



THE BUZZARD



U.S. Coast & Geodetic Survey Heritage Society Newsletter

March 2010

Luncheon and Annual Meeting

The Holiday Luncheon and Annual Meeting was held **December 8, 2009**, at the Rosensteel Knights of Columbus in Silver Spring, Maryland. Those in attendance included: Lois and Warren Allin, Dan Bella, Teedy Blackwell, Bob and Evelyn Bosley, Roger Bunting, Wes Butler, Mary and Charlie Challstrom, Marion and Don Denion, Mamie and Phil Domras, June and Bob Kennedy, George English, Angie Ferrara, Erich Frey, Craig Winn, Fred Ganjon, Melvin Gienau, Gary Guenther, Charlie Kearse, George Leigh, Diana Lewis, Donnie Marth, Constance and Ed McCaffrey, Jerry Mills, George Myers, Harley and Eric Nygren, Cheryl Oliver, Dave Peterson, Diane Platt, Mrytle and Maurice Ringenbach, Carole Shreve, Fred Sergio, Norm and Betty Smith, Don Spillman, Connie and Bill Wall, Pat and Jack Wallace, and Ben and Betti Zollman. Following the luncheon the Society's Annual Meeting convened for election of Board Members and presentation of Society Awards.

Our Board of Directors includes nine elected Directors, an appointed Treasurer, and the President of the Northwest Chapter. Each elected Director serves a 3-year term and normally one-third of the Directors are elected, or reelected annually. Those elected in December for 3-year terms are: **Donnie Marth, Cheryl Oliver, and Roger Parsons**. In addition, **David Peterson**, was elected to fill a vacant 2-year term on the Board.

Society Awards are presented to recognize individuals who exemplify the high standards, dedication, loyalty, and traditions displayed by former employees of the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey. During the Annual Meeting, we announced the Society Annual Award recipient is George Poor. George is recognized for his continuing service to our members including organizing the Annual Southwest Lunch and Social. We also announced the Distinguished Service Award recipient is Steve Barnum. Steve recently retired from the NOAA Corps and culminated his career with outstanding leadership as Director of the Office of the Coast Survey. Congratulations to George and Steve!

President's Message

As we start another year of Society activities, I want to thank Charlie Kearse for his leadership, energy, enthusiasm, and continued service on the Society's Board of Directors. As the recently elected President, I again have the honor, and the fun, of coordinating our Board meetings and compiling our update to the membership with this edition of The Buzzard. You might guess the Board really enjoys getting together to catch up on the many activities of interest to our members and to conduct the business of the Society. Thank you for sharing your perspectives, your recollections, and your suggestions. Happy Spring! Charlie C.

Scholarship Awards

Winners of the 2009 Clem Arens and Gerald Short Scholarship Awards are Alan Bedsworth and Jonathon Schaefer. Alan is the grandson of Alwyn and Jacqueline Meyer and a senior in high school in Miami, Florida. Alan plans to pursue a degree in Aerospace Engineering. Jonathon is the son of Glen and Bonnie Schaefer and an honors student at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, majoring in Public History. Jonathon recently began a semester of study abroad at the University of Stirling in Scotland. Congratulations to Alan and Jonathon!

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Holiday Luncheon and Annual Meeting



Our thanks to Fred Sergio for the great photographs!

2010 Officers & Board of Directors

President	Charlie Challstrom
Vice President	Cheryl Oliver
Secretary	Roger Parsons
Treasurer	Don Spillman
Director	Charlie Kears
Director	George Leigh
Director	Diana Lewis
Director	Donnie Marth
Director	Larry Mordock
Director	Harley Nygren
Director	Dave Peterson

Northwest Chapter – Seattle

President	Larry Mordock
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2010 Committee Chairs

ACO Liaison	Don Spillman
Awards	Donnie Marth
By-Laws	Charlie Challstrom
Financial Review	Dave Peterson
History	George Leigh
Membership	Diana Lewis
Nominating	Charlie Kears
Scholarship	Charlie Kears
Merchandise Sales	George Leigh
Special Events	Donnie Marth
Sunshine	Diana Lewis

