Here, in Seattle, on the campus of the University of Washington, we have the only WWI-era, all-wood, U.S. Navy seaplane hangar remaining in the world. Construction was completed just months, weeks really, before the armistice was signed.

The University of Washington Naval aviation detachment was one of only three Naval ground schools established during the war, and graduated approximately 200 cadets who would go on to flight training, primarily down in San Diego.

When the war ended, the hangar was turned over to the UW. Recognizing that a seaplane hangar, on the campus shores of Lake Washington, would make a perfect ‘shell house’ for the rowing team, the hangar was turned into the team’s headquarters. It would remain as such for the next 20 years, including, the 1936 Olympic “Boys in the Boat” Gold Medal team in Berlin.

If you’d like more information, please let me know, please contact me at Seattle-GAR@comcast.net.

Summer weather in the San Francisco area has a reputation for being a series of microclimates. Our companions travel from all over the greater Bay Area. That itself makes it a challenge to decide what to wear to our monthly luncheons. Some of us attend in Hawaiian attire, and even shorts, while others come in attire suitable for a law firm. The one common thread is the Naval Order regalia that we wear that remind us of our raison d’etre – History and Heritage.

Our July luncheon speaker’s topic was very much attuned to current events. World traveler, Bob Canepa, has been to a place very few, if any, of us has visited and most of us don’t aspire to visit – North Korea.

Bob Canepa displays some printed “propaganda” that he brought back from his visit to the “Hermit Kingdom.”

Bob’s presentation and photos from his trip were very enlightening and reinforced how fortunate we all are to live in the United States of America.

Submitted by Lee Corbin, Hangar Aviation History Volunteer

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