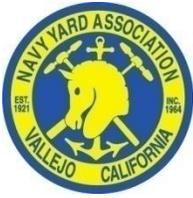


# The Navy Yard Association Newsletter



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

If you wish to reach more than 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)

### Shop 51 Annual Luncheon

Building 46 Museum  
Friday, September 18, 2015 at 12:00noon  
POC: Richard Karr (more information coming soon)

## President's Corner

Ralph McComb

Welcome to our 2015 Membership Drive!

We hope you enjoy all the news and goings-on at Mare Island that we share with you, as well as the activities we've held. As we've been saying for a while now, we aren't planning any large get-togethers this year because we are working on something really big in 2016 in remembrance of the 20th anniversary of the closing of Mare Island Naval Shipyard. Now, I don't want to give away any details, but let's just say it will be "big."

In the meantime, we have some other offerings, for example: On October 3, 2015, the NYA will host an open house at the Mare Island Museum, Bldg 46, from noon to 3pm that is free to all members and their guests. At the open house, we'll serve refreshments and hand out memorabilia from past reunions.

Here's what it's going to take to make this open house work: In this newsletter, there is a tear-off strip that says "Yes, (write in your name) will attend and bring ( ? ) guests." Simply fill out the two blanks and include that strip of paper in the self-addressed envelope when you send in your dues. That way, we'll know how many people to expect, and we'll have enough food for everyone. Great idea, huh?

For those of you who have automatic dues deduction, there's a self-addressed envelope with this newsletter so you can send in your RSVP!

NEW

Lastly, we wanted to do a little something special to say thank you to the many loyal members who have kept the NYA strong for more than 90 years.

This year, we are again planning an NYA Day at an Oakland A's baseball game. This year, though, we'll be giving away 10 tickets to the game. Simply choose the A's tickets on the tear-out entry in this newsletter and include it in the self-addressed envelope with your dues (or without, if you have automatic dues deduction). What's that? You say you don't want to go to a baseball game or you don't live close enough to come to an A's game? We've thought of that, too! Simply choose the pair of movie tickets on the tear-out entry. The winner will receive a pair of Cinemark movie passes (a \$30 value).

In mid-May, we'll hold a drawing, and winners will be announced in the June newsletter and posted on the NYA website.

**Remember: one choice per member, and one entry per member. All entries must be received by April 30, 2015 to be considered. Best of luck to you!**

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

Bruce Christensen

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

### **Homeless 'Evicted' from Naval Barracks**

In early December 2014, the City of Vallejo moved out several dozen squatters from the apartment barracks located at the corner of G Street (Causeway Drive) and Walnut Avenue. The homeless had occupied these units for months without electricity, running water, or sewer service.

As would be expected, the condition of the apartments presented a serious health hazard in the area. In order to minimize the potential for squatters returning, doors were removed from all of the units, and the windows were broken. Because

any clean-up of those apartments would cost the City tens of thousands of dollars, it appears that the permanent fix will be to demolish yet another eyesore from the north end of Mare Island.

### **Enlisted Navy "Neptune" Club is No More**

During the very early hours on Christmas Day 2014, the former Neptune Club, located at the corner of Azuar (formerly Cedar) Drive and G Street, burned to the ground. As usual, the cause of the fire is not known, but because this building was scheduled for demolition, the culprit(s) undoubtedly saved the City of Vallejo the cost of tearing it down and hauling away any hazardous waste that might be present.

### **Huge Navy Vessel Arrives at Mare Island**

In early January, the United States Navy Ship (USNS) Montford Point arrived at Mare Island Berths 11 and 12 for a two-month availability to undergo repairs. This 765 foot-long vessel, which displaces 34,500 tons—for most former Mare Island workers—is the largest ship ever docked at the Shipyard. The repair work is being performed by the Mare Island Dry Dock Company.



The Montford Point was built in 2012 by National Steel and Shipbuilding Company in San Diego and serves as a Military Sealift Command Mobile Landing Platform. She completed builder acceptance trials in 2013 and operated out of Camp Pendleton, CA, in 2014.

On Sunday, March 15, the Vallejo Times Herald reported that four African-American former Marines—Henry Johnson, Vaugham Whitworth, Luther Hendricks, and the late Sylvester Hood,

Sr.—were honored for their service during WW II. All four had received their Marine Corps training at Montford Point located in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. The Ship's Captain, Michael Sands, and Vallejo Mayor Osby Davis took part in the ceremony recognizing these WWII Marines.

