October 2011

The Association of Aviation Ordnancemen The Association of Aviation Ordnancemen

Http://aaoweb.org/AAO

Issue #116







AOCM STU CARSON USN (RET)

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN AO HALL OF FAME SELECTEE's FOR 2011

AOCM BILLY TOBIN USN (RET)



AOC KEVIN MEAGHER USN (RET)





ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION
ORDNANCEMEN
JOHN W. FINN
AVIATION ORDNANCEMAN OF
THE YEAR FOR 2011

AO1 (AW/SW) JIMMY C. HEFLIN

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION
ORDNANCEMEN
JOHN W. FINN
AVIATION ORDNANCEMAN OF
THE YEAR FOR 2011
Runner-Up

AO1 (AW/SW) NANISE SCHROEDER



United States Navy



Aviation Ordnancemen School

Certificate of Graduation

This is to certify that Inhn W. Hinn

has completed

the course of instruction in the Aviation Ordnancemen School at the

Naval Training Station, Hampton Roads, Norfolk, Virginia, with a mark of 3,860

Officer in Charge Ch. Guener Just U. S. Navy

Date_16 November, 1935.

Officer in Charge, Service Schools Let. Comdr. U. S. Navy H. H. MICHAEL Comm

H.H. MICHAEL Communiting Captain U. S. Naos

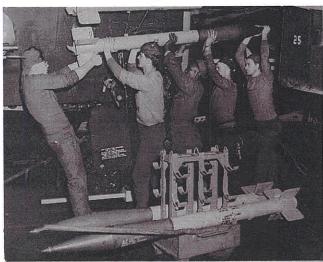




First time ever four Aviation Ordnance Commanding Officers. From left to right. CDR Al Dean, Captain Mike Price, CDR Dion Edon, CDR Mike Gramolini



Then AO3 now AOCM (Ret) Billy Tobin and Newest HOF member. Above kneeling far right and below in the center. USS Philippine Sea, 1953



Panther Heavy Artillery, Charland, D. F., AO3; Richards, P. P., AO3; Tobin, B. J., AO3; Sanders, D. A., AOUAN; Larson, R. L., AOAN.

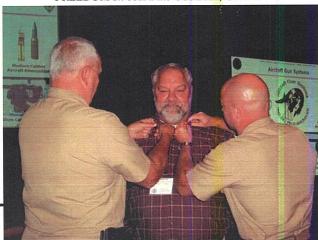


Above, Dick Watson , AAO Associate Memb<mark>er</mark> near right with 6 other Midway survivors at the Nav<mark>y M</mark>emorial Below, Sailors and Marines at the Na<mark>v</mark>y Memorial





VFA-31 men and women supporting OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM on board the USS Bush, CVN-77



CAPT Dave Lepard, Dave (Shrek) Lorentzen, LtCol, Pete Baliff



The Association of Aviation Ordnancemen Http://aaoweb.org/AAO

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Moving? Your Change of

Address is

Important . . . Please submit one to the national treasurer

Chapter 1 - Lemoore, CA President: AO1 Laura Colby 559-998-9320 Fleet Reserve Club, D Street, Lemoore 3rd Monday, 1730

Chapter 3 - Whidbey Island, WA President: AO2 Carracciolo 301-240-9921 VFW Post 7392 (Whidbey) 2nd Wednesday, 1830

Chapter 4 - Virginia Beach, VA
President: LTJG Michael Gaar
Michael.gaar@navy.mil
757-433-9526
VA Beach VFW #392, 2408 Bowland Pkwy
3rd Wednesday, 1900

Chapter 5 - China Lake, CA President: Greg Paulsen 760-384-1810 VFW 4080, 117 N. Alvord 3rd Thursday, 1800

Chapter 7 - Naval Base Ventura County, CA President: UNKNOWN 805-989-9811 Weapons Dept. Conf Room Bldg. 68, NBVC 2nd Wednesday, 1130

Chapter 8 - San Diego, CA President: AO1 Nanise M. Schroeder 619-545-6221 Fleet Reserve, Chula Vista 1st Thursday, 1900

Chapter 9 - Jacksonville, FL
President: Lt. Jack Elrod USN (Ret)
904-655-2211
enavldo@aol.com
Fleet Reserve, Collins Road
3rd Thursday, 1900

Chapter 11 - Kaneohe Bay, HI President: Unknown 808-839-2226 Call for Meeting Time and Place

Chapter 21 - Fallon, NV President: AO2 Gina Middaugh 775-217-3457 American Legion Post 16 Fallon, NV. 1st Wednesday, 1900

Chapter 22 - Patuxent River President: AO1 Mark Walk Mark.walk@navy.mil 301-997-0036 VFW, Post 2632 California, MD 3rd Wednesday, 1900

Chapter LHD-4 Gator Chapter President: AO1 Neely On Board

Chapter LHD-8 – USS Makin Island President AO1 (AW/SW) Travis R. Steele steeletr@lhd8.navy.mil On Board Chapter 39 "Dude Gilbert" - Beaufort, SC President: Del Tingley 843-228-2827 Delroy.d.tingley@usmc.mil Hard Corps Café Dude Gilbert Room 1st Thursday 1645

Chapter 65 - USS Enterprise CVN 65 President: AOI Julius Carter On Board

Chapter 68 - USS Nimitz CVN 68 President: AO1 John Hardy On Board

Chapter 70 - USS Vinson CVN 70 President: Ryan P. Burton On Board

Chapter 72 - USS Lincoln CVN 72 President: AO1 Sobieski On Board

Chapter 73 - USS George Washington CVN-73 President: Unknown Forward Deployed

Chapter 74 - USS Stennis CVN 74 President: AO1 Brown On Board

Chapter 75 - USS Truman CVN 75 President: Unknown On Board

Chapter 76 - USS Ronald Reagan CVN-76 President: AOI Sheila Brown On Board

Chapter 77 - USS George HW Bush CVN-77 President: AO1 Ronald W Lee On Board leerw@cvn77.navy.mil

Chapter Key West, Southern Most President: Unknown 305-294-2892 Navigator Bar and grill 2nd Friday 1300

Chapter 34 - Pensacola, FL
President: Sgt Joshua M Peterson
850-452-7385 x4762
Chapter34ordie@gmail.com
Beef O Brady's
1st Wednesday, 1830

Chapter Desert/Southwest - El Centro, CA. President: Unknown 760-337-4986 Call for Meeting Time and Place

Chapter CVW 5 - Deployed President: AO1 Corey Hester Forward Deployed



SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTORS

Robert & Denise Tom

CAPT Tom & Gay Wimberly USN Ret. CWO4 Frank & Naia Williams USN Ret. Patricia Huntington Biagini in memory of her father Thomas Huntington & John W.

AOC James Poulin USN Ret. CWO4 Bob Jackson USN Ret.

LCDR Joe & Delores Manley USN Ret.

Chapter 5

Chapter 8 Chapter 22

Chapter 34

CWO4 Ron Ross USN Ret.

Chapter 39

Chapter 77

AO2 Rick & Pamela Nelson GMG(SW/AW) Kirt & Jessi Bunn

AOCM Stanley & Babs Chambers

USNR Ret.

AOCM Edward & Penny Hannifan

USN Ret. Chapter 4

LCDR Edward & Ann Budway USN Ret.

CWO4 Kevin Marks

Mary K. Feldman

AAO Chapter 9

AO1 Chester L. Estrada USN Ret.

Architectural Metal Products (Gary Mullins)

AOCM Bill Foote USN Ret.

LCDR Chuck & Beverly Onken USN Ret.

Chapter 1

Chapter 9 (In Memory of Cdr Floyd

English)

Chapter 21

Chapter 65

Phone Ringing Fine (Linda Neal)

Phone Ringing Fine (Walecki/ Dowd) AOC Rick & Gracie Baxla USN Ret.

AO2 George & Julie Grundy

AOCM Donald & Thelma Sanders USN Ret.

CWO4 Leon Sleger USNR Ret.

AOC Christopher & Shawna Hathaway

Chapter 72

AO HALL OF FAME INFORMATION

INFORMATION ON SUBMITTING INDIVIDUAL(S) FOR THE AAO HALL OF FAME CAN BE FOUND ON THE ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN WEB-SITE (http://aaoweb.org/AAO). THE GUIDELINE FORMMAT HAS BEEN UPDATED AND THERE IS A SAMPLE NOMINATION PACKAGE TO FOLLOW. INFORMATION REQUESTED IN GUIDELINES "MUST" BE WITH PACKAGE OR IT "WILL" BE RETURNED. PLEASE DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO WORK ON PACKAGES, GET STARTED "NOW" AO HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, CHUCK

ONKEN 559-998-3568: E-mail

charles.onken@navy.mil

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION http://www.aaoweb.org/AAO/ MEMBERSHIP DUES:

FIRST TIME MEMBERS \$20.00 PER YEAR OR \$30.00 FOR TWO YEARS PREVIOUS MEMBERS AND ANNUAL RENEWALS \$20.00 PER YEAR

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NAME:			SPOUSE:			
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CITY:			_STATE:	ZIP:		
PHONE: home: ()_				cell: ()		
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DATES SERVED: TO Last SSN:						
Marine Corp MOS:						
Type of membership: I	Regular () As	sociate (()			
SPONSOR:						
I elect to receive my Red Shirt by downloading it from the Website only. () Please Initial.						
I do / do not authorize release of my name, address and telephone number to other members or prospective members of the Association of						
Aviation Ordnancemen						
SIGNATURE:					DATE:	
MAIL TO: AOCM The	amag I and HSM Dat					
2888 Iris A San Diego,				September 2011		
San Diego,	CA 92134			September 2011		

GIVE THIS FORM TO A FELLOW ORDNANCEMAN

SPECIAL !!!!!!!!!!

