

The Leaf

VOLUME X ISSUE 1

PROUD MEMORIES

Winter 2008

- Events *
*NOL Lunch 2nd Mon
@Golden Bull in Adelphi
*WOLAA Florida Reunion
in Dade City, FL
Fri. 7 Mar 2008 @1130
*WOLAA Annual
Luncheon at Golden Bull
in Gaithersburg, Fri. 16
May 2008 @1100.

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

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

WOLAA Web Site: www.wolaa.org

News from WOLAA.

***WOLAA Florida Reunion.**

-OK, mark your calendars now! The first WOLAA event in 2008 is the WOLAA Florida Reunion. It will be held on Friday, 7 March 2008 at the Lake Jovita Country Club in Dade City, FL. Lake Jovita is the community that Ken Caudle lives. His wife and he will host our reunion. They have reserved a private dining room in the beautiful country club. The menu features chicken, seafood, and beef so something for all. The price ranges \$15-20. Dade City is located about 40 minutes from the Tampa Bay Air Port. You would jump on I-75 North and exit on St. Road 52. Dade City is about 6 miles East of this exit. Ken is working up all the details and they will be contained in a flyer that will be sent at the end of January 2008 to all in our data base who live in FL, GA, and SC. If anyone else wants a FL Reunion flyer, email me at mrsrat218@aol.com. As I type this on a cold, gloomy MD Saturday at the end of December, I can easily tell you that Pat and I can't wait. See you there.

***WOLAA Annual Luncheon.**

-Next, mark your calendars for our annual luncheon. Dee has set the date to be Friday, 16 May 2008. It will again be at the Golden Bull in Gaithersburg, MD. We have secured the date with a deposit and can't wait to enjoy the Bull's prime rib, chicken, and crab cake entrees'.

***Holiday Luncheon.**

-The best ever Holiday Luncheon was enjoyed by 142 alum and guests (158 signed up to attend but some didn't make it because of illness.). The food was great; the fellowship was even better in the Bull's ball room, decorated festively for the holidays; and the WOLAA store featured our brand new WOLAA T-shirts which come in tan, gray and white. As conclusion of our tenth anniversary, we honored those who attended and had worked at NOL at the Navy Yard before moving to the WOL in 1946. These people set the standard for excellence and became the core for NOL thru the 1970's. Honored were: Ken Baker, Dr. Eugene Beach, Shirley Clark, Betty Covell, Frank Farley, Jim Martin, Bill McPherson, Charles White, and Bob Wilson.

News From WOLAA (Continued)

***2008 Membership**

-Our annual membership drive for 2008 is on going. Each of you who are annual members should have received a membership form in the mail in early December (The 3-year and Lifetime members did not receive a form). We are already at a membership of 440 (Plus 50 spouses so the total number of alumni who is a member of WOLAA is about 500.) This is very good and we thank you. Bill Ryan and Houston Cole tell me we are much ahead of where we normally are at the end of December. So, if you haven't sent your renewal membership yet, please do very soon. We normally send a membership reminder in March; lets make this reminder go to only a very few.

***Wind Tunnel Oral History Booklet.**

-Earlier in 2007, Bob Voisinet, who managed the wind tunnel for the Air Force until he retired, sent The LEAF a series of articles about the wind tunnel. Several of these have been published in The LEAF. In December, all the articles were made into a 60 page booklet, "Oral History of the White Oak Laboratory Wind Tunnels." The booklet contains two oral histories written by Bob Voisinet and Sam Hastings. It also contains articles about the German scientists who developed and operated the two German tunnels brought to NOL after WW II. The story of how the tunnels were delivered to the allies is also included in the booklet. The booklet was sold at the WOLAA Store at the Holiday Luncheon and will again be sold at the May 2008 WOLAA Annual Luncheon. If anyone would like one of these oral history booklets, email me at mrspat218@aol.com. They will cost \$5 to cover printing and mailing. You may send your check to WOLAA, Box 1002, Olney, MD. 20830. Our thanks to Bob for collecting these oral histories.

