

NAVMARCORMARS - Central Area

The TRIAD

Pride - Tradition - Service

*This is all about you
and for you!*



May 2011

We Are Here To Serve - Service Is Our Reward

Volume VII, Issue 2



This postage stamp honoring Bill Mauldin came out in October 2010. He died at the age of 81 on January 22, 2003. He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

God and the soldier we adore,
In time of war and not before;
When the shooting's over,
And all things righted,
God forgotten, and
The soldier slighted.



"I calls her Florence Nightingale."



Bill Mauldin's Willie and Joe cartoons helped so much to keep alive our nation's respect for the sacrifices our military members made during World War II. It is a great mistake to forget our past and what it has cost our nation to maintain our freedom. Freedom is not free. It is very costly, but it is worth the cost to remain free. It is well for us to hold in honored memory those who have given the "last full measure of devotion" in the service of our country. Nor should we neglect our living veterans who have given their very best, some of whom are aged and are doing battle against health problems. Let us make contact with them and express our deep appreciation for their service that has helped so much to keep our nation free. Let's not neglect them.

Members

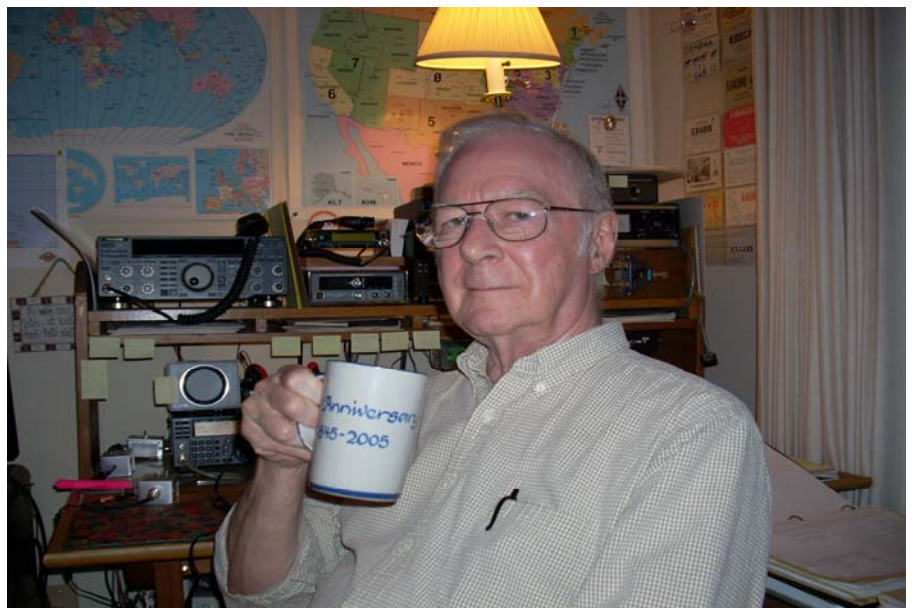
With Distinguished Service to NAVMARCORMARS



With well over thirty-five years of service to NAVMARCORMARS, Curtis, NNN0PSX GA has given his very best in leadership roles and as a fountain of wisdom all this time. On several occasions he was asked to serve as Director for the old Region Two during a transition period, at one time serving in that capacity for nine months, and, he served as Director in our current Region Four. For a great many years he maintained a mail box to receive incoming and outgoing traffic during the DOS and MDS periods. His unselfish devotion to the needs of our MARS service has been outstanding in all respects, and we deeply appreciate Curtis and the service he has given us.

We Appreciate You!

There were times when reading his critique of our ECOM exercises he would come across as an XO critiquing his Department Heads. As a matter of fact, Jim served as XO during his Navy career while serving on two submarines and on the destroyer USS BRADFORD DD 545. To be an XO you had to be an outstanding officer with years of experience, G Two which, in military parlance means intelligence, and the distillate of knowledge and experience which is wisdom. Jim, NNN0SYH AL had what it takes to be an XO. In fulfilling his assignments in NAVMARCORMARS Jim brought to bear his determination to motivate us to give the very best of which we are capable in our own service to MARS. His outstanding motivational leadership is very much appreciated.





