

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR.
BRIAN MARSDEN

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2010

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Madam Speaker, Dr. Brian Marsden directed the Minor Planet Center, MPC, at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, Massachusetts for nearly 30 years, where he kept track of the thousands of daily asteroid and comet observations from around the world. The responsibility of keeping track of these near-Earth objects, and potentially the fate of all humanity, could not have been in better hands than those of this capable, conscientious scientist.

Dr. Marsden became interested in astrophysics at the early age of five, when his mother displayed to him that method by which eclipses could be predicted in advance. His teen years were spent calculating forecasts of astronomical phenomena—long before modern computers or even calculators were available. By the time he was an undergraduate student, he had achieved an international reputation for the accuracy of his predictions of comets and for a number of new discoveries.

One of the most outstanding examples of his predictive prowess can be seen in his calculation of the return of comet Swift-Tuttle. The scientific consensus was that the comet would return in 1981, almost 120 years after it was last seen, but Dr. Marsden analyzed the available data and projected correctly that it would not return to the inner solar system until late 1992, over a decade later than previously expected. Swift-Tuttle has the longest period of any comet whose return has been successfully predicted.

Dr. Brian Marsden passed away on November 18, 2010. His soaring accomplishments have made this planet a safer place, and his legacy will live on for centuries.

TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER
LORENZO "PETE" CASALEGNO

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2010

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication, public service and patriotism of U.S. Navy Commander "Pete" Casalegno for 30 years of distinguished service to our nation, both with the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Air Force.

Commander Casalegno's military service began in 1965 when he enlisted in the Air Force and served as a weather observer and forecaster. A veteran of the Vietnam War, he served as a member of the combat weather team at Tan Son Nhut, Vietnam, from December 1967 to December 1968.

Upon graduation from the University of San Francisco, Commander Casalegno was commissioned and subsequently designated as a naval flight officer. After completion of advanced training in the E-2 Hawkeye aircraft, Commander Casalegno was assigned to Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron 114 and completed two overseas deployments onboard the USS *Kitty Hawk* (CV-63) and the USS

Coral Sea (CV-43). During this assignment, Commander Casalegno completed arduous qualifications as Officer of the Deck and Tactical Action Officer.

After graduating from the United States Postgraduate School in 1981 with a Master of Science in Systems Engineering, Commander Casalegno was assigned to the staff of the Cruiser Destroyer Group Three as Assistant Air Operations and Electronic Warfare Officer. Involved in frequent deployments to both the Western Pacific and Southwest Asia, Commander Casalegno participated in military operations following the fall of the Shah of Iran and numerous humanitarian operations.

In 1985, Commander Casalegno reported to Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron 116 where he served as Operations Officer and Maintenance Officer during deployments to the Western Pacific and Southwest Asia. Commander Casalegno was involved in operations which included escorting U.S. merchant ships through the Straits of Hormuz and retributive strikes on Iranian oil facilities.

Following the tour, Commander Casalegno was assigned to the staff of Commander Allied Forces Southern Europe in Naples, Italy. As a staff officer, he was involved in numerous North American Treaty Organization operations, including support of allied forces during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

In 1990, Commander Casalegno was assigned as the United States Navy Exchange Officer to the Royal Navy's Maritime Tactical School in Portsmouth, England, where he trained senior allied officials in the employment of naval forces. In 1994, Commander Casalegno returned to the United States to serve at the Navy's Tactical Training Group, Atlantic Fleet, as the air defense instructor.

Commander Casalegno, his wife Marla, his daughter Julie, and his sons Cory and Phillip are stalwart Americans who have made enormous sacrifices over the last 30 years. Commander Casalegno has honorably and faithfully upheld the nation's special trust and confidence conveyed through his military commission. In every way, he has upheld his oath of office with true faith and allegiance. It is with the greatest sense of respect and appreciation that I stand today in recognition of Commander Casalegno and, along with the rest of my colleagues, wish him all the best in his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER STATE REPRESENTATIVE F.P. "SKIPPY" WHITE

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2010

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with sadness that I rise to inform the House of the passing of long-time South Alabama State Representative F.P. "Skippy" White. Representative White died on October 21, 2010, after an extended illness at age 69.

