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# GARA News

Volume 38, Issue 1

January 2024

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## From the President

Junaid Razvi



Dear Friends & Colleagues –

We start off another GARA year by sending everyone our wishes for a Healthy, Safe and Prosperous 2024! I trust all of you have gotten the year off to a good start.

First and foremost a sincere vote of thanks to all my colleagues on 2023's all-volunteer GARA board: **Jim Zgliczynski** (Vice Chair), **Nancy Hitchcox** (Social Chair), **Pat Simmons** (Secretary), **Niles Johanson** (Treasurer), **Liz Drees** (Membership Chair), **Meera Venkatesh** (Newsletter Editor), **Tom Tasker** (Webmaster), and members at large **Carmelo Rodriguez**, **Karen Schultz**, **Venky Venkatesh** and **Al Zimmer**.

We were successful in being able to continue our usual in-person speaker luncheons culminating with a successful Holiday Luncheon and Annual Meeting at the beautiful SD Yacht Club. Your GARA Board continued quarterly in-person meetings to plan and conduct the business of the organization.

While many of us are continuing to support GARA by staying on the board in the same or different capacities, we are excited to have new GA retirees now serving on the board. **Venky (Mandyam) Venkatesh** moving from his at-large board position to take over Vice-Chair, **Bev Lloyd** joining the Board as our new Treasurer, **Karen Schultz** moving over from her at-large position and taking over as Membership Chair, and **Hedy Kleinsorge** joining the Board as our Social Events Chair and Coordinator (Hedy stepped up and got a head start by filling in for Nancy Hitchcox at our SD Yacht Club event).

Welcome and thank you all for stepping up to keep GARA going. Looking forward to your support and the fresh ideas you will all no doubt bring. Please check out our board profiles at [GARA Board Members](#).

### GA Retirees Association, Inc.

[www.generalatomicretirees.org](http://www.generalatomicretirees.org)

Email: [contact@GeneralAtomsRetirees.org](mailto:contact@GeneralAtomsRetirees.org)

### GARA Board of Directors 2024

[Contact@GeneralAtomsRetirees.org](mailto:Contact@GeneralAtomsRetirees.org)

**President: Junaid Razvi**

619 646 2140

**Vice President: Mandyam Venkatesh**

858 283 9610

**Treasurer: Beverly Lloyd**

619 977-3092

**Secretary: Pat Simmons**

858 748 4569

**Membership Chair: Karen Schultz**

619 219 1884

**Social Chair: Hedy Kleinsorge**

619 417 4339

**Newsletter Editor: Meera Venkatesh**

858 283 9612

**Webmaster: Tom Tasker**

858 369 0671

### Members at Large:

Al Zimmer Carmelo Rodriguez

760 436 2342 619 475 0153

Nancy Hitchcox Niles Johanson

858 335-4839 858 752 4327

Jim Zgliczynski

619 237 9812

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### *March 20, 2024 Luncheon*

*See attached notice!*

*Continued "From the President" article in page 1*

Barring any unforeseen events, we plan to continue our routine of in-person luncheons with individuals invited to speak on current events, our city and of course General Atomics happenings.

Please do not hesitate to contact us via our new [website](#). I look forward to seeing many more of you at our Spring luncheon meeting.

#### **December 6, 2023 Luncheon – Emily Davis on San Diego Homelessness**

The GARA December luncheon was held at the San Diego Yacht Club (thanks to Frank Warner!). After enjoying cocktails and meet-and-greet on the dock/porch area we had a delicious lunch (and the famous Yacht Club garlic bread). We accomplished our annual GARA board member elections (see new board officers listed earlier) and approval of our proposed 2024 budget. This was topped off by guest speaker Emily Davis from Father Joe's Villages in San Diego. Emily reviewed the history of Father Joe's Villages, established in 1950 to serve San Diegans experiencing homelessness and poverty. Father Joe's Villages (named after the famous local icon/priest Father Joe Carroll) mission is to prevent and end homelessness, one life at a time. We heard about the status of addressing the homeless crisis in San Diego and what we might be able to do as citizens of San Diego. Emily summarized the extensive facilities and services provided to the homeless by the Father Joe's Villages.



Emily Davis, Guest Speaker

Father Joes helps over 20,000 homeless individuals and families every year – providing food, cleanliness, medical and dental care, counseling and job transition training to get people off the street and into jobs and housing – not an easy task. GARA members can help by donating cash, cloths and personal items up to including tax deductible donations of cars and boats (several GARA members have already done that.)