FIRST TIME RE-ENLISTEES SUBMIT THIS APPLICATION ALONG WITH A SIGNED COPY OF YOUR RE-ENLISTMENT CONTRACT FOR A ONE YEAR FREE MEMBERSHIP.

IF YOU ARE ALREADY A MEMBER YOUR EXPIRATION DATE WILL BE EXTENDED ONE YEAR.



Letters To The Editor

I started a Facebook page called "The Red Shirt". If you have access to a computer look us up and LIKE us!



Dear Association of Aviation Ordnanceman Educational Foundation Committee,

I would like to thank you very much for the generous scholarship that you have given me to assist in furthering my education. I truly appreciate this award and know that it will be a tremendous help to me in the continua-

tion of my academic success. I was very happy and appreciative to learn that I was selected as the recipient of the Raytheon Corporation Missile Division scholarship.

I am currently majoring in Kinesiology with hopes of pursuing a career in Sports Medicine. The financial assistance you provided will be of great help to me in paying my educational expenses, and it will allow me to concentrate more of my time for studying. Thanks to you, I am one step closer to that goal.

Thank you again for your generosity and support. Your generosity has inspired me to help others and give back to the community. I hope one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals just as you have helped me.

Sincerely,

Kwaminique A. Brandon



I would like to express my deepest gratitude for being selected to receive the Robert L. Crow Scholarship Award. It is an honor to be chosen among so many. This award holds special meaning since it comes from an organization that is extremely important to my dad. Additionally, this allows me the op-

portunity to continue my education at Marywood University as this award reduces my educational fees and lifts a load off of my parents' shoulders.

I am extremely grateful for all those who have contributed and continue to contribute to the scholarship program. I am committed to representing my family, the military community (and the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen) in a positive and respectful manner and to give to other people as you have given to me.

Again, I would like to thank you for choosing me for this prestigious award.

Sincerely,

Ryan E. Jones



Thanks to everyone who had a part in choosing me to receive the Newport News Shipyard Scholarship. I am increasingly thankful to the support shown to me by the Association. I will continue to do all that I can to repay your generosity with hard work in

my classes. I am taking more credits than I have in past semesters, so my nose will be perpetually in the books till final exams come round. Thanks once again to everyone.

Adam Swygert



Dear AAO Educational Foundation,

Thank you so much for deeming me a worthy investment. I am grateful to be awarded a scholarship by an organization that has been a part of our family for so many years. A lot of my favorite memories include Ordie picnics and conventions with AOs who I look up to and respect.

I am attending Sierra Valley College of Court Reporting in Fresno, California. I am 6 months into the 3 year program and I am on track and loving it. I look forward to completing the program and this scholarship award will help me get there. You have helped to lighten my financial burden allowing me to focus more of my time on progressing toward my goal.

Thank you again for your support. I promise to continue to work hard and make you all proud.

Sincerely, JeanAnn M. DeWees





To the Association of Aviation Ordnanceman Committee.

Finally, I was fortunate enough to attend the AAO Convention this past August and personally thank each member who has played a massive part in financing my

education. Firmly shaking some of the member's hands was closure to how thankful I am. I am truly honored to be one of the recipients of the 2011 Robert L. Crow Memorial Scholarship Awards. The generosity of this award is unfathomable and greatly appreciated.

This is my fourth and final year at James Madison University. After graduating, I will have a Bachelor of Arts degree in Media Arts and Design with a concentration in Journalism and a minor in French. While studying and interning in London for the fall semester, this award will go directly to my educational funds. Not only will it help me experience the world, it will help me experience working internationally as well. The opportunities presented are endless and this scholarship has helped me get here.

Once again, I would like to thank everyone that makes up the AAO for his or her generosity, support and confidence in me to further my education. It was surreal to finally put a face to the members at the convention in Reno, NV. Again, I thank you for your investment in my future.

Sincerely, Megan Harman



Dear Scholarship Committee,

The Association of Aviation Ordnancemen Educational Foundation Scholarship Committee has helped me to continue my higher education and work towards academic success over the past few years. This year I am thankful for being selected as a recipient of the 2011 Newport News Shipbuilding Division

Award. I cannot express enough about how thankful I am for the continuous support and generosity of this foundation. I am grateful to have this award which enables me to continue working towards my educational goals. This award is greatly appreciated!

Thanks again, Katrina E. Cervera



To the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen,

I am so excited to have been selected for the Robert L. Crow scholarship. Receiving this scholarship means so much to me. First, it means that I am able to spend more time studying and leading and participating in clubs on campus. I can't express how important it is to me to be a leader and active member in the clubs I am a part

of. Second, it means that as I begin to apply to dietetic internships, I am able to apply to the internships I am most interested in, even if they are more costly. This dietetic internship is extremely important to my career and being able to apply to the internships that focus on my interests is key. Finally, this scholarship means that I am able to save some money for my dietetic internship, which will be a great expense in the coming year.

I am very grateful for receiving this scholarship. It has, and will continue to, provide me with the opportunities to make the most out of my education and future career as a Registered Dietitian.

Sincerely, Nicole Famularo



Dear Associ<mark>at</mark>ion of Aviation Ordnancemen Education Fourdation:

I would like to express my extreme gratitude for this year's scholarship award. It will help me tremendously in furthering my education.

I will begin my junior year of college at Utah State University this fall and I am excited to be finished with all of my general classes, which means I get to work on classes directed more towards my major area of study. I am also excited to continue studying music, as I have signed up for a few guitar classes as well!

I will continue to work at my current job at American Eagle Outfitters and I will also be starting my new jcb as a teacher's assistant for the general public speaking class on campus. Again, the award is extremely appreciated and makes paying for school so much easier for myself and my family. Thank you!

Sincerely, Danielle Manley

Page 8 Like us on Facebook The Redshirt *



Bob,

I thought I'd share this with you. I went to the Navy Memorial to dedicate the squadron plaque but found out on arrival that the Memorial I was going to be a part of was a ceremony with 6 other Midway survivors. I have never been so amazed at the amount of ceremony and just being a small part of it, next to being honored on the Yorktown this was one of the high points of my life.

In the dedication of the plaque I gave a little talk and it was about the great effort our Ordnancemen did at Midway. They installed the bomb racks on 4 B26's and loaded four mark IV aerial torpedoes on board. On the 4th of June AOM3c George Newcombe volunteered to fly in a VP-23 plane as bow gunner, AOM3c Lyonal Orgeron volunteered to fly as turret gunner on one of VT-8's TBF's flown by NAP Darrel Woodside, they never returned. They also had to take care of all the squadron weapons as we were being attacked every day by Japanese Betty's. Their leader ACOM Arcia O.Turner, A.O. we called him, was a Master Bomber, one of three men in the navy that could service the Norden Bomb sight. He had trained his men to perfection. Some of them worked 36 hours without sleep. While he was not flying he set up a 50 cal machine gun between the ship service and the chow hall looking straight down the runway and on the 4th he shot down one Japanese plane that tried to strafe the field. He was promoted to Ensign and went on to flight school and then on to another P boat squadron.

Most of those guys didn't get the credit they deserved. They also helped the Army B17 boys load their bombs.

I have been remiss, I almost forgot the most important member our "Ordie gang", Phillip Fulghum AOM2c. When his plane was attacked and shot down he shot one of the attacking Zeroes down and before the plane hit the water went forward and disarmed the bombs. After the plane hit the water he inflated one of the life rafts and aided the two wounded members of the crew into the boat. Both pilots were dead and only he and three others made it. I saw him receive the Navy Cross from ADM Nimitz at the punch Bowl in Honolulu, I've forgotten what month. He went on to flight school in July and sadly was killed during primary training

Dick Watson AAO Associate Member

This e-mail was forwarded to me from Bob Holdman. Thanks for the write-up Dick, please see Pictures on Pg 4! Billy,

We celebrated our "Taste of Home" today. We have thank you pics of the ship coming your way for Mary, James and Ashley.

Thanks for all they are doing. Please send them our best. I will be sending you some emails one at a time due to size.

Passing to you and to Kevin, maybe we can get a few in the next Redshirt..."USS BUSH GETS "A TASTE OF HOME" ON DEPLOYMENT.