Skippy was the epitome of a public servant. He served with distinction in the Alabama House of Representatives for three decades, proudly representing the people of Baldwin and Escambia counties from 1982 to 2006.

He began his career in public service as a firefighter and later councilman for his beloved

hometown of Pollard, Alabama where he held office for seven years. In 1982, he was elected as a Democrat to the Alabama House of Representatives and served in that capacity for 24 years. In fact, he was the longest serving legislator from Escambia County.

During his career in the Alabama State Legislature, Representative White worked tirelessly on behalf of south Alabama. He was distinguished as an outstanding legislator and served on the House Rules Committee and the Joint Transportation Committee. He is credited with improving the roads and bridges in his district where he took a great personal interest.

On behalf of the people of south Alabama, I extend deepest sympathy to his lovely wife, Clara; their wonderful children, Todd, Hugh, and Sarah Anne; and his family and many friends.

Representative Skippy White was much loved and respected by his constituents for his tireless dedication to Baldwin and Escambia counties. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

HONORING HANK DAVID GAMEL

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2010

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Hank David Gamel. Hank is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1494, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Hank has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Hank has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Hank has earned the rank of Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Hank has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Hank designed and constructed a sign for the entrance of the Church of the Annunciation in Kearney, Missouri.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Hank David Gamel for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING JAMES J. BOLLICH AS 2010 AMERICAN LEGION POST 241 LEGIONNAIRE OF THE YEAR

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2010

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize Sergeant James J. Bollich who was recently named Legionnaire of the Year by American Legion Post 241 in Lafayette, Louisiana. Sergeant Bollich served this Nation with honor and distinction, and has lived an exemplary American life worthy of approbation.

Sergeant Bollich was born in the small farm community of Mowata and attended college at

Southwestern Louisiana Institute, now the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. His time there was cut short, as in 1940 he joined the Army Air Corps at Barksdale Field in Shreveport, and participated in the Louisiana Maneuvers in 1941. His squadron was sent overseas, where he fought for the defense of the Philippines.

Serving as an infantryman during the Battle of Bataan, Bollich was captured by the Japanese and was forced to participate in the Bataan Death March as a prisoner of war. Despite the cruelty endured at the hands of his captors, and the thousands of deaths of his fellow servicemen he witnessed, Bollich bravely persevered and survived. He ultimately spent three and a half years at the Japanese POW camp in San Fernando before he and his fellow survivors were freed by the Russian Army in 1945.

After his harrowing ordeal, he returned to the United States and returned to college. Upon graduating, he worked as a subsurface petroleum geologist until his retirement. He has written several books, including "A Soldier's Story" which told his story of his time as a prisoner of war. For his courage in the face of unimaginable hardship, he received several commendations and medals, including the Bronze Star, the Victory Medal, and the POW medal. In addition to this, he was recently inducted to the Louisiana Veterans Hall of Honor. He has sacrificed much for his country, and should serve as an example and a reminder of true patriotism to this Nation.

It goes without saying that Sergeant James J. Bollich is very deserving of the honor of being named American Legion Post 241's Legionnaire of the Year. His story is one of bravery and dedication, and I am honored to serve as his member of Congress. He is part of our "Greatest Generation" and my words cannot express the gratitude we should all show to those who served in World War II. I wholeheartedly thank Sergeant Bollich for his service to the United States, and I congratulate him on this most recent honor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2010

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, on Monday, November 29, 2010, I missed two recorded votes on the House floor. I ask that the record reflect that had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 581 and "yea" on rollcall 582.

IN HONOR OF DR. RUSS COLSON

HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2010

Mr. PETERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate one of my distinguished constituents, Dr. Russ Colson, the 2010 Professor of the Year awarded by Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

Dr. Colson was hired by Minnesota State University Moorhead in 1993 to teach geology at a school that did not have an existing geology program. In an area like the Red River Valley with its rich geologic history, a strong program was necessary and Dr. Colson worked to create a stand-out geology program at one of our nation's stand-out universities.