2010 Dues Notice

Member dues notices for the year 2010 are enclosed with this issue of The Buzzard. Dues are \$10.00 for all members except seniors, who are only charged \$5.00 per year. A senior member is defined as anyone 80 years or older on January 1, 2010. If you meet the senior criteria, please notify our Membership Chair, Diana Lewis, or enclose a note with your dues payment and adjust your payment accordingly. Look for the dues notice with a pre-addressed envelope. For those members who have paid in advance, the 2010 notice will show a zero payment balance. Likewise, in those few cases where members are in the arrears, the amount owed and the number of missed year(s) is also provided. Please send a check or money order. Do not send cash. New members who joined in late 2009 or early 2010 will not be billed again for dues this year. If you have any questions about your dues status, contact Membership Chair, Diana Lewis.

2010 Society Caribbean Cruise

We've selected a 2010 cruise that departs and returns to Baltimore. Our ship will be the *Royal Caribbean Enchantment of the Seas*, and our cruise dates are November 4 to 13, 2010 (9 nights). Ports of call include San Juan (Puerto Rico), St. Thomas (Virgin Islands), Samana (Dominican Republic), and Labadee (Haiti) for a private beach day, then back to Baltimore.

In Haiti, the private beach facility at Labadee is on the north coast of Haiti, and there was no damage to this facility from the recent earthquake. The new pier is in operation so the ship now docks at Labadee, and you just walk to the end of the pier and you are on the beach.

Royal Caribbean employs 500 Haitians at this facility and is continuing to bring much needed supplies in the relief effort with each ship that arrives in Labadee. The Haitian government encouraged Royal Caribbean to continue to make port calls at Labadee providing critical revenue to the Haitian economy.

Dick Knorpp, at Cruise Vacations International, Inc. of Rockville, is assisting us once again. Please join the C&GS Heritage Society Cruise, and call Dick at 301-217-9474 or toll free at 1-800-955-0119. A deposit of \$250 per guest is fully refundable until August 15, 2010; final payment is due not later than August 16, 2010. For additional information contact Charlie Challstrom at chacha4498@yahoo.com or 301-926-4498. Join us!

Society's Email List

To test our Society's email list, I recently sent an email alert regarding the \$250 tax credit for government retirees. If you received this recent alert via email, I have your accurate email address. If you did not receive this email alert from me or are unsure, and you want to be sure I have your email address, please send an email message to Charlie Challstrom at chacha4498@yahoo.com and you will be added. To help avoid email spam, we will not share your email address when sending our Society email messages. Help us stay in touch. Thank you.

Holiday Luncheon and Annual Meeting



Heritage Week Exposition

Last month, NOAA's Science Center was transformed...transporting visitors to the world of Earth observation science and technology. ***Mission: Earth*** featured a vast array of tools NOAA uses to study land, sea and sky, along with hands-on exhibits, guest speakers, video presentations, and more. If you missed the exhibit, check out the video tour of ***Mission: Earth*** and the Heritage Week exhibit photos at the website: <http://preserveamerica.noaa.gov/>

Beginnings of Satellite Geodesy

A two-part article on the USC&GS satellite triangulation project of the 1960's is included in the January 2010 and March 2010 issues of "Professional Surveyor" magazine. The articles were written by Dr. George Cole, former USC&GS employee and participant in the project. You can read both of these by going to Part 2 at: www.profsurv.com/magazine/currentedition.aspx and scroll to the article; then click there for Part 1.

There is also an article on USC&GS/NGS using satellites for surveying on the website: <http://celebrating200years.noaa.gov/foundations/> and click on "Surveying Using Satellites" to find "Entering the Space Age: The Evolution of Satellite Geodesy at the Coast and Geodetic Survey" written by Dr. Charles Schwarz.

