
GARA News

Volume 36, Issue 3

August 2022

From the President

Junaid Razvi



Dear Friends, Colleagues –

I trust all of you are staying in good health and continuing to staying safe with the emergence of yet another variant of Covid that has seen many folks testing positive, albeit with milder symptoms. On a personal note, I contracted Covid in serious way back in January and have been dealing with long-Covid symptoms since then, but now seeing the light at the end of the tunnel and weaning myself off medications, for which I am thankful, and at the same time staying vigilant so as not to have a relapse with new variants. We have been successful in relaunching our regular GARA luncheon/speaker activities in 2022 with our winter and summer luncheons. Thank you to all who took the time to join and support our efforts, meet up with old friends and make new friends. A well-deserved thank you of course to Nancy Hitchcox, Jim Z, and other officers of the Board for their work to organize these events.

Please join us for our Fall luncheon on September 14, 2022, with a speaker talking to us about senior housing planning and options for our area, a topic all of us at some time need to at least think about. Details of this event are in this newsletter.

Our Holiday/Winter Luncheon, will be held at the San Diego Yacht Club on 07 December 2022. The winter meeting will also be our Annual Members Meeting where we elect new Board Members and Officers. The costs of securing a prominent venue have significantly increased, but the Board is looking at finding ways to reduce your costs to attend. We are also finalizing

details to get an exciting speaker for this event, so please watch this space and our website for details. The GARA Board is now operating at full strength this year. Keep in mind that we are an all-volunteer board comprised of our former GA colleagues choosing to give their time and efforts to keep the GA retiree community connected to GA, the community and each other. Our membership roster is slowly but surely growing, we encourage everyone to keep their dues up-to-date, and encourage others you know who

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GA Retirees Association, Inc.

www.garetirees.org

Please use the following address to contact any board member: www.garetiresassoc@gmail.com

President: Junaid Razvi

619 646 2140

Vice President: Jim Zgliczynski

619 237 9812

Treasurer: Niles Johanson

858 752 4327

Secretary: Pat Simmons

858 748 4569

Membership Chair: Liz Drees

858 945 2942

Social Chair: Nancy Hitchcox

858 335 4839

Newsletter Editor: Maria Koploy

619 740 1153

Members at Large:

Tom Tasker

858 369 0671

Al Zimmer

619 475 0153

Carmelo Rodriguez

760 436 2342

Meera Venkatesh

858 283 9612

Website: Tom Tasker

858 369 0671

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **September 14th In person luncheon meeting.**
See attached notice!
- **December 7th Holiday Winter Luncheon**

Continued "From the President" article on page 1.

have had an affiliation with GA, past or present, to join. Our membership fee continues to be a nominal \$15/year, so not a hit to your budgets. We continue to look for new blood for our Board, whether you are still working, recently retired, or have been retired for many years. Please consider volunteering for the Board for CY2023. I look forward to seeing you all at our future GARA events.

New Board Member

Meera Venkatesh our new Member at Large has provided us with a few words about what she is doing so all members can refresh their memory

Meera Venkatesh, Member at Large



I retired recently in March 2022 after 18 years at GA managing the Intelligent Automation and Analytics

(IA&A) and recently the Capacitor Product Line at EMS. I graduated with a Bachelors in Physics from Bangalore University, India and a Masters in Computer Science from Loyola Marymount in Los Angeles. I worked for 23 years at Fujitsu before joining GA. I am enjoying retirement providing me the time to focus on my hobbies – Indian vocal music, crochet/knitting and have started volunteering for some great do it yourself (DIY) health (a passion of mine) support groups. I am also trying my hand at gardening. My husband Venky (Mandyam) also retired from GA after 46 years in Mar 2022. We love to travel and have traveled extensively around the world over the years and are looking forward to resume our trips.

I am a Member At Large of the GARA Board and am very happy to be able to reconnect with the great GA family and friends of many years.

June Luncheon was a Success

Thirty-two people attended the June 8 luncheon. Everyone enjoyed getting together. Following are a few pictures of the event. Travis Schrameck, PhD from UCSD was the speaker.



