



AMS News

AMS website -- www.mappers.org

Association of Mapping Seniors Newsletter



Holiday Luncheon & Annual Meeting

Once again, the Holiday Luncheon and Annual AMS Meeting is scheduled for Dutch's Daughter 581 Himes Avenue Frederick, MD. The menu selections are Atlantic Salmon, Hawaiian Chicken and Beef Medallions each at \$25. and Crab Cake Platter at \$31. Each entrée includes tossed garden salad, seasonal fresh vegetable, trice baked potato and chef's choice of dessert with beverages of coffee, tea, and soda.

The event occurs on Wednesday, December 1 beginning at 11:30 with lunch being served approximately at noon – 12:30 PM.

Submit your completed reservation form found on page 7 or at www.mappers.org/event with your payment to the AMS Treasurer, Merle Biggin by November 23.

We understand the restaurant follows the CDC COVID guidelines e.g. for preparing and serving the food, social distancing, arranging tables 6 feet apart with 6 or fewer people per table. The Board recognizes our membership includes people in the high-risk category. The decision to attend is an individual choice, considering, at the least, the pandemic status, your personal situation and health, the potential risks of being in public space.

Toy Drive



As in past years, AMS supports the Angel Tree with new unwrapped gifts for a child that is presented to the Salvation Army representative. If you are attending the Holiday Luncheon, please bring your donation to that event.

AMS Annual Meeting

The **AMS Annual Meeting** will be held at the Holiday Luncheon on December 1 at Dutch's Daughter. Currently there are two positions which are vacant for the 2022 calendar year – the Vice-President, and the Secretary. Board meetings are being conducted virtually through Zoom, so your ability and willingness to help is more important than where you live! Support for new Board members is provided by current and past Board Members and each position has a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) available for review. If interested, please forward your name along with the position of interest in an email to mappingseniors@outlook.com

Frederick Gathering

Former retirees from NGA and predecessor organizations are again meeting for an informal lunch every month on the 3rd Thursday @ 11:00AM at the **Golden Corral** in the Francis Scott Key Mall in Frederick MD. Irv Stephens is the coordinator and no reservations are needed. Just stop by to chat with one another while having lunch!

In this AMS News issue

Page 1	Holiday Lunch, Frederick Gathering; AMS Annual Meeting
Page 2	President's Message; AMS Contact Info;
Page 3	Membership; AMS Anniversary; NWFCU
Page 4	Kent Island Gathering
Page 5-6	Remembrance
Page 7	Holiday Luncheon Reservation Form

AMS PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE



The pin oak trees are dropping acorns, a sure sign Winter is coming. If 2021 taught us anything it's that we should be prepared for, well, pretty much anything. During sub-freezing temperatures, if you lose power for an extended period of time, are you prepared to keep warm, fed and hydrated? Do you know how to protect your home from frozen pipes? Thinking back to the winter disaster in Texas earlier this year, these are good things for everyone to know. How about winter driving? Is your car ready? Are you prepared if you had to spend several hours in your car during cold or snowy weather? For those in the Washington, D.C. area, we have seen some nightmare winter commutes here before, so, it is not just a problem for distant states.

Looking for something to do online? Check out the Smithsonian Institution's web site at <https://www.si.edu>. While there are many intriguing stories on the home page, I entered “mapping” in the search bar. Don't let the 212,362 “results for mapping” scare you away. Opening the Stories tab (with only 162 results) and clicking on “Measuring & Mapping” reveals photos and brief descriptions of instruments, maps and other objects in their collection. Clicking on “Charting the Chesapeake from a Civil War Map”, then opening the bottom blog link, reveals a story that starts with an 1861 map with charting data, covers a brief history of the (still-working) Thomas Point Shoal Lighthouse, and the remarkable story of the almost total loss and ongoing resurrection of Poplar Island.

