



THE RED SHIRT



PEACE THROUGH POWER - WE ARE THE "ARMS" OF THE FLEET

Newsletter No. 45

May 1992

From the President

A lot has happened since our last Newsletter. As most of you have heard by now, regretfully we have lost not only our National Secretary/Treasurer CDR (RET) Bob Ashworth and his wife Elaine, but two dear friends that we will all miss so very much. You cannot say enough for the time and dedication expended by these two super individuals. Although the circumstances (and rumors) are hard to believe, they should both be remembered for the wonderful memories we have of the two of them, together, and at sea.

Bob and Elaine were buried in Atlanta, Ga. The Association was represented by myself, CDR Tommy Brown, CDR P.O. Milling, CDR Floyd English and wives along with board of director's member LCDR (RET) Billy Harkins. My special thanks to these individuals for their attendance. Flowers were sent by the National Association and many Chapters; they were beautiful and most appreciated by the families. My sincere thanks and appreciation goes out to Jerry and Kathy Gannon who drove down from St. Charles, MO to meet Billy Harkins, Mary Ann and myself in Panama City to turn over the Secretary/Treasurer records. I would also like to assure all of our members that everything was in order and above board. Jerry and Kathy have agreed to complete Bob's term and we need to start thinking about electing a new Secretary/Treasurer in 1993. On the bright side, our convention team is going great guns and we hope to have another great convention this year. Continue to correspond with Jim Thomas for reservations, 1-800-628-8487 and our new Secretary/Treasurer Jerry Gannon at 1245 Cunningham Ave, St. Charles, MO 63301, 314-946-0503. Everyone who's had problems with the cost of transpor-

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EDITOR'S NOTES



All Chapters please send copies of your financial reports for the last two years to the new Secretary/Treasurer.

As you noticed in The Red Shirt #44 there was the 1992 Convention Reservation Form. This was the first time that the reservation form had been placed in The Red Shirt that early before the Annual Convention. The early issuance of the application has been very successful. There was an initial rush to get the first ticket and the first ticket was sold to John Kauwale of San Diego, CA on 19 March 1992. So for those of you who haven't mailed in your reservation form, do it now! But be sure to have it postmarked by May 29 to ensure you receive your ticket before you start the trek to Las Vegas. The guest speaker has been selected, the disc jockey for Friday night has been retained, Frank Thill is making last minute adjustments for the Convention and everyone should have a good time. Get your reservation form in early to avoid the rush.

More good news about new chapters. AO3 Lee Miller requested the information necessary to establish a Chapter in Hawaii. AO1 Matthew East has requested information to establish a Chapter in the South Weymouth, MA area. There have been many new member applications from the El Toro area and it appears there may be a Chapter standing up in that area in the near future thanks to the efforts of MGYSGT William A. Straddeck.

The editor of The Red Shirt continually requests articles from the membership, The Red Shirt is a great media to contact the AO's. Send those articles in so the AO community can see

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ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN NEWSLETTER

Editor:

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Address Corrections to Secretary/Treasurer:

Gerald F. Gannon 1245 - Cunningham Ave. St. Charles, MO 63301 (314) 946-0503

PRESIDENT . . .

(continued from Page 1)

tation to the convention please take another look, as the airfares are way down. I'm able to get round trip tickets from the East Coast for less than \$300.00, so take advantage of these low fares and if you need assistance call **Jim Thomas**.

I'll be arriving in Las Vegas on the 10th, so if any of you arrive early, look me up. Looking forward to seeing all of you there!

MORE, From the Prez

It's official! I would like to speak for our (AO) community and congratulate our **FIRST 6360 CAPTAIN SELECTEE - CDR RON CURRY**. Ron, our best goes out to you and Sharon. We've all waited a long time for this moment. This should spool a lot of us up and make us realize we're not dead-ended at CDR and give all of you young 6360's and prospective LDOs a career goal higher than CDR.

CDR (Captain Select) Ron Curry will also be a keynote speaker in addition to Captain Bob Ramsay during the Convention and will give a presentation on where he thinks our billets and community are headed.

I hope everyone is as excited as I am about the upcoming convention. Frank Thill and Jim Thomas along with many others are working hard to make sure that it's going to be another great Convention and the membership as well as representation from the East is really picking up. Start thinking about what committees you would like to participate in if you're attending the Convention.

Membership is still growing, however we need to keep charging. Don't let up. I'm pleased to see that our Marine brothers are picking up the pace and coming back into the Association.

Everyone please make every effort to get the John W. Finn AO of the Year (AVORDY) and Robert L. Crow scholarship packages in as I hope to see some real tough competition again this year.

New subject, a move is afoot, with a submittal to the OP-05 Air Board 28-29 April when LT General Wills, USMC will propose an Breast Device for the AO community. This is a joint issue supported by CMC, AIR-09P, and OP-514 along with a survey being routed to determine the most desired insignia. The Air Force also has a similar program established in 1990 called the "Aircraft and Munitions Maintenance Qualification Badge".

The Navy and Marine Corps Aviation Ord-

nance community is one of the closet groups within our services. We jointly serve in organizations, associations and on working committees to the betterment of Naval Aviation Ordnance. It is only appropriate that a "Naval Aviation Ordnance Device" be approved for both services. I support and commend everyone working towards this most worthwhile task, thank you.

I'll close now hope to see many new faces at this year's Convention. If you can be there, make every effort to use permissive orders authorized at no cost; this way you won't be charged leave. My last comment is to keep pushing for new members and getting some of the ex-members back with us. A special thank you to LTCOL Klaus and his efforts for the Association and welcome to all our new El Toro members.

Gary Laun
President

EDITOR . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

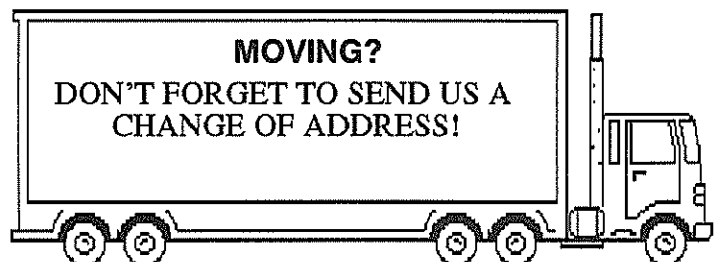
what other good things are happening in the AO community around the world. Thanks to all the AO Chapters for your individual articles. Regardless of the community projects or which port you sailed into, the information is priceless to everyone to see what else is going on. Keep them coming.

