office is in Sacramento, CA. Integrity Administrators has a solid reputation of excellent administration, and we look forward to many years of partnership with them. As already mentioned, we are updating our brochures and forms, which will shortly become available anytime on our website or upon request. In the meantime, here is the contact information for 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

If you retired from the Department of Defense (DOD), I have new information on getting a retired DOD identification card from Travis Air Force Base (AFB) in Fairfield, CA. This card gives you access to many travel amenities available at DOD facilities. Visit <http://site.travisfss.com/index.php> to make an appointment; or call (707) 434-4075 or (707) 424-5604. Making an appointment to get your card is much better, because there could be a one to three hour wait without an appointment. As an example, my total wait time without an appointment was 2 hours. Once there, you will need two pieces of identification to obtain your retired DOD identification. It is a bit complicated, so please refer to <http://www.uscis.gov/files/form/i-9.pdf>. Basically, you will need an unexpired passport, driver license, or military identification AND Social Security card or certified birth certificate. Even though the current instructions do not say to bring your Standard Form 50 showing your retirement date/grade/rate, I **strongly** recommend it.

This DEERS/ID Card Site is located at Travis AFB in Customer Central on the first floor.

Travis AFB, 540 Airlift Dr., Building 381, Wing D-100, Fairfield, CA 94535. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 7am-3pm (Emergency walk-ins 7am to 2pm).

The other facility that issues retired DOD identification cards in the Bay Area is the Coast Guard Station in Alameda, CA. Visit their website at <http://www.uscg.mil/baseAlameda/PSD/IDs.asp>. The PSD Customer Service Center, located in Bldg. 21, 1st Floor, Room 111, is chartered with issuing ID cards. The main Customer Service Center number is (510) 437-5648/2905. NOTE: These numbers are not set up for voicemail. If the recorded message starts over, then all lines are busy. Keep trying! Hours are as follows: Monday is WALK INS only from 7am-3:30pm. Open on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 7-11:30am and 12:30-3:30pm for APPOINTMENT ONLY. Thursday, 7am-12noon for APPOINTMENT ONLY; and third Saturday of each month from 7am-3:30pm for APPOINTMENT ONLY. For those who live outside of the S F Bay, please use <https://rapids-appointments.dmdc.osd.mil/appointment/default.aspx> and enter your zip code.

I think the base closest to you would have the same identification requirements. They keyed in my SSN number and got my work history. The card is good for four years. Good luck!

Every once in a while, I get a request asking me if we still have a lawyer to help create a living trust. The lawyer we've used is Jean Gifford. She can be reached via phone at (530) 759-9659 or her website at www.giffordlaw.com. I recently contacted her to see if she still offer NYA members at 10 percent discount. Jean is still taking clients and offering the 10% discount from her website prices; however, she'll be retiring in about 3 years.

NYA BENEFITS

BENEFITS	COST	WHAT TO DO	COMMENTS
LEGAL SERVICES			
 Notary Public	Free	To make an appointment, contact Sonya Domingo at (707) 326-5275 or send e-mail to k-s-domingo@sbcglobal.net	Please allow 24 hours - you will be contacted to set up an appointment
 Living Trust	10% off the prices posted on the website, at: www.giffordlaw.com	To make an appointment, contact Jean Gifford at (707) 453-1647 or (530) 759-9659	
RETAIL/SERVICE DISCOUNTS			
 Kelly Moore Paint and Wallpaper	25% off	To obtain the discount card, contact Robin Leong at (707) 643-1287	
 Balbin Smog Shop Test ONLY Center	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
Handy Consumer Tips Emergent Benefits Job Announcements/Reunions	No cost	Send your e-mail address to Robin Leong at robin_leong@netzero.net	
TRAVEL DISCOUNTS			
 Ambassador Travel	Heavily discounted tours and cruises	Please contact Robin Leong at (707) 643-1287	
RECREATION DISCOUNTS			
Beaver Creek RV Park & Campground (North Coast/Lake County)	15% Discount on camping rates	Show your NYA membership Card	www.campbeavercreek.com
 Napa Wine Train	10% Discount (fare only)	For details, contact Robin Leong at (707) 643-1287	Not available Saturday/Sunday Lunch or Saturday Dinner
 Napa Valley Day Spa (Facials, body wraps, massage, manicures, pedicures, spa parties, etc.)	NYA Members receive a 10% discount	For details, call the Napa Valley Day Spa - (707) 258-9900	
 Vacation Villa	NYA Members receive a 25% discount	For details, go to: www.casadosdelfines.com	Villa located in the Cancun/Playa Del Carmen Mexico area

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.