***Historical Preservation.**

-On 17 October 2007, GSA, FDA, and Labquest held a groundbreaking for the project to restore Building 1. Jim Proctor represented WOLAA. His powerful remarks about the technical excellence of the WOL's people and products are contained in Supplement A. A picture of Jim making these remarks is also presented. Work is well underway inside and outside. Supplement A contains pictures taken in early December which portray the significant changes underway inside and outside. The entire entrance from NH Avenue to the building is being changed to reflect new security regulations and to provide the major entry into the building to be at the basement level. This will permit the main lobby to be restored to what it was when the WOL closed in 1997. The flagpole and circle will be moved closer to the building. The wall defining the new entrance will use stone saved when other buildings at the WOL were demolished. We are also pleased that the commissioner will have his suite of offices in Building 1 where Supply had their offices. He has requested one of the WOL fireplaces be restored for his office suite. The engraved NOL above the main doors will remain; BUT will be covered with new stone with FDA depicted.

***Missing Alumni.**

-Houston Cole has provided a list of 71 alumni, who we don't have a valid address. This list is contained in Supplement B. Please review it carefully and if you have a good address for those on list, please mail it to us at the WOLAA address or email to: mrspat218@aol.com. The alum sending us the most good addresses will receive a new WOLAA T-shirt.

Tributes.

*We are sad to report the death of Dr. Eugene Beach and Dave Colby. Both served as Department Heads at NSWC. Their sons have written excellent tributes about their family and work lives. They appear next in this LEAF. A third tribute will follow. It is for Richard Lundsten and was prepared by Dr. John Scarzello and Bernie DeSavage. It also contains an oral history of the magnetic work which was performed in Building 24 as part of the Research Department at the WOL.

Dr. Eugene H. Beach of Silver Spring, Maryland, died on Sunday, December 9, 2007, at Sibley Hospital, Washington, D.C. after a brief illness. He was age 89.

Dr. Beach was born October 9, 1918, on his parents' farm in Highland Township, Michigan. After graduating from Milford High School he attended the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor from which he earned his Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering in 1941. Later that year he moved to Washington, D.C., to work for the Naval Ordnance Laboratory, specializing in underwater mines. In 1944 he was commissioned an Ensign in the Navy Reserves and was sent to North Africa to study captured German mine technology.

Following the war he received a fellowship in Michigan's Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies and returned to Ann Arbor, earning both a Masters Degree and Ph.D. in nuclear physics. He also served as an engineering research associate on the University of Michigan's cyclotron rebuilding project.

In 1953 Dr. Beach returned to the D.C. area to resume work at the Naval Ordnance Laboratory (later known as the Naval Surface Weapons Center) at White Oak, Maryland. Over the next twenty-seven years he held a number of key managerial positions, ultimately serving as Associate Technical Director. He retired in 1980, recognized at home and abroad as a leading expert in underwater weaponry, including mines, torpedoes and missiles. In a retirement tribute, Admiral A. J. Whittle, Jr. noted that "Every new naval mine for the last twenty years has been developed under your technical and managerial leadership. Your professional manner and technical expertise have been invaluable to the Navy."

Throughout his career Dr. Beach maintained contact with the academic community, having taught cooperative courses for MIT and the University of Maryland. He also participated in a number of studies for the National Academy of Sciences. Following his retirement he taught special physics courses for several years at the University of Maryland, earning an "Excellence in Teaching Award" in 1983.

More recently Dr. Beach served as a consultant to Epoch Engineering of Gaithersburg, Maryland. His work included the design for a new Stirling-cycle engine, for which he received a patent, as well as proposals for improving the efficiency of conventional gasoline and diesel engines.