Change of Address and Zip codes: During the month of May there were 77 address and 39 zip code changes received. That is quite a few changes, but it means that people are interested in receiving their Association mail. Keep sending those changes of address to the Secretary/Treasurer (Note the new address and phone number on the cover of this edition.)

So far we have only received ten scholarship award applications. There are three scholarships of \$750.00 available to be awarded. There are individuals that could use these funds, so let's make an effort to get them to submit a Scholarship application. Scholarship applications are available from the Secretary/Treasurer and the editor of The Red Shirt (addresses and phone numbers on cover).

See you at the Convention!

Jeff Sassone



ORDIE CONVENTION

11 - 14 JUNE 1992

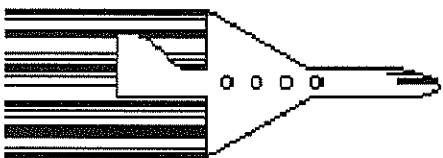
LAS VEGAS, NV

Call Jim Thomas at the Travel & Tour Company of San Diego for special discounted air fares offered by CONTINENTAL AIRLINES. The 5% to 50% savings beats other airline fares over the same rout. Call (800) 638-8487 (San Diego County (619) 463-3030) for the Lowest Available fare (to include Senior Fares).

Jim will also make seat assignments and issue boarding passes. Frequent flyer data can be added to your reservation also.

Our hotel is the **IMPERIAL PALACE**, located on the strip. You may call the hotel direct at (800) 634-6441, and ask for "Ms Blue". The room rates are \$45 per night, plus 8% tax.

GENERAL RENT A CAR is offering The Association excellent rates. Daily rates (Noon Thursday - Noon Monday) start at \$16.95, with Unlimited Mileage!



Thank You

The "Robert L. Crow Scholarship Fund" was established to assist dependents of a member of The Association, dependents of a deceased Aviation Ordnanceman of the U.S. Navy of Marine Corps, dependents of Associate members and immediate family of an active or associate member of The Association.

The Association of Aviation Ordnanceman wishes to express their appreciation for the generosity of the members who have contributed to the "Robert L. Crow Scholarship Fund" this past quarter:

AO1 John Barry	F.M. Brant (exAO)
CDR Raymond Fone	AOCM(AW) Richard Hastings
LCDR (Ret) W.E. Klinker	James Yaple (exAO)
CWO4 T.C. Moore	A. William Noterangelo
CWO4 (Ret) Frank Parker	Richard Peipert JR (Ret)
LT Kenneth E. Porter	AOC Frank A. Riddle (Ret)
CWO4 Michael A. Smith	Arnold Stoke (exAO)
Donald E. Vochatzer (exAO)	CWO4 Thomas K. Williams
Steve Wrenn	James G. Yaple (exAO)



A Farewell To Active Duty

The time grows near (1SEP92) when I take that walk down the red carpet of no return where the Boatswain's Pipe sounds the mournful wail that we welcome and yet we dread to hear with a passion. It has been a wonderful, fast and exciting 37 years since I began my career in Fleet Air Gunnery Unit Pacific (FAGUPAC), NAS El Centro, CA, under the wings of some of the finest Aviation Ordnancemen in the history of the rating.

There were many others who put their size twelve boots in my behind (I'll never forget them or their boots). Likewise, other great people (officers & enlisted), served as shining examples by setting an example, greatly influencing my life and career. A very special kudo to all my leaders from day one. CPOs, LPOs, LDOs, Warrants Chief Warrants in the Aviation Ordnance community were all super performers and leaders. I've also enjoyed working for outstanding Gun Bosses, Admirals, COs & XO's, Aviators, Black Shoes, Rotor Heads, Bubble Heads and the like.

I had a locker at the Seven Seas; owned at least two changes of clothes; when I was skinny, I looked great in my 13 Button Blues (big red Pall Mall pack in my pocket to simulate ribbons and Dragons on my sleeves); bought my first engagement ring at Dick Tyrell's; my favorite uniform was Dress Khakis; the party was hearty & I woke up underway on a French ship out of Long Beach (the French CPOs though it was funny... I didn't); I adored liberty in the P.I. and I had maximum difficulty saying NO; San Miguel was part of my diet; I adapted to leadership called a dozen or more things over the years, now under the guise of TQL, yet, it is only common sense, Good Old Fashioned Leadership.

I lost my Liberty Card many times & even had a Liberty Card as a full Commander; I've owned several Hundred Dollar Belt Buckles; thrown up on my friends; crashed my 55 Chevy into the Hotel Del Coronado; tended bar at the Acey Duecy in Alameda; I've been thrown both out of and into "Whoa, This is Dales" bar & grill; woke up in strange places to unbelievable sights (often incredible sights with small circles or various other shapes); tried to keep up with the EOD Hacker's society in Albuquerque; was thrown in the Brig; went on liberty with some Crazy Muthers when STEAMING meant more than cooking crabs (we caught them but didn't cook them), including driving on the sidewalks of Naples with a couple of trustworthy Beach Guard Officers (Harry Lovett knows), and won a few Jackpots & a small lottery... I even had time to make Commander (LT Don Baumer, USN, Retired, recently informed me that he and AOC George Furze, USN, Retired (deceased), who were my

LPO and CPO at my first duty station, didn't think that I would make Third Class P.O.) and I served as the first 636X AO Commanding Officer of a Navy Command. Great Memories....

However, my fondest memories come from observing the accomplishments of my people throughout the years. Watching those guys and gals succeed made my day in every instance. Many have gone on to become present and past leaders in our community. Everyone has a best friend and I am no exception. My best friend and idol was always the absolute tops in everything he undertook (especially pinochle, acey duecy, leave & liberty, cutting the red tape & getting the job done), he is the infamous LCDR Harry Lee Lovett, USN Retired. A very special thanks to the Gray Fox for your leadership and example over the years.