Neil Lauritsen gets his Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award for volunteer service from County Commissioner Susan Latvala

Local ham radio operator and Pinellas County volunteer **Neil Lauritsen** received a **Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award** for his many hours of volunteer service to Pinellas County. The award plaque was presented by 2011 Commission Chairwoman Susan Latvala on April 12 in the Pinellas County Council chambers.

Since 1993, Lauritsen has volunteered more than 4,000 hours with Pinellas County. A longtime Clearwater resident, he was a volunteer firefighter and rescue squad member for 10 years before becoming a paid firefighter, paramedic and instructor for an additional decade.

His interest in amateur radio began in 1956 on an old Philco radio.

Amateur radio, and radio in general, got its start at the beginning of the 20th century. Federal licensing became a requirement after Congress passed the Radio Act of 1912. Over the years, "ham" radios have been used for private recreation, noncommercial exchanges of information, experimentation, and emergency communication.

Lauritsen was first licensed in 1979 as KA3DBK and later changed to a vanity call W4HNL.

He has been involved with Pinellas County Auxiliary Communications Service and Amateur Radio Emergency Service for 18 years and now serves as the ACS radio officer and the ARES emergency coordinator.

He is active in the Clearwater Amateur Radio Society, the St. Petersburg Amateur Radio Club and the Glorious Society of the Wormhole, where he is also the webmaster.

A Navy veteran, he has been an 11-year active member of Navy-Marine Corps Military Auxiliary Radio Service, holding the call sign NNN0TFH, and is the assistant to the Florida state director as NNN0GALONE.

 Permission to re-print this story from the **St. Petersburg Times** (Fla) edition of Thursday, April 28, 2011, in this edition of the TRIAD, was granted by Suzanne Palmer, News Administration Manager of the **Times**. We are most thankful for permission to share this great story with all our NAVMARCORPMARS members throughout the Central Area.

Central Area Conference

18 June 2011

Paducah, KY

Drury Inn, I-24 & HWY 60

Contact: Ms Sally Alvey, 270-443-3313

MARS contact: NNN0BDW/NNN0GAT

P. O. Box 7032, Paducah, KY 42002

**Be sure to say you are there to attend the
“NAVY MARS CENTRAL AREA CONFERENCE”**

Skype was mentioned in the previous issue of the TRIAD as a process whereby two or more persons can take part in a video teleconference using a program that is free to download onto your computer. Go to the internet and write in skype.com. When their screen comes up, scroll down to How to make video calls. It will ask for Skype Name and for a Password. When you've done that, follow the directions. If you have trouble entering your Skype Name and your Password, you'll be asked to type in your e-mail address and a temporary password will be sent to you. Once you have that taken care of, you'll be given further directions. You will need a video camera which can be bought at Wal-Mart for a

nominal fee, and a mike. Some cameras come with a mike, but you may opt for a set of headphones with with built in mike. You can purchase reasonably priced video cameras and mikes for use with skype. The quality you want is up to you. It may very well be possible for there to be a skype set-up at the Central Area Conference in Paducah for those interested to check in and participate in the conference by being able to see and hear what goes on from your home. As indicated above the conference is on 18 June so you have plenty of time to make preparations. New ventures sometimes present glitches that throw us off somewhat. Hopefully that will not happen this year. Give it some serious consideration.

Many thanks to all of you who have contributed articles and material for use in this issue of the TRIAD!

The Central Area Newsletter, **The TRIAD**, is published for the enjoyment and edification of Navy-Marine Corps MARS members. The contents **do not** reflect official Navy positions. EDITOR: Ben NNN0JQC/NNN0ASG EIGHT. 3301 Shannon Rd, Albany, GA 31721-1541. E-Mail: ka4rhh@bellsouth.net. Central Area Director: Dave NNN0ASG MI. Deputy Director Central Area: Steve NNN0ASG ONE IL. Director Region Four: Jack NNN0AS4 GA. Director Region Five: Tim NNN0AS5 MN. **This is your Newsletter. Your input is wanted!**

What Did You Do All Day Today?

