

Dear AAI retiree,

This is our third quarterly newsletter for 2014, with details about our dinner in July. Our thanks to departing Association director Frank Anders, and our welcome to new director Joe Auer. This newsletter is mailed only to Association members. If you have a retiree friend who would like to join, they should contact our treasurer Lee Harris. Contact information is at the end of this newsletter.

Sincerely,
The officers of the Retirees Association of AAI Corporation

2014 Association Events

Museum of Industry Tour and Spirit of Baltimore Cruise

This June 17 event was a great success with a nearly-full bus and sunny weather. Our guided tour of the Museum of Industry was followed by a luncheon cruise on the Spirit of Baltimore. A photo of our group is shown to the right. ***Congratulations to Ed Rash, far right in blue shirt, for winning the drawing that day for two tickets, plus parking pass, for the July 30 Orioles/Angels game at Camden Yards.***



July Dinner

The next association dinner will be held at 5:30 on July 23 at Carlo's Italian Bistro located at 9926 York Road, Cockeysville, MD (the old Treehouse Restaurant location). The menu includes a salad and choice of a \$25 entrée (eggplant parmigiana, grilled chicken parmigiana, or lasagna) or \$27 entrée (shrimp scampi). Prices for non-members are two dollars more: \$27 and \$29, respectively. Prices include gratuity and tax. No cash bar will be available, but the restaurant is BYOB with a \$4 corking fee. Please RSVP to Lee Harris by July 16, using attached form. ***Attendees at this dinner will be entered into a drawing for two tickets to the Orioles/Angels baseball game at Camden Yards on July 30. A parking pass is included.***

Golf Outings

The next event is Tuesday, September 9 at Oakmont Green in Hampstead, MD. Participants don't have to be a member of the Association; friends and family are always welcome. If you or a friend is interested in participating, contact Tony Farinacci at alfarina@att.com.

October Luncheon and Elections

We'll continue the tradition of holding this event at Peerce's landing. The date is October 2, and details are still in the works.

November Shrimp Feast and Bull Roast

Mark your calendars to hold Saturday November 1 for this event. Other details to be provided in the next newsletter.

What Are They Doing Now?

MacCubbin Guitars, LLC

Dave MacCubbin has enjoyed working with wood for a long time. During his years as a software engineer, he built and refinished furniture for fun in his home shop. He even shaped and assembled a working clock entirely out of wood – gears and all – starting with ½” by 3” mahogany planks.

Dave worked at AAI from 1977 to 1990. His projects included the B-52 Weapon System Trainer development and upgrades, the EF-111A Operational Flight Trainer, and the A-6F/F-14D Weapon Systems Trainers. Ed Knudsen also worked at AAI during the time period. Ed’s and Dave’s careers crossed paths again when they worked at Smith Abbott and Company, and then Oxford Molecular Group.

The inspiration for that led to a career change for Dave occurred during a lunch time conversation with Ed in 2000. “We were discussing what we would like to do if we weren’t engineers,” Dave recalls. “I mentioned to Ed that I was into woodworking. Ed told me he was making a guitar, and I was intrigued.” Ed recommended a “how to” book by guitar maker Bill Cumpiano that he was using as his reference.

Dave quickly decided to make his own guitar, but spent about a year reading the Cumpiano book and acquiring additional woodworking tools before he got started on that project. He completed his first guitar in 2001. “It was an OM style guitar based on a Martin standard bracing pattern, with a Sitka spruce top and Indian rosewood back and sides. I found the back was too thick and didn’t resonate correctly.”

In April, 2003 Dave attended a two week hands-on individual training course given by Mr. Cumpiano at his shop in Massachusetts. Lessons learned there resulted in Dave’s

second guitar, also spruce on top, with a thinner Koa wood back. “It was much more responsive.” Dave continued his training under Ervin Somogyi in January, 2007, taking his master class in guitar top voicing at this shop in Oakland, CA. In December 2007, he gave up his software career, committing to full time guitar making. To date, he has built 40 custom hand-crafted guitars. “Each guitar requires about 150 hours. I can complete one every couple of months. Sometimes I build individual guitars, and sometimes I build in batches.”

In 2007, Dave and fellow craftsman, inlay artist Craig Lavin, teamed to create a set of 6 custom guitars in support of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Dave worked 80 hours per week making the guitars between October 2007 and May 2008. The inlaid images in the guitars’ necks and heads help raise awareness of Chesapeake Bay issues, and a large portion of the guitar sale price is donated to that foundation. The Chesapeake Series guitars are very high-end instruments made with exotic woods and custom inlays. Photos of all six guitars are on the company website: www.maccubbinguitars.com. That website also shows other MacCubbin guitar models and explains how to order a custom-made guitar.



