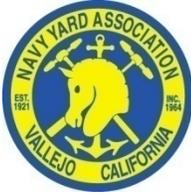


The Navy Yard Association Newsletter



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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Published Quarterly

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 our summer edition of the NYA Newsletter; and sincere thanks to Bruce, Veronica, Robin, Dennis and the other fantastic newsletter contributors. This issue contains lots of very interesting stuff—not only about our efforts but about how anyone who has the desire can get involved.

My part in this edition is just to remind everyone about two exciting social gatherings we have planned for this year and to ask that you help spread the word and try to join us.

First: We are trying something new this year, and we are offering tickets for a day at the ballpark! Come join us at the O.co Coliseum when the Oakland Athletics play the Anaheim Angels at 1pm on Sunday, July 28, 2013. Tickets are \$25 each for field level seats (on the first base side) and include a replica jersey from the 1973 World Series Champion As! Where else can you get a deal like that and get to spend the day at the ballpark with family and friends? **Check out the full-page flyer in this issue for details on how to purchase your tickets.** Come on out for a great day!

Next: We are planning this year's reunion, which will be open to all members and a guest and will be held Saturday afternoon, October 5, 2013, from 12noon to 3:00pm, at the Mare Island Museum, Building 46. The reunion is FREE for all NYA members and a guest. The cost for non-members is \$15 each (remember, membership is only \$15—and, you'd be able to bring a guest for free!). Tickets for this event should be ordered in



advance via our PO Box (address at the top of this newsletter) NO LATER THAN September 15, 2013. After September 15, members will need to pay \$5 at the door. So, don't wait until the last minute to make your reservations. As everyone knows, our reunions offer great food, icy cold beverages, exciting drawings and door prizes, and the chance to reminisce with old friends. Don't miss this year's reunion!

Around Mare Island...

Bruce Christensen

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

NARFE Meeting April 9, 2013; Comments from Vallejo Mayor Osby Davis

The City of Vallejo owns and is responsible for the portion of Mare Island north of the causeway. It hopes to soon remove many of the existing buildings in that area and attract new businesses and other development to the location.

Rail service to Mare Island is still uncertain. Vallejo maintains the tracks leading onto the island, but Lennar has the trackage on the island. Currently, there is only limited rail service to the island, despite the strong need for full service. The City continues to work with Lennar and the railroad company to resolve the problems.

Blu Homes has expanded their operation into the entire Inside Machine Shop (Building 680). Blu Homes hopes to start exporting their product outside of the United States in the near future.

Congressman Mike Thompson and State Senator Lois Wolk Open Mare Island Office

On April 22, 2013, Congressman Mike Thompson and California State Senator Lois Wolk held a reception to officially open their joint office space on Mare Island. This Vallejo office is

located in Quarters 17, 985 Walnut Avenue—one of the more “modest” residences along “Captain’s Row.” Congressman Thompson’s Mare Island office is staffed by Brian Bottari and Ariel Marcado, who can be reached at (707) 645-1888.

NYA and Mare Island Shipyard Representatives Attend Congressman Thompson Dinner

At the April 28 pasta feed for Congressman Mike Thompson held in Crockett, several attendees from Mare Island were present to hear some of the plans that the Congressman has for his newly-acquired areas in Contra Costa and Solano Counties.

Thompson specifically commented on the obvious dichotomy involving the Mare Island Shipyard losing contracts for breaking and recycling ships located in the Suisun Reserve Fleet to a company in Brownsville, Texas. With the added cost and environmental impact involved in towing these ships from Suisun Bay through the Panama Canal (approximately 3,000 miles) to Texas, it seems incredible that a company located 7 miles away (on Mare Island) is not being awarded contracts for performing the same work.

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.