Roger Schlicht, Tom Tasker, Carmelo Rodriguez



Roma and Ken Dawson



Robert and Susan Holko



Anne & Lindsey Bierer, Bev Lloyd



Niles Johnanson ,Meera and Venky Venkatesh,  
Chris Ashton



Jim and Susan Zgliczynski



Niles Johanson, xxx , John Neil



Hedy Kleinsorge, Carol Riley and Bev Lloyd



Karen Schultz, Cynthia and Virgil Barbat, Frtiz  
Dahm



A.C and Dorothy Wood, Vasanthi Shenoy



Anjum Razvi and Arkal Shenoy



Jim Zgliczynski, Liz Drees, Emily Davis, Venky  
Venkatesh





Kathy and John Murray, Phillip Newman

### **Next GARA Luncheon March 20, 2024 at Elijah's Restaurant and Delicatessen in Kearney Mesa.**

Our next guest speaker Stephen R. Brown an Attorney by profession, recipient of the Eleanor Roosevelt Human Rights Award from United Nations Association of San Diego and a Rotarian, will talk about the projects he was involved in Afghanistan and the ongoing programs. Steve was successful in working with local Afghans to establish a Rotary Club in Jalalabad and create a Sister Cities relationship between San Diego and Jalalabad. Additional experiences of Steve and Fary in Jalalabad include building schools, establishing internet connected computer labs for boys and girls in public high schools, working with a local university to facilitate English language training and assisting with Rotary's polio eradication efforts through a meeting with a Taliban leader and a separate meeting with Afghan President Karzai.

Also please bring your checkbook to pay your 2024 GARA dues (\$15, increasing to \$30 on April 1) if you have not paid already – thank you.

### **San Onofre Tour – April 17, 2024 9:00AM – 12:00**

Back by popular demand – Tour of the San Onofre Power Station site in San Clemente followed by lunch, has been arranged by American Nuclear Society (ANS) for members. There is no cost to attend, but you must register

by the deadline date for registration which is April 4, 2024.

Please RSVP to: Ron Petzoldt at [ronpetzoldt1@gmail.com](mailto:ronpetzoldt1@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining the tour.

### **GA HAPPENINGS**

**The following are synopses of recent GA press releases. The complete releases can be found at [Press Releases | General Atomics](#) or by clicking on the individual titles below.**

#### **[General Atomics Scientist Honored for Career Achievements in Fusion Energy](#)**

##### ***Dr. Tony Taylor receives 2023 FPA Distinguished Career Award***

Fusion Power Associates (FPA) has awarded one of its 2023 Distinguished Career Awards to General Atomics (GA) fusion scientist Dr. Tony Taylor for his contributions in advancing international fusion energy research. The FPA Distinguished Career Awards are given annually to individuals who have made distinguished, lifelong career contributions to fusion development.

Dr. Taylor spent his entire career at GA. He came to the company in the early 1980s as a senior scientist on the Doublet III program, attracted by the innovation and strong team culture in fusion.

Dr. Taylor led the DIII-D Stability and Physics Operations Group, which was responsible for the successful rapid startup of DIII-D and the achievement of strong shaping, high-performance results. He and the team received the American Physical Society (APS) Excellence in Plasma Physics Research Award for this achievement in 1994, and Dr. Taylor was named an APS fellow that same year. He was pivotal in developing the DIII-D Advanced Tokamak program and was responsible for initiating the modeling and experimental evaluation of several high-performance regimes.

Over his more than 40 years in fusion energy research, he served as GA's Director of Experimental Science, Deputy Director and later Director of DIII-D, and Vice President of Magnetic Fusion Energy. He currently holds the position of Senior Fellow.

Dr. Taylor is a recognized leader in international collaboration and was deeply involved in a wide range of international scientific partnerships in fusion. These included, most notably, the ITER experiment under construction in France, as well as initiatives that had GA and DIII-D scientists working alongside fusion experts from Japan, China, Korea, the UK, and the EU. He also worked as a visiting scientist at the JET (UK) and JT-60U (Japan) tokamaks. These efforts led to a long list of significant achievements in understanding the science of fusion. “I owe much of my success to the strong support, mentorship, and leadership of the Fusion Division and Energy Group, and most importantly the outstanding scientific contributions and commitment of the scientists and engineers of the DIII-D and Fusion Division,” Dr. Taylor said.

He is also recognized for being instrumental in increasing national and international collaborations that enabled many important contributions to the final design of ITER, as well as the development of strong tokamak fusion programs in Japan, Korea and China.”

The award was presented at the FPA 44th Annual Meeting in Washington, DC December 19-20.

### **Government of Canada Orders the MQ-9B SkyGuardian RPAS from GA-ASI**

The Government of Canada has signed a contract to purchase a fleet of MQ-9B SkyGuardian® Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) from General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc. (GA-ASI). The order includes the associated Certified Ground Control Stations and support equipment from GA-ASI. The first delivery is expected in 2028.



The SkyGuardian RPAS is interoperable with Canada’s domestic missions and its continental defence missions through NORAD, as well as with Canada’s closest allies – including the Five Eyes Alliance (FVEY) and NATO – for seamless integration with current and future Canadian defence, civil air, and ground assets.

“Canada’s vast territory and complex terrains, including in the Arctic, require a cost-effective multi-mission RPAS solution that can endure long periods on station, fly in harsh weather

environments, and safely operate in all airspaces,” said Linden Blue, CEO of GA-ASI. “MQ-9B SkyGuardian delivers those critical capabilities. GA-ASI and Team SkyGuardian Canada are honored by this opportunity to become a key partner to Canada for the very long term in delivering these no-fail defence and security outcomes.”