Nick Platis, and Patricia Spire



Katherine Partain and Junaid Razvi



Phil Newman and Peter Gantzel



Fritz Dahms and Johnny Bauer



Lynn Johnson and Betty Haboush



Tom Tasker, Carmelo Rodriguez and Bruce Trumbo



Niles Johanson and Dave Hanson



Susan Zgliczynski and Al Zimmer



Dale Busch and Frank Warner



Travis Schramek and Jim Zglicznski



Quinette Begg



Nancy Hitchcox



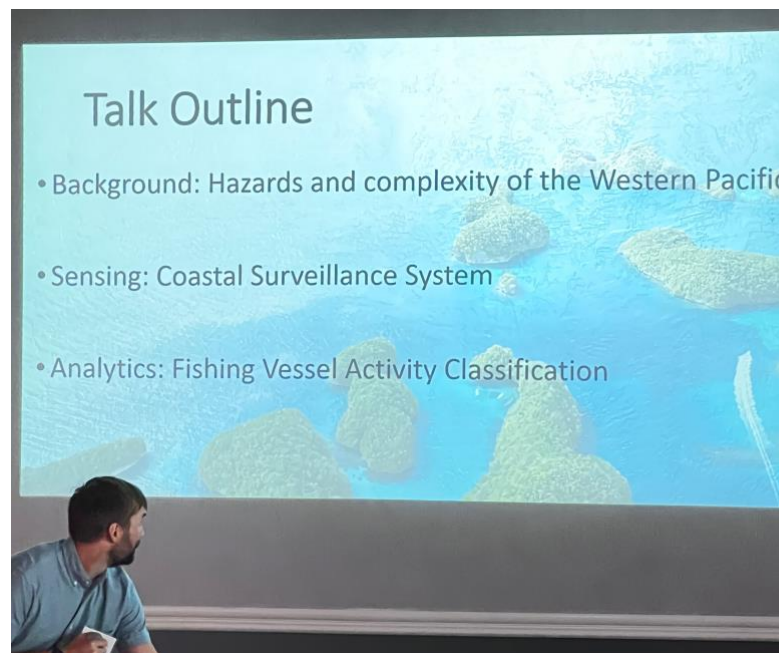
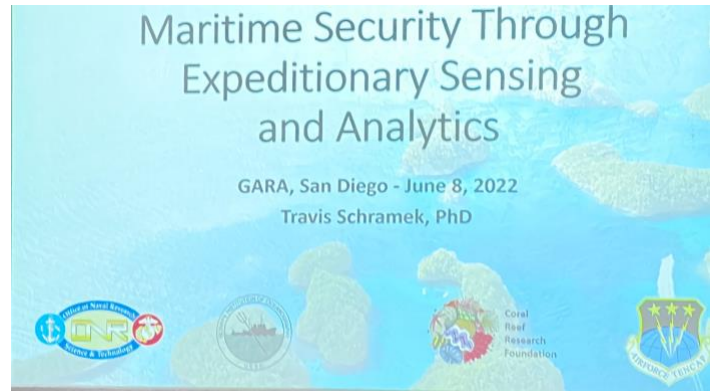
Ernestine Bass, Jack Bass, Harlan Horner, Liz Drees and Jean Moss

June 8 Luncheon Speaker Dr. Travis Schramek

The speaker for the June 8 GARA luncheon was Travis Schramek, PhD, a scientist from the USCD Scripps Institute of Oceanography (SIO). His presentation was titled Maritime Security Through Expeditionary Sensing and Analytics. This multiyear project, funded by a wide spectrum of government agencies, is to develop and install autonomous monitoring systems throughout the vast western pacific, many times on remote islands. These installations monitor weather, ocean conditions, and fishing activity that would not be possible with limited marine resources such as local coast guards. Travis presented the installations on the Palau archipelago (a US Protectorate) where he has spent 10 years of effort. The collected data is available for long term analysis.



Travis Schramek, PhD



In Memoria

GARA is deeply saddened to announce the passing of the following colleagues:

Daniel Vrable

March 13, 1947 – December 15, 2021



Daniel Vrable, age 74, passed away on December 15, 2021. Dan was born in Michigan where he attended Michigan Technological University, followed by the University of Michigan, completing a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering. Upon graduation in 1974, enticed by the collegial atmosphere of General Atomics and the sunny skies of La Jolla, Dan and his wife Terry moved to San Diego where they built a home in rural Del Mar, neighbors to fellow GA employees. Although Dan left General Atomics in 1981, eventually forming his own small engineering consulting company (Thermal Management & Materials Technology), GA had played an important role in his life. Above all, he valued the enduring friendships made there.

A full obituary is available online at:

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/san-diego-ca/daniel-vrable-10490616>

Jacqueline (Jackie) Narvaez



Jackie Narvaez passed away peacefully on 24 June 2022, from complications with stage 4 pancreatic cancer that had also spread to her liver. She was 86. Jackie was hired by GA as a Registered Nurse in 1962, and was an integral part of the company's Medical Department for the next 27 years until her retirement in December 1989. Jackie met and married fellow employee Jim Narvaez in 1971, and they had been married for 51 years until her passing. They had recently relocated from Ramona where they had lived since, to Valley Springs, CA to be near family. She is survived by Jim, their daughter, two granddaughters and three great-grandchildren.

Burial services are planned for October 17, 2022 at 1030 am at Miramar National Cemetery in San Diego.

GARA Luncheons September 14

Join us Wednesday September 14, 2022 at the Heights (formerly Bernardo Heights) Country Club for our September luncheon.

Our speaker will be Ron Greenwald, Real Estate Agent – Compass and the topic will be an overview: “Senior Living Options.”

Ron has been networking in San Diego County for thirty-plus years, connecting the dots bringing great people and good ideas together that result in a winning proposition for all involved is his daily objective. He is an expert in senior housing planning options and will speak to GARA on "Senior Living Options". Ron is the co-host of the TV show "Senior Stay or Go™". Ron has spoken to the UCSD Retirees Group.



11:30 Meet & Greet, 12:00 Lunch, followed by speaker.
The Heights Country Club
16066 Bernardo Heights Parkway, San Diego, Ca 92128

Please send in the following reservation form to be received by September 5. Reservations must be prepaid. Late reservations may not be accommodated.

Meal:

- Corn Chowder, plus choice of:
1. Caprese Chicken Sandwich
 2. Asian Salad with Salmon
 3. Vegetarian Pasta

Member:	_____	1	_____	2	_____	3	_____	\$35.00
One Guest:	_____	1	_____	2	_____	3	_____	\$35.00
Additional Guest:	_____	1	_____	2	_____	3	_____	\$40.00

Send this form and check made out to GA Retirees Association to:
Nancy Hitchcox
12302 Old Stone Road
Poway, CA 92064

Email: Nanch.Hitchcox@Gmail.com
Phone: 858 335 4839

RESERVATION DEADLINE TO BE RECEIVED BY SEPTEMBER 5