Mare Island Dry Dock 4 is Back in Service

On May 16, the Times Herald reported that after 8 years of hibernation, Dry Dock 4 is being put back into business. Longtime Mare Island tenant, Jerico Products, Inc./Lind Brothers (Jerico) will be operating the dock to attract new customers to the Mare Island waterfront. Jerico is a 107-year-old family-owned business that plans to repair, clean, and service barges at the dry dock. The company—which currently employs 15 full-time workers—expects to create additional employment now that they are able to dock vessels in Dry Dock 4.

Mare Island to Become a Ferry Operations and Maintenance Facility

Mare Island's Berths 9 and 10 (near the old Mare Island Ferry slip) are being converted by the Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA) into a new ferry operations and maintenance facility for the Vallejo Ferry System. The facility will include an administration office, maintenance shops, fueling facilities, berthing sites, and will accommodate regular passenger service.

The specific building planned for use as the main structure is the former shipyard lead casting facility, Building 165. This historic building requires environmental cleanup and a seismic retrofit prior to being used for administrative and maintenance services.

The new facility will have an above-ground diesel storage capacity of 48,000 gallons, as well as large capacity clean lube oil and dirty lube oil tanks.

The project is expected to complete in late 2014 or early 2015.

Mare Island Company is Involved in Bay Bridge Repairs

In May, the Vallejo Times Herald reported that Mare Island's XKT Engineering has been selected to manufacture the custom saddles

that will be used to fix the failed anchor rods on the newly-constructed portion of the eastern span of the San Francisco Bay Bridge. XKT Engineering is located in the former Shipfitters/Structural Shop complex (Buildings 386, 388, and 390) on Mare Island; and the company owner, Al Bottini, is a former Mare Island Naval Shipyard employee. The overall repairs to the Bay Bridge are estimated to cost about \$10 million.

Mare Island Historic Park Foundation

Bruce Christensen
Dennis Kelly

Mare Island Parks Reception Hosted at Quarters A

On May 9, 2013, just prior to the start of balloting for Vallejo's Participatory Budgeting Program, the Mare Island Historic Park Foundation and the Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve co-sponsored a get-together at Quarters A to promote the ballot measure for both of the Mare Island Parks. Neither of these parks currently receives any funding from the City, and both are entirely dependent on donations and volunteers for survival. The results of the May balloting indicated that out of the 33 projects listed on the ballot, the Mare Island Parks finished 19th—once again illustrating that Mare Island is a forgotten entity in the eyes of the citizens of Vallejo.

The available funding of \$3.2 million was only sufficient to cover the top 12 projects. At the May 28 Vallejo City Council meeting, all 12 projects receiving the most votes were approved by a majority of the council members.

Although the Mare Island Parks project did not receive any Participatory Budget funds, it is hoped this program helped provide additional visibility to stimulate interest in promoting business, recreation, and residences on the former shipyard.

Mare Island Cemetery Book is now on Sale

The first in a series of three books on the history of the Mare Island Cemetery is now in print. This extremely informative publication contains historical facts and photographs about each of the grave sites in Sector A (the Officers' section) of the cemetery. Mare Island Historian Peggy O'Drain and Mare Island Museum Manager Joyce Giles corroborated on the creation of the book, and it's available in the gift shop at the Mare Island Museum at the very reasonable price of \$18. There will be a second and third volume describing the remaining areas in the Mare Island Cemetery published in late 2013 and/or 2014. The remaining volumes will include:

- Areas containing the Russian sailors and the USS BOSTON monument
- Medal of Honor recipients and final burials before the Navy closed the cemetery

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 stands at 537 members (don't forget to send in your 2013 membership dues!), while we had a total of 586 members last year. Currently, our dental plan membership stands at 252 members. We look forward to

bringing some new NYA members onboard at this year's reunion!

Welcome back to returning members Dennis McDaniel (2011) and Doris "Dori" A. McGee-Lundy (2007).

Welcome new members Tony Dos Reis (recruited by Carmen Merriman); Tom Duck, Ed Mulsoff and Joe Trejo (all recruited by Tanya Wigger); Norman Owens (recruited by Robert E. Smith), Sharon Pipkin (recruited by Veronica Duquette), and Don Dopkins (former editor of "The Grapevine").