See y'all soon brothers.

R/LCDR Dave Fowler OHO USS George Bush CVN-77

Thanks Dave! Be safe out there and enjoy the pics on Pg 30

Kevin,

Attached is the picture of 103 year old Bill Kamm AOM1/C. He's the one with the wrench. Ken Sizemore is the other instructor. I don't think he is with us now.

The picture is of a class in what was then called AOM School, shortly after it had moved from Great Lakes to Jacksonville it became AO "A" School.

I hope you can find room in an upcoming Red Shirt for the picture. He turns 104 in December.

Thanks Bob Holdman

The following is the letter from Bill Kamm to Bob

Dear Bob,

Just came across a picture that shows just one class in our school. I found this to be the most interesting and the most fascinating of any of the subjects in our school.

Sincerely Bill Kamm

Thanks Bill and Bob!! Awesome picture and its on the back page! If anyone would like to have Bill's address and wants to shoot him a letter please contact me for the address.

Kevin



On the Cover; Chapter 21 teamed up with the American Legion and the VFW in the Planting of the flags at Churchill County Cemetery

Back Page; AOM School, 26 July 1944, MK-13 Torpedo lecture Jacksonville, FL.
W.A. Kamm, AOM1/C—Instuctor
Duke Munsey, Chief Warrant Tornedoman

Duke Munsey, Chief Warrant Torpedoman Ken Sizemore, AOM1/C—Instructor

EDITOR: AOC Kevin P. Meagher, USN/Ret.
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Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547
(H) 850.499.0024
(W) 850.883.0187
kevin.meagher@eglin.af.mil

To all chapters,

Please review your information on the <u>Chapter Meetings - Places - Times - Dates</u> section on page 3. E-mail your changes to me and Dennis Costa. I know some of the phone numbers don't match up and I also need a few E-mail addresses. I get the occasional call from AO's inquiring about a meeting in a certain area and its nice to give them up to date information. If you don't see your chapter on here let me know that also please.

Association of Aviation Ordnancemen Educational Foundation Election Notice

At the 2012 Convention, during the first Association Board of Directors meeting, the AAO's Board of Directors will hold elections for a Board of Director Position in the AAOEF. I, as Foundation President, am soliciting advance nominations for the following offices:

Office	Incumbent		
Board of Director	Jim Irwin		

Eligibility requirements for these offices and the duties of the office are in the AAOEF Bylaws, which you can find by going to: http://aaoweb.org/AAO then clicking on Scholarship Information then scroll down to and click on the Bylaws section. All individuals seeking election should familiarize themselves with this information and then have a Regular Member of the Association nominate them. All are reminded of scholarship application or sponsor restrictions imposed to all officers within IRS directives.

I, as President of the Foundation, will be accepting advance

nominations by U.S. Mail or E-Mail for collection and presentation to the Associations President. The deadline for submitting advance nominations is 30 days prior to the first AAO Board Meeting. To make a nomination you must be a Regular Member of the Association and a written acceptance by your nominee must accompany your nomination. All nominations of individuals received will be verified as current Regular Members of the Association through the National Treasurer.

Nominations will also be taken from the floor during the first meeting of the Association's Board of Directors.

Mail advance nominations to: 35 Palmyra Lane, Palm Coast, FL 32164-7517 or E-Mail them to: egunner@att.net.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at (386) 445-0968 (H)/ (386) 405-6940 (Cell).

Edward C. Scott AAOEF President

In Search of Information for the AAO Hall of Fame

I have been working with CAPT Lepard, JJ LaMaitre, Dennis Costa, and Chuck Onken to try and collect information on certain individuals personal information for the Hall of Fame. Out of 60 we have narrowed it down to the following:

Robert W. Branum - AOCM, USN - Inducted 1988 - Need Date of Military Service (From 19XX to 19XX)

Kirby P. Hunt (Deceased) - CDR, USN - Inducted 1988 - Photo (Military if Possible)

Weldon E. Maki (Deceased) - LT, USN - Inducted 1988 - Photo (Military if Possible)

Alvin R. Kall - LT, USN - Inducted 1989 - Need Date of Military Service (From 19XX to 19XX)

If anyone has the information we are searching for contact me via e-mail wtcarroll@cox.net or my cell phone 850-572-5317

Thanks Tim Carroll

Page 10 Like us on Facebook The Redshirt *



	ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION	ON ORDNANCEMEN LIFE MI http://aaoweb.org/AAO	EMBERSHIP APPLICATION	n		
NAME:	SPO	USE:		2 2		
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Type of membership:	Regular () Associate (7				
SPONSOR (required	for Associate only):					
and the control of th		 		77		
	Life Men	nbership cost is based on your a	ge and is:			
	29 and Below \$345	45 – 49 inc. \$230	65 – 69 inc. \$155	7		
	30 – 34 inc. \$315	50 - 54 inc. \$210	70 – 74 inc. \$130			
	35 – 39 inc. \$285	55 - 59 inc. \$190	75 and over \$50	.6		
	40 – 44 inc. \$260	60 - 64 inc. \$170				
MEMBERSHIP, send your temporary Life Member card and bill you each month until the full fee is paid. You will then receive your permanent Life Membership card. In the event a member paying on the installment plan finds that they are unable to complete full payment within the time allowed, all monies paid will be credited toward paid-up annual membership at the standard annual rate (presently \$20.00). Enclosed is my check for \$ representing one-tenth of the total fee for my age group, as the first installment toward Life Membership in the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen. Please bill me for the remaining installments on a monthly basis. Enclosed is my check for \$ in full payment for Life Membership in the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen. I elect to receive my Red Shirt by downloading it from the Website only. () Please Initial. I do / do not authorize release of my name, address and telephone number to other members or prospective members of the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen.						
	SIGNATURE:	DA'	TE:			
	MAIL	TO: AOCM Thomas Lord USN 2888 Iris Avenue #12: San Diego, CA 92154-33	2	ptember 2011		
				A STATE OF THE STA		

By Paul Fattig

Mail Tribune

A historic Colt .45-caliber, semi-automatic pistol stolen more than 30 years ago from a Medal of Honor winner in South Carolina has been returned to its rightful owner.

The gun and owner were reunited after a history buff in Medford, who bought the old handgun in an online auction last month, tracked down the retired Marine whose name is engraved on it.

Marine John J. McGinty's brave act on March 12, 1968 President Lyndon Johnson presented John J. McGinty with the Medal of Honor during a ceremony at the White House on March 12, 1968. In the presentation, then Marine Staff Sgt. McGinty was cited for "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty" during Operation Hastings in July of 1966.

The troops had been battling toe-to-toe with a larger force of North Vietnamese army troops attempting to push south near the demilitarized zone. McGinty was commanding a 32-man platoon serving as a rear guard as the Marine battalion withdrew at the end of a three-day battle.

For four hours, his platoon was attacked by small arms, automatic weapons and mortar fire, the citation reads. At (Continued on page 12)



one point, two squads became separated from the main body of the platoon.

"With complete disregard for his safety, McGinty charged through intense automatic weapons and mortar fire to their position," it read. "Finding 20 men wounded and the medical corpsman killed, he quickly reloaded ammunition magazines and weapons for the wounded men and directed their fire upon the enemy.

"Although he was painfully wounded as he moved to care for the disabled men, he continued to shout encouragement to his troops and to direct their fire so effectively that the attacking hordes were beaten off," it continued.

The citation mentions his Colt .45 pistol.

"When the enemy tried to out-flank his position, he killed five of them at point-blank range with his pistol," it concluded.

"I knew if I found him and it was his gun, I couldn't keep it," said George Berry, 71, who knew little about the history of the gun when he purchased it from an auction house in Pennsylvania.

The story begins when Berry, a retired Navy warrant officer who also served in the Marine Corps, decided this summer to fulfill a lifelong dream of owning one of the historic handguns.

"I've always wanted to own a Colt Model 1911 .45 automatic — always wanted one," he says. "John Wayne had one in every World War II movie I've ever seen him in."

Early in July, he began searching the Internet and discovered that Alderfer Auction, a well-known auction firm in Hatfield, Pa., would be offering three of the Colt .45s in a July 12 auction.

In particular, lot No. 78 caught his eye: "Colt 1911 A1 semi-automatic pistol. Cal. 45. 5" bbl. SN 0103889. Reblued finish on all metal, plain walnut Colt grips, after-market rear sight, no magazine," the description read.

"Faint 'USMC' stamped on right side of slide, partial 'United States Property' wording is visible," it continued. "The name 'John J. McGinty USMC' stamped on left side of slide. Very good."

Berry was hesitant because it had been "reblued" and no longer had its original sights or grips, all factors decreasing its value.

"And it had somebody's name engraved on the left side of

the slide," he observed.

He had no idea that McGinty was a war hero, let alone a recipient of the nation's highest military medal for valor.

Still, the gun was manufactured in 1914, making it an early model. And there was the USMC stamp he coveted.