A man came home from work and found his three children outside, still in their pyjamas, playing in the mud, with empty food boxes and 20 wrappers strewn all around the front yard. The door of his wife's car was open, and so too the front door to the house and there was no sign of the dog.

Proceeding into the entry, he found an even bigger mess. A lamp had been knocked over, and the throw rug was wadded against one wall.

In the front room the TV was loudly blaring a cartoon channel, and the family room was strewn with toys and various items of clothing.

In the kitchen, dishes filled the sink, breakfast food was spilled on the counter, the fridge door was open wide, dog food was spilled on the floor a broken glass lay under the table, and a small pile of sand was spread by the back door.

He quickly headed up the stairs, stepping over toys and more piles of clothes, looking for his wife.. He was worried she might be ill, or that something serious had happened. He was met with a small trickle of water as it made its way out under the bathroom door.

As he peered inside he found wet towels, scummy soap and more toys strewn over the floor. Miles of toilet paper lay in a heap and toothpaste had been smeared over the mirror and walls.

As he rushed to the bedroom, he found his wife still curled up in the bed in her pyjamas, reading a novel.

She looked up at him, smiled, and asked how his day was. He looked at her bewildered and asked, 'What happened here today?'

She again smiled and answered, 'You know every day when you come home from work and you ask me what in the world do I do all day?' 'Yes,' was his incredulous reply.

She answered, 'Well, today I didn't do it.'

Two of my high school classmates sent me this story and though you may already have seen and read it, in case you haven't I thought it would be good to share it with you --- and there are several reasons for wanting to do so. First, if the lady of the house gets to read it she will surely get a kick out of it and appreciate it.

Too, it is well for a husband to get a good idea of how much his wife does to make their house a home. A house doesn't clean itself, nor does it pick up nor does it make each room a neat place where one can find solace and comfort. The wife, the mother make the house a home and a haven of rest.

In the third place it may well be that a lot of our MARS members simply do not realize just how much time staff members spend seeing that their assigned tasks get done in a timely, efficient manner. Several years ago one Region staff member told me he spent an average of four hours a day many days doing, taking care of, seeing to the work his staff job demanded. I wanted to know because he was doing an outstanding job and his response to my query amazed me. I had no idea the demands of his assigned work as a staff members were so great. It is well for all of us to know just how dedicated, how committed, how dependable and how efficient our MARS staff members are.

That being said, it is time now to give **special thanks** for the great contribution **all our members** give to Navy-Marine Corps MARS, staff as well as each regular member who support the program with their attendance and active participation on our nets, and for the support you give to our ECOM exercises, a critical part of our commitment to Navy-Marine Corps MARS. Without the contribution you give of your time, your expertise and the willingness of your family members to support what you mean to MARS, we could not fulfill our mission of providing auxiliary communications on a local, national or international basis as an adjunct to normal naval communications. Thank you each one for being such an important integral part of Navy-Marine Corps MARS. Our sincere thanks to each one of your family members who allow you this wonderful opportunity to be of service to our nation.

Illinois

Anthony, NNN0SCV

In the fall of 1930, on Monday, October 20, Anthony (Tony) De Pasqua was born in Chicago. Today this 81 year old former Illinois State Director is now enjoying the honor of being an ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP member bestowed upon him earlier this month.

Tony has been a dedicated member of Navy-Marine Corps MARS. He has served Illinois as NNN0GAP THREE and NNN0GAP FOUR. He has re-written the Illinois ECOM Plan. Tony had not been a MARS member very long when the State Director resigned. In view of his diligence and dependability he was asked to be the next Illinois State Director. After some hesitation he accepted. After his tenure as State Director he was asked to be NNN0GAP ONE. He agreed and has been serving in that capacity for the past two State Directors.

Tony's work ethic began early in his young life. From the time he was 13 years old until he finished high school he worked for the Chicago Tribune as an Office Boy, File Clerk, and later at the Tribune Public Service Office, after school and on Saturdays.