Dr. Beach was an accomplished hobby woodworker and machinist who greatly enjoyed collecting and restoring antique clocks, furniture, old radios and tools. He was among the earliest members of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors which recently honored him with election to its "Old Timers and Fellows" chapter. He was also a member of Sigma Xi, the scientific research society and a Life Member of the University of Michigan Alumni Association. His professional accomplishments over the years earned him numerous awards and commendations, including three Meritorious Civilian Service Awards and a Superior Civilian Service Award, as well as listings in American Men of Science and Who's Who.

Dr. Beach is survived by his wife of 63 years, Ruby Lee (Beauchamp) Beach of Silver Spring, Maryland; their son Eugene H. Beach, Jr. and daughter-in-law Lori Ann Beach of Highland, Michigan; grandchildren Joshua, Erin and Ashley Beach; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. He will be buried in the family plot in Highland Cemetery, Highland, Michigan, beside the graves of his parents and siblings.

David Bruce Colby, 71, lost his courageous three-year battle with ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease) on 20 November, 2007 at his home in Gambrills, MD with his beloved wife Judith Rice Colby at his side. Born in Littleton, NH on May 1, 1936, Dave was the son of the late Reginald Merton and Margaret Bedell Colby. He graduated from Littleton High School as valedictorian in 1954 and lettered in three sports, including a state championship in football. He pursued his love of science and sports while attending Bates College in Lewiston, ME on a Union Carbide scholarship.

An outstanding baseball pitcher, his combination of power pitching and knuckleballing led to a contract offer from the Cleveland Indians. Despite his successes on the pitching mound, Dave chose to forgo baseball in his final year at Bates to concentrate on his studies, graduating with honors in physics and mathematics in 1958. A week after graduation Dave wed his college sweetheart, Judith Ann Rice, before heading to Wesleyan University in Middletown, CT. After receiving his Masters Degree in physics in 1960, he spent another year at Wesleyan performing research for the National Science Foundation. In 1961 Dave began a distinguished 35 year civil service career, with the last 25 years at the senior executive level. Starting at the former Naval Weapons Laboratory in Dahlgren, VA, his career encompassed assignments at the Office of Telecommunications, Executive Office of the President, and the Office of the Secretary of Defense. At the age of 30 he received the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award for directing one of the largest-ever Fleet research exercises at sea, whose results still influence Fleet concepts, systems and doctrine. Dave continued his pioneering work in electromagnetics, organizational development, systems engineering, and leadership, shaping far-reaching national defense decisions. His career was perhaps best marked by his instrumental role in transitioning the Navy activity at Dahlgren from a river range-focused Proving Ground to today's full spectrum Research and Development laboratory as the Naval Surface Warfare Center. Yet with all of his accomplishments Dave was most known at work as a person with a genuine interest in people and their development, encouraging technical excellence and helping others to reach their career goals. His priorities were also evident when several times he turned down more lucrative assignments in the Department of Defense to spend more time with his family. Dave's love for his wife, dedication to his family, and willingness to help others was an example to many in the small town of Colonial Beach, VA where he resided for 43 years. He was a founding director of the Colonial Beach Educational Foundation, raising over \$800,000 in private funds to help design and construct the town's new high school in 1989. He also sponsored an annual scholarship in the name of his son, Army Sgt Stephen Rice Colby, who died in a plane crash in 1985 after returning from peacekeeping duties with the 101st Airborne in Egypt. After retirement he became a member of the vestry of St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Colonial Beach, leading Bible studies and helping others with their spiritual growth. Dave passed on his interests in sports, science and engineering to his children, including being an avid reader and computer enthusiast. His greatest pleasure came from helping his children and grandchildren grow, learn, and become accomplished adults. Dave and his family shared a love of the Maine coast, spending their summers at Judy's parents' cottage at Kennebunkport, ME, which they rebuilt as a home in 2000. After diagnosis with ALS, Dave and Judy sold their Virginia home in 2005 and moved to a condo in Gambrills, MD to be closer to their daughter and treatment at Johns Hopkins. Dave was preceded in death by his son Stephen Rice Colby in 1985 and sister Carolyn Colby Ellis in 2004. He is survived by his wife Judy, sister Susan Colby Sumadi of San Antonio, TX; daughter Linda Colby Pautsch of Severna Park, MD; son Glenn David Colby of Hollywood, MD; nephew Scott Colby Ellis of Kennebunk, ME; niece Margaret "Peggy" Ellis of Astoria, NY; niece Sarah Sumadi of San Antonio TX and eleven grandchildren.