Check out all the information in your AMS Newsletter and stay connected through our web page, <https://www.mappers.org>, and/or our Facebook Page. Also, your help is needed as the AMS Board position of Vice President is vacant, and the Secretary position will be vacant later this Fall. If you are interested, please contact us at mappingseniors@outlook.com. Take care of yourself and each other while you are “**Having fun and keeping in touch.**”

AMS Keeping in Touch



Email is just one method for announcing events, registration forms, obituaries, and other pertinent information. Send your AMS info and inquiries to mappingseniors@outlook.com If you are not receiving emails from AMS, check your “JUNK” mailbox or verify your email address with Merle Biggin at merlebiggin@uwalumni.com. Greg Cross and Amber Beall monitor this mailbox.



AMS website www.mappers.org is another good source of information of current and past AMS events. Check out the many tabs filled with a wealth of information for and about our members and events! Please forward your information to our Webmaster, Ralph Mayer at ralphmayer222@outlook.com



AMS is on Facebook and you are invited to join other members there and include your contributions! You can share your vacation and retirement adventures, and other activities you enjoy. Or just read the posts from other members while also keeping current with AMS activities too. Members are permitted to post directly but must keep content appropriate for and consistent with the AMS purpose, membership, by-laws, procedures and guidelines.

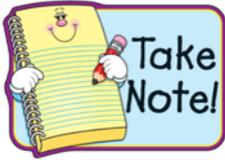
If you are not already a friend, go to the search block on Facebook and enter Association of Mapping Seniors or simply AMS and from the drop-down list select **Association of Mapping Seniors**. **Once on the AMS page select “Join”** and answer the 3 pertinent questions for “**Keeping in Touch and Having Fun!**” Pam Troutman is the AMS Facebook custodian!!

[\(15\) Association of Mapping Seniors \(AMS\) | Facebook](#)

2021 AMS Executive Board

President – Lon Hamann
 Vice President – Vacant
 Secretary – Jeanne Casamento
 Treasurer – Merle Biggin

Membership



Remember!!

Keep **YOUR** contact information - postal address, phone numbers, and email address current with AMS! Provide **Merle Biggin, Membership Chairman**, with your updated contact information or status for any of the missing members listed below at **Address:**

4808 Walbridge Street, Rockville, MD 20853

Phone: 301-946-4485 or

Email: merlebiggin@uwalumni.com



The Membership Chair needs your assistance in locating these missing persons whose contact

information is no longer valid. Forward any info you have for these **Missing Persons** to Merle Biggin

Missing Persons	
Gladys Dantzler	Frank R Walden
Carole Hogan	Joanne L. Weber
Jean Liesman	

AMS Membership Analysis

Merle Biggin, Membership Chair completed an analysis by age groups of AMS Membership. These are the amazing results.

Age Band	Members
100-110	6
90-99	97
80-89	220
70-79	235
60-69	101
50-59	30



Postage & Printing Donors - AMS News

All Goings

“Keeping in Touch”

Thank you for your generosity!



The Association of Mapping Seniors (AMS) will celebrate its golden anniversary during 2024. AMS was organized in 1974 just two years after the formulation of Defense Mapping Agency in 1972. Although it seems like a long way away, the Board is asking for volunteers to form a team to prepare for this awesome event. If you are interested in serving on the AMS 50th Anniversary Celebration Committee, please forward an email to AMS at mappingseniors@outlook.com



NWFCU has many services and products for their members. There are numerous loan types – home, car, personal are just a few, check and saving, certificates and IRAs. Starting a business or own an existing business use NWFCU resources. There are many other resources NWFCU have at your fingertips – fraud prevention, webinars, private banking and FAQs. Get the full scope of resources at www.NWFCU.org

Questions? [Make an appointment](#) to meet with a mortgage lending representative. We look forward to helping you find your way home!

