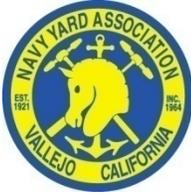


# The Navy Yard Association Newsletter



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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

### Shop 38 Luncheon

Denny's, 1701 E. Monte Vista Ave., Vacaville  
Second Monday of each month  
POC: Bill Cruz, (916) 716-4661

### 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 Museum Whitthorne Room  
Last Monday of each month at 10:00am  
POC: Mark Hutchings, (925) 609-9188

### 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

Welcome to our December NYA newsletter!

It is once again the season to count our blessings and give thanks. Near the top of my list is my gratitude for our loyal NYA members, who have kept us going for so many years beyond the closure of Mare Island Naval Shipyard. Thanks to all of you for support.

This year has been tough for many Californians. For those affected by the most recent and devastating wildfires in Northern California, you remain in my thoughts and prayers.

To our NYA members—and everyone—I wish you happiness and joy throughout the Christmas season and the entire year.



## Around Mare Island...

Bruce Christensen

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

### Mare Island Dry Dock's Exceptional 2018 Workload

The Mare Island Dry Dock (MIDD) is in its fifth year of operation on Mare Island; and MIDD

has broken all previous records for servicing various types of watercraft since Mare Island Naval Shipyard closed in 1996. Throughout 2018, MIDD worked on vessels ranging from small private boats to large military ships, including deck barges, derrick barges, gangway barges, oil spill response vessels, research vessels, an ice breaker, clamshell dredger, pusher tugs, ocean tugs, buoy tenders, passenger ship (paddle boat), a historic Navy gunboat (LCS-102) and a Navy submarine tender. The three major MIDD availabilities were United States Coast Guard (USCG) Icebreaker Polar Star (184 days); National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Research Vessel Hi'ialakai (129 days); and United States Navy Submarine Tender USS Emory S. Land, AS-39 (99 days).

MIDD received the following report from the USS Emory S. Land's Public Affairs Officer when it departed Mare Island: "While the ship was in port, Mare Island Naval Shipyard [Mare Island Dry Dock] completed more than 200 jobs aboard USS Emory S. Land, including improvements to the ship's security and defense capabilities, lagging, piping, structural integrity, and communications."

Capt. Douglas A. Bradley, Emory S. Land's Commanding Officer, said the maintenance period went well and with minimal difficulties. "We stayed on schedule while maintaining security, safety, and giving back to the community," said Bradley. "It was a success, the ship is prepared to go out and execute our mission, and show our many capabilities wherever we are assigned to go".

In summary, the MIDD completed 34 availabilities involving work on 18 different types of vessels, encompassing 1,483 in-port availability days in 2018. To accomplish this feat, oftentimes two and three vessels were docked in the same dry dock while other vessels were worked pier-side.



Photo taken during summer of 2018 showing USS Emory S. Land (AS-39) moored at Berths 11/12 with three other vessels docked in DD #2 and two vessels in DD #3.

### **Vallejo's 'Mega Mare Island Project' Makes List of Top Five in Bay Area**

On November 9, 2018, the Vallejo Times-Herald reported that the new North Mare Island project was featured in the San Francisco Business Times issue on November 1, 2018 as one of the "Top Five Mega-Projects in the Bay Area." The \$150 million project includes film production, space for wine production and sales, office, retail and industrial space, as well as a park and mixed-use areas.

Once the project is complete, it is expected that as many as 1,500 high-end jobs will be created. Regarding the San Francisco Business Times article, Vallejo Mayor Bob Sampayan said; "That's an exciting piece. The most exciting thing is that this publication is circulated all over the state and when you have folks looking at, and talking to their friends, that's how you have a place like Vallejo publicized."

### **Drilling of New Pipelines from Vallejo to Mare Island Commences**

On November 29, 2018, directional drilling of the borings for two pipelines located about 95 feet north of the Mare Island Causeway Bridge began. This work will continue 24-hours-a-day until December 21, 2018. The new water and sewer piping service to Mare Island will be installed 75 feet underneath the Mare Island Strait. The drilling operations will permit installation of new pipes that

will replace an existing 20-inch water main installed by the Navy prior to Shipyard closure, as well as replacing the existing 18-inch sewer main which has been in service for more than 40 years.

