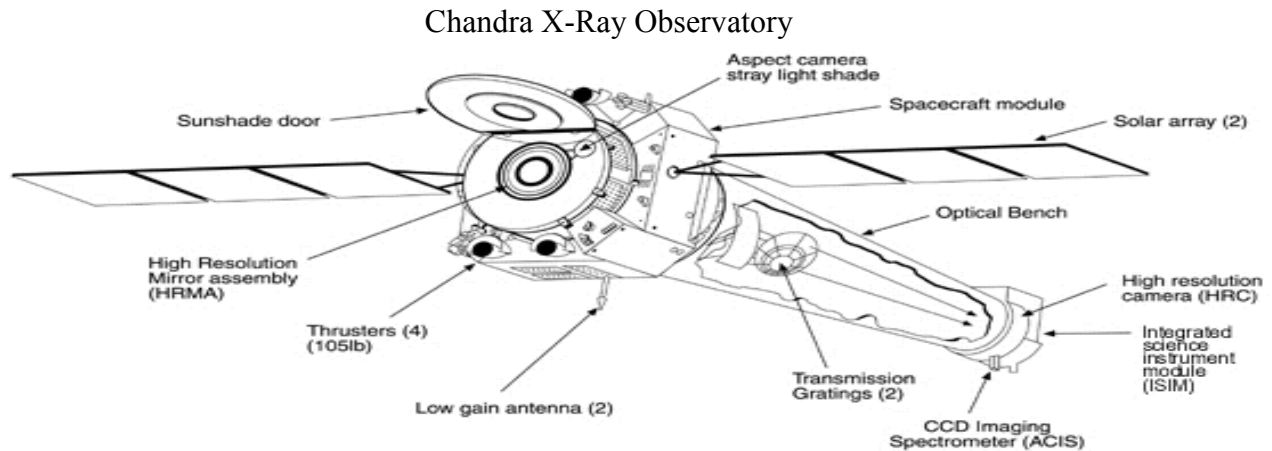


# The Libby Family Newsletter

The John Libby Family Association

Spring Issue—April 2010

<http://www.libbyfamily.org>



## A Libby Who Has Done Rocket Science!

JLFA Life Member Roy W. Libby (10-5-4-1-1-6-4-1-5-3), son of Walter LaForest Libby and Esther Vienna Wilson Libby, was born 13 March 1942 in Portland, Maine. He was four when his family moved from Maine to Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, and then settled in the Tampa area for Roy's high school years. In his senior year, the United States of America was about to launch its first astronaut and the school's TVs were showing the countdown to launch. Roy recounts: "A bunch of us ran out of the cafeteria to see the rocket go across the sky. We were on the other coast but saw the vapor trail as it ripped through the sky—WOW! What an experience! Many nights after that my friend Mike and I would lay out in a field and watch the launches from Cape Canaveral as the rockets" would head to "outer space. I remember commenting that 'someday I want to be involved in the Space program.'"

In 1969, after serving in the Air Force for eight years and earning a degree in Electromechanical Technology at Rochester Institute of Technology, Roy was in Rochester, NY, working for the Eastman Kodak Company in their Government Systems Division. He subsequently worked on a project called the Advanced X-Ray Astrophysics Facility (AXAF)--an X-Ray observatory now called *Chandra* (which means "shining")--as the Design Review Manager for the team project that was headed up by TRW in California. Roy held this position through *Chandra*'s development to its completion. Eastman Kodak's part was primarily the High Resolution Mirror Assembly (HRMA). Just the mirrors for this project cost \$450,000,000!

Roy explains the project: "The AXAF is a space astronomy mission for the observation of celestial objects radiating at X-ray wavelengths between 1.15 angstroms and 115.7 angstroms (~0.1 to 10 keV energy range). It is 800 times more powerful than the Hubble Telescope. The program actually began in 1988 and in 1992 the mission became known as AXAF-I, the 'I' stands for Imaging. The orbit was changed to a deep space orbit at this time. . . .AXAF-I's apogee is about 86,000 miles and the perigee is 8,000 miles; this is to keep the observatory outside of the earth's magnetic field. It takes a little over two and a half days to complete an orbit." Although the original life expectancy was at least five years when it was launched on 23 July 1999 from Cape Canaveral, *Chandra* is **still** sending back data in 2010.