"I decided to buy it in spite of the knocks against it," Berry said. "It was the only one I knew of with "USMC" stamped on it."

Berry paid less than \$1,000 for the pistol. The two other Model 1911 Colt .45s in the auction went for roughly \$4,000 and \$6,000 each, he noted.

Curious about who this McGinty fellow was, he began an Internet search. Up popped numerous articles on a John J. McGinty, a retired marine who was awarded the Medal of Honor for his courage in South Vietnam in 1966.

"The value of the gun just went up five-fold — that was my first thought, anyway," Berry recalled.

As he read more about McGinty and his story, he knew he had to locate him to see if he was the same man who once owned the gun. He also wanted to find out how he parted with the pistol, and whether the former Marine wanted it back.

"His medal citation actually mentions the pistol," Berry observed, referring to the fact the wounded McGinty used it to kill five enemy soldiers attacking his position.

However, Berry did not yet know whether it was the same McGinty associated with his newly acquired pistol. He used the Internet to track down McGinty, 71, in Beaufort, S.C. McGinty had retired from the corps as a captain in October 1976.

The retired Navy warrant officer called the retired Marine Corps officer and asked him if it was his pistol.

"He said, 'Do you mean 0103889?' "Berry recalled, noting McGinty had just recited the gun's serial number.

That's when McGinty informed him the pistol had been stolen in 1978 when it was on display along with his uniform and sword. It was the very same pistol McGinty had used in Vietnam to repulse that final assault.

Berry sent the pistol to Beaufort. After receiving it, McGinty called and wanted to pay Berry for all his expenses.

(Continued on page 26)

Page 12 Like us on Facebook The Redshirt *



AAO President

Hello fellow Ordnancemen,

Well once again time is just flying by. Planning and hard work paid off once again, and I'm speaking about the huge success we enjoyed at the Symposium and Convention this year. My hat is off to all that made it happen, and you made it happen in the most professional manner. If you were not able to make it we had a ball. This symposium rates at the very top of those that we have ever had as an Ordnance profession, as well as the Convention which rates right at the top too! Your fellow members that put this together certainly deserve a hardy well done. Each and every year, year after year they simply are making it better for all of us to enjoy. So in this edition of the "REDSHIRT" you will see the dates for the 2012 Symposium and Convention.

Around the fleet and ashore we certainly need to remember those that are in harm's way. Our Marine brothers and sisters as well as our Navy brothers and sisters are doing it by the book and safely, in all ordnance handling events. Please take a moment and remember those that we have deployed either onboard ship or ashore, they are truly doing the will of our nation. I'll go out on limb and tell you that once we get by the budget issues for FY12 solved the Symposium will once again be a full blast event. Certainly the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen Convention will start the planning for 2012 in January any if you have any ideas let your leadership know, and we will entertain your thoughts.

During the Convention, elections were held and as you see in this "REDSHIRT" we have some new leadership running the Association. I wish them well and they represent you the member... in all that they do. If you have anything we as the leadership can do just let us know. You surly should know we do run a tight ship ensuring your best interests are looked out for. Our Scholarship program is alive and well as is our Hall of Fame program. The Aviation Ordnancemen of the Year selectee received the call from Rear Admiral (Select) Mike White, our awards dinner guest speaker, it did come as a complete surprise as it was midnight on the east coast and he was on Detachment to NAS Key West. Thank you Admiral White, for honoring our Association as our guest of Honor and speaker, we thoroughly enjoyed your remarks. (Go Buffalos)

Let me talk about some ordnance business now.. I hope each and every Ordnancemen can define Ordnance Sentencing, if you can't please take moment and research it, learn it and practice it. This issue belongs to both Navy and Marine Corps Ordnancemen, Your Uniform wearing leadership demands that you practice perfect Ordnance sentencing each (Continued on page 25)

AAO Vice President

It was another awesome symposium and convention this year and if you missed it, well, let's just say you need to make the next one. The dates for next year are already locked in and you should be there. I would like to personally thank Jim and Carrolyn Thomas for putting on another wonderful symposium/convention, as well as the many individuals who come out and make it a success. We all know if it wasn't for Chapter 21 stepping up and lending a hand, this event would be very difficult. Our guest speaker at this year's convention was RADML(s) Michael White, a close friend and an old CAG-5 shipmate of mine as well as a few other gunners that happened to be in attendance. He gave an energizing speech regarding the Battle of Midway and the role aviation ordnance has played throughout naval history.

During the Awards Dinner Admiral White announced AO1 (AW/SW) JIMMY C. HAFLIN as the John W. Finn AO of the Year award, he also announced AO1 (AW/SW) NANISE M. SCHROEDER as this Year's Runner Up. Captain Lepard once again proved he is not behind the times by utilizing his cell phone to connect with the AO of the Year Selectee down in Key West, Florida where he was on detachment. Though it was midnight and we woke him up, I'm sure he didn't mind one bit.

Mr. Chuck Onken announced four inductees this years to the AO Hall of Fame. They are:

2011 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

CDR FLOYD ENGLISH
AOCM BILLY TOBIN
AOCM STU CARSON
AOC KEVIN MEAGHER
RETIRED

Mr. Rick Garza announced the Scholarship Award winners:

2011 ROBERT L. CROW \$3,750.00
JEAN ANN DEWEES DAUGHTER OF
TIM NANSTEIL
NICOLE FAMULERO DAUGHTER OF
HENRY FAMULARO
MEGAN HARMAN DAUGHTER OF
JAMES HARMAN
RYAN JONES SON OF CLAYTON JONES
DANIELLE MANLEY GRANDDAUGHTER OF
JOE MANLEY

NEWPORT NEWS SHIPBUILDING \$2,000.00 KATRINA CERVERA GRAND DAUGHTER OF GEORGE (Continued on page 25)



In-Coming AAO Treasurer

Greetings Fellow Ordies,

For those who did not attend the 2011 Convention, I have been elected to replace J.J. Lamaitre as your new National Treasurer. J.J. and are in the process of transferring those duties and responsibilities and expect a full turn-over by 30 September 2011. I want to personally thank J.J. for his 8 plus years dedicated to the betterment of our organization. He is leaving me some big shoes to fill. If you have any question concerning your membership, please contact me by mail or e-mail. Following are the details:

Home: AOCM Thomas Lord (Ret)

2888 Iris Ave., #122 San Diego, Ca. 92154

E-mail: aaotreas2011@cox.net

I am looking forward to working for you over the next few years and hope I can make J.J. proud.

IYOYAS,

Thomas Lord

Out-Going AAO Treasurer

WOW – What a ride it has been! This is my last article as Treasurer of this GREAT Association. So I do not miss anybody, I want to THANK each and everyone of you who have reached out and helped me over the past (gulp) 8+ years, I could not have done it without your support. Please continue to give AOCM Thomas Lord USN Ret. (my relief) the support you have given me.

CONVENTION – Convention 2011 at the Silver Legacy was a HUGE success. Start making plans NOW for week of August 12th (Symposium) and 16 August for kick off of Convention. You may want to come in a day or so earlier to see what the latest and greatest equipment the vendors are showing off. See you there!!

Have you had a promotion, change of status (recently retired) or phone number change? If so give Tom a shout at the contact info below so he can update your record.

Address changes have gotten better, BUT are still costing your Association. Sign up to get yours electronically!!! All you have to do is go to the web site, and download the Red Shirt. If you move or have a PCS coming up get those address changes to me prior to the move. You can make them via the web site, via snail mail; phone (619)575-1895; or (preferred) you can e-mail them to Tom at aaotreas2011@cox.net.

FYI the US Postal Service has an on-line Change of Acdress section, see it at www.usps.com.

IYAOYAS! R, JJ LaMaitre AAO Treasurer (outgoing)

Chapter 1

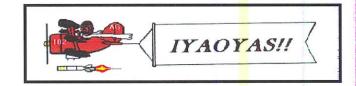
Greetings Ordies from sunny NAS Lemoore, CA!

I would like to start off with what a great time we had at the 2011 Symposium/Convention. Thank you Jim for all your hard work and dedication through the years!! We are looking forward to next years' events. I would like to congratulate our newly promoted chiefs and their families for their great achievement! A special shout out to our brothers here at NAS Lemoore; AOC Josh Willhite, AOC Helvin Gomez, AOC Jonathan Carroll, AOC Jason Reynolds, and AOC John Nichols.

Once again our annual picnic was a success, held on 27 AUG 11 at NAS Lemoore pool. It was nice to see old faces and meet new ones; everyone had a great time with family and friends. Thank you all for coming out showing your AO pride!

On behalf of Chapter 1 and myself we would like to Congratulate JeanAnn DeWees (daughter of CWO4(RET) Tim Nanstiel) for being selected for this year's Chapter 1 scholarship fund as well as receiving the 2011 Robert L Crow scholarship. Congratulations JeanAnn and Good Luck! I.Y.A.O.Y.A.S

V/r AAO Chapter 1 President AO1 Laura Colby





Red Shirt

Articles are due

20 JAN 12 20 MAY 12 20 SEP 12

Please submit via e-mail when possible



Chapter 9

Because we could not summit an article for Chapter 9 in the last issue of "The Red Shirt" we are brining everyone up to speed with this article.