Contact our Member Service Center
844-709-8900
M-F: 7AM - 7PM ET Sat: 8AM - 1PM ET



NMLS# 411458
Insured by NCUA
Equal Opportunity Lender

Kent Island Gathering

Due to the high price of crabs this season, AMS did not have the usual “Crab Feast”. As an alternative, there was a gathering of colleagues renamed “**Kent Island Gathering**”. The “**Gathering**” was still held at **Fisherman's Crab Deck** in Grasonville MD on **Wednesday, September 1**. Each person ordered directly off the menu and some even had crabs!! Once again a hurricane residual of rain and winds (Hurricane Ida) kept some folks away. Eleven folks ventured out in the overcast weather prior to the rain and wind arriving. In fact most folks departed and crossed the bridge prior to the tornado warnings. Below are some pictures of the folks who gathered on Kent Island!

Attending -- Jack and Amber Beall, Merle and Nancy Biggin, John Koslin, Will and Valerie Liston, Jim Richardson, Mel Wagner, Gary Watkins, Dave Weed.



Gary Watkins and John Koslin



Merle Biggin and James Richardson



Jack and Amber Beall



Valerie Liston



Will Liston



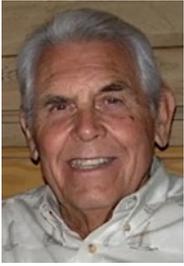
Mel Wagner and Dave Weed

L-R Mel Wagner, Dave Weed



Nancy Biggin

IN REMEMBRANCE



James Lawrence Butler, 98, passed away August 28, 2021 at Trinity Grove Nursing Home in Wilmington, NC. He was born May 6, 1923 Warrenton, Virginia to Charles Edward Butler and Rosa Marion (Legg) Butler. Surviving are his second wife, Patricia J. (Kerns) Butler (married on October 1, 1977),

two daughters, Sharon R. Butler McKeown (Robert) and Debra Butler Duckett; two grandchildren,

James graduated from Warrenton High School in May 1941 and attended Virginia Tech where he studied surveying and mapping. His first job was with the War Department to work in Trinidad, British West Indies, surveying.

He enlisted in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in December 1942 and was assigned to the 672nd Topographic Company. He landed at Omaha Beach. He received a Purple Heart on 15 March 1945.

After military service, James moved to Arlington VA and worked for the Army Map Service, later renamed the Defense Mapping Agency. He retired in 1980 and moved to New Smyrna Beach, Florida where he played a lot of golf.



Marsha Lee Jump, 79, a lifelong Arlington native, died at home on April 8, 2021 from ALS. She was born on November 29, 1941, to Ira Calvin and Edith Louise Heishman Jump. She was their only child. After attending Washington and Lee High School in Arlington, she

went on to Strayer Business College. Upon graduation, she worked for a local bank, then later the Army Map Service. She began her career there as an administrative assistant, and retired after 35 years, in 1997, as a geodetic technician handling sensitive security issues. She thoroughly enjoyed her work and earned many awards for superior performance.

Marsha was a faithful, lifelong member of Arlington Church of the Brethren and participated in many of their church activities. She was active in the Eastern Star, serving as an officer, and in Community Bible Study. She enjoyed traveling, visiting much of the US and parts of Europe.

Marsha is being remembered by her cousins and next-of-kin, Patricia Helsley Kelly (Bill); Karen Helsley Harrop (John); and Mary Helsley St. John,

as well as their children. She will always be remembered as a quiet, cheerful person who was quick to help others. She loved her family and spent years caring for several elderly family members without complaint.



Mary Ruth Jackson Key Lamothe

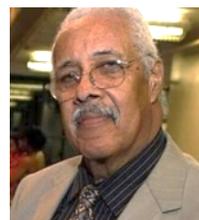
September 1938 to
December 2020

Our beloved mother Mary Ruth Jackson Key Lamothe, age 82 years, passed away on December 28th, 2020, at Mary Washington Hospital in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Mary was born to Charles Maurice Jackson and Beatrice Bladen-Jackson in Washington DC. Mary is survived by children Patrick Mark Key, Cathrine Anne Key, Dianna Marie Key Spyker, James Daniel Key and Tara Leia Lamothe Moseley; 6 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren; and brother William Jackson.

Mary grew up between the shore of the Potomac River in Great Falls, Virginia and where she attended boarding school as a child in the Blue Ridge Mountains. Mary graduated from Herndon High School and attended George Washington University before obtaining a job at the Department of Defense (DoD).

