



# The Leaf



VOLUME XI ISSUE IV

PROUD MEMORIES

Fall 2010

- **Events**
  - \*NOL Lunch 2nd Mon @Golden Bull in Adelphi
  - \*Holiday Luncheon @ Argyle CC, Fri. 10 Dec, 2010 @ 1130
  - \*WOLAA Night @ Strathmore. Details TBD
  - \*Dedication Proud Memory Garden, Spring 2011
  - \*WOLAA FL Reunion @ Dade City, FL, March 2011 Details TBD

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

WOLAA Web Site: [www.wolaa.org](http://www.wolaa.org)

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

***WOLAA Holiday Luncheon!!!!***  
***@ Argyle Country Club on Fri.***  
***10 December 2010 at 1130.***

- **Editorial Staff:**  
JohnTino

***Mark Your Calendars NOW!***

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## News from WOLAA.

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**\*Holiday Luncheon.** We have contracted for the luncheon, and the price and menu will be about the same as our May Luncheon was. We plan for WOLAA holiday cookies to be on the table, and we have heard that Santa is preparing a special WOLAA present. It's a great way to start the holiday season. Hope to see you there.

**\*Historical Preservation.** We are so pleased to report great progress on the Proud Memory Garden, Interactive Display, and the Fireplace in the lobby of the FDA Conference Center. There will definitely be a dedication bash at FDA in the Spring of 2011.

Plaques. The contractor has an initial layout of all the plaques. We will show you the finished artwork at the Holiday Luncheon. The mounts for the plaques have also been designed. They will be gray in color and will have the three oak leaves logo on them.

We anticipate additional landscaping in the garden area from what you saw in the picture of the garden in the last LEAF. We are assuming the plaques will be off the main walkway in a step-off area which will have a stone dust base like the main walkway and will be outlined in NOL bricks. It is almost certain that prototype benches, constructed to demonstrate benches being planned throughout the FDA campus, will be placed along the main walkway.

**Interactive Display.** The outline for the contents of the display has been completed. Dee Zook and I went through all the pictures that WOLAA has, and a set of pictures has been selected for the technical content. Dee Zook and Diane Palermo have selected a set of pictures for the introduction/history and to tell the NOL “we are family” story—clubs, Bills Bunch, holidays, sports, open house, etc. We plan to have several videos, including the Bills Bunch film of the pie fight in the cafeteria. Dan Marren is putting together the story of the tunnels and “tanks.” Mary Lacey is doing the same for robotics. Jim Proctor, Ira Blatstein, and Dave Sudduth are getting together at the end of October to do the explosive and other research story. I have covered the other technical areas. The contractor will take all this material and convert it to an interactive display. The contractor is currently scanning and organizing all the photos and text she has. Once done we will review, and Diane Palermo and George Hamlin will edit to make all the text and captions consistent. We still have concern where the display will be located, and will there be a NOL fireplace in the lobby. GSA has hired an expert to decide if the stored fireplace pieces will permit a quality replica of the fireplace to be constructed. The Bennett plaques are still planned for the lobby.

**Sneak Peak.** Supplement pages 1-6 gives a look at the above status. Page S1 shows the location for our plaques. The architect has located using sight lines from the benches located just outside the conference center and made from NOL stone. Page S2 shows plaque 1 which defines why the Proud Memory Garden. Page S3 shows plaque 2 and gives the WOL history. Page S4 shows the mounts for the plaques. Page S5 shows the main window for the interactive display. Page S6 shows the outline planned for the display; but a few changes are likely as we decide the best way to tell the WOL story.

## Ramblings of a Senior

Mjt

**\*General Motors.** I am doing the LEAF at Ocean City, and we discovered our quiet week was shattered by a Cruiser Car Show. Up and down Ocean Highway they roar and shoot flame from their exhaust. I discovered that 90% of the cars are GM products from the 50-70’s—Corvettes, SS, Nova, Belair, Chevelle, Impala. They are such great cars and look so good restored. Of course, the engines they have, even the real old ones, are upgrades to give them mega HP. It made me sad to see this history, and then having lived through the sad events last year when GM essentially went bankrupt. How could this have happened when they once produced such great cars that the car buffs overwhelmingly want them to restore. Maybe they can come back and someone visiting OC in 2040 will see restored cars of the 10/20’s. One note of humor as I was viewing the cars in the Hooters parking lot, I noted an E-Z Pass sensor in one of the windows. The 50’s technology is shared with the technology of the 2010’s.