The following came to us from John Scarzello after the death of Dick Lundsten, a long time NOLer. It is, however, more than about Dick's passing. It's also a tribute to White Oak people and their work that kept this country at the forefront of magnetic materials and devices. After you read this, know that one device is still on the Moon. Take a lookup there when the Moon is bright; what better memorial for Dick and the rest of NOLers?

Richard H. Lundsten, 79, died on 18 July 2007 at his home in Annapolis Maryland. He is survived by his wife Virginia, two sons and two grandchildren.

Dick served two years in the army after getting a degree from the University of Miami in Physics, was hired by the Naval Ordnance Laboratory (NOL) White Oak as a research physicist.

In early 1968, Dick was part of Dan Gordon's group in the Magnetism and Metallurgy Division (Code 211), headed by Ed Adams. We were tasked with developing magnetic materials and devices, especially very low noise transducers for NASA's Apollo Lunar Surface Magnetometer to detect and measure the Moon's magnetic field.. NOL's Building 24 housed the division which had a marvelous group of diverse and talented people devoted to magnetics: Dan Gordon, Harvey Helms, Dr. Bob Brown, Al Krall, Bill Hubbard, Jack Haben, John Tydings, Bob Sery, Dave Goldstein, Cliff Reed, Charlie Sutton, Ray Wiley, Alex Rozner, John Stewart, Dick Jones, Wayne Grine, Chet Purves, Mike Gatorian, Al Syeles, Bernie DeSavage, Roger Chirado, Dottie Moore. All contributed to making the successful transducer cores and developing technology including special metal alloys, magnetic sensors and devices for many other projects. As Dick would point out, there were a lot of other White Oak groups whose expertise and help were essential to the success of the project, and Dick being a very friendly fellow and bowler, knew a lot of them throughout the laboratory.

Dick, Dan Gordon, Harvey Helms designed the cores, and Wayne Grine, Clyde Crist, Chet Purves machined the bobbins of Inconel X750, with alloy preparation done by Dick Jones, John Stewart, Lou Higdon. The completed low noise alloy material was then rolled by Wayne Grine with help from Dick, on the thin gauge rolling mill obtained from Germany after WWII. Dick helped in every step, especially with the annealing process. Dick and I then tested the cores for noise and DC stability, and the results were correlated to alloy composition and annealing temperature and cooling rate.

To demonstrate the newly developed NOL magnetic sensor transducer stability and noise performance, a superconducting shield was designed and built by Dr. Bob Brown to simulate the stable but low intensity magnetic fields both for the Apollo Lunar Surface Magnetometer sensors and for interplanetary exploration satellites. To do that, the superconducting shield containing the magnetic field sensor would be "fed" liquid helium every three hours, 24 hours a day for extended periods. Dick and I shared that duty, but we both missed a "liquid helium feeding"! we got a little sleep, but thankfully, no harm was done!

The NOL low noise magnetic field sensors were not only used by NASA's Apollo Moon program, but in nearly all interplanetary exploratory satellites during the 70's and 80's. Dick's last effort was with NASA-Goddard's Dr. Mario Acuna, with whom he worked to develop the lowest noise alloy and sensor to date. Dick was very proud of these accomplishments.

Dick had a major role in developing and testing non-magnetic tools for Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD). He developed the testing procedures and assisted Navy EOD Technology groups to setup and implement these procedures all over the world. He enjoyed the travel with EOD folks, especially Cliff Merdock from Stump Neck at Indian Head. He developed the low permeability symbol stamp on EOD magnetically measured tools, and worked with Building 24's NITINOL group to develop a diver knife and other non-magnetic swimmer EOD hardware.