We offer our sincere condolences to the families and friends Philip Andrews, Gerald Gieffels, and William H. Holmes for their loss.

Sincere thanks to Adrian Bagneschi and James Rookwood for their donations to the NYA. Thanks, too, Patricia and Ronald for their donation in memory of Verlin Cassity.

Benefit Officer's Column

Robin Leong

There's not much new for your Benefits Officer to report as far as benefits are concerned. I'd like to point out, though, the fact that the NYA has not changed our dental plan premiums in *five* years. Please take a moment to compare that to the annual increases to your medical insurance. How many organizations do you know that keep their rates the same year after year?

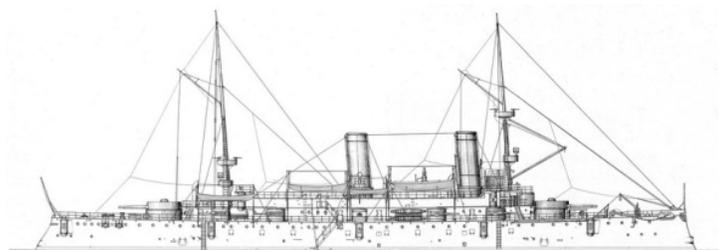
Benefits

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 are proud to partner with them.

Forms and administrator contact information can be found on our website. 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

Bringing Home the USS OLYMPIA



(C-6)

Dennis Kelly, OLYMPIA Project Manager

The OLYMPIA project committee continues our work to acquire this great ship, but first a little more of Mare Island's ties to Admiral Dewey.

Kate McDougal and the Mare Island Lighthouse

The first lighthouse to mark the entrance to the Carquinez Straits was built at the southern end of Mare Island in 1873. For most of its years of operation, the Mare Island Lighthouse was kept by Kate McDougal. Kate's husband, Charles McDougal, was the son of the Mare Island's third commandant and served as an inspector for the Lighthouse Service.



Cape Mendocino Lighthouse

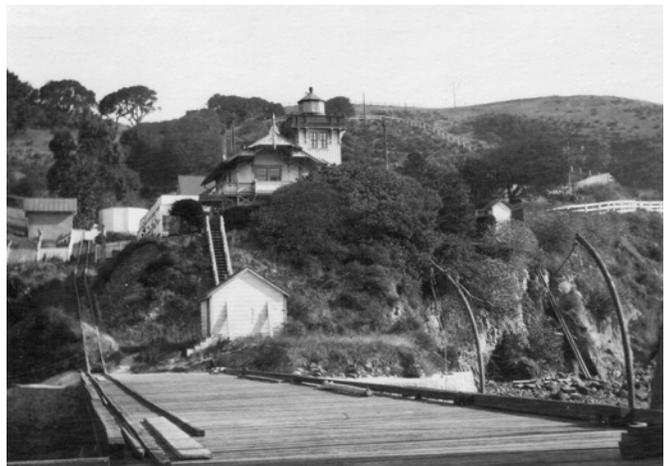
In 1881, Charles made an inspection trip up the California coast aboard a lighthouse tender. As he approached Cape Mendocino, Charles strapped on a money belt containing the keeper's pay in gold coins and boarded a launch for his trip to shore. In a tragic moment, Charles drowned in the surf along with two other crewmembers when the launch passed through the breakers and capsized.



U.S. Manzanita, from which Charles McDougal departed by Launch for the Lighthouse

In those times Kate McDougal would have been left to fend for herself, but inspector McDougal's friends in the Navy made sure that his family was looked after. One of those friends was none other than George Dewey, a classmate of Inspector McDougal at the Naval Academy

and the future Spanish-American war hero. At the time, George Dewey was the naval secretary of the lighthouse board and in a unique position of influence. He arranged for Kate to serve at Mare Island as the keeper of the Mare Island lighthouse when Mrs. Watson, the prior keeper, resigned soon after Charles McDougal's unfortunate death. For her first Christmas at the station, the naval officers from Mare Island strung a telephone line from the Navy Yard out to the lighthouse. This helped ease some of the loneliness Kate initially experienced at the station. She certainly must have learned to enjoy her life at the lighthouse, for she would remain its keeper until it was discontinued in 1917 35 years later.