[Team SkyGuardian Canada](#) is a coalition of leading Canadian businesses – including CAE, MDA Ltd., and L3Harris Technologies – that are working with GA-ASI on MQ-9B development, delivery, and sustainment. Canada’s investments in the RPAS Project and Team SkyGuardian Canada are a direct reflection of Canada’s vested domestic interest in pursuing leading-edge RPAS technologies.

### **General Atomics Awarded Contract from, Bay West, LLC for PFAS Destruction Demonstrations**

General Atomics Electromagnetic Systems (GA-EMS) announced today that it has been awarded a contract by Bay West, LLC, an environmental remediation and industrial solutions firm, to destroy per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in multiple demonstration projects using GA-EMS’ industrial Supercritical Water Oxidation (iSCWO) system. PFAS destruction will be conducted at GA-EMS’ dedicated testing facility in San Diego using a full-scale iSCWO system. GA-EMS will deliver, install, and operate a transportable iSCWO system in the first quarter of 2024 to conduct on-site demonstrations of PFAS destruction at a yet to be identified government facility.

“We continue to expand our testing program to support waste management and remediation companies like Bay West as they begin navigating state and federal guidance to eliminate PFAS from a myriad of waste streams,” said Scott Forney,



president of GA-EMS. “Testing and results analysis is the first step to document the proven 99.99% and greater destruction effectiveness of our iSCWO system to eliminate PFAS and other organic waste. We look forward to working with Bay West and ERDC as they gain a better understanding of GA-EMS’ iSCWO system’s capabilities, use, and effectiveness to support future remediation projects.”

*In Memoria*



**Betty Ann Haboush**, 87, passed away on December 31. Born on March 2, 1936 in Minnesota, the daughter of Gretchen Fastenau DeWall and Otto DeWall.

Betty married Ken Krantz in 1955 at the age of 19. They were a farming family. He passed away unexpectedly. They had three children Gary, Jill and Brent.

In 1981 Betty met and married Alfred Haboush. He was a project manager for a large engineering construction company. The remainder of his career he spent in the Middle East and Asia. Betty enjoyed seeing the world.

Everywhere she went everyone loved Betty. Surviving in addition to her husband are her children Gary Krantz, Jill Viggiano and Brent Krantz.



**Mary Lee Saurwein**

August 30, 1950 – November 28, 2023

Mary Lee Saurwein, beloved wife of long time GA scientist John Saurwein, passed away at her home following a long bout with Alzheimer’s disease ,on November 28, 2023 at age 73.

Mary and John married in March, 1978 and she has called San Diego home since 1976, relocating from her native New Jersey at the time and met John.

Mary is survived by her husband of 45 years, John Saurwein, her sons Jeffrey and Brian; her sister Susan Regina and her sister-in-law, Beth Saurwein of San Diego.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to Alzheimer’s San Diego, the San Diego Humane Society, and/or the Helen Woodward Animal Center.

**Don W Jones 88**

Our long time friend and colleague passed on February 8, 2024. Don worked for the GA Structural Mechanics Branch in the early 1970’s. He was very involved in performing Seismic qualifications of all the Fort St. Vrain (FSV) HTGR equipment and structures in Platteville, Colorado. There will be no funeral and/or memorial service for Don since he will be cremated according to his wife Alberta.

## GARA Luncheon March 20, 2024

Join us Wednesday March 20 for our first meet and luncheon of 2024 at Elijah's Restaurant, Delicatessen and Catering. The cost will be \$40 for members and their spouse or guest. Non-members and additional guests are \$45.

**Guest Speaker:** Stephen R Brown,  
**Title of Presentation:** Projects and Programs in Afghanistan

March 20, 2024, 11:30 Meet and Greet, 12:00 Lunch, followed by speaker.

### Elijah's Restaurant, Delicatessen and Catering



7061 Clairemont Mesa Blvd,  
San Diego, CA 92111

Please send in the following reservation form by March 8th.

Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Salmon Fillet \_\_\_\_ Roasted Chicken \_\_\_\_ Beef Brisket \_\_\_\_  
Vegetarian \_\_\_\_

Spouse/Guest: \_\_\_\_\_ Salmon Fillet \_\_\_\_ Roasted Chicken \_\_\_\_ Beef Brisket \_\_\_\_  
Vegetarian \_\_\_\_

Please mail your luncheon selection to Hedy Kleinsorge (address below)

Payment can be made as follows:

1. Payment via Zelle® bank-to-bank transfer using the following e-mail:  
[Treasurer@GeneralAtomsRetirees.org](mailto:Treasurer@GeneralAtomsRetirees.org)

OR

2. Check Payable to: GA Retirees Association and mail to:  
Hedy Kleinsorge, Social Chair, 8237 Via Mallorca, La Jolla, Ca 92037

**RESERVATION DEADLINE MARCH 8, 2024**