During 1974-75, Dick with Harvey Helms, Dan Gordon and I conducted tests in the Hydro ballistics tank (Building 404) with EOD divers participating in the defusing and clean-up of our own sea mines deployed during the Vietnam War. The report that he co-authored is still referenced for diver vulnerability to magnetic-influence sea mines. Dick enjoyed this project and working with young military divers.

Dick had worked with Bob Sery and Dan Gordon to determine nuclear radiation effects on magnetic materials, by measuring the magnetic characteristics of irradiated alloys using a flux meter. Dick, and especially Bob, continued to measure the irradiated materials over at least two decades, and published numerous papers containing very unique data.

Most of my colleagues have fond recollections of Building 24, and Dick was a major part of it. We warmed ourselves by the hot annealing furnaces on cold winter mornings and discussed everything about work, technology, family, cars, and world events. Dick preached to us how to be thrifty, or the "waste not, want not" mode of thinking. I believe these casual interactions were most valuable for the innovative work accomplished in NOL's building 24. NOL White Oak and many of its folks are gone, but the contributions made during that period by high caliber people like Dick Lundsten, are truly unique.

Oral History

*We have two oral histories for you in this LEAF; they are provided in Supplement C. The first is by Larry Thayer, who was treasurer of the WOL Toastmaster Club at the time the Lab closed. He describes his efforts to wrap things up for the Club when WOL closed. My guess is other clubs had like stories to tell. I know the WOL band and golf course had similar issues. The second is from Jay Scalise and describes interesting work by the E344 Packaging & Handling Group. It clearly points out that R&D of a weapon requires much more than the R&D of the weapon itself to make it into a system viable for the Fleet, including test sets, drawings, specs, manuals, etc. Most of these efforts were the responsibility of E Department.

*Charlie Bowersett send The LEAF the following about the Navy Yard shop: “Thanks for letting me know about Gene Beach. The three (NOL) Department Heads in the Underwater area (Directorate) were Eugene Beach, Jim Martin, and myself. I have thought it remarkable that all three of us were still living. Gene was the youngest I think. I am now 90 and Jim Martin is a little older. I started at NOL in 1940 and I think Jim came in 1942. I thought he had been working in Texas and was a little older than I was. Enough of that, what I wanted to tell you is what I remember about the shop. When we were at the Navy yard there were a number of tenants: PRNC, NOL, Gun Factory, Optical Shop, Wind Tunnel, and Model Basin. These are the ones I remember and there were probably more.

NOL did not have a shop but were serviced by Shop 44 of the Gun Factory. When we moved to White Oak, part of Shop 44 was assigned to us and moved there with us and became part of NOL. I don't know what happened to the rest of Shop 44, but there were a number of them that didn't want to move as they had homes in SE Washington. It would have been a 20 mile commute. Shop 44 may have continued there or they may have been absorbed into other Shops. This is a bit of our history that I recall. Maybe Jim Martin remembers more and if you are interested you could ask him.”

*Bill Pickler wrote The LEAF: “After reading Bill Barnum's article on the NOL ski slope, I dug out some picture from the Oak Leaf in 1967 and 1969 about some of the annual trips the NOL Ski Club use to take every year. Thought they may be of interest for future articles in The LEAF.

P.S. Enjoying life here in Florida. Live on the 7th hold of the golf course in our community; and wife and I play twice a week.”

Editor: The picture to the left is from '67 trip to Laurentian Mountain in Quebec. Nine skiers were on that adventure. The picture to the right is from trip in '69 to Winter Park Colorado. Not without danger, however, as Babette Pickler broke her ankle on trip to Quebec and Millie Clark broke her knee cap at the end of the Colorado Trip.

Book Review Johnny Grams

Mjt



A big change in pace. Not a book review but an author review.

***John Steinbeck.** First, I must say until this October I did not enjoy any of the books that he had written, and had not finished several that I tried. Not sure why—maybe the material or his writing style. This Summer my Grandson, Jon, had to read three books and write reports on them for his 9th grade AP English class that he would take this Fall.