Mary's first job was for the Army G2 at the Pentagon. From there, she worked with the Army Map Service, Defense Mapping Hydrographic/ Topographic Center, and National Imaging and Mapping Agency. Following retirement she worked with the United States Geological Survey under their Mines and Minerals Department as a contractor for Martek. Upon her second retirement, Mary explored the United States from her RV until settling in Las Cruces, New Mexico. She returned to Virginia to be near family and friends in 2014.



Rudolph Alexander Schaefer, Jr., 86, born August 25, 1934,

boarded the Glory train bound for Heaven February 20, 2021. He was the son of the late Rudolph A. Schaefer, Sr. and Lillian Schaefer.

He is preceded in death by his parents, son Brian Alexander Schaefer, and first wife Willie M. Schaefer.

Rudolph confessed his love for Jesus Christ at an early age. He was a faithful member at First Baptist Church Anchorage for over 40 years, Kenwood Baptist Church for 7 years, and was currently a member at the Bethel Baptist Missionary Church of Anchorage, Kentucky.

Rudolph completed his education at Forest School, Lincoln Institute, University of Louisville, Kentucky. Rudolph joined the United States Air Force and served his country for 4 years.

Rudolph held several jobs before he began his career at the Army Map Service which later became the Defense Mapping Agency of the United States of America. Rudolph was an expert Cartographer. Rudolph worked from Louisville, Kentucky to Washington DC on various projects. One mapping project involved extensive mapping of the moon for Neil Armstrong. Rudolph was honored with many recognitions, awards, and developing accomplishments such as Employee of the Year, Sustained Superior Performance, Outstanding Production Specialist and Special Achievement Award.

Memories of Rudolph will be cherished by his current wife Betty L. Schaefer, daughters Sharon Lee and Kim Schaefer Jones (Ricky), sister Lavern Alexander, 6 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren all from Louisville, Kentucky, beloved church family, and a host of relatives and friends.



Natalie Theis was born on December 24, 1919 in Allentown, Pennsylvania, during the great worldwide Spanish flu epidemic. Her mother nearly died from that flu but lived on to reach 100! She had six children: Joseph, Robert, Monica, Edward (d. 2019), Angela, and Thomas;

eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Her parents, Leandro and Angela Bigatel, immigrated to Allentown from Quero, Italy prior to World War I. Natalie loved school, despite a 45-minute walk to get there. She did well in all subjects and earned perfect attendance most years. Natalie became the first in her family to graduate from high school.

After high school she worked as a switchboard operator at the Allentown Gas Company and the Pennsylvania Power & Light Company. She continued to live with her family in Allentown until her marriage to Joe Theis on June 14, 1947. Natalie and Joe spent their first few years in Washington, DC,

with their first two children, then a few years in Aberdeen, Maryland, with three. Finally, Joe's work with the Army Map Service brought them back to the Washington area and to a new home in Rockville, Maryland. There Joe and Natalie lived most of their 44 years together and raised their six children, four boys and two girls. They also shared the home with numerous cats, a few chickens and ducks, a pigeon named Walter, and Nicky, their one dog who vehemently protected the family home for 18 years.

Natalie was a busy homemaker but also an active member of the St. Jude's Ladies Sodality. Natalie came from a long line of seamstresses and was always making some item of clothing for herself, her daughters, or someone's dolls. Later, Natalie became an active member of the Rockville Senior Center. Also a budding thespian, Natalie enjoyed starring in several productions of the Rockville Carnation Players. She and Joe were also active members of the Rockville Senior Bowling League. They enjoyed frequent outings with many of Joe's former colleagues and their wives, all members of the Army Mapping Seniors retirement club, still a very active organization.