The ship's repair availability at Mare Island is scheduled to complete in March 2015.

### **City of Vallejo Targets North End of Mare Island For Industrial Development**

The Times Herald reported on January 17, 2015, the City of Vallejo had approved an "Industrial Park" land use proposal for the north end of Mare Island.

City staff recommendations for the "Industrial Park" reuse were arrived at after reviewing proposals from eleven different groups, which included (1) business parks with offices and industrial facilities; (2) mixtures of retail, hotel and convention facilities; and (3) major resorts with Indian gaming. After three of the eleven proposals were disqualified for falling short of the City's expectations, the City Council approved the Industrial Park reuse by a vote of 6 to 1.

Now that the Shipyard has been closed for nearly 20 years, we finally have a plan for the north end of Mare Island (well, hopefully).

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

Bruce Christensen  
Dennis Kelly

### **Save Our Sail (SOS) Committee Offers Memorial Tiles for Sale**

The USS VALLEJO (SSBN 658) sail will be displayed in front (west side) of the Mare Island Museum, Building 46, in the near future.

In preparation for the display of the historic monument and to help raise funds for its construction, the SOS Committee is offering 8" x

8" memorial tiles which will be placed around the base of the sail. The inscriptions on the tiles may include up to six lines of text with up to 21 characters per line and each tile will be beige in color with black inscription and logo. The cost of a tile is \$250, which may be paid over 18 months. Individual and/or groups customize their tile by selecting a logo and choosing special wording (upper and/or lower case) for inscription on the tile. Logos include dolphins for crews of submarines, and the Mare Island Naval Shipyard logo for former employees and MIHPF volunteers (as long as the tile denotes that the person is a volunteer). Individuals and groups may also choose to have an American flag or "no logo" placed on their tile. Mail your check or M.O. to Save Our Sail, MIHPF, 257 Cottonwood Dr., Vallejo, CA 94591.

### **Membership update**

James Porter

Current membership stands at 514, of which 228 are dental plan members.

We offer our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Gregory Bush, Joe Esquibel, Celia Rockholt, Chris Gaither, and Maria Clay upon their passing. We thank Frank Rhodes for the donation he made to the NYA in memory of his wife, Nobu, may she rest in peace.

### **Benefit Officer's Column**

Robin Leong

Finally, there is news for me to dispense as your Benefits Officer!

First, the bad news: Unfortunately, our go-to lawyer for setting up a living trust, Jean Gifford, is retiring. So, we will no longer offer a discount for her services. Thanks, Jean, for your many years of association with the NYA!

Now, some good news: Our NAONE dental plan administrator is offering a new dental program option for our members. This came about as we learned that Blue Shield, our more expensive dental plan option, is raising their rates again. Now,

Integrity Administrators offers us a new option: DentAssure. Check out our website for details on the plan, which can also be used as a supplement to your current insurance and allows the member to choose their own dentist. Be assured that we are always looking for the best value for our members!

## **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL INSTRUCTIONS**

**If your newsletter includes a card strip with your contact information noted on the left-hand side, here's what you need to do:**

- 1. Review the data on the card.**
- 2. Mark any changes or corrections directly on the card.**
- 3. Cut the card on the dotted line, and keep your membership card.**
- 4. Return the contact information portion of the card strip, along with your \$15 membership dues, in the self-addressed envelope provided.**

**If your newsletter contains your membership card ONLY, your dues are collected electronically.**

## **Join the Navy Yard Association for a Day at the Ballpark**

**Oakland A's vs. Tampa Bay Rays**

**Sunday, August 23, 2015  
at 1:05pm  
O.co Stadium**

**Tickets are \$30 each for a seat  
on the Field Level in Section 106**

**With each paid ticket, you will  
receive an A's Replica Batting  
Practice Pullover!**

**Tickets are "first come, first  
served"**

**Purchase your tickets by  
no later than  
Sunday, June 27, 2015**

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

## **Navy Yard Association Open House October 3, 2015**

**Yes! \_\_\_\_\_ will  
attend and bring \_\_\_\_\_ guests!**

**(Tear off and send in with your dues)**

## **PICK ONE!**

**\_\_\_ I want to win a FREE ticket to the  
August 23<sup>rd</sup> A's vs Rays Baseball Game!**

**Or**

**\_\_\_ I want to win two FREE Cinemark  
Movie passes!**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_**

**(Tear off and send in with your dues)**