One of the books was “Mice and Men” by John Steinbeck. I decided to read each of the books, so Jon and I could discuss them. I slowly got through “Mice and Men.” Jon and I had a good discussion of it; but I still couldn’t say that I “enjoyed” Steinbeck. On our CA trip to Sunnyvale, I noticed that there was a Steinbeck museum in Salinas, CA. This is on the way to Monterrey, so why not divert and stop there. I convinced Pat that she would enjoy it, and Emily plotted our route---see Ramblings. Salinas is where Steinbeck was born. The town itself has been restored, and is a delight. Steinbeck home is restored—but you cannot tour it. The museum is very well done. Most of his books have a display, and the ones that were made into a movie or play have video clips from their productions. Many of his early books are based on life in the Salinas and Monterrey area. Both have changed; but both are still the same in the sense you can relate to what Steinbeck wrote about. The migrant workers are still in the field picking lettuce and other vegetables grown in the fertile soil of the area. The canneries of Monterrey are closed, but the buildings and wharf are still there. The museum taught you that Steinbeck was a writer and dreamer from early boyhood. Further, he worked in the fields and factories as a young man. Like most authors, his first wife and he struggled; a depression is not a good time to be a writer. So, now “Grapes of Wrath, Tortilla Flats, Cannery Row, and Mice and Men” make sense to me---not saying I enjoy reading them.

The museum explained about a book he wrote during WW II called, “The Moon is Down,” He was a war correspondent during WW II, and worked for the OSS/CIA. He apparently wrote the book for propaganda purposes. It was leaked into Denmark, China, France, Norway, etc and was translated and printed by the resistance. It is credited with inspiring the people of these nations to resist the Germans. I bought the book and really enjoyed it. He sets it in an imaginary town in what can be concluded to be Norway. The little town has a spy who sets up the town for the Germans to invade and take over to use the coal mined there. He shows the German soldiers to be human but acting out orders to keep the people calm and working. Of course, he shows how their actions inspire the towns mayor and citizens to cause the Germans to fail. It is interesting that Steinbeck took a lot of heat for this book in the US, as critics felt it made the Germans look like “good guys;” and they accused him of being a supporter of the Nazi movement.

I will end by saying that he won many awards for his books including a Nobel Prize in 1962. Yes, I am now convinced that he was a genius and one of our great American authors. If you haven’t read Steinbeck or not recently, try a Steinbeck book.

Ramblings of a Senior

***Emily.**

Mjt

-Pat and I traveled to Sunnyvale, CA this Fall to attend a family event. When I picked up our Hertz car at the airport. I noticed it had a GPS System. I have several friends that love them; but I believed it was just one more electronic gadget to distract the driver. Besides, I didn't need one; and since I hadn't ordered/paid for the system in the rental car, I assumed it would not work. Finally, I got curious, and hit the power button. The screen lit up. Well, why not experiment. It took me awhile to figure out all the buttons. I finally set in a destination. But, we decided to go in the opposite direction. The system's female voice told me to make a left turn at the first light. Of course, I took a right. Silence from the box. Then, she said, "Re-computing destination," in what I thought was a very irritated tone. I went about a block in the wrong direction, and approached an intersection with a left turn lane. The voice came on, "Make a legal U-turn NOW!!" No doubt who was boss in this car. Oh, why Emily? Well our grand-daughter, Emily, is shall we say assertive----yeah a bit bossy. So, we named our female voice Emily. Pat and I had so much fun with Emily. She was never wrong. Pat and I had not one snit about directions, reading maps, stopping for directions----well you all know what I mean—on the whole trip. (At age 71, Hertz maps' print is way too small to read!) So, I was getting converted big time. In the beginning of our trip, Emily took us places only when we had set in exact addresses. We got to Monterrey; and we wanted to go on the 17-mile drive at Pebble Beach. Lo and behold, I found a menu that allowed me to search for places in the Monterrey area. Typed in Pebble Beach and within seconds Emily had us on our way. We are both hooked; now we have to be convinced we need an iPod Nano!