## Book Review Johnny Gram

Mjt

**\*Summer and Fall Reading.** Lots of beach reading but nothing special to report. We visited my son in NJ, and their library was having a used book sale. Could fill up a shopping bag for only \$3. Wow, did I stuff them in that bag. I now have my Fall and probably Winter reading

**\*Legacy Book.** I was at the contractors discussing the plaques. I wanted to check something, and said out loud, “I wish I had my copy of the Legacy book with me.” She said, “you can use my copy; I got it from amazon.com.” Whoa! How was amazon.com selling our book. She showed me her copy, and it was a soft cover version of the book. I went on line, and this is what amazon displayed. LEGACY of WOL: accomplishments of NOL/NSWC. by Unknown; paperback, January 1 2000. 540 pp. University of Michigan Press January 1, 2000 ASIN B003NKRQP1 Sells for \$35.99.  
Product Description: This volume is produced from digital images created through the University of Michi-

## Book Review Johnny Gram (Continued)



Product Description: This volume is produced from digital images created through the University of Michigan University Library's large-scale digitization efforts. The Library seeks to preserve the intellectual content of items in a manner that facilitates and promotes a variety of uses. The digital reformatting process results in an electronic version of the original text that can be both accessed online and used to create new print copies. The Library also understands and values the usefulness of print and makes reprints available to the public whenever possible. This book and hundreds of thousands of others can be found in the HathiTrust, an archive of the digitized collections of many great research libraries. For access to the University of Michigan Library's digital collections, please see <http://www.lib.umich.edu> and for information about the HathiTrust, please visit <http://www.hathitrust.org/>

So not sure how all this happened, but if you need a Legacy book this is a way to get one, and it is even cheaper than we were able to sell them.

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## Features.

### \*News from Alumni.

**-Bob Donnelly.** I just received my summer copy of "THE LEAF" from the White Oak Laboratory Alumni Association (WOLEA). It is great reading about some old friends and workers. After I retired from NSWC (DL), I went to work for a local DL contractor basically doing similar work for the Navy. Since I have retired a 2nd time, I have become involved as a volunteer for the USO at BWI airport, and the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. I work twice per month at the Naval Museum in the Academy. It recently completed a major renovation, and is a SUPER Naval Museum. I believe that everyone who worked for the Navy in their careers would rate it very high. With regard to that, I would invite everyone who is capable, to come and visit the Museum. It now has two different floors. The 1st floor is dedicated to Naval History, and has many displays, including touch-screen displays to call up and view. Former NOLers can see where some of their efforts have helped the Navy in the various conflicts it has participated in. The 2nd floor is dedicated to intricate models of old-time sailing ships that were used by the Navy. Some of the Models on display were built in the 17th century and are very valuable. I would be glad to accompany people through the Museum. It can easily take a couple of hours to go through the museum.

Editor Note: Bob and I did get together, and I toured the museum. He used his parking pass so we parked inside the Academy grounds. Without a pass, go in the main gate and park at the visitor center. It is a couple block walk to the museum. It is well worth the walk as the museum is great. Anyone with any interest in Naval history should not miss it. Thank you Bob for informing us about the museum.

**-Bev Weldman.** I am Bev Weidmann, daughter of D. Max Beard (now deceased). My dad was the Chief of the Photographic Department at NOL until he retired in 1971 (circa). My mom (Florence Beard) and I have been going through a few old pictures and papers that may be of interest for the public record. Mom talks about giving them to the NOL museum and about calling someone named Tino (her memory is that of a 95 year old!). Since this is the closest I've come to finding an NOL museum, I thought I'd write to you. Mom still lives in the housing development across from the NOL (FDA) and used to get information from WOLAA. I was impressed to find your nice website.

So, can you tell me if WOLAA would be interested in looking at, and perhaps receiving, things we find from the early NOL days? Or, if not WOLAA, do you know of another group that may be interested? You may contact us through this mailbox. Thank you for your consideration.