ACO Scholarship Opportunity

The Executive Committee of National ACO Scholarships, Inc. has issued its annual call to high school seniors and college undergrads for applications for scholarship awards for the 2010/2011 academic year. The two-page application form is available on the "Resources" page of the NOAA Officer Family Association website (www.nofaweb.org), under the heading "National ACO Scholarships, Inc." Application forms may also be obtained by contacting Secretary/Treasurer Captain Dave Peterson, NOAA (Ret), by phone at 301-921-6357 or by email at kmpdhp@comcast.net. Complete application packages should be sent to the corporation's post office address (on the application form) and should be postmarked this year no later than Friday, April 30, 2010.

Society Merchandise



New T-Shirts brought to you by the U.S. Coast & Geodetic Survey Heritage Society – front graphic is a USC&GS bench mark disk, rear graphic is the famous Surveying Eagle. Front and back graphics are the same on long- and short-sleeve shirts. Short sleeve - \$14.00 Long sleeve - \$16.00 Shipping is \$4.00



We have a few USC&GS flags left (12" x 18") for \$22.00, and 200th Anniversary items: Neckties for \$5.00 and Lapel Pins for \$3.00 -- To order, contact George.Leigh@noaa.gov or 301-713-3167.



Report from Annual Southwest Luncheon, Phoenix, March 10



First row: Carol Townsend, Leslie Dreves, Marji Barbee, Connie Bondelid, Dee Poor, Loretta Munson, Denise Guth

Second row: Charles Townsend, John Carpenter, Don Dreves, Bill Barbee, Gene Taylor, George Poor, Bob Munson, Jack Guth, Sig Petersen

Sixteen faithful NOAA retirees gathered for the annual NOAA luncheon at the Bluewater Grill (formerly Fishmarket Restaurant) in Phoenix, AZ. There were many hugs and good conversation that included catching up on all the health issues. Believe me, when you get our age, that is a BIG topic of conversation, besides our grandchildren, of course.

Our hosts were George and Dee Poor from Seattle, (wintering in Sun City West); Don and Leslie Dreves drove from their winter home in Tucson to join the group for the day; Gene Taylor and Connie Bondelid flew from Florida; Bob and Loretta Munson flew from Texas; Sig Petersen flew from southern California; Bill and Marji Barbee and John Carpenter also came down from Seattle. Jack and Denise Guth drove from Jerome and joined the Barbees, Munsons, Gene and Connie at the officers' quarters at Luke Air Force Base. Charles & Carol Townsend had been traveling in their motorhome since before Christmas and were headed home to Seattle after this gathering. Most of the group met later in the evening for a dinner at Mimi's Restaurant for more conversation.

On Thursday several of the group attended a baseball spring training game. On Friday the Poores arranged for the group to visit the Space Challenger exhibit in Peoria and they spent three hours "pretending" to land on Mars. This exhibit is one of 50 in the U.S.—its well worth the time to experience some of what is involved in the space program.

George and Dee Poor have been so faithful in organizing these annual gatherings in Phoenix the past fifteen years and on behalf of the C&GS Heritage Society, Charles presented George with the Society's 2009 award and Carol presented Dee with a small floral arrangement. A fitting end to a great three-day event!

In Memoriam

Sharon Barber – Sharon Shay Barber died peacefully at home on January 20, 2010 after a two-year battle with cancer. Sharon was the loving wife of Bruce Barber. Sharon's federal service included the State Department, President Nixon's staff, the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and Department of Labor, concluding her time there in 1981 as personal and appointments secretary to Labor Secretary Ray Marshall. Her career continued in area law offices and corporations, including the Bell South Corporation, Mobil Corporation, and the ExxonMobil Foundation in Fairfax, Virginia, from which she retired in 2002. Sharon was an avid gardener, an insatiable reader, a passionate cook, and first mate with her husband on their sailboat. She is survived by her husband of 24 years, Bruce Barber, of Annandale, Virginia, stepson Michael Barber and wife Erin, stepdaughter Laura Tonelson and husband Jed, and four step grandchildren; also a sister, Patricia A. Shay and a brother, Richard W. Shay.