Oh, by the way, for those from the WOL, who attended the Arctic Conference sponsored by the WOL at the PG school in Monterrey and stayed at the Sheraton, both are just like we saw them over fifteen years ago, as is the clam chowder that is served on Old Fisherman's Wharf.

***Trick or Treat, Treat.**

-Our 20-month old granddaughter went Trick or Treating for the first time this year. She was dressed like a teenager, and had her little goody bag in her hands. It was decided she would only visit one house. Her Dad knocked on the neighbor's door. The neighbor, Pat, came to the door. Up went Shelby's arms with the goody bag. Pat put several pieces of candy in the up-thrusted bag. Shelby appeared pleased. Her Dad said, "What do you say now, Shelby?" Shelby thought about it for a moment, and thrust the bag upward again saying, "More!"



***WOL Animal Kingdom.**

-We have all shared stories about the WOL animal kingdom. Goats in the 300 area; squirrels visiting basement offices by coming in open windows; our Bambi's and the issues with their population. Well, here is a new one, and I really didn't know where to include it, and I didn't know whether to report it as a news story or as a "tongue-in-cheek" one. Do you remember about 20 years ago, a mother goose landed in the right front lawn of the WOL and decided the grass was a good spot to lay her egg(s). PAO adopted the mother and convinced Public Works to put a fence around her so no one would bother her or worse yet mow over the nest. Now, if you visit the Building 1 lawns and golf course area you will note a "gaggle" of geese. On 13 December 2007, I received a letter from GSA to indicate they were in the process of doing an Environmental Assessment. I quote, "for geese management at the Federal Research Center (WOL property). The action is needed because of health and safety issues arising from aggressive geese and excessive geese fecal matter.as preliminary impact issues for analysis in the EA: Natural Resources; Visual Quality; & Human Health & Safety. GSA has identified the following as preliminary action alternatives for method of geese management: Non-Lethal (hazing, egg tampering, and habitat modification); Lethal (capture and removal); Combination." We are invited to submit potential impacts that may occur as a result of the proposed Federal action. Gee, the impacts are all bad for the "beloved" mother goose. Should we stage a protest on NH Ave?



Features.

*Alumni Updates.

-Al Thalhamer. Al wrote: "Just a short note to explain my somewhat abrupt departure from Rockville. Omega and I moved to an Assisted Living Facility, Sunrise Assisted Living in Exton, PA. This puts us close to the families of both a son and a daughter and a better feeling of security.

Unfortunately, in the middle of trying to arrange the move and the sale of the house, Omega ended up in Shady grove Hospital. This was followed by rehab until just a few days before our move. Consequently, I didn't have time to say good-byes.

We are getting adjusted to our apartment but it is complicated by Omega's illness. Sorry, I don't think I'll be able to make any more reunions. Best wishes to WOLAA."

-Harold Herring. Harold wrote: "I hope all is well there. Thanks for your efforts in putting out the newsletter and representing the Lab in the set up of the FDA facility. Thanks to others involved as well.

Things are fine here (Reading, PA). I completed a major milestone this Summer. I've completed the Triple Crown of American Long Distance Hiking, including: The Appalachian Trail (Maine to GA) done in 2002; The Pacific Crest Trail (Mexico to Canada through CA, OR, and WA) done in 2004; and The Continental Divide Trail (Also, Mexico to Canada through the Rocky Mountains) done in 2007. That's a total of 7,500 miles. I'm planning to repeat the Appalachian Trail next year and invite people to sponsor me (X cents per mile) for the benefit of their favorite charity. That will give me extra purpose and incentive. Take care."

-Bob Kavetsky. Bob retired on 4 October. Bob worked in the explosive division of the Research Department and then moved to the Warhead Project Office in U Department. He moved to Indian Head when the WOL closed. WOLAA wishes Bob well in his retirement.