2011 started out with the commissioning of Chapter Nine's former president AOC Dan Pratt to Ensign in January. During his speech he talked about what his father said to him as he was in limbo after his high school. "son, your life is like a pick-up truck stuck in soft sand, spinning your wheels but going nowhere." Dan woke up, joined the Navy, became an AO, and the rest is history. How many of you can relate to that story? I sure can. Thanks for making Chapter Nine a success as well "P-rat", you'll be missed.

If you're in the Jax area, we meet at FRA Branch 91 on Collins road just south of NAS Jax, every third Thursday at 1900. We average 35 in attendance, and are committed to assisting the local active duty AO's any way we can.

"Bravo Zulu" to AOC Terry VanKampen for his idea for a perpetual plaque to recognize our AO of the Quarter. This plaque will not only have the selectees name engraved on it but will be displayed in his or her work center for that quarter. Congratulations to AO2 (AW) Adrian Romero, an instructor at CNATTU Jax, as our fourth quarter 2010 AO and

first to display the award at his work center. Congratulations also goes out to AO2 (AW) Michael Atkinson from VP-10 for 1st Qtr 2011 and AO2 (AW) Raymond D. Perry from CNATTU for 2nd Qtr 2011 Chapter Nine's AO's of the Qtr.

January also saw the completion of the fourth annual NJROTC/ MCJROTC air rifle postal competition we host to support our chapter and the NJROTC/MCJROTC Floyd English Leadership Award presented to the local NJROTC/ MCJROTC cadets at their awards ceremony. Just another way we support the local JROTC's by recognizing one cadet from each local high school JROTC Unit with a certificate and medal that they can wear on their uniform. Postal results can be found on our web site at aao9.com. Invitations to this year's competition can be found on our website and will arrive via email and snail mail soon.

How about the new Chapter Nine flag that graced the cover of the Red Shirt. The flag was painted by AO3 David Concepcion, a young and talented Ordnanceman from VP-5..

We celebrated the 85th birthday of the AO rating in March with a picnic and birthday cake after cleaning two miles of highway along Blanding Blvd. Forty five were in attendance. The oldest present was retired LT Bob Bohnstengel, who joined the Navy in 1942 and retired in 1973. He is also a charter member of the national association. He continues to be very active in the chapter and makes a mean chili, thanks Bob.

"Hoorah" to our former chapter president, CDR Mike Gramolini, who took over as Commanding Officer of CNATTU Jacksonville April 29 2011.

Chapter 9 elections were held in May with the following results, Lt. Jack Elrod USN (Ret)—President, AO2 Adrian Romero—Vice President, AOCM Rick Wyman USN(Ret)—Secretary,. The following were elected to the Board of Directors; LCDR. Chuck Mach USN(Ret), Capt Bob Soldner USMC(Ret), CWO5 Mike Snider USN(Ret) and AOC Bill Taylor USN(Ret).

About 25 ordies and friends showed up for our quarterly highway cleanup in July followed by a picnic with rollers and sliders.

Chapter Nine nominated Cdr. Floyd English and he was inducted into the AO Hall of Fame at the 2011 AO Convention in Reno.

We are in the planning stages of our first all AO picnic to be held in late October. If you have experience with this I welcome any suggestions. Please email me (Jack Elrod) at



Chapter 21

On the 23th of April, 2011 the AAO Chapter 21 assisted "Habitat for Humanity" with a project out in Stead Nevada. It was a cold and rainy Saturday, but that did not stop us, we had a great showing and all of us had a great time working. We all worked together and learned new tricks of the trade. That day the Habitat volunteers and AAO Chapter 21 worked together to build the foundation of a house. Habitat for humanity is a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry. They seek to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness from the world and make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action. Habitat houses are sold to partner families at no profit and financed with affordable loans. Together that Saturday we made a difference, that house will become a home to a family in need.

Recently we had a fellow AO pass away. CW04 Bruce Kennedy Retired AO. The funeral was held at the Fallon cemetery. AAO Chapter 21 attended the funeral on behalf the entire Aviation Association of Ordnanceman. We paid our respects to Bruce and his family. I personally got to sit down with the friends and family of Bruce Kennedy. Bruce was a Hero to allot of people and left a positive mark in the Navy and his community. Bruce will be missed greatly.

On the 29th of May 2011 Chapter 21 teamed up with the American Legion and the VFW in the Planting of the flags at Churchill County Cemetery. For the past three years Chapter 21 has assisted in placing flags on the graves of the men and woman who served in our Armed Forces. It was a great day to remember the people who served before us, remember freedom comes with a price. The Chapter 21 members brought out there families in the cold and rain to help honor our fallen hero's. God bless America and God bless the Men and Women who are deployed fighting our fight. Happy Memorial Day to all..

Saturday 11 June, 2011 we held our quarterly Fod Walk Down on Union Road and rolled right into our "Gas and Glass" Fundraiser at Fox Peak Gas Station in Fallon, NV from 10am- 2pm. We pumped Gas at the pumps, cleaned windows for donations and had a booth set up outside Fox Peak selling AO apparel. The money we raised is being split with half going into our bank account and half going toward our Relay for Life event coming up on the 25th of June, 2011. This was a great opportunity for the AAO Chapter 21 to set a positive mark in the community and let them know what the Association is all about. Thanks to all people who donated to a great cause and a special thanks to all who came out to volunteer there time. Everyone made a great effort to help, from the AAO Chapter 21 to the great folks of Fallon we raised \$470.00. Sun was shinning weather was good, it

was great day to do this fundraiser and a great day to make a difference in the world.

On 25th of June, 2011 at the Junior High here in the little town of Fallon, NV at 3p.m we kicked off our RELAY FOR LIFE Cancer Walk. The whole town and the different teams came together and combined there efforts to this great cause of fighting cancer. A special ceremony that touched my heart kicked this event off, they recognized all the Survivors who had beaten this thing called cancer. This gave others hope, hope to fight and hope to one day find a cure.

The walking commenced at 3p.m and didn't not stop until 9 a.m Sunday morning. This event was a great time to meet the survivors hear their stories and sharing similar stories of loosing a loved one to cancer. Young and old, we all walked that day and joined together to make a difference in someone's life. Our mission walking that day was to remember the loved ones we lost to cancer, remember how we beat cancer and hope that one day they will find a cure for cancer.

With combined efforts of the "BB STACKER'S" team we raised all together a little over \$700.00 and combined with efforts of our team and the great City of Fallon that day we raised well over \$50,000. This is a great accomplishment.

I just want to say thanks to all who volunteered their time at the Relay for Life that day and a special thanks to all who volunteered their time to the many fundraisers we held to raise money for this event, without your help we could not have met our goal. You all should be proud you "GAVE EM HELL" and made a difference.

Lets GIVE EM HELL!!!
I. Y. A. O. Y. A. S.!

V/R
AAO CHAPTER 21 PRESIDENT
AO2 MIDDAUGH, GINA
NMC CWD DET FALLON

AAO Chapter 21 has been very busy this year. We have made a positive mark in community and have helped out our own. Lets keep up the good work and strive to do better. The Association is what we make it.



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PMA-242

Below is a citation that was read and presented to Dave "Shrek" Lorentzen. Picture on page 4.

This designation is based on his immeasurable contributions to the men and women of the Aviation Ordnance community directly supporting warfighting efforts in multiple theaters of operation continuously for more than ten years with NAVAIR. Since July 2005 he has served as the PMA-242 Assistant Program Manager for Logistics (APML) for Aircraft Gun Systems, Lasers, and Mounts, where he has been directly responsible for the ongoing sustainment of fielded systems, as well as providing acquisition logistics support of newly fielded weapons that are employed on every Type/ Model/Series aircraft employing guns throughout Naval Aviation. He personally built a team of consummate professionals and systematically developed a path forward to identify and rectify the Fleet's most severe gun systems degraders and established processes to mitigate and ultimately eliminate them. His direct efforts have resulted in the unprecedented logistical support, sustainment, and fielding of more than 3000 helicopter Crew Served Weapons, 200 Fixed Wing medium guns systems, and all associated mounting systems and lasers. He has been instrumental in the new development and fielding of ramp mounted gun systems aboard CH-53, and MV-22, as well as the GAU-21 transition execution for the UH-1Y and H-60R/S. His expert support and contributions during these modernization and upgrade efforts cannot be overstated; these weapons have proven to be the most highly utilized weapons systems on the battlefield. He has developed a personal relationship with the war fighters and supports their plight without exception and without fail. He represents the character and the values of an Aviation Ordnanceman and we are proud to have him in our ranks.