**-Joe Diehlman.** I now live at Charlestown Retirement center in Catonsville, MD. No more snow shoveling, no more grass cutting, just playing: sailing, fishing, golfing, etc. Please make the necessary changes to WOLAA. Thanks, Joe D.

**-Wayne Reed.** John Kelly informed WOLAA that Wayne Reed retired in September from NSWC/IH. Wayne worked in R10 at the WOL and transferred to IH when the WOL closed. He was very involved in field testing of the directed energy warheads which were so critical during the final phases of the Cold War. A WOLAA congratulations to Wayne for his many years of dedicated service to the Navy.

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**\*Correspondence to WOLAA.**

**-Grandfather Worked at WOL.** We had a note from a grand-daughter who was seeking information on her grandfather. She recently learned that he worked at NOL. Thanks to some detective work by George Hamlin, we discovered he was a LT in the Navy during WW II and served on a ship. We believe he was assigned to NOL just after it opened at WO. We were not able to determine where he worked. From my email, you will note that she thought he worked in photographics.

Dear Katie, Most of our records start when NOL moved to White Oak, MD from the Gun Factory in Washington DC after WW II. Do you know if he moved to NOL White Oak after WW II. I will add one thing re our photographers at NOL and some would be true for the Gun Factory. The photography group had technical photographer w BS engineering degrees from Rochester University in NY. They developed cameras to take pictures of shock waves in wind tunnel, take pictures of explosive detonations and systems so cameras could follow the trajectories of bombs and mines which had been launched from air crafts. We also had excellent portrait photographers who took official pictures of VIP event, retirement ceremonies and technical equipment. I am sure such capability with older technology existed during WW II as NOL developed torpedoes and mines launched from aircraft and developed fuzes for projectiles launched from surface ship guns.

If you have any more information on your Grandfather, I will try to track down some more info.

**-Dr. Alpher.** "I am the son of Ralph A. Alpher, Ph.D., who is listed as a White Oak Alumnus along with a brief obituary on line. The site mentions a longer tribute published elsewhere. Can you tell me how I can obtain a copy of the longer obituary? For the last several years of his life, I was mainly responsible for my Dad's personal affairs. I am working with material he left to me pertinent to his work for the Navy, and I just recently received copies of documents he authored or co-authored while technically an employee of Johns Hopkins APL. Any assistance you can provide would be much appreciated.

Sincerely, Victor S. Alpher, Ph.D."

Editor Note: Victor has prepared a paper describing papers he has worked on re his father. I have included it as page S7 of the supplement of this LEAF. Very interesting reading.

**-Windtunnels.** Recently, I received correspondence from Ed in Holland about the German wind tunnels which were brought to NOL after WW II. The following gives several of Ed's notes. "I am mostly interested in photo's of the Peenemunde tunnel, the older the pics are the better, especially when it was brought to White Oak right after the war."

\*"My friend Tracy Dungan and I have visited many archives across Europe and US to gain as much info about Peenemunde rocket development as possible, (we have a site V2rocket.com if you are interested) every now and then we hear about the tunnels but it is hard to find visual evidence. It would be nice to have a chapter about the tunnel. I will check on the book you mentioned. looking forward to hear from you again Regards, Ed"

\*"I really like what you said, these specific stories. Of course I had no idea WO had German scientists, some of many that came to the US. Last week I again read the book "Peenemunde to Canaveral" from Dieter Huzel, if you haven't read it than you might want too, it is written in the style you just did and that I personally like a lot. I live about 17 miles from the German border and have traveled it a lot and even worked there multiple times. My friend Tracy and I have seen many very many historical places there, kind like "it happened here" we are always talking about how good German engineering was and still is today, and if you think about the total devastation of Germany in 1945 it is awe inspiring what they accomplished.