-Greg Harris. Greg received the National Defense Industrial Association Bronze Award on 11 September 2007 in Groton, Conn. The award recognizes outstanding individual achievements in either science or engineering in the field of Undersea Warfare for those who work for Navy/University Labs. Greg's entire 30-year career with the Navy has furthered the state of technology and capabilities in USW. He has primarily worked in research dedicated to U/W explosion phenomenology. A WOLAA BZ to Greg.

-Anh Duong. On 30 September 2007, Anh received the Service to America Medal. SECNAV spoke at the presentation and presented the award. The award is one of the most prestigious awards dedicated to celebrating America's civil servants. Anh works at Indian Head but is on assignment as an ONR Science Advisor in the Office of the CNO. She lead a team which designed and deployed very quickly the thermo baric bomb, which was used in the war in Afghanistan. Her current team is working on a new bomb that combines chemicals mixing with oxygen to produce a powerful reaction. A WOLAA BZ to Anh.

-George Hamlin. George reminded us that Ft. Monroe was closed by the BRAC 2005. At the time the Pentagon said the closing costs would be \$72.4M. He wrote: "Now to no-one's particular surprise—certainly not mine—the cost is \$288M. That's like almost exactly four times the original estimate. DOD is suppose to be out by 2011. Wonder what the cost will be then. Meanwhile, the locals are engaged in a most unseemly hair-pulling contest over who gets the land, which is quite valuable."

Editor Note: I wonder what has happened to the Navy's small facility; is it still open? If you have not been to Ft. Monroe, there is in fact a fort on the property. It is very interesting and very historical. Jefferson Davis was imprisoned there after the Civil War. There is also several blocks of splendid, large, old homes there which the generals lived. I was told there were more Army generals at Ft. Monroe than anywhere else in the USA. There is also significant water front. I can see why the locals and historians are in a snit. Wouldn't you think the Park Service would want the Fort?

***Deceased Alumni.**

Please inform Houston Cole of any information you have about deceased alumni: phone is (410) 489-2977 or email or write WOLAA. Please check the WOLAA web site for more timely information than can be provided by a quarterly newsletter.

-Richard Hargett. Dick's son informed WOLAA that Dick died on 13 January 2006. He was a ordnance man who worked in U11. Dick was so valuable on field trips and getting things done. He did a lot of work for Sam Humphrey and CAPTOR to procure underwater cables for field tests and many more essential services. Tom Roberts and Dick some how managed to buy the Ft. Lauderdale work boat (Wood) at the last minute of a fiscal year. The boat had previously been leased, and we could have ended up without a boat to assist in critical CAPTOR tests.

-Alfred Huber. WOLAA received a note saying Alfred died on 4 April 2006. No other information is available.

-John A Buser. WOLAA received a note from John's step-son that his step-father had died on 3 January 2007 from an apparent heart attack. John's wife died just 16 days later from lung cancer. No other information is available.

-Ed Yeager. WOLAA received an email from Dan Connors, who is Ed Yeager's personal representative that Ed had died on 22 January 2007 at Holy Cross Hospital. He was 90 years old and still living in his longtime Colesville residence. He is survived by two daughters. Ed worked in photographic. He also was a "partner" in a jewelry store in Langley Park, and many NOLers shopped through Ed to buy jewelry.

-Bessie Mae Hobbs Williams. Bessie died on 9 December 2007. She was residing at Riderwood and was born/raised in the Colesville area. Her husband Thurman and son Thurman Wayne Williams are both deceased. Bessie was beloved by all who worked with her in the Purchase Division of Supply.

-Regina A. Guay. Regina died on 11 December 2007. She was the wife of Ray Guay who worked at NOL for the SUBROC Project Office. She is survived by her husband Ray; children: Thomas, Margaret Sullivan, Maryrita Dunlavey, Moira Abernethy, Regina Gretschel, Patricia Berry, and Gary Guay; 21 grandchildren; and 4 great-grandchildren.