Submitted by Al Castro

Via

Dave (Shrek) Lorentzen APML, Gun Systems, Ammo & Lasers NAVAIR, PMA-242

Chapter 8

First I would like to thank and welcome home those who were deployed and now home safely. I know that it takes a lot of sacrifice to do what you do on a daily basis in order to keep this Country always in the ready. My heart goes out to those who we have lost along the way. May they rest in

peace.

Now, a quick "Bravo Zulu" to all the new Chief Petty Officers out in the Fleet and within the Chapter!! Chapter 8 has been doing mighty fine things in San Diego since our Annual Symposium and Convention.

- We have completed our very first School Supply Drive for foster kids in San Diego and with the help of NMC Det North Island, \$110.00 was raised along with multiple items needed to support over 60,000 children in California.
- Our new Highway Walk location has been approved and a walk was completed. This move is an effort to draw a bigger and younger crowd for Community Relations.
- Coming soon is our Making Strides for breast Cancer Walk on Saturday October 16th at 0800, Balboa Park. Our team "Bombs for Boobs" has currently raised \$241.00 to go towards cancer research. Quick shout out to the Marines at MCAS, Miramar and the Sailors aboard USS Peleliu for their collections on both events.

These community service events can be documented for all Active Duty Service Members who are interested in the MOVSM Award.

Now to be up and current with our local meetings and upcoming events, please visit our Face book Page. Remember, it is time we relieve our leaders and get involved. Use what they have taught us to teach others. Who else will look after AO's other than our own?

Now before I sign off for this quarter there is a special Ordie whom I would like y'all to meet when you are in the San Diego area. His name is AO2(AW/SW) Selemani Johnson. Although he was not wounded in war, AO2 Johnson was struck by a vehicle while riding his motorcycle in April 2010. He sustained a spinal cord injury that damaged his T7 and T8 vertebrae. This year, approximately 200 wounded, ill and injured athletes from all branches of service competed in the 2nd annual Warrior Games, which took place at the Olympic Training Center and U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado, May 16 - 21, 2011. (Below quotes are from Navy.mil website)

"Events like the Warrior Games motivate me and encourage me to stay in shape," said Aviation Ordnanceman 2nd Class Selemani Johnson, a new addition to the team. "They remind me that my only limitations are those I set for myself and that there's still so much I can do." This Dallas, Texas raised Ordie walked away with two silver medals in the men's 50- and 100-meter freestyle events.

IYAOYAS!!!



NEW MEMBERS

Geoffrey M. Hall AOAN Jake J. Suarez AOAN Courtney L. Wright AO1 Angela Derosa AOCS Robert D. Emerson AO3 Kevin P. Bartshe AO1(AW) Zachary J. Allen CWO4 Richard R. Hull USMC Ret. AO1 Matthew J. McBride James H. McClain AOC Michael J. Fitzpatrick AO1 Robert E. Peetoom AO1 John R. Klopfstein (K-9) USN Ret. AO2 Chris O. Panetti AO2 Nicholas E. Napoleon AOAN Kelly Joe T. Espenida AOAN Jeremiah H. Holloway AOAN Ionathan C. Steen AOAN Donnie G. Ward CWO3 Eugene D. Lucas AO2 Gretchen K. Handlos AO2 Brandon J. Stevenson Bonnie Thompson AO1 Joshua C. Smith AO1 Linday M. Smith AO2 Eugene Hodge AOCS Greg A. Loving USN Ret. LT Steven S. Carpenter AO1 Shane A. Hernandez Sally A. Carpenter **AOC Robert Price** AO1 Mary K. Sinclair AO1 Twyisha D. Buchanan Sydney Naveen AOC Hashaun J. Swazy AO2 Jeff S. Wesson CWO5 Harold T. Clarke David L. Adams AOAA Janae M. Davis AO2 Colt E. Clodius

AOAN Nicole L. Whitby AOAN Elizabeth M. Steere AO3 Mitchell L. Smith AO1 Renaldo L. Collier AO2 Ryan A. Jagard AO1 Colin H. Castle AOC Charlie T. Skinner AOC Chadwick M. Soriano CWO4 Michael R. Lavoie AOCM Gary E. Douglas USN Ret. Major John P. Mullery AOCS(AW/SW) Mark E. Seals Crystal Y. Jackson AO1 Bobby N. Williams USN Ret. AO3 Jeremy V. Pezzuto AO3 Jason R. Sandoval AOAN Alexander Loera AOAN Navarro D. Peters AOC Donovan S. Gummerus AO1 Jennifer A. Martin AO1 Michael J. Snyder MGYSGT Charles E. Faust USMC Ret. AO1 Marlon Blackmon AO2 Jermaine E. Upton Stephen R. Underwood LT Roman Martinez AO1 Arthur D. Gray AO1 Byame M. Lathan CWO2 Rey Chevalier LT James L. Bell AOC Robert L. Rhymes CWO4 Joseph (JW) W. Jones USN Ret. AOC David M. Lorentzen USN Ret. AO2 Daniel L. Miller AO1 Kevin T. Riddle SGT Perry M. Burke Angela Heppe AO1 Tyrel Bransom AOAN Shantora L. Bennett AO3 Barney J. Morgan

LOCATOR

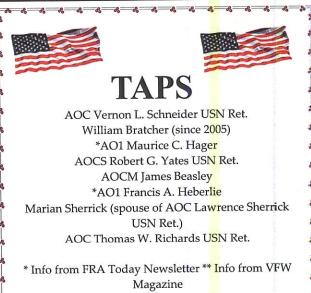
Can you help?......Know where any of these members can be located? If so please contact me at aaotreas@cox.net, snail mail or give me a call.

AO1(AW/SW) Giovanni Guillem Edwin M. Racelis Sadie Middlebrook LT Pat Frey USN Ret. AOC Everett L. Ferrell USN Ret. AO1 Severrio R. Marshatelli USN Ret. AOC(AW/SW) Zoelynn M. Bailey AO2 Crystal L. Ward Racheal N. Winebar AOAN Sara M. Bowman AO3 Marcus G. Richardson AO1 Miguel V. Pasilan

AOAN Lawrence M. Levan
AO3 Steven K. Fine
Joseph P. Ruggeri
AO1 Jose E. Franco
AO1 Donald S. Brooks
AOC Isaiah Canteen
AO1(AW/SW) Jesse D. Eldricge
Stephanie S. They
AOC Randy P. Holder USN Ret.
AOAN Anthony Jacques
AOAN Robert W. Feagan Jr.
AOC Steven M. Leist

AOAN Lawrence M. Levan





4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

SSGT Brian O. Howell AOC Frank G. Kirksey CWO4 Richard R. Hull USMC Ret. Beverly Jo Myhand Capt. Ralph G. Spangler USN Ret. LCDR Kevin R. Forbes CWO4 James M. Zabrosky CWO2 Jason A. Cunningham TMCM Roscoe J. Vaughan USN Ret. LT Matthew T. Eaton AOC Michael A. Howard USN Ret. CWO4 Robert M. Petrus USN Ret. GYSGT Damon M. Araujo MGYSGT Charles E. Faust USMC Ret. CWO4 Leon F. Sleger USNR Ret. CDR Terry L. Shreiner USN Ret.

CDR Terry L. Shreiner USN Ret.

MSGT Lawrence L. Sweet USMC Ret. AOC Richard 'Shipmate' Palmer USN Ret. LCDR James L. Willett LT Oscar J. Robinson USN Ret. LTJG Michael P. Bautista David P. Grow MGYSGT Greg Van De Voort USMC Ret. AO2 Ynocincio J. Martinez CWO3 James J. Ausman USN Ret. AOCM Stanley E. Chambers USNR Ret. CWO4 Harold K. Henson USN Ret. AOCS(AW) Joseph A. Elliott USN Ret.

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The Redshirt



AAOEF

Greetings from YOUR Associations Educational Foundation and in our continuance to provide to you all and your dependents resources available at no costs avenues to further explore. This time, keeping our information presented small, there are two which we are providing; no Foundation endorsement is implied, among many others available. The first; www.trioprograms.org is a valuable resource taking the user to www.ceonet.us web page. Through this home web page there are many links extremely informative at all levels of countenance of ones educational endeavors; accepted locations within the US and abroad, with financial aid available to those qualified. Many within the Foundation have viewed these above links and commented reply has been "be prepared to spend more than an hour reviewing the links" and our President has contact by phone several activities listed verifying their participation and their program views with results; "the individual applicant must ask from the activities, they will not openly divulge this information", "acceptance into these programs and completion has been viewed into the upper 90%" was his reviews. He was provided the initial web site information from the Foundations previous Treasurer who "got lost in all the information presented" and passed onto the President. The second; www.eHow.com one needs to search out "How to Choose a College (and a major!). This site will provide to many solid information about just that "college major" with some solid information about early major declaration; though not required until mid Sophomore year, many financial benefits may be realized by doing so. The home page provides 5 solid steps and many other links worthy of your consideration even if you are only a junior in high school at this time. So you are already enrolled and still have not made up your mind, you too might benefit by looking over this provided information as well.