There was and is a superb cadre of Aviation Ordnancemen (once an AO, always an AO) out there whom I salute for paving the way for the likes of me and for many others who are equally grateful. I cannot possibly list everyone who deserves my sincerest thanks, including those superb professionals we know as Tech Reps and Sand Crabs, but I am not concerned that I may miss anyone because you will surely know as you read this. I am proud that I've tried to set the example and for those whose successes may in part be attributed to one of my little pushes, let me again say that I am proud of your accomplishments. I can honestly say that I have benefitted by knowing each and every person associated with my Navy career, especially, all of the hard working red shirts. Thank you all, past and present for everything. My successes were a direct result of your efforts. I will never forget the fact.

I have always loved the Aviation Ordnance community. Every true AO, Navy & Marines, from Airman or Private, to our newest LDO Captain select of LDO Marine Lieutenant Colonel, commands my deepest respect. As for our first AO Captain, Commander Ron Curry, he is truly deserving and a fine Naval Officer and Aviation Ordnanceman. He has contributed immensely to aviation ordnance in general and is poised to lead our 'Red Shirt' community for many years to come. I am proud to have known and worked with him over the years.

As my parting shot - I openly challenge every Aviation Ordnanceman, Navy and Marines, regardless of rate, grade or rank, active or retired, in our community, to FULLY SUPPORT THE ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN and it's local chapters, working closer together, helping where needed, teaching our new generation of folks the things we know & learning new ideas from them and putting these

ideas to work. We must put our enormous egos to rest, achieve community harmony, and protect each other at all levels.

In today's Navy & Marine Corps for our mere survival, we need to work closely together as a team of Red Shirts for the benefit of all. Above all else, **"TAKE CARE OF YOUR PEOPLE"**. God Bless you all, fair winds and following seas. Semper Fi. I came, I did, I benefitted. From SHIPMATE to SHIPMATE. ANYTIME, ANYWHERE PARTNER, I'll drink with you.

Delbert (Del) OAKES, JR

WHERE ARE THEY NOW ????

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of the following members please have them forward their change of address to the National Secretary/Treasurer. Many member lose contact with the Association when they move or relocate, they fail to pass on their new address. Mail is returned with "moved and left no forwarding address" or "insufficient address". Please help locate these members so we can send them their "Red Shirt" and they can see what's going on in the AO community.

T.R. BARONI	AOAN CRAIG BASHOSE
AO1 D. C. CARPENTER	KENNETH D. CLARK
AOCS(AW) E. L. COLE	AOC ELMER G. DEVINE
AO2 M.R. DILLON	AOCS GEORGE ELDER
AOC EUGENE R. ENNIS	EDWIN P. FISHER
AOC M. L. FLETCHER	AO1 L. FORREST
CWO3 C.W. HAYNES	SGT JERREY W. HENSLEY
AOAN R. C. HEREDIA	CHARLES D. JAMIESON
AOS KEITH A. JOHNSON	AO1 SHAWN KIHSTADIUS
AO1 HERBERT R. KILBY	AO1 J.E. KNEILING
K.L. KNOOP	AO3 JOSEPH MANRIQUE
PRC JOHN H. MATHENY	CPL ROBERT L. MCCLURKIN
WT3 MARK MCMILLIAN	AZ2 THOMAS J. MCNEIL
AO1 GARY L. MCQUEEN	AO3 JEWELL MILGRIM
AO1 R. L. MILLER	AO1 ALPHONSO MITCHELL
AOCM JERRY E. MORGAN	AO3 WILLIAM C. MORRISON
AO1 JOHN PFEIFER	JEFFERY J. PIAZZA
AO2 J.W. RACHEL	AO1 G.L. RASMUSSEN
AOC ROBERT K. REA	GMG2 P.W. RHAME
AO2 R.L. RODRIQUEZ	AO2 PAUL M. ROUTIN
AOC A. J. SEKERES (RET)	AO1 KEVIN C. SHAW
AOAN JOHN G. SHERRY	AO1 C. S. THOMASSON
AO3 LORI THOMPSON	AO1 TRACY A. TRUSSEL
AOCS TRENT VEACHER	T.D. WHIPKEY
AOCS JOHN H. WILKEN JR	AO2 DAVID WORKMAN

Seven members were located and provided their addresses as a result of the "WHERE ARE THEY" article in Red Shirt #43. If you know someone that is listed have them call (314) 946-0503 and pass on their new address or mail it to Jerry Gannon, 1245 Cunningham Ave, St

Chapter 1 Lemoore, CA

Warm weather has got a jump on us and it looks like we're in for a crispy summer.

Congratulations go out to VFA-25 Ordnance, this year's winner of the Scott F. Kirby Ordnance Proficiency Award for STRKFITWINGPAC. AOCM (Ret) Scott F. Kirby was present during the luncheon and awards presentation, named in his honor, held on 25 February. Commander, Strike Fighter Wing Pacific, RADM B.J. Smith delivered the presentation. Several friends of Mr Kirby were in attendance for the ceremony, including John Finn. Congratulations go out to Mark Sawyer for his superb work and dedication towards initiating this prestigious award.

In February elections were held. It was out with the old and in with the new. Many thanks to the outgoing officers, Wayne Stanley, Brian Schwandt, Dave Moore and Brad Schwake, for a job well done. Filling those big shoes are John Wheat (Vice-President), Ron Thomas (BOD), George Segars (BOD), and Lewis Lachney (Parliamentarian). Welcome to the Board!

Also in February, we were honored to present Mr Randy Hastings of Lemoore a check for \$2000.00 to pay for his seeing eye dog training. Randy was present as our special guest speaker. Working at the request of United Way representative, Irish Schwarzenbach, Chapter 1 raised the money by conducting a shotgun raffle. We were honored to have Mr Hastings draw the winning ticket with Bill Ewing as the raffle winner.

The Chapter also donated \$50.00 to sponsor the Lemoore High School Sober Graduation party. The donation will be one of several raffles to be given away during the event. Other areas we are sponsoring are the Hanford Babe Ruth "Oakland A's" baseball team and the Naval Air Station "Yankee's" softball team.

Car washes go over big in the bug ridden valley. In April we had one on base. Chuck Onken, Ron Thomas, Bill Scoggin and Don Phelps washed over 30 cars, raising \$132.00 for the Chapter.

