

White Oak Laboratory Alumni Association, Inc.



The Leaf



VOLUME XIV ISSUE IV

PROUD MEMORIES

Winter 2012

- **Events**
 - *NOL Lunch 2nd Mon
 - @Golden Bull in Adelphi
 - *WOLAA Holiday Luncheon @ Argyle CC
 - @1130 on Wed, 5 Dec 2012
 - *Garden Visits TBD
 - *FL WOLAA Reunion March 2013

* **11 September 2001.....GOD BLESS AMERICA!**

WOLAA Web Site: www.wolaa.org

WEDNESDAY, 5 December 2012. 1130-1500
WOLAA HOLIDAY LUNCHEON
 Argyle Country Club, 14600 Argyle Club Road, SS. MD.
 Located in Layhill/Bel Pre Area.

FREE PARKING! ACC Phone #301 598-5500
 *****Please Reply by Friday, 30 November*****

- The LEAF is published quarterly by the WOLAA, Inc. for its members.

- **Editorial Staff:**
 Dr. John Scarzello
 Dr. Ed Whitman
 JohnTino

MENU:

- Choice of 3 Entrees
- *Salmon with Orange Horseradish
- *4 oz. Petite Filet
- *Grand Marnier Chicken

LUNCHEON EVENTS

- 1130-1200 Social (Cash Bar)
 WOLAA Store Open
- 1200-1330 Lunch
- 1330-1500 Visit w Friends

WOLAA, Inc PO
 Box 1002, Olney,
 MD. 20830 Phone
 (301) 439-3140 E-M:
 mrspat218@aol.com

With: House Salad, Mashed Potato,
 Vegetable, WOLAA Cookies, Coffee, and Tea

This Issue:
 News from WOLAA p1
 Ramblings p2
 Book Reviews p3
 Alumni Updates p3
 Deceased Alumni P
 Supplements p S1-S9

Cost: \$29.00/ person

Note: Wed not Friday

Reserve a Table for a Group or Branch Reunion

POC: Dee Zook (301) 422-2818

Call Your Friends Then Call Dee

Email: biscuit274@hotmail.com

News from WOLAA.

***Holiday Luncheon.** After meeting with the Club's Staff, we were able to get a price and menu that enabled us to keep the luncheon at ACC. You will receive your flyer/RSVP form early in November. Please mark your calendars now and plan to join us for our festive holiday luncheon. Santa Dee has another "present" from WOLAA for you. **Note: luncheon is on a Wednesday.**

***Membership.** Our 2013 membership campaign will begin in late November and you will receive a renewal form then. Our dues will remain at \$15. We hope you will renew and keep our membership near 500.

***WOLAA Finances.** We have lost membership over the last several years. When we offered lifetime memberships, we based the dues on ten years (\$15 for each of ten years). Bill Ryan prorated these memberships funds as he defined each annual budget; these funds have now been used. Based on the above we did a fiscal analysis. At this time with the current membership, our income is about \$6,000 a year. With the LEAF, luncheons, and mailing expenses, we spend about \$6000 a year. So, we are just balancing the costs of things we want to do with our income. Fortunately, we have a reserve over \$10K so we are able to keep dues constant at \$15 a year and continue doing for our members as we have been. But, the Board plans to meet and discuss the next several years ahead and decide priorities for the Association. We will update you in the next LEAF.

***CD/DVD Sales.** Still offering the Legacy CD and Dedication for sale. Still only \$5 each. Please call, mail, or email your order to WOLAA. We will promptly send your selection to you by mail. Both will be on sale at the Holiday Luncheon on Wednesday, 5 December 2012.

***Proud Memory Garden.** When the contractor produced the original plaques for the garden they made them for indoor versus outdoor. They remade them. We saved the “old” plaques and gave them to Dan Marren to use at the wind tunnel historical displays. He told me they mounted them in the gazebo which is outside the tunnel—used to be by volley ball court down from Bldg 30. So another location that our proud memories live.

We only had one request to visit the garden in September. So, no one year reunion of the dedication was held. We will consider having our May luncheon at the garden.