The Vallejo Times-Herald reports that the drilling will proceed beneath Vallejo River Park area, as well as beneath the Mare Island Strait and the operations will generate volumes of mud that will be pumped into trucks and transported to the Mare Island side for disposal. The \$16 million project is partially funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and expected to complete by end of January 2019. The project will increase the capacity of water flow to the Island and provide improvements needed to support projected new businesses and residents on the Island.



Diagram Showing Horizontal Drilling beneath the Mare Island Strait

### **Coal Shed Artists Have Now Relocated to Building 515 on Mare Island**

In September 2018, the Vallejo Times-Herald reported that the artist community occupying the historic Mare Island Coal Sheds has moved about two blocks north of the Coal Sheds to Building 515, located at 110 Pintado Street on the Mare Island waterfront. Some of the artists had been at the historic Coal Sheds for almost 20 years and say that the new studios are more spacious than those in the Coal Sheds. The new location will be home to about 15 returning artists, and the studios

will continue to be called the Coal Shed Art Studios, LLC. The new Coal Shed studios opened on Saturday, September 29, 2018. For more information, visit [www.coalshedstudios.com](http://www.coalshedstudios.com).



Entrance to Building 515 Coal Shed Studios' "new" location (perhaps a new coat of artist's paint would help)



Sign at the Relocated Coal Shed Art Studios

### **Firefighters and HAZMAT Crews Train on Mare Island**

During September 2018, emergency responders from around the state participated in regional preparedness drills on Mare Island. The Vallejo Times-Herald reported that training exercises ranged from mock scenarios involving bomb disposals by special weapons and tactics teams; potentially hazardous materials detected aboard a ferry docked at Mare Island; terrorists attempting to takeover a shipyard crane by shooting

the crane operator; and a fire breaking out in a building potentially containing radioactive materials.

The overall Urban Shield training exercise was hosted by the Alameda County Sheriff's Office. Some of the groups participating in the drill included the Santa Clara Fire Department, and teams from both El Cerrito and Vacaville Fire Departments. John Healy, the Site Captain of the High-Angle Rescue Scenario at the south end of Mare Island stated; "This is a great training opportunity." He indicated that "most of these departments don't [normally] work together and when the big one hits, whatever it is, you will have had the opportunity to work together."

## Membership update

James Porter

Current membership stands at 436, of which 186 are dental plan members. Thanks for being a member!

Welcome back to former members Lionel Brown (from 2012) and Will A. Hansen (9from 1992), both of whom were recruited by NYA Director Bruce Christensen.

We offer our sincere condolences to family and friends on the loss of Wayne Campbell, Sr., and Phyllis Honodel.

### *In Memoriam*

On May 8, 2018, Permelia "Pam" Smith (former Shop 56 Secretary) lost the love of her life, Reynald "Rey" Mariano (former Shop 56 Materials Expeditor) after 33 blissful years of happiness.



## Benefit Officer's Column

Robin Leong

Here are a few words from your Benefits Officer.

Penny Hicks has been busy lately providing NYA members with free Notary Public service. As the NYA dwindles in size, so do our opportunities for obtaining group discounts. Notary service is one of our few remaining benefits, and we're very grateful for Penny's time and effort. **One change is that Penny would prefer members reach her via her cell phone at (707) 337-0077.**

Our NYA Facebook page is seeing more traffic these days, and I send my thanks out to Dennis Kelly for posting the most interesting stories and pictures! Consider joining our NYA Facebook page to see all the great stories and memories. You will need to request permission to join the group (this keeps out those annoying ad-robots), and answer three simple questions that can be answered easily by NYA members. Encourage your non-NYA friend and family to join, too!

Copy and paste this link into your browser:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1010509199018933/>

As mentioned earlier, it is not easy to find benefits for our members as our numbers dwindle. Another casualty is our smog test discount, as it appears the shop has closed. I'll look for other companies that may offer us a smog test discount. If anyone out there knows of one, please let me know at (707) 643-1287.

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy, Happy New Year!