Our adopt a highway program has been in full swing for nearly a year now. Once a quarter we walk our 2 mile stretch, with our next walk scheduled for 23 May. We've made a few dollars by recycling the aluminum we pick up along the highway, but we're still on the lookout for sacks full of cash.

Plans are in work by the recreation committee to set up our annual picnic in August. A \$250.00 chapter scholarship will be presented during the

picnic. Applicants may obtain/submit applications to Scholarship committee chairman, Dave Moore 209-998-3567 (work). Dependents of Chapter 1 members are eligible to apply. Applications must be received no later than 1 August 92.

This about touches up our activity to present. The count down to Vegas is ticking. Chapter 1 looks forward to seeing you all at this years convention. Till then, be good.

Bill Scoggin
President Chapter 1

Chapter 3 Whidbey Island, WA

Greetings from Chapter 3 and The Great Northwest. Our 66th AO Birthday cake cutting took place at MAWSPAC with the COMMATVAQ-WINGPAC Chief of Staff, Captain William Dwinelle, CWO3 Doug Fyfe and our newest AO's AOAA Brown and AOAA Zimmerman doing the honors. We had a great showing of active duty, reserve and retired ordnancemen and we'd like to thank the MAWSPAC CO, CDR Jim Symonds and the MAWSPAC gang for being such gracious hosts.

The 13th of March at 1300 hours we had the honor of piping CWO4 Billy Earl ashore upon his retirement. Billy, we wish you Fair Winds and Following Seas (in Montana?).

Our Chapter dart team finished up winter league in great form, taking the league championship as well as the first and second halves. Good job Bob Walecki and associates! On the subject of darts, the CMVWP staff Ordies (Steve Hall, Bill Reynolds, Dennis Grayer, Chris McDaniel and Don Richardson) were on target 28 March and walked away with the Navy NORPAC sports conference Team Championship (We hear they've widened the doors to accommodate the large heads!). Also, our ST Paddy's day car wash and dart tournament was an unqualified success. Thanks to Doug Fyfe, Dave Michel, Randy Nollan, Bill Powell and a host of others for making it a true event.

Our annual picnic has been scheduled for 25 July at Rocky Point. If you're in the area we would be extremely pleased to have you join us for a day of good food, fun and general frivolity. I guarantee Mark Kolwyck and crew will give us a day to remember.

We're looking forward to seeing everyone at the convention in June, so keep it safe.

Don Richardson
Chapter 3, President

Chapter 4 Tidewater, VA

Greetings to all Aviation Ordnancemen from Chapter 4. An especially hardy welcome home goes out to the USS Eisenhower CVN-69 and her embarked Carrier Air Wing 7 squadrons and CAG staff. During Ike's extended deployment the ship experienced a variety of temperature zones starting in the warm Indian Ocean, then going to the hot Persian Gulf and finally cooling the haze gray off in the frigid North Atlantic and Arctic Circle.

Congratulations go out to three Chapter 4 members that were selected for a commission through the recent CWO/LDO Selection Board. They are AOC Mike Snider to CWO2 from VA-36, AOC Tom Behne (1991 AVORDY) to Ensign from VA-35, and AOC Al Wooten to Ensign from VF-143. Well done "Gunnery"! Keep Charging.

In February, Chapter 4 held our general election. The following are our 1992/1993 Elected Officers and Board of Directors.

President: Don Howard, LCDR, USN, RET

Vice President: Ron Jerasa, CWO3, USN

Sec/Treas: Stu Carson, AOCM, USN, RET

Board of Directors:

Bob Borges, AOCM, USN, RET

Chuck Cole, LCDR, USN

Dawn Sealy-Crosby,

Don Howard, Stu Carson and Bob Borges were re-elected and Ron Jerasa "Our Pocket Gunner" is new to the Vice-Presidency, but hit the ground running.

Chapter 4 would like to extend their best wishes to all the Aviation Ordnancemen who will be competing in the 1992 AVORDY program during the convention in June. We certainly hope all the candidates have gotten their packages into the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen by now or is being submitted now so you won't miss out.

Recently Chapter 4 completed their first FOD Walkdown (Adopt a Highway Program) of a one and a half mile section of London Bridge Road. The area has extremely deep drainage ditches and prior to our clean-up it would have made Ole Iron Eyes Cody cry again as it has gone unattended for years.

The walkdown was a super success being well coordinated and organized with thirty members picking up trash and debris. Dawn Sealy-Crosby, the coordinator, gave a thorough safety brief prior to the walkdown and Stu Carson gave a brief on poisonous snakes and bothersome insects. The evolution took three hours and the results were five full-sized pick-up truck beds chocker-blocked

with thirty three gallon trash bags that we took to the pick up point designated by the Virginia Beach Sanitation Department. We found tires, tires with rims, and Bob Peterman, AOCM, USN stated that they looked better than what he had on his truck. At our last meeting in final preparation for the major undertaking, Max Snock brought up that we should organize a shotgun patrol for the cleanup. Somebody asked if it was to kill cottonmouths (water moccasins) in the watery ditches and Max replied, "Nope, it's to shoot litterers as they throw trash out while driving by." We didn't think the local constabulary would appreciate that, but we still think it was a great idea! A picnic for the hard working volunteers followed at the VFW 392 Post home with beer, soda, hot dogs and beans. It was attended and Don Howard made a mean tray of baked beans, they were great. Bob Borges gets a super thanks for cooking the dogs.

A 'Well Done' and thanks goes to Dawn Sealy-Crosby for her efforts and all hands who participated. It really made an impact on the environment. Next walkdown will be in June.

On 25 April 1992 Chapter 4 of the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen received an award from VFW Post 392 during their annual awards ceremonies. There was a good turn out of Ordies for the award presentation and Don Howard accepted it. The citation reads:

"Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States presented to Association of Aviation Ordnancemen Chapter 4, for meritorious and distinguished service in furthering the aims and ideals of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States."

Presented by Post Commander Arthur Goodwin

We are hoping for a good showing by Chapter 4 members at the convention. Ya'll from the West Coast will probably get there ahead of us, so save us some cold beer, guys.

We are also looking for views and opinions about resurrecting "Ordie" Ordwell, the cartoon character in the 40's, 50's and early 60's as a possible Association of Aviation Ordnancemen mascot.