As a matter of fact Tracy and I will meet next week to visit german technical musea and historical places,

As a matter of fact Tracy and I will meet next week to visit German technical museum and historical places, followed by our 10th anniversary of our V2 group in Peenemunde. Members from Germany, Holland, Belgium, France, Czech republic, Russia, Australia and US will attend. If you are interested we can send you a special V2 rocket DVD as a gift of appreciation for your kind help. and... any more stories or leads are more than welcome, particular those early years at White Oak  
All my best, Ed”

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### **\*Technical.**

**-Offensive Mines.** Offensive Mines R&D is currently minimal. Also, I have noted very few articles on offensive mines, and the need for additional R&D. CAPTOR is no longer in the Fleet, and I believe all of the Mk 50 series mines are gone except for the moored mine which was upgraded to keep a moored mine in the Fleet; still this is a 1950 mine. Quickstrike and Destroyers would still be in the Fleet; but these are early 80 technology as far as I know. So, I was very pleased to find a neat article on the need for offensive mines. I have included it as page S8 of the supplements of this LEAF.

**-NITINOL.** I attended science day at FDA. All the Summer interns (about a 100) had a poster board display of their work. What an outstanding group of young S&E's. Dan Marran's U of MD interns for the tunnel were also there I went to tunnels folks and their work was just outstanding.

I only had time to visit 4 projects on stents. Amazing what they are doing to improve the use of stents. NITINOL is still the stent of use. BUT CoCr stents are getting close. They use a lattice and are more flexible. I had fun telling these “kids” that NITINOL was invented almost on the ground they were standing. Several knew and understood NITINOL

**-Windtunnels.** Dan Marren reported if you go on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com), and type Tunnel 9 that you will see a neat video about Tunnel 9.

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### **\*Deceased Alumni.**

Please inform Houston Cole of any information about deceased alumni: phone (410) 489-2977. Or, please write or email WOLAA. The LEAF is pleased to print a tribute to our deceased alumni; prepare and mail/email it to WOLAA.

**-John H. Malloy.** John H. Malloy, 85, a retired division head at the Naval Ordnance Laboratory who was an authority on nuclear weapons effects, died July 7 at Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring of complications from diabetes. Dr. Malloy, a Silver Spring resident for 60 years, joined the laboratory as an electrical engineer in 1949. He received two Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Awards for his work with the Polaris missile program. In 1978, he received the Navy Superior Civilian Service Award for his expertise in hardening fleet systems to help Navy ships withstand nuclear attack. He retired in 1981. John Herman Malloy, a native of Altoona, Pa., served in the Army in the Pacific during World War II. He attended what is now Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, where he received a bachelor's degree in 1948 and a master's in electrical engineering in 1949. He received a PhD in electrical engineering from the University of Maryland in 1970. His wife of 49 years, Claire Smith Malloy, died in 1999. Dr. Malloy was a member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Silver Spring, where he sang tenor in the choir for 30 years. Survivors include four children, John P. Malloy and Ellen Reich, both of Silver Spring, David E. Malloy of Rockville, and Navy Capt. James J. Malloy of Ellicott City; three sisters; a brother; seven grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

**Stanley Hearn.** (Age 82) On August 18, 2010 Beloved husband of Dorothy D. Hearn passed away after a long battle with Parkinson's disease and succumbing to respiratory pneumonia. He is survived by his son, Robert Haller; his daughter Kay Haller and her partner, Elaine Kaplan; his grandchildren, Rosie and Chloe; his sister Charlotte Waters and her husband Johnny; and his nephew and nieces, Keith, Colleen and Jeannie. He was a civilian photographer for the Navy and after retirement became an aerial photographer. He loved flying and experiencing the sky's quiet calmness and beauty.

Bob Ridgway wrote: "I saw this death notice in the Washington Post on the 15th. Stan was one of the photographers at White Oak and was frequently on the trips when we did the Quickstrike air drops at Fort Lauderdale."

**-Grace Ablard.** (Age 91) On Sunday, August 29, 2010 of Takoma Park, MD. Beloved wife of the late Dr. James E. Ablard and Donald Couldren; loving mother of Sherry and Donna Couldren; adored step-mother of Edward, John and Richard Ablard; cherished grandmother of Leah and David Bernstein. Also survived by three step-grandchildren and five step-great-grandchildren. Dr. James Ablard was a senior scientist and manager in the Research Department at WOL.

**-Sarah Cali.** Sara's Son Steve called to say his mother passed away on 1 September 2010. She was 83, She was with friends in OC Md, fell broke arm, and found out she had leukemia. She died 14 days later. Sarah worked in vault-group at the WOL.