As I said earlier above, these are only 2 of the many links and web sites available to you as well as sound advice from your student advisor will go a long way toward your dreams of a higher education, but, you as and individual must ask the hard questions. Parents and guardians can support you IF you ask and start your planning ahead of time. Time to start your educational growth is NOW; many have just started back to schools across the U.S. and abroad, start looking and planning. For the students; get your parents involved in this planning; use your student advisors available at your schools. Talk to them about plans, locations, private Vs state, junior college Vs college at this point, costs, etc; sooner these are looked at and known, the better your picture and confidence will be.

We at the Foundation wish to congratulate 2011 scholarship award recipients'; names listed elsewhere in this Red Shirt. From the Selection Committee and Chairman, your great

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN **EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION OFFICERS**



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Reconciliation Reviewer

Karen Kumlackey

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mlacky@gmail.com

work in each application was reviewed and very through. Each of you that submitted an application even though not selected this year, your efforts are also recognized. You put the committee through 6+ hours of intense review and selection! For those who did receive scholarships, your works is not complete; and follow the instructions provided by the President in his letter to each of you. Thank you all again for your time and efforts.



USS Oriskany Chapter 34

CHAPTER 34 OF THE ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN ASSISTS RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA

On 25 June, 2011, 13 members of Chapter 34 of the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen reported to the Ronald McDonald House of Northwest Florida for their monthly community service project there. During the three hour event, the volunteers put together over 1,500 gift bags for participants in the annual Fire Cracker 5K, a charity run/walk sponsored by the Ronald McDonald house charities. The volunteers also performed house cleaning duties such as room cleaning, kitchen cleaning, and common area cleaning in order to allow guests a comfortable, clean place to live, as well as to allow the full time volunteers time to focus on normal administrative functions associated with the house.

As always, the volunteers showed up donning their IYAO-YAS gear to show emphasis on how much Chapter 34, as well as Ordnancemen everywhere, cares about positive community outreach and the well being of those who find themselves in the midst of hardships that necessitate them to stay with the Ronald McDonald House of Northwest Florida. The volunteers' help in easing the responsibilities of the residents allows them to focus on what is really important: their families, particularly during their time of hardship.

Chapter 34 is always glad to help the community in any way possible. For information on how you can help with Chapter 34, and the Ronald McDonald House please contact your local Ronald McDonald House location.

Sgt Joshua Mark Peterson	President		
AO1 Miguel Barba	Vice President		
AO1 Joshua Smith	Treasurer		
AO1 Brett Szczerba	Secretary		
AO1 Joseph Boring	Master at Arms		
SSgt Mark Herring	Public Affairs Officer		
Mr. Tim Carroll	Board of Directors		
Mr. Dale Crabtree	Board of Directors		
Mr. John Sweeney	Board of Directors		

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Association of Aviation Ordnanceman Chapter 34

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN 2011 GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

David Lepard, President, called the 2011 Association of Aviation Ordnancemen General Business Meeting to order at 0800, 6 August 2011, at the Silver Legacy Resort, Reno NV. He then led the General Membership in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, played the National Anthem and the Ordie song.

Mart Vance, Chaplain, gave the opening prayer.

The business of the Association was then initiated.

There were 65 **Members present** for the Business Meeting. The Registration list is Enclosure (1) to these minutes.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The President reminded everyone in attendance to fill out a General Business Meeting Registration card.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

In accordance with ARTICLE VII, Section 2 to the By-Laws the privilege of nominating, making motions, debating and voting is reserved for Regular Members of the Association during the course of this meeting.

Under Roberts Rules Article 31, when we get to the elections the President will, after giving ample opportunity to make nominations from the floor, with no further nominations coming, close the nominations. A motion to close nominations will not be in order.

REPORT ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACTIONS DURING THE COURSE OF THE YEAR:

Approved the FY 2011/2012 Budget.

Approved the 2010 Board of Directors Minutes

Approved the Honorary Membership of Linda Kay Neal

Approved to hold the National Convention at the Silver Legacy from 2013-2015

Approved to accept AAOEF Letter for the stand down proc-

Approved By-Laws change to article XI to "delete section 8" entirely to be brought to the General Membership for vote. Approved letter to Ralph and BJ O'Dell requesting complete information on the John Finn Commemorative coin. Approved that the sale of the LT John W. Finn coin would no longer occur based on the response from the O'Dell's (that the coin is no longer available for sale) and that any Chapter currently holding the coin may sell any stock currently on hand until depleted.

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Dennis Costa, Secretary, reported the minutes of the 2010 General Business Meeting was published in Red Shirt #113 with additional copies being available in the rear of the room. A synopsis of the minutes were given after which the President called for any required corrections or deletions. A motion was made and seconded to accept the 2010 General Business Meeting Minutes as published. Without objection the motion was passed. The 2010 General Business Minutes are enclosure (2) to these minutes.

The Treasurer then gave the Financial Report. Copies of the 2010/2011 Approved Budget and 2010/2011 Expenditure Report are available in the rear of the room. Any questions please feel free to ask. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Financial Report as delivered. Without objection the motion was passed. The 2010/2011 approved Budget is enclosure (3) to these minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

2011 Convention Committee, Dave Lepard -

The 2011 Convention is another great success. I would like to thank Jim Thomas and Kirk Brado for all there help and hard work before, during, and after each year's convention.

Membership Committee, Mike Price Chairman -

We currently have <u>1782</u> Active Regular Members and <u>133</u> Honorary (which are included in the total active regular numbers) Total Life members are <u>788</u> which are included in the <u>1782</u> Total Regular Members.

New Members FY 2011 Regular Members: 165 Associate Members: 08 Life Members: 34

We currently have <u>5298</u> Members in the Inactive file and are working on bring some of those back to the Active roles. We also have <u>1456</u> unknown members. These are members who never provide the Association with a forwarding address. If you know of any members who are passed members talk to them about getting back on the active roles again. Also check within your chapters to see if there are members who have forgotten to update their address info with the National Treasurer and Secretary and have them provide the info.

We have had 13 members over the year that have checked-in and joined the Supreme Commander's service. Membership this year had 100 member decreases. We need to get the word out there about the Association. Thanks to all the hard work of our members, Chapters and JJ LaMaitre.

AO of the Year Committee, Al Ten Eyck Chairman -

The committee considered 81 packages. We need to get the word out to the Commands that this award is the way we recognize our very best. Packages have been showing up late, we need to have them in sooner to ensure they are recognized. The winner's were announced at the Awards Banquet and are presented here for the record

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN JOHN W. FINN AVIATION ORDNANCEMAN OF THE YEAR FOR 2011

AO1 (AW/SW) JIMMY C. HEFLIN

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN JOHN W. FINN AVIATION ORDNANCEMAN OF THE YEAR FOR 2011 Runner-Up

AO1 (AW/SW) NANISE SCHROEDER

AO Hall of Fame Committee, Chuck Onken Chairman – There were four packages up for consideration. The committee represented over 176 years of ordnance experience.

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN AO HALL OF FAME SELECTEE FOR 2011

CDR FLOYD ENGLISH (RET)

AOCM BILLY TOBIN USN (RET)

AOCM STU CARSON USN (RET)

AOC KEVIN MEAGHER USN (RET)

Reunion Book Committee, Chuck Onken -

We are looking for someone to take our place as the Reunion Book Committee Co-Chairs; we have been doing it for 26 years, time for new blood. Beverly Onken has done a great job with AAO REUNION BOOK Editor. He requested that everyone get their pictures taken and he reminded all that you do not have to buy a book to get your pictures taken.

Nomination Committee, Michael Price Chairman – The following individuals were nominated for the Offices:

Thomas Lord, AOCM, USN, Ret: Treasurer



Ken Clasen, AOCS, Ret: For Board of Directors Rob Walecki, CWO4, USN Ret: For Board of Directors

If no nomination from the floor the following office will be fill by Voice vote and Seconded by members present, Treasurer.

The two Board of Directors positions to be filled are: Rob Walecki and Ken Clasen

NOTE; Article V (5) Section 3 states that "A minimum of two officers must be active duty personnel, one of which must be on the Board of Directors."

The following are currently on the Board of Directors Kenny Clasen AOCS USN Ret Rob Walecki, CWO-4, USN, Ret Bill Bindel CDR, USN Rick Garza, CDR, USN Ret Mike Gramolini, CDR, USN Ret Gerald Gladders, LCDR, USN Ret

The following offices will open for election/reelection at the 2012 Convention.

President currently David Lepard, Captain USN

Board of Directors (Two) currently: Gerald Gladder, LCDR, USN, Ret Rick Garza, CDR, USN, Ret

NOTE; Nominations for these Offices must be submitted to the Vice-President No Later Then 1 May 2012. The Nominee must except the nomination in Writing and be willing to fulfill the obligation of the office.

The following offices will open for election/reelection at the 2011 Convention.