Stu Carson

Chapter, 4 Secretary/Treasurer

Chapter 8 San Diego, CA

Hello from sunny (real sunny) Southern California. It seems the weatherman got his A's mixed up and we're having August weather. Hopefully, this weather will hold until our Annual

1992 CONVENTION RESERVATION APPLICATION

YES
NO

I PLAN TO ATTEND THE 1992 CONVENTION _____ _____

I PLAN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

DATE	ACTIVITY	MEMBER	GUEST
12 JUNE (FRI)	BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING	_____	_____
12 JUNE	ATTEND SAFETY MEETING	_____	_____
12 JUNE	AVORD OF THE YEAR COMMITTEE	_____	_____
12 JUNE	SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE	_____	_____
12 JUNE	AO SOCIALIZING TIME (NO HOST) COCKTAILS, DANCING (\$10.00 PER PERSON)	_____	_____
13 JUNE (SAT)	GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING	_____	_____
13 JUNE	AWARDS/BUFFET DINNER (\$20.00 PER PERSON)	_____	_____
14 JUNE (SUN)	BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING	_____	_____

AUXILIARY OF THE ASSOCIATION OF AVITATION ORDNANCEMEN

11 JUNE THUR	BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING	_____
12 JUNE FRI	BY-LAWS COMMITTEE	_____
13 JUNE SAT	GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING	_____
14 JUNE SUN	BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING	_____

- NOTES:**
1. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN WILL REQUIRE ASSISTANCE FROM MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS YEARS SELECTION OF:
 - A. AVIATION ORDNANCEMAN OF THE YEAR
 - B. THREE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS
 2. SEND MONEY FOR AO SOCIALIZING TIME AND AWARDS DINNER ONLY

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____ NAME: _____

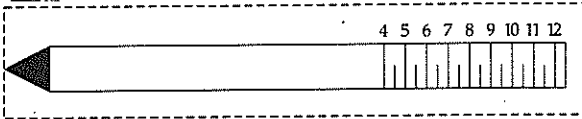
ADDRESS: _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO AND MAIL TO:

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN
1245 - CUNNINGHAM AVE
ST CHARLES, MO 63301

ORDER INSTRUCTIONS

1. Print legibly to assure rapid delivery. Orders will take between 4 to 6 weeks to arrive.
2. Payment: Add \$5.00 to each ring to cover die fee's. Optional items (blocks 4,6,8) cost \$10.00 for each additional option. Note that 3 initials (block 6) are free. Persons ordering rings may send in full payment with each order OR send in A MINIMUM of \$40.00 for each ring. The remaining balance will be due C.O.D.. All rings ordered are subject to a C.O.D. charge to pay for shipping and handling (approx. \$6.00).



HOW TO MEASURE YOUR RING SIZE: Cut out measuring strip along dotted line. Wrap it around the finger on which the ring will be worn. The number where the arrow rests will be the proper ring size.

Date of Order _____ C.O.D. SHIP DIRECT TO MAILING ADDRESS (Postal & Handling Fees will be added)

HOME PHONE () _____ APT.# _____

CUSTOMER INFORMATION
PLEASE PRINT FIRMLY

A. NAME _____
B. HOME MAILING ADDRESS _____
C. CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
D. NAME ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN _____
E. CITY _____ STATE _____

YOUR RING CHOICE
RING NAME: AAO Ring
 MALE FEMALE
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: X S B G M
FINGER SIZE: _____

YOUR METAL CHOICE
choose one
Yellow Gold 14K Mens price \$378.40 Ladies \$277.60
White Gold Same as Yellow
10K GOLD Price \$149.20 M \$145.20 L
L 215.50
 (0) 14K (1) 10K (9) 14K (2) 10K (5) Lustrum

YOUR STONE CHOICES
CHECK ONE COLOR AND ONE SHAPE STONE SHAPE
 OVAL
 Garnet Aquamarine White Spinel Starburst Alexandrite Ruby Peridot Fire Blue Spinel Rose Zircon Topaz Blue Zircon
CHECK ONE: SMOOTH FACET BLACK ONYX MOTHER OF PEARL

SPECIAL STONE OPTIONS
all birthstone colors available
CHECK ONE SUNBURST FIRE RAY INDIA CUT QUADRA CUT
A CHECK ONE ENCRUSTING SIGNA STONE PROTECTED EMBLEM ACTION TOP GO TO LINE B
B SINGLE BLOCK LETTER SINGLE OLD ENGLISH LETTER TWO PERSONAL INITIALS ENCRUSTING ONLY INITIALS OTHER _____
Add \$10.00 for each option.

PERSONAL ENGRAVING
Your name or initials engraved inside ring
 (1) Autograph Signature — looks exactly like your signature (Sign Area 10 Below)
 (2) Your name in *Handwritten Script*
 (3) Personal Initials (maximum three initials) _____
Initials are free. Add \$10 for full name

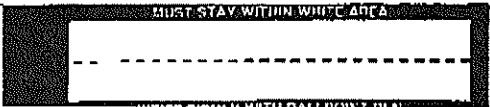
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Family Picnic, which will be held at Admiral Baker Field Area #7 on Saturday 16 May 1992, from 1000 until ????. If you're in the area, come on by it's guaranteed to be a great time.

Congratulations to Dan Keller our new Chapter 8 Secretary/Treasurer and many thanks to J.J. LaMaitre for his outstanding performance as our former Secretary/Treasurer. Good luck J.J. on your sea duty tour.

We're looking forward to the Convention and we're hoping to see you all there.

Jeff Sassone
Chapter 8

Chapter 12 Cubi Point, Philippines

Here in the Philippines we continue our drawdown from the base and country. USS Independence (CV-62) was in the area operating and inport for the final battle group liberty call in mid March. A good time was had by all with some strong emotional feeling by many of the old timers. Closing the door on this port with so many fond memories was certainly an unforgettable occasion.

The chapter continues to function. We nominated and elected some vacant position on our board. We also decided to sponsor a handicapped child who was in need of minor surgery to correct a hernia. The operation costs only \$150, not much for us but nearly impossible for them. There are numerous opportunities here in the Philippines to truly help genuine needy individuals and organizations. This is another unfortunate aspect of the base closing.