Photo by Claire MacCubbin, Dave’s wife



Photo by Emily MacCubbin, Dave's daughter

The photo on the left shows the back of Ladies Night, one of the guitars in the Chesapeake Bay series. "The back is made from a matched pair of Peruvian walnut boards," Dave explains. The photo shows the high degree of symmetry resulting from this attention to detail.

The photo below on the left shows the guitar sides, also constructed on Peruvian walnut and the Sitka spruce top. The "ladies" in the guitar name turn out to be sooks (female Maryland blue crabs). At the very bottom of the neck is an inlaid image of a female crab (note the red pincers) searching for food above eel grass. The crab theme is continued in the design of the guitar's head shown in the photo below on the right.

Dave's company also produces the Sound Investment guitar line – high-quality and hand-crafted, but more affordable guitars, in the \$2500 price range. In his spare time, Dave works about 30 hours each week repairing guitars at Appalachian Bluegrass in Catonsville.



Photo by Tabitha Mudra



Photo by Tabitha Mudra

Congratulations to other lucky winners of Orioles tickets. Ray Belt and Lois Corts were picked at random from 10 Association members who entered their names in a drawing held May 12. Don Geiwitz and Helen Shouman were picked at random from the attendees at the May 18 dinner theater!

Remember When:



On May 2, Retiree Association member Lee Harris reported that the word “AAI” had been removed from the Textron Systems sign on Industry Lane in front of Building 112 (E building). Shown below are the old and new signs.

The old AAI website now forwards to a Textron Systems web page that explains that the old AAI operating units have adopted the Textron Systems “brand”. The name changes are as follows. These are still operating units of Textron Systems.

<u>Old Name</u>	<u>New Name</u>
AAI Unmanned Systems	Unmanned Systems
AAI Test and Training	Electronic Systems
AAI Logistics and Technical Services	Support Solutions



Old AAI Sign



Updated Sign on May 2, 2014

This change process began in early October 2007 when Textron Corporation purchased AAI’s parent company, UIC, for \$1.1B. Initially it was expected that AAI’s unmanned air systems product area would be absorbed by Textron’s Bell Helicopter company, with the other products taken by Textron Systems, but ultimately, all of AAI became a single operating unit of Textron Systems.

During the next 3 ½ years, AAI remained intact as it adopted Textron Systems processes [as it also managed its transition from the AAIMS to ARMS IT environment]. In early 2011, AAI was transformed from one to three operating units, creating AAI Unmanned Systems, AAI Test and Training, and AAI Logistics and Technical Services. The vice-presidents who led those operating units were no longer with AAI by the time “AAI” was removed from the operating unit names.

AAI News

New Multi-Fuel Engine Soars Past 10,000 Flight Hours Onboard the Aerosonde® SUAS



On April 07, AAI Unmanned Aircraft Systems [since renamed Textron Systems Unmanned Systems] and Lycoming Engines announced that Lycoming's new EL-005 multi-fuel engine has surpassed 10,000 deployed flight hours with the Aerosonde Small Unmanned Aircraft System (SUAS) in service of U.S. Department of Defense customers in Afghanistan.

"The Lycoming EL-005 has made Aerosonde the only SUAS in its class with a power plant designed and manufactured by a recognized industry leader in manned aircraft engines," said Colonel James Rector,

program manager for the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps Small Tactical Unmanned Air Systems Program Office. "This engine, along with Lycoming's quality processes for new production and remanufacture, have yielded significantly increased system reliability since the EL-005's introduction in service for our Navy Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Services program."

The Lycoming EL-005 is a single-cylinder, air-cooled, direct-injected, spark-ignited multi-fuel engine. The five cubic inch displacement engine features electronic controls and optimization to run jet fuel.

The Aerosonde SUAS continues to amass thousands of flight hours in theater each month in support of Department of Defense customers' long-endurance intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions. Since its initial deployment overseas, the Aerosonde SUAS has amassed more than 60,000 flight hours in some of the world's harshest environments.

"The Lycoming EL-005 engine has enhanced our system with benchmark-setting reliability levels in challenging flight conditions, including extreme heat and cold," says AAI Unmanned Aircraft Systems Vice President of Small/Medium Unmanned Aircraft Systems David Phillips. "Its durability has doubled the amount of time between engine overhauls, a distinct advantage considering the high operational tempo we are maintaining for our customers. Combined with our established multi-mission capability, encompassing electro-optical, signals intelligence and communications relay within a single aircraft, our Aerosonde system sets the standard for SUAS capability."

Textron Systems' Light Armaments Team to Develop Lightweight, Cased-Telescoped Small Arms for U.S. Army

On May 14, 2014, Textron Systems Unmanned Systems, through its Light Armaments team, announced a \$5.7 million contract from the Defense Ordnance Technology Consortium and the U.S. Army's Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center for continued development of lightweight, Cased-Telescoped (CT) weapons and ammunition.