During his high school years he learned the American Morse Code from a relative who was a Telegrapher-Towerman for the B&O (Baltimore & Ohio) Railroad. Upon graduating from high school he applied to the B&O for a job and was given a tower that still used the telegraph wires running from Chicago to Baltimore. From the tower he operated an Electrical Interlocking System enabling him to give signals to move trains and to switch them to other tracks. Quite a responsibility for one so young!

The tower in which he worked was situated on the bank of the Calumet River in South Chicago where large ships came in from around the world to deliver goods to Chicago. The trains ran on a trestle bridge to cross the river and this bridge was raised by a huge concrete block counter-weight. At times Tony was faced with a train coming along, a ship needing the bridge raised and someone trying to contact him by telegraph. He kept his

cool, made his decisions and ran a well-organized schedule with such good results his job was held secure.. until he was drafted into the Army.

While undergoing the testing period during Basic Training he made a perfect score on the code test. After graduating from Basic Training he was sent to Camp Gordon, later to become Fort Gordon near Savannah, GA, to the Signal Corps High Speed Radio Operator School for a 25 week course. He passed the high speed radio test in three weeks.

After Tony's discharge from the Army he met his bride-to-be , Fran, in Rockford, IL; two years later they were married, and for the past 56 years they have made Rockford their home. They have two children, four grandchildren and a granddaughter who recently graduated from NIU as an RN and was selected for membership in the International Honor Society of Nurses.

Tony has been an amateur radio operator for many years holding a General license with KB9CDD as his callsign. He's been active both in ARES and as a member of Sky Warn. During his active amateur radio days he worked 268 countries with confirmation from each country. However, this would soon change due to his interaction with a fellow ham in his home town. During one of their conversations he discovered his friend was a member of NAVMARCORMARS. This new form of radio activity intrigued Tony, and after inquiry, he made application to join Navy-Marine Corps MARS, was accepted, and became a member on 29 January 1993.

To Tony, and to all of you ladies and gentlemen who have served Navy-Marine Corps MARS with unselfish devotion over several decades in carrying out our mission, heartfelt thanks go out to you. Untold millions of wives, children, parents, active duty military personnel and scientists in Antarctica are the richer for your dedicated service, and will not soon be forgotten. Bravo Zulu, you good and faithful servants!

Wisdom

A father's , passed on To his son

When I was a kid, my mom liked to make breakfast food for dinner every now and then. And I remember one night in particular when she made breakfast after a long, hard day at work. On that evening so long ago, my mom placed a plate of eggs, sausage, and extremely burned biscuits in front of my dad. I remember waiting to see if anyone noticed! Yet all my dad did was to reach for his biscuit, smile at my mom and ask me how my day was at school. I don't remember what I told him that night, but I do remember hearing my mom apologize to my dad for burning the biscuits. And I'll never forget what he said: "Honey, I love burned biscuits!"

Later that night, I went to kiss Daddy good night, and I asked him if he really liked his biscuits burned? He wrapped me in his arms and said, "Son, your momma put in a hard day at work today and she's real tired. And besides....burned biscuits never hurt anyone!"

You know, life is full of imperfect things...and imperfect people. I'm not the best at hardly anything, and I forget birthdays and anniversaries just like a lot of other people do. What I've learned over the years is that learning to accept each other's faults and choosing to celebrate each other's differences is one of the really important keys to creating a healthy, growing and lasting relationship. So, please pass me a biscuit. And, yes, the burned one will do just fine. Love people just like the Good Lord said for us to do. He also emphasized that we are to forgive others as we really want Him to forgive us. Like it says in the prayer: "*Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespasses against us.*" Why should we go around disliking people, carrying grudges, looking down our noses at others? In doing so we don't hurt them; we do though hurt ourselves. We're not perfect, so let's just make allowances for other peoples' imperfections and do our best to be kind to everyone we meet. Anymore biscuits?