The detailers were here in March and we will experience personnel losses from that as soon as April. We will continue to lose regularly until the end of the summer, the final pullout onboard USS Belleau Wood. It should be an historic event the final pullout of the US Navy out of the Philippines after almost 100 years.

The chapter will continue to function until we don't have enough people to keep it going. We will keep you posted as we continue to draw-down.

J.H. Juris
President Chapter 12

Chapter 13 El Centro, CA

Greetings to all Aviation Ordnancemen from Chapter 13. During the month of April, Chapter

13 was in a transitional phase to a new slate of officers. New officers elected to lead our chapter include the following:

President: AO1 Czemerys
Vice-President: AO1 Woods
Secretary: AO2 Saunders
Treasurer: AO3 Cleary

Chapter 13 would like to extend its congratulations to Ron Saunders on his marriage to Martha Hernandez. We wish you the best of luck. We would also like to wish Fair Winds and Following Seas to AO1 Barb, AOAN Bendixen, AOAN Fisher and AOAN Smith upon their transfers.

A special thanks goes out to the "Bomb Guys" of Yuma for their outstanding performance with the explosive demonstration during this years Air Show.

We are starting to lay the ground work an making plans for a journey to the National Convention in Las Vegas. Hope to see you all there.

AO1 Czemerys
President Chapter 13

Chapter 21 Ordnancetown USA Fallon, NV

Chapter 21 recently held election at our monthly meeting in February 1992. The new officers are:

President: AOCM Jerry Copple
Sec/Treas: AO2 Jay Goodrich
BOD: CWO2 Jeff Maxfield
BOD: CWO4 (Ret) George Adams

A well done to those departing officials. Especially to LCDR Larry Manley and AOC John Hill who were instrumental in getting Chapter 21 off the ground.

Ordnancetown USA is well into full swing of things; CVW-2/USS Ranger, CVW-3/USS John F. Kennedy have been through Fallon and completed a very successful training evolutions, MAWS-13 from MCAS Yuma, AZ was with us for a short stay as well.

We are presently hosting CVW-15 with G3 personnel form USS Kitty Hawk. Our upcoming schedule will keep us gainfully employed throughout the summer months.

AO1 David Hillman of Weapons Department has volunteered to be a bone marrow donor to the United Blood Services, as a representative of Chapter 21. Way to go AO1.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING PERSONNEL:

ADVANCEMENTS

AO1 David Hillman
AO2 Stephen Walker
AO3 Chris Hathaway
AO3 Ron Maslen

REENLISTMENTS

AO1 Raymond
AO2 Paulter
AO3 Gavigan
AO3 Adair
AOAN Salazar

Chapter 21 has also adopted a portion of highway 50 as a part of the State of Nevada's Adopt a Highway Program. Our section is a two mile stretch leading out of town towards Carson City/Reno. It just happens to go by the Chaparral Bar, which will make a convenient rest stop.

AOCM Jerry Copple
President Chapter 21

Editors Note: AOCM Copple during his tour in CVW-14 was affectionately know as "MASTER BLASTER" by all Red and yellow shirts who worked the flight deck on the carriers Constellation and Independence.

Chapter 65 USS Enterprise

Greetings (again) from the Newport News Shipyard where Enterprise continues its complex overhaul. We are scheduled to be here for quite some time so I will need a new opening line next issue. For those familiar with the elevators aboard this great ship, the shipyard began work (finally) on the Straight Through Weapons Elevators (STWE) both forward and aft. This will increase the overall capability for Enterprise Ordies to move weapons in support of operational commitments.

Chapter 65 will be hosting a softball tournament the 20th and 21st of June at Fort Eustis. The event will be a double elimination tournament with teams coming from Enterprise departments and the local area. A total of 20 teams will be entered. This will be a major undertaking for the Chapter and we hope to raise money to support other endeavors, such as Little League Baseball teams, charity organizations, and Veteran's help projects.

Congratulations to AO1 (AW) Silva on his selection as the Enterprise Ordnanceman of the Year. His nomination will be submitted for consideration as the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen's Ordnanceman of the Year. Congratulations go out to AO1 Schroeder and AO1 (AW) Edwards who were runner ups.

Until next issue, "fair winds and following seas."

Charles W. Phillips
Chapter 65
Gun Boss CVN-65

Chapter 68 USS Nimitz

Slowly but surely, Chapter 68 is starting to come back to life. We are still in SRA, which has seriously impacted our ability to get all the members together, but little by little we are getting them back.

We started February off with the monthly meeting/recruiting drive at Pizza Hut. We invited everybody from the Weapons, so there was quite a showing. Besides consuming an extraordinary amount of pizza and beer, we recruited 25 new members.

In commemoration of the birthday of the Aviation Ordnance rate, a cake cutting ceremony was held on the forward mess decks on May 2nd. In attendance were the CO CAPT R.C. Williamson, the XO CDR T.F. Noonan, the Gun Boss CDR Neal Oshiro, the OHO LCDR Pat Canaday and about 50 weaponeers. The ceremony was opened with a brief speech by CAPT Williamson concerning the pride and professionalism of the Aviation Ordnance rating and the value of the Weapons Department in achieving command goals. The ceremony was completed when CWO4 Wardee Bruce and AOAN Jose J. Mendez, the oldest and youngest "Ordies" respectively, sliced the cake.

Elections were held at our March meeting to replace departing shipmates with the following changes:

Vice-President: AO2 Daniel Leblanc
BOD: AO1 Scott Benton
BOD: AO3 Ezequiel Ramos-Rodriguez

The retirement of CWO4 Dan Dunn finished off the month of March. The "good Gunner" left taking with him 30 years of experience in all aspects of the Aviation Ordnance rate. While he has not left the Chapter for good, his presence, on a daily basis, will be sorely missed.