***Flag Pole.** Was the flag pole outside Bldg 1 historical? There was an indication that it came from the USS Maine whose sinking “started” the Spanish-American War; this was not accurate. The following is its history: **"The flagpole was purchased in 1945 for \$75.00 on contract NOrd (f) 1384. The contractor was Raymond H Burrows, 7649 Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD. Its height is 43.9 ft and width is 0.3 ft. I do not have the contract but I do have the property card. Hope this helps."** Gina Nichols, Archivist, CEC/Seabee Archives, CEC/Seabee Museum, Port Hueneme, CA 93043 September 10, 2005.

***Betsy Bretz.** Betsy has lived in Hillandale for many years. She was active as a community leader during the BRAC process first to save the WOL, then to bring NAVSEA to WO, and to save the wind tunnel. During the environmental clean-up, she was an active member of the Restoration Advisory Board; and worked to have the Navy provide quality staff/contractors to do the work and also to provide the funds (over \$20M) needed. When WOLAA worked with GSA/FDA to develop a Historical Preservation agreement, Betsy was a strong backer of our efforts. The biggest hurdle was to demolish or restore Building 1. It is clear without her pressure on GSA and FDA the building would have been destroyed. Also, the original plans for the restoration was not what WOLAA desired. Betsy and Labquest worked with GSA to provide the wonderful restored lobby and building many of you toured. As you know, the garden had many starts and stops. Again, Betsy worked with GSA to insure that the WOL employees and their work would be remembered. For all of the above, the WOLAA Board has approved Betsy to be an honorary member of WOLAA. We thank Betsy for all the work she has done in support of the WOL.

Ramblings of a Senior

Mjt

ASW History. You never know where you will learn Navy History. This Summer we took a trip with Emily, our Grand-daughter, that took us to Toronto, Canada. We toured Casa Loma, which was touted to be the only castle in North America. It was built by Sir Henry Pellatt, who was an innovator and business man way ahead of his time. He brought electricity to Toronto, and harnessed the power of Niagara Falls to form the hydroelectric facility at the Falls. During the tour, we walked a long tunnel that connected the castle with his landscaping facility and his lodge, so he didn't have to cross a busy Toronto Street. The audio device we used for the tour told an interesting ASW story. During World War II, the British developed a very good active sonar called ASDIC. However, the German bombings made it difficult to manu-

a very good active sonar called ASDIC. However, the German bombings made it difficult to manufacture and assemble the sonar in England. They decided to do it at Casa Loma. (By this time Pellatt was broke and had lost the castle he had hoped to entertain British Royalty). The castle was perfect as a covert assembly plant; parts and finished products were transported in trucks with signs indicating they carried groceries, repairman, etc. ASDIC was a key factor in defeating the German U-boat campaign.

Book Review Johnny Gram

Mjt

War of 1812. This is the 200th anniversary of the war of 1812. Thus, on our Summer Trip with Emily, we stopped at Erie, PA to expose her to the Naval Battle of Lake Erie that was a much needed victory for the USA. Also, George Stathopoulos loaned me one of the President's series book re James Madison, who was President during the war---"James Madison" by Garry Wills, 2002. Madison was brilliant as he constructed our constitution; but according to Garry Wills just a good president. His flaw was, in today's words, that he "flipped-flopped." He studied, defined a position, and convinced himself it was the right one---no matter what. But, when, it failed miserably, he went through the same process and convinced himself the new position was golden. His problem as President was Europe/England was at war with France (Napoleon). England and France were both messing with our maritime commerce. England went a step beyond and took back their sailors who had gone over to our ships. As tensions rose, his policies all basically failed. Then his next biggest weakness kicked in---bad personnel selections to his cabinet, military, etc. It also didn't help that his own party---Republican---was splintered into to four groups. His final flawed idea was to attack Canada concluding that England was too busy with France. The entire campaign was a SNAFU. As we remember from history, the British easily attacked/burned DC and then attacked Baltimore---origin of Star Spangle Banner. Eventually, Britain agreed to a negotiated peace, and all went back to a status quo, including most of the maritime issues. Easy to see why it is the forgotten war. Not a performance to achieve an A+ as our leader.