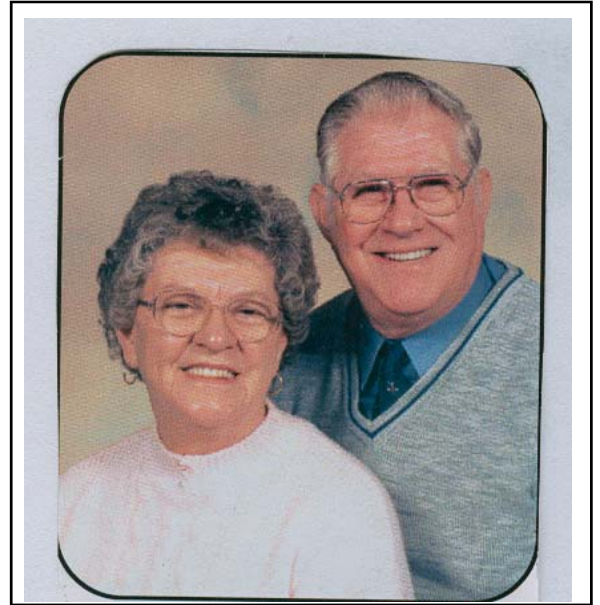


Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst...after righteousness!

This picture to the right has been seen many times, but it is still poignant and continues to evoke a response of thankfulness for all who have served our nation so well at such a heavy cost.



Alvin, NNN00AR IL



What a joy it is to pay homage to another Illinois MARS member in this issue. Alvin, better known as Dave, is pictured here with his dear wife, Mary, to whom he had been married for 55 years when she passed away Nov 6, 2009. Like his fellow Illinois MARS member, Tony, Dave also worked for the railroad. His company was the Gulf, Mobile & Ohio Railroad. He was a Carman doing welding and the work he did was re-building damaged rolling stock, i.e., box cars, coal cars and engines. The last twelve years he worked was as a Service Engineer moving commuter trains into the shop for servicing then moving repaired units on the sidings for morning and evening rush hour service. At one time the company moved the repair facility to McCome, MS and Dave worked there for 14 years until the shops were moved back to Bloomington, IL. He retired in 1994, and his home is in Bloomington. He has five step-children, ten grandchildren and seven great-grand children.

Dave went into the Navy in 1948 after graduating from Normal High School, Normal, IL. and ended up serving on a Submarine as a Gunners Mate First Class (GM1). He was born on May 7, 1931, in Peoria, IL, and grew up in Bloomington and Normal, Illinois.

It was in the early '70s that Dave got his amateur license. He went from Novice to General then to Advanced. His present call is KE9BA. He became a Navy-Marine Corps MARS member on 17 Aug 1977. During the time his company was in Mississippi Dave and his amateur friend Clint were caretakers for the amateur and MARS repeaters in Bude, MS. Those antennas were at 900 feet on the State Education Tower.

Dave spent a lot of time on the gulf coast in MS at the Sea Bee base running RTTY and voice to Caribbean ships and European stations with lots of message traffic being passed, plus traffic he would pass on to other southern states which surely would have included the former Region Two.

He always loved working with his hands, trying out new things, facing challenges, so, in 1982 Dave built his first computer, and later built a board to plug into it so he could work Packet. Part of Dave's capabilities includes holding a Pilot's License he earned in 1960. When he was younger he loved to fish and to play golf. Like some of us who have become octogenarians, arthritis has slowed him down, but he keeps carrying on. If we stop, we may rust!

Dave has been a traffic rep for many years and has served as NNN0GAP ONE. This month he joined his friend, Tony, NNN0SCV, (on page 6.) by being granted ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP.

Like the vast majority of us, Dave misses the days when we had lots of message traffic to bring to the nets. Some of us can remember when it was not at all unusual for the traffic rep to list 25 to 35 and even 40 messages to be passed on the net. Those were great days that brought much pleasure to family members and their loved ones serving in the military on foreign shores and at sea as we enabled them to communicate with one another.

The sentiments expressed in the last paragraph of Tony's article on page 6. are included here. Our thanks to Dave for the service he has given to MARS for more than thirty years, for making a difference that has benefited Navy-Marine Corps MARS and for his willingness to continue serving.