Thomas Lord
SEC/TREAS Chapter 68



ANNOUNCING



CARRIER VETS

Squadron & Ship's Company, Navy & Marine. Your carrier will be listed on an OBELISK at the Old Fleet Landing, on San Diego's waterfront. For info write to the Aircraft Carrier Memorial Plaza, PO Box 390117, San Diego, CA 92149-0117 or call Bob Cantrell of Chapter 8 @ 619-422-2275. Meet at VFW Post 6874, Lemon Grove, 2nd Tuesday Noon. Sable, Wolverine and all flattops,

Chaplain's Corner

Again, all THANKS to the 'BIG GUY' for all the guidance that has been provided in various of our lives. For example, our brand new Senior and Master Chief Aviation Ordnancemen. Fresh off the CNO message we have Senior Chief Selectees: Ammon, Bearden, Carroll, Costa, Gronbach, Hamann, Hanka, Kauber, Knight, Magner, Miles, Morris, Mullen, Norris, Overall, Plagman, Rea, Relta, Rutledge, Silcox, Sturkie, Wagner and Walecki. Master Chief Selectees: Beck, Hannifan, Heaney, Houseknecht, Jones, Mercer and Schreiber. A couple of familiar names there. CONGRATULATIONS to the new Senior and Master Chiefs. Also, a super special THANKS to the Supreme Commander for a significant AO accomplishment. Captain Ron Curry, currently in the big NAVAIR house (or is that the NAVAIR big house), is losing his "Commandership". In this case a nice thing to lose. CONGRATULATIONS CAPTAIN Curry!!!

Continuing with the investigation of how we members of the Naval Service, past and present, manage to survive some of the situations we get ourselves into and chalking part of it up to the protection provided by our spiritual patrons, I've made a few more discoveries. We all know that, among her other collateral duties, Saint Barbara is a patroness of ordnance types, and last issue I mentioned Saint Erasmus, a.k.a. Saint Elmo, a patron of sailors. I guess sailors being what we are need more coverage. Another patron saint is good old Saint Christopher. Possibly better known for being a patron of travelers in general, an easy connection to sailors can be made. In some references he is described as an 'ugly giant'. I'm sure most of us can connect with someone like this. I can halfway, except I'm not a giant. Anyway, put St. Chris in your line-up and leave room for several more to be covered in future Red Shirts. PEACE TO ALL.

Ron Bushta
Chaplain

From the President of the Auxiliary

Let us remember the convention/reunion, is our convention/reunion also. Volunteers are going to be needed to assist with registration. If you wish to assist, please contact one of the officers, board of directors or myself. The officers of the Auxiliary are:

President Kathleen Gannon
Vice-President Beverly Onken

Sec/Treas Dottie Underwood

Boar of Directors:

Shirley Bushta
Ethel Foster
Beth Kershisnik
B.J. O'Dell
Susette Roberts
Kate Sawyer

Please remember membership has few, if any, restrictions. It is not just a Ladies Auxiliary. It is open to Mothers, Sister, Brothers, Husbands, Fathers, anyone that wishes to promote the objectives of the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen and the Auxiliary.

I appointed Beth Kershisnik as Chairperson of the By-Laws committee. She and her committee have drawn up a draft of the by-laws to be presented at the general business meeting. Anyone joining the Auxiliary prior to the end of the Convention on June 14, 1992 will enjoy **Plankowner** status.

I just completed a trip which included the Naval Aviation Museum in Pensacola, FL, the Association' Hall of Fame, and the John Finn Museum at NAS Memphis, Millington, Tn. I will have a complete report and photos for presentation at the convention.

The agenda for the general business meeting will be available at registration for the meeting.

Hope to see you all in Las Vegas, June 11 - 14, 1992 at the Imperial Palace

Kathy Gannon
President, Auxiliary

Chapter S-87 Millington, TN

Boy, what a party! Our AO birthday party this year was a smash. Bar-B-Que pulled pork, baked beans, slaw, french bread, and plenty of beer for those dry souls. Wish all the bro's could have been there. Maybe next year.

The AO school will be hosting the PIP Conference this year. This will give those coming to the PIP a chance to see the Museum. Those AO's out in the Fleet who haven't seen the new building will definitely be impressed. We are looking forward to seeing the AO's at PIP. If we can assist in anyway just give us a call (AV 966-5393 or Comm (901) 873-5393) or drop us a line at:

AO School, S-791
NATTC Memphis
Millington, TN 38045

Special thanks to Gunner Fyfe and AOCM Shaunessy for sending the "STUFF" for the Museum

AOC Vince Howell
President, Chapter S-87



CDR R.A. ASHWORTH

AOC V.R. EVANS

AOC T. BAKER

AO1 J.O. FLANNIGAN

AOC A.J. HUGHES

AOC H.M. LUCICH

(EX-AO) C.M. JOHNSON

AOC A.P. MILECKI

AO1 G.T. MEYERS

CDR KEVIN E. NIELSEN

AOCS R.E. NELSON

AOC F.M. RANCK

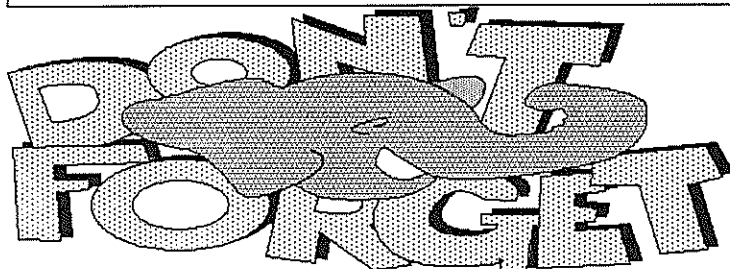
AO2 LYMAN SMITH

AOC N.R. UGLOW

AOC O.C. WEYER

Tony Dominitis, 68, a retired Navy Aviation Ordnanceman Master Chief Petty Officer died Monday October 28, 1991. He served in the Navy for 30 years and was a veteran of World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

Commander E. Kevin Nielsen (Ret), 66, died February 8, 1992. Commander Nielsen served in the U.S. Navy for 31 years.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I enjoyed reading my February copy of The Red Shirt. In the interest of accuracy though, I feel I must speak out.

Regarding hernia bars, it seemed to me that I remember them in use during WWII. Then to check, I called my friend Tom Tomlinson another exAO and he remembered it the same way.

Enjoyed the story on the MK 2 Bomb Truck. I learned to drive on one of those beauties. I think Shipmate Middleton is a little confused. The base that is now NAS Miramar was named Camp Kearny when I got there in 1945. This was because it was located on Kearny Mesa. The last I know Kaneohe was on the windward side of Oahu, HI.