Battle of Lake Erie. Luckily, our Navy, which Jefferson, Madison, and others did everything to kill, performed excellently---thanks to the skills of a Quaker Naval Architect and aggressive, young CO's. Oliver Perry took over the "fleet" on Lake Erie. His flag ship was the USS Lawrence---named after the Commander of "Don't Give Up the Ship!" fame. The British attacked, and had the winds in their favor. Lawrence had powerful short range guns against lighter long range British guns. Not good as Perry tried to close, and eventually the Lawrence was lost. The CO of the USS Niagara failed to attack with the Lawrence; but Perry escaped to the Niagara. While the British was messing with the Lawrence, Perry brought the Niagara to bear and defeated the British. And the next famous quote, "We have met the enemy and they are ours." After the war, Niagara was abandoned/sank in Lake Erie. Later it was raised and restored. Now, the state of PA owns (and sails) a duplicate of Niagara; and a neat museum for the battle of Lake Erie exists in Erie, PA. Alas, the Niagara was at-sea when we visited, but the museum tour was worth the detour to Erie. One feature is they duplicated the starboard side of Niagara; took it to Indiantown Gap; and fired cannonballs at it to show the damage the British guns could cause. This was the highlight of the museum for me

Alumni Updates.

***Shakedown Laboratory for Naval Ordnance.** Dr. Ed Whitman sent WOLAA a great article on the Naval Ordnance Laboratory that appeared in the July 1948 edition of the Popular Mechanics magazine. It was over 6 pages long and provided a great history and description of work at NOL. The first two pages appear in the Supplement (pages S1-S2). The rest will be published in the Winter LEAF, and they will also be available at the Holiday Luncheon.

***Ernest Borgnine.** Ernie died this Summer. He was known for his role in TV's McHale's Navy and many movies. Captain, Kathy Dugan, USN (Ret.) became friends with Ernie---I believe when he

was a Grand Marshal in a veterans parade in a town with a Navy base where she was OIC. They remained friends over the years. When he died, Capt. Dugan was invited to speak at his memorial service in CA. The following link will connect you to Ernie Borgnine performing with the Navy Band. It is very well worth the time to watch and is particularly meaningful as Veteran's Day approaches.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6hWPqSP31IY&feature=youtube>

***NOL Award Pictures.** Bill Licata sent two pictures of NOL awards. One is published in the Supplement on Page S3. It is from the mid1970's as Captain Williams, NOL CO, is in the picture. How many do you recognize? We will have both pictures at the Holiday Luncheon.

***SUBROC.** Bill Ryan wrote, "We took our grandsons to the Air and Space Museum Annex by Dulles and I was a little surprised to see the SUBROC that had been displayed at WO for years on display. It is in the James McDonnell Space Hangar close to the shuttle Discovery. The sign says it was transferred from the Naval Ordnance Laboratory."

***Ray Mingee.** John Scarzello wrote, "I do have some great news, Ray Mingee received an award from the Virginia General Assembly for his 70 years as a Volunteer Fire Company! Ray Mingee worked in the Underwater Systems Assess Division, headed up by Bill Ryan, in his Fort Monroe Branch. Ray helped many engineers, contractors, multi-national groups, perform their real world testing of underwater mines, sensors and ship signature measurement systems. I have worked at Fort Monroe many times, and could not have accomplished our technical goals without Ray. He is indeed a high caliber professional, while he worked for the navy, and he continues giving to the community even now. See Supplement page S4 for the writeup. His colleagues wrote up a tribute, which was summarized in the House Joint Resolution Award. See Supplement S5 for the resolution.

Ray sends me newspaper articles periodically, and for those who know Fort Monroe, the Dock Area Buildings are being considered for a waterfront restaurant or retail area. "These neighboring buildings sit on the property's southwest corner and overlook Hampton Roads. They served as administration buildings since 1910 when they were built" The waterfront area was used to dock our boats and the two buildings were used at mine assembly areas for the test vehicles being tested at Ft. Monroe and Ft. Story. The view and area is wonderful; great place for restaurants.

***Rudy and Lois Schuetzler.** Henry Ng wrote, "I was saddened to learn the news of Rudy Schuetzler passed away from the 2012 summer issue of 'The Leaf.' Both Lois and Rudy were my best friends. Yes, Rudy (and Lois too) was a shining example of hard work, determination, and dedication not only to his family and friends, but also to his job as his children stated in 'The Leaf.' There was another area that not many people who have worked in NOL/NSWC knew about Rudy and Lois. Both Rudy and Lois were a world-class photographers. As a matter of fact, I knew them long before I started working in NOL since we belonged to the same local camera club -- Silver Spring Camera Club (SSCC). They always gave 110% effort of whatever they did.