("Chandra" cont'd. on Page 3)

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(addresses above)

**Note: All general correspondence for the Association should be sent to the RECORDING SECRETARY**

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## A Message from President Pat: Thank You to Richard M. Libby

Last fall, it was with great regret that the Board of Directors accepted the resignation of Richard M. Libby from the Vice Presidency of the John Libby Family Association (JLFA) and from the Board of Directors. Although Richard was only with the Board for a few years, he made a great impact with his strong ability to take on a job. For example, he scouted out the best place for the Libby archives, settling on the Maine Historical Society which will eventually receive them.

Richard has promised to become active in the JLFA again once he and his wife, Wendy, who was appointed President of Stetson University (the first female president in its 125-year history!), have settled into their new life in Deland, Florida. The Board wishes them well and will welcome Richard's renewed efforts on our association's behalf. Congratulations to President Wendy--and hurry back, Richard!!

### Libby Slide Show

Become better-acquainted with locales of our family's history!! For years, a favorite Reunion event was Bob Lindquist's "Libby Slide Show." Now, through the generosity of Bob's son, Peter Lindquist, who digitized the slides, you can watch this magnificent set of 80 photos in the comfort of your own home. They are on a DVD that can be viewed on a computer or most DVD players.

**ONLY \$12 plus \$3 shipping**  
(See the Store page for ordering details)

*Remember to check: Your dues may be due!*

In November of 1996 Roy and others, led by Project Testing Manager Katherine Rapp, went to Huntsville, Alabama, to test the mirror assembly at the X-ray Calibration Facility (XRCF). There was a large group of scientists, engineers, and technicians who spent countless hours, 24/7, to ensure the correct functioning of the components. Roy comments that there were many obstacles to overcome, but "as a team they worked through them and accomplished the task" in May, 1997, when the components and sections went to TRW in California for final assembly before being shipped to Cape Canaveral for launch preparation. Col. Eileen Collins, the first female Command Pilot of the *Columbia* shuttle, flew the STS-93 *Chandra* Observatory into outer space for deployment.

Roy, who has received many diverse recognitions in his life, from being named an Airman of the Month to being appointed Honorary Mayor of Del Rio, Texas, and held many positions in his career—currently being a consultant on advanced technological projects—is humble about achieving his early goal of being "involved" in the Space program: "It was my honor as a Libby to be a small part of this historical moment in time."

If you would like to see more on the web go to: <http://chandra.harvard.edu>

### **The Origin of Libby, Montana**

Last year, during a conversation between members, a question arose about the origin of the name of the town of Libby, Montana. The question involved whether or not the town was named after someone with the "Libby" surname. This location was featured in a 17 June 2009 *NBC Nightly News* special report on severe health issues arising twenty years after a nearby mineral mine was closed (1990). Reporter Tom Costello told of massive contamination in the form of asbestos dust. In 2002, the area was declared a Superfund site. Further, the EPA declared a public health emergency on the day of the broadcast. Costello noted that the health of almost every resident (pop. 2,600) is affected negatively in one way or another.

Research into the origins of the town of Libby, Montana, located in the northwest of the state, shows that the Kootenai tribe inhabited the area. These Native Americans considered the Kootenai Falls and surrounding areas to be sacred sites, ones which enabled people to commune with spiritual powers. The multi-colored clay and soft stone of the area was used to create ceremonial bowls and pipes. (Based on that tradition, one of the creeks near Libby is named Pipe Creek.) In the early 1800s, several temporary forts were built by the British fur companies. Silver and lead mines were established, and then asbestos was mined in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

In 1860, prospector Stephen Allen named a local creek, in which he was searching for minerals and gold, after his daughter Elizabeth and the brook became known as "Libby Creek." Apparently, people building a nearby town to support the mining personnel and the prospectors took the town's name, Libby, from this stream. Thus, there appears to be no historical connection of the town's name to the surname Libby.