George Dewey arranged for Mrs. McDougal to be employed as the Mare Island lighthouse keeper when her husband was killed in a tragic accident.

OLYMPIA Acquisition Status

On February 27, 2013, both the South Carolina effort and ours jointly submitted a letter to the Independence Seaport Museum (ISM) requesting a 6-month delay in the next submission from May 1 to November 1, 2013. On March 25, we received a response from the ISM response approving the requested extension for the Phase IIB required submittal for the OLYMPIA to November 1, 2013. The response required a second interim report be submitted by May 1, and we met that requirement. The challenge of raising the required \$20M to acquire the OLYMPIA remains, and we are pursuing a number of

avenues towards that end. A key part of our plan going forward is visibility, and we have purchased the booth as shown in the photo to provide a presence at events to spread the word of our effort.

We have demonstrated that the display of the OLYMPIA at Mare Island is (1) **financially viable** with respect to annual operating costs and revenues (we have two economic feasibility studies supporting this conclusion); (2) 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); (3) we have a **proven history operating our museum**, two mansions and Saint Peters Chapel; and (4) we have established a **significant historical connection** between the USS OLYMPIA, the Asiatic Squadron of which she was 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 relevant to our location.

In lesser news, the dredging required for opening the dry dock is now permitted leaving only relatively minor entitlements and permits required to make the move happen.

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.

Interested? If you are interested in assisting with the important task of saving and bringing the OLYMPIA back to Mare Island, please consider helping us man our booth at events, assisting us with completing grant applications, or donating 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 Booth

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

Spanish American War Factoid from Jack Gray: In 1898, funding of the Spanish American War was partially addressed by the imposition of a “temporary” tax on the rich—specifically, a tax on telecommunications—since only the rich had telephone service at the time.

Today, we are still paying a somewhat modified form of this “temporary” tax. Congress voted in 2001 to rescind this tax, but then-president Clinton vetoed this action.

Calling all Former Union Members!

Tom Watson, a former union official with the IBEW 2145 at Mare Island, is working on development of an IBEW 2145 and Metal Trade Council (MTC) display at the Mare Island Museum. The display will give voice to the history of Mare Island from the perspective of the hard-working Union men and women who worked there.

Tom is looking for any former Union members who are willing to share Union memorabilia, cups, hats, Union pins, protest buttons, Union cards, withdrawal cards, Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBA), pictures, posters, t-shirts, etc.

If you have items to share or want to help with the display, you can contact Tom via e-mail to portlandtx@gmail.com.



Join the Navy Yard Association for a Day at the Ballpark



VS.



Sunday, July 28, 2013 - 1:05pm

O.co Coliseum

\$25 per ticket

(Section 106)

**Tickets must be reserved and
purchased no later than
Monday, July 8, 2013**

**To purchase tickets please contact
Sonya Domingo at 707-326-5275 or
k-s-domingo@sbcglobal.net**

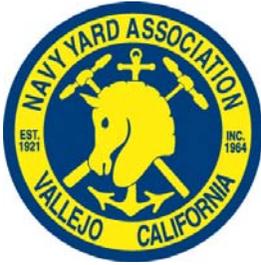


**Jersey Day – with each ticket purchased
you will receive a replica jersey from the
1973 World Series Champion A's**

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			
Jellystone Park at Cobb Mountain (North Coast/Lake County)	15% Discount on camping rates	Show your NYA membership Card	www.jellystonecobbmtn.com NOTE: As of June 2013, we are checking to make sure this discount is still available.
 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.



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