Rudy and Lois were the ones in SSCC who gave me the toughest competition during each monthly photo competition in the club. We had kept in touch even long after Rudy and Lois moved to Florida. Rudy sent me a congratulation email when my pictures were selected as 'Distinctive Images' published in the 2008 June issue Journal of the Photographic Society of America (PSA). When Lois passed away in March 2003, I wrote 'In Memory of Lois Schuetzler!' article in the 2003 summer issue of the SSCC monthly newsletter. That provided some insight of area that people seldom knew about Rudy and Lois (see page 6 of the attachment). You may want to publish that in 'The Leaf' so everyone can learn about the hard work and dedication by Rudy (and Lois). Also, please pass a copy to Rudy's Children for me so they can learn about their parent. In addition, please send my condolence to them. Thanks!" Henry's tribute to Lois is shown in Supplement page S6

***Henry Ng.** After Henry sent me the article on Lois Scheutzler, I asked about him and he responded, "My family and I are doing very well. My oldest daughter graduated from UM Law School last summer. She passed the Bar Exam last November and is now working for a private Law Firm in Silver Spring. My second daughter received her MS from UM in June this year and just started working for Maryland Social Program department last month. My two sons are in MC studying now and plan to transfer to UM.

When NSWC White Oak was closed in 1996, I transferred to NRL (it was just too long to commute to NSWC/DL everyday). As the working environment of the Government Lab getting worsen everyday, I decided to retire from NRL in 2007 and worked as a consultant. In 2009, I decided the money is not everything and finally retired for good.

After retiring, I have been spending most of my time in Photography -- my hobby. Going to many places in the world to take pictures every year. In 2007, I started to serve as the Image Collections Vice President (a Board of Director) for the Photographic Society of America (PSA) which is a non-profit organization and one of the three most prestige photographic societies in the world. Enjoying it every minute even its work is more than a full time job and no pay. I feel very rewarding to be able to give back to the photographic community by serving in PSA Board of Directors. It has been close to 6 years for the PSA job now and I'll leave the PSA Board of Directors next year so I can devote some of my time helping my high school in Hong Kong"

Henry started at NOL in the mid1970's as an EE and worked as an analyst in U41.

***VADM Stockdale.** Dr. Ed Whitman provided the following: " The Greek thinker Epictetus (ca. A.D. 50 - ca. 138) was born in Phrygia in Asia Minor and further developed the Stoic philosophy originated by Zeno of Citium (ca. 300 B.C.). In particular, he believed that the true good is within oneself and not dependent on external things, while also emphasizing the value of brotherhood. His teachings, set down by his disciple Arrian in the *Encheiridion** and the *Discourses*, had a major influence on the Roman emperor-philosopher Marcus Aurelius (121-180) - and many subsequent devotees. One of the more recent was Vice Admiral James Stockdale (1923-2005), who described in a famous 1978 *Atlantic* article, "The World of Epictetus," how his earlier study of the *Encheiridion* was key to surviving his incarceration in a North Vietnamese prison camp after being shot down during the Vietnam War." The link to VADM Stockdale's paper is below; Ed said he reread it recently and as the first time was very thought provoking and rewarding. Again, with Veteran's Day approaching, it is a very timely read.

http://www.yorktech.com/lttool/Secure/The%20World%20of%20Epictetus_Stockdale.pdf

VADM Stockdale



***Michelle (Regan/McElroy) McCaughey.** Michelle wrote, “Hello, Today, while trolling the Internet looking for Jim Douglas, a friend from my time at NOL, White Oak, I discovered the WOL Alumni Association website. So nice to see some old friends in the photo gallery and bittersweet to read about friends, co-workers and former bosses who have passed. I have many fond memories of my time at the Lab, my first job, from July 1967 until December 1972....the fun working for the Navy, the friendships and the great activities (Bill's Bunch). In June 2011, I moved from the DC area to Ohio for a job with Marathon Petroleum Corporation and now live in Toledo. The ‘missing alumni link on the website caught my eye...and prompted this message.”

***Professor Peter Hamel.** He wrote from Germany, “Ladies and gentlemen, just by chance I was notified about an interesting historical booklet entitled: ‘Wind Tunnel Oral History’. Is there still the possibility to acquire a copy or a pdf-file? If yes, please let me know whether I could compensate your efforts via Mastercard. Thank you very much for your attention. As a small compensation I include as an attachment a paper I wrote about the history of the Busemann A-9 supersonic wind tunnel originally located at LFA-Braunschweig. Sorry, this version is written in German language.” We did send him a copy and Dan Maren is having someone translate his article. Will have at Holiday Luncheon if available.