Under this two-year award, the team will develop a CT carbine, as well as 7.62 millimeter (mm) CT ammunition and a machine gun operating mechanism. The CT ammunition utilizes a plastic casing to reduce weight significantly versus conventional ammunition while maintaining performance.

The Textron Systems Light Armaments team developed the flagship 5.56 mm CT Light Machine Gun under the Lightweight Small Arms Technologies (LSAT) program. The LSAT Light Machine Gun recently took part in the Army's Dismounted Non-Networked Experiment at Fort Benning, Ga., receiving positive user feedback. Providing up to a 40 percent, or 20-pound, weight reduction over current technology, the LSAT Light Machine Gun and 5.56 mm CT ammunition have been demonstrated at Technology Readiness Level 7, while improving both lethality and reliability.

Leveraging the success of this design, the team has created a family of lightweight, 5.56 mm CT weapons. This includes a compact Light Machine Gun with a quick-change, 12-inch barrel and folding buttstock, developed for close-quarters applications and tested in 2012 by the U.S. Army Special Operations Command, as well as the operating mechanism for a carbine variant. The team also has developed an innovative caseless ammunition design, demonstrated to provide even greater weight reduction versus current technology. The Textron Systems Light Armaments team intends to leverage the demonstrated success of prior designs to extend CT weapon and ammunition technologies to additional calibers and weapon configurations on the new program.



Textron Systems Unmanned Systems Delivers 4,500 Monthly Mission Hours, Additional FFS Operational Site Under New Navy ISR Services Task Order

Aerosonde® SUAS Performs Multi-Mission Role for U.S. DoD Customers

On May 19, Textron Systems Unmanned Systems, announced a new task order under the U.S. Navy Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) Services program that is expected to reach full operational capability by the end of May. Award of this new task order is in addition to extension of existing task orders, bringing the total monthly mission hours provided under the contract to 4,500 across all international sites.

Under the ISR Services program, Textron Systems Unmanned Systems provides end-to-end, turnkey mission support with its Aerosonde Small Unmanned Aircraft System (SUAS) — delivered by the company's own operators and supported by its field service specialists.

The company is maintaining operational readiness rates over 98 percent for its Navy ISR Services customers, delivering multi-mission flexibility with the Aerosonde SUAS, which is equipped for simultaneous electro-optical, infrared and communications relay within a single aircraft. The system is designed for expeditionary operations under the most austere conditions. The recent addition of the new EL-005 engine designed and manufactured by manned aviation engine expert Lycoming Engines has improved both reliability and performance.

Happy Birthday to Claud Asbury who turns 91 on July 16 ! Those of us who worked in building 100 in the 1990s will remember Claud as the security guard who greeted us warmth and blessings each morning.

In Memoriam

Elmer (Porky) Grove passed away on May 1. Ray Stinchcomb, Sr. passed on June 9.

Retiree Association Officers:

President: Bob Jones, 410-771-4681, bobjones@MRIS.com
Vice President: Don Geiwitz, 443-491-3681, dderduck@aol.com
Secretary: Debbie Thomson, 410-574-2385, debbiethomson@comcast.net
Treasurer: Lee Harris, 443-504-4583, hrr2010@aol.com
Asst. Treasurer: Dick Weger, 410-667-6295, jr.weger@ieee.org
Directors: Neil Bates, 410-529-1763, neilbates@aol.com
Nelson Friend, 410-692-6616
Joe Auer, 410-747-6681, jdauer@verizon.net

Golf Coordinator: Tony Farinacci, 410-592-9138, alfarina@att.net
Condolence Cards: Ruby Willson, 443-330-5009, wrwillson@aol.com). Ruby sends cards on behalf of the Association. If the need arises, please feel free to contact her.

RSVP Form
July 23, 2014 Dinner
5:30 PM, Carlos's Italian Bistro

I/we will be attending this event.

Name of association member(s) attending

Name of non-member(s) attending

Dinner includes salad, entrée, dessert, and beverage

Entrée (choose one per person):

Eggplant Parmigiana _____ (\$25 members, \$27 non-members)

Grilled Chicken Parmigiana _____ (\$25 members, \$27 non-members)

Lasagna _____ (\$25 members, \$27 non-members)

Shrimp Scampi _____ (\$27 members, \$29 non-members)

Total check amount _____

E-mail Address _____

Please mail your check made payable to the Retirees Association of AAI Corporation to

Retirees Association of AAI Corporation
2905 Fallston Road
Fallston, MD 21047

Checks must be received by July 16, 2014. Please contact Lee (443-504-4583, hrr2010@aol.com) with any questions.