### **Thanks for Helping!**

In the last issue, we asked our members for volunteers—for special projects, articles for the newsletter, and the upcoming reunion. President Pat says she received at least one person's offer of help. Thank you! The *Chandra* article, submitted by Life Member Roy Libby is also a response to that "plea"! We thank him for his support of the JLFA by submitting such an interesting article—and, graciously, he has said he may be able to submit another in the future about current projects. The following article, on preventing identity theft, was gratefully received from Life Member Nancy Libby McCarthy!

The JLFA still needs volunteers for the reunion, special projects, and newsletter. Please contact President Pat (or any board member) and "Just say, 'Yes!'" If you have an idea for the newsletter, please contact the editor. Thanks so much "in advance"!

Sincerely--Karen Libby Franklin, Editor

## How to Avoid Identity Theft!

Life Member Nancy Libby McCarthy (10-1-8-3-11-8-1-1-3-3), sister of JLFA board member Karen Libby Franklin, is employed by Raymond James Bank in St. Petersburg, FL, as Senior Vice-President, Chief Compliance Officer. Educated at the University of Massachusetts and acquiring knowledge and experience early-on as a national bank examiner, Nancy has had an extensive and varied career in the regulation of the country's financial industry. She has some tips to avoid identity theft, how to respond if it happens to you, and some other useful resources to share.

One of her favorite tips is how to cut back on unsolicited pre-approved credit card offers in the mail, which may make you vulnerable to identity theft. The Federal Trade Commission website offers the following information: "The credit bureaus offer a toll-free number that enables you to 'opt-out' of having pre-approved credit offers sent to you for five years. Call 1-888-5-OPTOUT (567-8688) or visit [www.optoutprescreen.com](http://www.optoutprescreen.com) for more information. When you call, you'll be asked for personal information, including your home telephone number, your name, and your Social Security number. The information you provide is confidential and will be used only to process your request to opt-out of receiving pre-screened offers of credit." The Federal Trade Commission maintains this website with great resources should you ever be the victim of identity theft:

[www.ftc.gov/idtheft](http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft)

If you do fall victim, make sure you place a fraud alert on your credit reports by contacting any one of the following: **TransUnion:** 1-800-680-7289; [www.transunion.com](http://www.transunion.com); Fraud Victim Assistance Division, P.O. Box 6790, Fullerton, CA 92834-6790  
**Equifax:** 1-800-525-6285; [www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com); P.O. Box 740241, Atlanta, GA 30374-0241  
**Experian:** 1-888-EXPERIAN (397-3742); [www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com); P.O. Box 9532, Allen, TX 75013

The company you call is required to contact the other two companies.

Another idea is to be prepared in case you ever lose your purse or wallet. Make a copy of all of its contents, such as your license, health insurance card, credit cards, and debit cards and store it in a secure location. Should you ever be the victim of a theft, you will have all your numbers handy and know exactly what has been lost.

Everyone is entitled to a free credit report on an annual basis from the three nationwide consumer credit reporting companies Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion. You can access your report at [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com). This is the only authorized site to obtain all three reports for free. At [www.OnGuardOnline.gov](http://www.OnGuardOnline.gov) you will find helpful information on protecting against Internet fraud, and securing your computer and personal information.

Most importantly, remember to practice some basic protection when securing your personal information: never give out your Social Security number or other personal information unless you know with whom you are dealing, make sure websites are secure, don't click on links if the e-mail is unsolicited, don't share your passwords with anyone, and shred your papers such as bank statements or other documents with personal information prior to disposing of them.

## 2010 Reunion Theme

"Family Ties"--decorate ties, scarves, etc., with themes about your families, or the Libb(e)ys in general. Complete "info" in the summer issue!