He has put an emphasis on experiential learning in nearly three-quarters of his classes. A self-described "science coach," Dr. Colson introduces students to geology around the globe through hands-on experiences—applying what is learned in books to the real world.

He is beloved by faculty and students alike. His students praise his teaching style for helping them develop skills necessary in the 21st century. A fellow faculty member refers to Dr. Colson as "the best."

Dr. Colson is the first professor from a Minnesota public university to receive this award but likely not the last. I offer my heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Colson, his family and the MSUM community on this impressive achievement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2010

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the House floor on the legislative day of November 29, 2010. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 581 and 582.

CONGRATULATING MARY, MOTHER OF THE REDEEMER'S CATHOLIC EDUCATION CENTER

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2010

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Mary, Mother of the Redeemer's Catholic Education Center on the momentous achievement of being designated a 2010 Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. Mary, Mother of the Redeemer is a Catholic Parish in North Wales, Montgomery County. In 1997, the ten-year old parish saw the need for a school of its own and began laying the groundwork to establishing what would become an award winning educational center. In 2002, after years of planning and fundraising, the parish began construction and only two years later the school had an enrollment of nearly 700 students. The education center has a mission statement of recognizing the uniqueness of each student to provide a quality Catholic education.

The Blue Ribbon Program is a project of the Department of Education that identifies the best school leadership and teaching practices, setting a standard of excellence for all middle and high schools. This year, 254 public and 50 private schools were chosen for this honor. Schools are chosen based on their ability to produce students who, regardless of their backgrounds, are high performing.

Being chosen as a Blue Ribbon School designates Mary, Mother of the Redeemer as a model for other schools across the country. Of the 413 schools nationwide that can be nominated, only 50 originate with the Council for Private Education, through which Mary, Mother of the Redeemer was nominated. The school is fully committed to maintaining its five year Blue Ribbon designation and being nominated again in 2015. I am proud to represent in congress a school that is so committed to excellence that it is nationally recognized, serving as a model nationwide.

Madam Speaker, once again I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Mary, Mother of the Redeemer on its momentous designation as a blue ribbon school.

RECOGNIZING THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHAUTAUQUA HALL OF BROTHERHOOD

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize the centennial anniversary of the Chautauqua Hall of Brotherhood, located in DeFuniak Springs, Florida.

On Lake Chautauqua in western New York, the original Chautauqua Institution was founded in 1874 as a vacation school for Sunday school teachers. Chautauqua retreats gained popularity in the 1880s; in 1885, the first Florida Chautauqua program, and second in the nation, was founded and convened on the banks of Lake DeFuniak. It served as a platform for discussion of the latest thinking in politics, economics, literature, science and religion and attracted noted scholars and famous lecturers.

In 1910, the Hall of Brotherhood was completed. The Dome was dedicated to the soldiers and sailors of the Republic, and the columns on the outside of the building represent the Presidents of the United States. The expansive edifice incorporated many large meeting rooms and contained a 4,000 seat amphitheatre, fully equipped with electrical lights, dissolving color effects and foot lights for the presentation of plays and grand concerts. It was the largest Chautauqua amphitheatre in the southern United States.

As he laid the cornerstone at the dedication ceremony, General John B. Gordon remarked, "The Hall of Brotherhood tells the story. Every beam and timber, each brick and stone that shall complete its structure, from this supporting cornerstone now laid to its finished turret, will speak to coming generations of the sentiment that suggested it. American brotherhood, a reunited country, on which depends not only the life and perpetuity of the Republic, but the welfare of universal humanity, are the glorious realities which this Hall is to represent. In the name, therefore, of every state in this Union, and of our priceless freedom, invoking Heaven's blessing upon it, I dedicate this spot where the Hall of Brotherhood is to stand a holy invocation to the everlasting fraternity of the American People."

On August 7, 1972 the Chautauqua Hall of Brotherhood was listed in the National Register of Historic Places.