***Lewis Black.** Lewis is a well known comedian and was doing a show in DC recently. The Washington Post Magazine of 19 September 2012 ran a story titled, “Lewis Black the Angry Comedian.” Lewis is the son of Sam Black who was a ME in U11. The writer noted in the article, “After the benefit, I meet Black’s parents, Sam and Jeannette, both now 94. Longtime friends detect the comedic influence of both. Black breaks it down simply: ‘I think I am my mother when things piss me off — I’m my dad the rest of the time. I think they are a synthesis in my act.’ Sam Black — a placid, easygoing man — briefly tells me he used to work for the military before pursuing art professionally. He was employed at the Naval Ordnance Laboratory in White Oak. His work involved sea-mine engineering.....”

Deceased Alumni

Please inform Houston Cole of any information about deceased alumni. Phone (410) 489-2977. Or please email or write WOLAA. The LEAF is please to print a tribute to our deceased alumni. Prepare and email/write to WOLAA.

***Charles William Kuehne.** Please see tribute to Chuck in the Supplement on page S7. Chuck died in June 2012.

***Dr. Alan C. Bouley.** Please see tribute to Alan in the Supplement on page S8. Alan died in June 2012.

***Edward Charles O’Keefe** Ed died on 28 July 2012. He had had a stroke some time ago and had recovered. He died after having a fall. He was the beloved husband of the late Joanne O’ Keefe (nee Titus); devoted father of Christine O’ Keefe and Jonathan O’Keefe and his wife Jane; loving brother of Jack O’ Leary and Ellen Dolinski; cherished grandfather of Ava, Connor, and Riley O’Keefe. John Scarzello wrote, “Ed O’Keefe was an outstanding engineer, who worked on CAPTOR telemetry and electronics for sea mine systems (in U department), but he also worked on many other sensor systems both at White Oak and Carderock.

***Faison T. Sessoms.** Faison died in August 2012. He was a respected Weapon Safety Engineer in U40. His wife, Betty, died in May 2012. See Summer LEAF. A tribute will be in the Winter LEAF.

***Alva Lee Martin Measell.** Alva, 90, of Frederick, died on Saturday, Aug. 11, at Frederick Memorial Hospital. Alva was the wife of the late Robert Ernest Measell, who died on February 11, 2002. They were married on March 23, 1946, in Fairland, MD. She was born on March 19, 1922, the youngest child of the late Walter Bird Martin and Annie Cooper Martin from Bridgeport, Texas. Alva moved to Washington, DC, with her sister, Abbie, during World War II. She worked for the federal government for over 30 years. She began her employment as a file clerk with the FBI, and retired from the Naval Surface Weapons Center, White Oak, MD. Alva was an active member of First Baptist Church of Frederick. She enjoyed breakfasts with the church Fun Bunch and activities with the Red Hats. She especially enjoyed trips to Texas for family reunions. Surviving are her daughter, Linda Phillips and husband Ron of New Market; her son, Robert Lee Measell of Frederick; her granddaughter, Rebecca Peacock and husband Brian of New Market; and five great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by six sisters and three brothers

***Andrew Sharper, Jr.** Ted Lovell informed WOLAA that Andrew died in September 2012. He worked at WO and DL in Public Works. He was a Crane Electrician in the Weight Certification Group.

***Jeannette S. Safaryn.** Jeannette died on 6 September 2012 at age 91. She was mother of Deborah and her husband Jack fitzgerald and Grandmother to Paul and Claire. She is survived by sisters Constance Richardson, Marie Hungerford, Ruth Lenwell, and Julie Bien. She was predeceased by son Richard and sisters Marian Bien and Dickie Spencer. She was born in Washington DC, and lived in Silver Spring, MD until moving to Montclair, NJ in 2002 to be near her daughter. She worked in procurement at NOL from 1959 until retiring in 1993. She enjoyed jazz and classical music, theatre, the National Gallery of Art, nature, and literature, especially Thomas Wolfe's works.

***Mary Ellen Falusi.** Mary died on Saturday, September 22, 2012, of Chevy Chase, MD. She was the daughter of the late Joseph and Mary Falusi. Mary worked at NOL in the Applied Aerodynamics Division.