When Joe suffered a stroke in July 1990, Natalie became his full-time caregiver. Joe died a year later when he suffered another more massive stroke. Natalie then turned her attention to doing more for others and became a weekly volunteer for Meals on Wheels for the next 12 years. In 2003 she suffered a fall and began slowing down. After a while, she moved to Hillhaven Assisted Living in Adelphi, Maryland in 2006. At Hillhaven, Natalie continued to share her "joie de vivre" with musical performances and activities, Bingo, exercise classes, and family visits. She even developed her hidden self and acquired a reputation for a zestful singing and dancing! She especially enjoyed singing along with familiar tunes! She greeted people with great flair in Italian, a robust handshake, a huge smile, and at least one verse of "O Sole Mio"!

In lieu of flowers, make a donation in her memory to Mosaic Dance Theatre Company, founded by Natalie's niece Celeste Varricchio (mosaicdancetheatreco.org) or support your local Meals on Wheels or Hospice program.

View entire obituaries on AMS website at www.mappers.org



Reservation AMS Holiday Luncheon Dutch’s Daughter

581 Himes Avenue Frederick, MD 21703

Wednesday December 1, 2021 at 11:30 AM

Write the name of those attending and place a check mark beneath their menu selection.

Cost is per person, which includes tax and gratuity

Entrees include --- Tossed Garden Salad, Seasonal Fresh Vegetable, Twice Baked Potato, Chef’s Choice of Dessert, Coffee, Tea, and Soda

***Note: Meal will be served between noon and 12:30 PM.*

Name (Please PRINT your name)	Atlantic Salmon \$25.00	Hawaiian Chicken \$25.00	Beef Medallions \$25.00	Crab Cake \$31.00
1.				
2.				

Please include number of people attending _____ Total amount \$ _____

Payment by check (enclosed) _____ or PayPal (on-line) _____

Place your name where you can volunteer at our luncheon to assist with a task listed below

Hand out Name Tags _____ Sell 50/50 Raffle Tickets _____

Thank you for assisting!

Completed reservation form and payment due by November 23, 2021

Payment and Reservation Form Options:

1. Paper/mail – Send completed reservation form and your check payable to the **Association of Mapping Seniors** to: **Merle Biggin 4808 Walbridge Street, Rockville, MD 20853**

2. Electronically –

- a. When using **PayPal** add **\$1.00 to your total for each person to cover associated PayPal fees.**
- b. Access PayPal from the AMS website front page at <http://www.mappers.org/> and click on the “Donate” button. At the PayPal page, complete the information as requested.
- c. On page 2, click on the “Add special instructions to the seller” and enter – Holiday Luncheon and the names and menu option for each person included with the payment. Example: AMS Holiday Luncheon John Smith – Salmon; Mary Smith – Beef Medallions
- d. Forward an e-mail to Merle at merlebiggin@uwalumni.com that includes the names, contact phone number, and appropriate menu selection for each person. State you are using PayPal to complete this transaction.

Invite Your DMA, NIMA, NGA Colleagues to The AMS Events

COVID 19: All attendees agree to follow the restaurant COVID protocols and CDC, State and local guidelines. Luncheon participants should not attend if they are sick or recently exposed to someone who was sick.

FROM: ASSOCIATION OF MAPPING SENIORS – October 2021

**Merle Biggin
4808 Walbridge St
Rockville MD 20853**

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Suburban, MD
Permit No. 6511

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



NW NORTHWEST FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

These events are sponsored by NWFCU hosted by Knowledge of Financial Education (KOFE) from the comforts of your home. Unless otherwise stated, start time is 1:00 PM. Registration is at <https://www.nwfcu.org/about/events> or clicking the link.

- OCT13** [Webinar: 2021 Holiday Survival Guide - Hosted by KOFE](#)
- OCT20** [Webinar: Protecting Your Funds. Protecting Your Future.](#)
- NOV10** [Webinar: Helping Those Who Serve: First Responders and the Military - Hosted by KOFE](#)
- DEC08** [Webinar: Making the Most of the Gig Economy - Hosted by KOFE](#)

Contact our Member Service Center
844-709-8900
M-F: 7AM - 7PM ET Sat: 8AM - 1PM ET



NMLS# 411458
Insured by NCUA
Equal Opportunity Lender