Arnold Stokke

Received the February #44 Newsletter and did enjoy reading it. I was at Kaneohe with John Finn on December 7, 1941 and belted a lot of the ammo that he shot at the Japs.

My wife and I are old farts in our 80's and we celebrated our 60th Anniversary in December last.

My hobby is deep sea fishing, and sometime there is a tall tale.

I was bottom fishing nine miles off the shore of San Diego when suddenly I got the biggest strike of my life, it happened over a man made reef of old junk cars sunk 90 feet deep. I started to reel him in about 4 feet when he got snagged on something. I let my line go slack and allowed the fish to pull it back, then I started pull in another direction, but every time I did this the same thing would happen. I'd get back 4 feet of line and the fish would snag again. Finally I paid a scuba diver 420.00 to go down and see what was hanging up my fish, minutes later the diver came up and told me that I had caught an 80 pound fish, But, he is inside a Volkswagen and every time I pull him over to the door, he rolls up the window!!

Frank J. Brown
CWO-2 RET

Association of Aviation Ordnancemen Calendar Drawing Winners

March 1992

1 R. Burdett	San Antonio, TX
2 E. Shaw	VFA-27 (1000)
3 *B. Borges	Virginia Beach, VA (100)
4 T. Rose	Lemoore, CA (50)
5 T. Sawyer	Fresno, CA
6 B. Van Pelt	Lemoore, CA
7 P. Loop	USS John F. Kennedy
8 *P. Kershnik	Lemoore, CA
9 D. Moore	Lemoore, CA
10 *G. Hildebrand	Oceanside, CA
11 L. Latasa	Virginia Beach, VA
12 D. Edington	Vista, CA
13 G. Waldron	San Diego, CA
14 G. Givin	Virginia Beach, VA
15 M. Marvel	Clovis, CA
16 J. McClain	Tulare, CA
17 W. Johnson	Lemoore, CA
18 J. Wilson	Virginia Beach, VA
19 C. Warnel	Inyokern, CA
20 P. Pash	Lemoore, CA
21 M. Dunkelberger	Hanford, CA
22 M. Ramirez	Lemoore, CA
23 *M. Dennis	Virginia Beach, VA
24 G. Adams	Fallon, NV
25 A. Spencer	Oxnard, CA
26 G. Baron	Ridgecrest, CA (100)
27 S. Miller	Camarillo, CA
28 D. Nelson	San Diego, CA
29 *Chapter 8	San Diego, CA
30 B. Coffey	Oxnard, CA
31 Scott Reis	Virginia Beach, CA

April 1992

1 M. Gautreaux	Lemoore, CA
2 R. Graves	San Diego, CA
3 E. Segars	Hanford, CA
4 J. Stepro	VAQ-129
5 M. Chaffee	Virginia Beach, VA
6 R. Burdett	San Antonio, TX
7 J. Lewis	Newport News, VA
8 J. Baerg	Armona, CA
9 L. Jones	Hanford, CA
10 R. Lusby	Hanford, CA
11 B. Stephens	Virginia Beach, VA
12 A. Storm	Lemoore, CA
13 M. Saicon	VFA-113
14 C. Ingram	Switz City, IN
15 F. Simpson	Ridgecrest, CA
16 S. Allred	Ridgecrest, CA
17 W. Wiley	Oxnard, CA
18 S. Engle	Hanford, VA (100)
19 C. Cornelius	Ridgecrest, CA (50)
20 T. Mcarthy	Lemoore, CA
21 A. Johnson	VA-196
22 D. Gordon	Gig Harbor, WA (1000)
23 L. Derouin	Lemoore, CA
24 B. Underwood	Fallon, NV
25 T. Schmid	Virginia Beach, VA
26 C. Dillon	Hanford, CA
27 D. Smith	Oak Harbor, WA
28 T. Canales	Santa Monica, CA
29 M. Deems	Oak Harbor, WA
30 T. Andrews	CVN-65

May 1992

1 B. Holland	Virginia Beach, VA
2 *F. Simpson	Ridgecrest, CA
3 J. Rees	Riverdale, CA
4 J. Heislen	Oak Harbor, WA
5 C. Gerhart	Hampton, VA
6 D. Nixon	Coupsville, WA
7 T. Dowdy	Lemoore, CA
8 W. Powell	Oak Harbor, WA
9 D. Walker	Laton, CA
10 K. Parks	Oak Harbor, WA
11 KAY ORD	Ridgecrest, CA
12 M. Williams	Ridgecrest, CA
13 L. Butterway	Lemoore, CA
14 D. Gardner	Spring Valley, CA
15 C. Degraw	Ridgecrest, CA
16 M. Molina	Ridgecrest, CA (100)
17 G. Friedel	VFA-146
18 D. Macial	Hanford, CA
19 R. Louisgnau	Oak Harbor, WA
20 M. Koavl	Hanford, CA
21 H. King	Hanford, CA
22 K. Allen	Lemoore, CA
23 S. Kelly	Hanford, CA
24 B. Grosso	VA-115
25 H. Marion	Silvedaie, WA
26 Chapter 3	Whidbey Island, WA
27 J. Bingham	San Diego, CA
28 D. Distles	VFA-97
29 A. Fread	Oak Harbor, WA
30 B. Johnson	Portsmouth, VA
31 B. Albrecht	Newport News, VA

Awards greater than \$25 are indicated in parenthesis following location. Names preceded by an asterisk (*) are repeat winners.

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Answers to last edition's puzzle

Official AO Ring Update

We are in receipt of the sample rings provided us by Jostlens. They are most impressive. The detail is very sharp and intricate. These sample rings are in Chapter One's possession and will be on display at the convention. **AO Rings are now ready to be ordered!** Order form is inside this Red Shirt. Although you are given a choice of stone color, we recommend the smooth Garnet with sunburst pattern. This "AO red" with the sunburst resembles a bright red explosion. This really adds to the ring's appearance. It is my opinion that you will be extremely satisfied with our Association Ring. If you have any questions on the ring, or just want to ensure the order form is filled out correctly, please give me a call at (209) 998-9116. My answering machine is always on if I'm not in. "Peace through Power"

Bill Scoggin

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