Treasurer, John J LaMaitre AOCM, USN, Retired

Board of Directors (Two) currently: Ken Clasen, AOCS, Ret: Rob Walecki, CWO4, USN Ret

Absentee voting status - Michael Price

Total Ballots Received: 8

Invalid Ballots due to not a member or an Associate member: $\underline{0}$

Invalid Ballots: 3

Total Ballots to count during Voting: 5

Last year Ballots received 27

Unless there are nominations from the floor for Treasurer a voice vote for that office will be taken.

A ballot vote for the Board of Directors will be required and it will be conducted by ballots that the Secretary has made up. They will/have been handed out as the Members check in for the General Business meeting and their membership dues are verified to be current.

I will go over the voting procedures prior to the voting and again before each vote is taken.

By-Laws Committee, Kirk Brado Chairman -

The Committee serves as the Bylaws Committee for both the Association and the Foundation.

AO Museum Committee, Tim Carroll -

The Museum has added three Hangers, and still has our items waiting for a more permanent location. Captain Lepard and Captain Price plan to visit the Board of Directors to get a better feel where we will have space to show our history.

Educational Foundation President - Ed Scott

With elections coming up this may be my last Foundation status report to you members. It has been my pleasure to serve as President of the Foundation. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Officers of the Foundation, both past and present, for their support.

As you know the Foundation is in the process of "standing down in an orderly and timely manner". This action is a result of recommendations made by our Board to the AAC Board and with their approval a vote of the General Membership was called for at the 2010 General Business Meeting. All involved with this action were in agreement that to continue expending funds towards gaining access to CFC was a futile effort. All felt that it was better to use the funds for their intended purpose, which are scholarships.

The process of standing down is complicated by IRS regulations. They do not allow us to transfer Foundation funds to the Association since the AAO is not a 501 (c) (3) organization; they are 501 (c) (6). With this in mind the Foundation has entered into the following agreement with the AAO. The Foundation will continue to run the scholarship program and award scholarships until their funds are depleted. While this is going on all scholarship donations will be directed towards the AAO. It is hoped that these steps will enable the AAO to take over the scholarship program with funds close to what the AAOEF currently has. The turnover is forecasted to take place sometime in FY 2013-2014. We hope that support for the Scholarship Program will continue

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to grow during the transition period.

As the Scholarship Program begins to take this new form I am sure you can expect the same level of support you have experienced in the past.

This year's selection committee will have reviewed 23 qualified scholarship application packages from 27 received with 3 removed prior to their review and scholarships awarded which will be announced during the Convention Banquet. The total of 5 Robert L. Crow Scholarships at \$3,750.00 each (total of \$18,750.00) was approved by the Foundation Board of Directors not including our corporate donors'; Newport News Ship Building Division of Huntington Ingalls Industries and Raytheon, of an additional \$8,000.00 resulting in an additional 4 scholarships. (Not sure, this may increase to 8 based upon Foundation BOD decision at meeting)

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN
EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
ROBERT L. CROW \$3,750.00
SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS FOR 2011
Jean DeWees, Daughter of Tim Nanstiel
Megan Harman, Daughter of James Harman
Nicole Famularo, Daughter of Henry Famularo
Danielle Manley, Granddaughter of Larry Manley
Ryan Jones, Son of Clayton Jones

NEWPORT NEWS SHIP BUILDING \$2,000.00 SCHOLARSHIP AWARD Katrina Cervera Grand Daughter of George Adams Adam Swygert, Son of Stewart Swygert

RAYTHEON MISSILE SYSTEM \$2,000.00 SCHOLARSHIP AWARD Alyssa Petrongelli, Daughter of James Petongelli Kwaminique Brandon Son of Ken Brandon

Newsletter Report- Kevin Meagher

The RED SHIRT is becoming a real top-notch newsletter as noted by the National Officers. The National membership gave a round of applause to Kevin for the job he has done. We are beginning to step up our publication from a newsletter to a magazine with full-page color sheets. Any ideas, pictures, questions please send them to Kevin for inclusion to the next newsletter. He reminded all concern that Kevin needs to keep the deadline for all articles.

AAO Website Report- Chuck Onken

The Website is up and running with little or no problems at all. The cost has increased slightly now costs about 287.88 a year to run. All the forms for the AAOY, Scholarship, and HOF are available on the website. Any problems feel free to

contact Johnny Wheat.

Chaplin Report - Mart Vance

Nine members passed, Sympathy cards and letters of condolence were sent in all cases where there was sufficient information available.

CHAPTER REPORTS

There are presently 23 active Chapters.

Chapter 1 NAS Lemoore, CA. AO1 Laura Colby Chapter 3 NAS Whidbey Island, WA. Todd Pendleton Chapter 4 Tidewater Area, VA.LCDR Dave Moore

Chapter 5 China Lake, CA. Greg Paulson
Chapter 8 San Diego, CA. AO1 Nanise Schroeder

Chapter 8 San Diego, CA.

Chapter 9 Jacksonville, FL.

Chapter 11 Kaneohe Bay, HI

Chapter 21 NAS Fallon, NV.

Chapter 22 Patuxent River, MD

Chapter 34 Pensacola, FL.

Chapter 39 Beaufort S.C

Chapter 65 USS Enterprise CVN 65

AOI Namse Schrod

Mike Gramolini

No Report

SGT Peterson

No Report

No Report

Chapter 68 USS Nimitz CVN 68 No Report
Chapter 70 USS Vinson CVN-70 LT Jim Fish
Chapter 71 USS Roosevelt No Report
Chapter 70 USS Carl Vinson CVN 70 No Report
Chapter 72 USS Lincoln CVN 72 No Report

Chapter 73 USS George Washington CVN-73 Deployed

Chapter 74 USS Stennis CVN 74 Deployed
Chapter 75 USS Truman CVN 75 No Report
Chapter 76 USS Ronald Reagan CVN 76 Deployed
Chapter 77 USS George Bush CVN 77 Dennis Costa
Desert/Southwest Chapter El Centro, CA. No Report

Chapter LHD-4 USS Boxer Deployed
Chapter LHD-8 USS Makin Island Deployed
Key West No Report

Auxiliary Janice Clasen
The Chapter reports are Enclosure (4) to these minutes.

OLD BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS

2012 Convention Committee, Jim Thomas Co-Site Chairman –

The Symposium & Convention will be held at the Silver Legacy, Reno, NV from 12-19 August 2012. Get your reservation in early. This will help get more active duty people to your convention.

Election of Officers -

The President called for the election of Association Officers. He announced that the offices open for election are two seats on the Board of Directors and President.



Election for the office of Treasurer, position held by John LaMaitre.

The Nominees are:

Thomas Lord

<u>Thomas Lord was elected</u> to serve as Treasurer, term to expire 2014

Election was held for the Board of Directors position held by Rob Walecki.

The nominees are:

Rob Walecki Jeff Sassone

<u>Rob Walecki was re-elected</u> to serve as Board of Directors, term to expire 2014.

Election was held for the Board of Directors position held by Ken Clasen.

The nominees are:

Ken Clasen Jeff Sassone Dave Moore

<u>Jeff Sassone was elected</u> to serve on the Board of Directors, term to expire 2014.

Approved By-Laws changes:

Change the approval of an honorary member from General membership to Board of Directors or General business membership

By-Laws change for article XI to "delete section 8" entirely.

Contributions to AAO/AAOEF Scholarship Fund received during convention:

*Raytheon \$4,000.00

Newport Ship Building \$4,000.00

Chapter 1 \$550.00

Chapter 4 \$800.00

Chapter 5 \$400.00

Chapter 8 \$650.00

Chapter 9 \$1,330.00

Chapter 21 \$500.00

Chapter 22 \$250.00

Chapter 34 \$1500.00

Chapter 65 \$1,000.00 Bob Jackson \$ 250.00

Joe & Delores Manley \$200.00

Chuck and Beverly Onken \$200.00

Bill Foote \$200.00

Fines \$15.00

Architectural Metal Products \$1,000.00

The Auxiliary \$6,873.00

*This donation was given to the AAOEF instead of the AAO.

Total donations \$23,715.00

The President announced that next year's Symposium & Convention will be held at the Silver Legacy, Reno, NV from 11 - 19 August 2012 Pre-registration will be a real key for the success of all the planned activities at this convention. The 2012 convention Site Chairman is John LaMaitre.

Chuck Onken requested to step down after 26 years of service as the Chairman for the Hall of Fame Committee. A big round of applause was given Chuck by the membership. Jeff Sassone is the new Hall of Fame Committee Chairman

The President called for any more input from the floor.

The President discussed social networks such as Face Book, and other social Medias. He reminded everyone to use common sense when posting pictures on the World Wide Web, and the problems they can cause.

A moment of silence was held for who have gone to the Gun Boss in the sky. Let's think about the Marines, Sailors and Solider serving in Iraq, Afghanistan

Mart Vance delivered the closing prayer.

There being no more input from the floor and no more business to conduct the President closed the 2011 General Business Meeting of the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen at 1105,

14 August 2011.

Enclosures 2 thru 4 are on file with the National Secretary.

Submitted by:

Dennis Costa

Secretary

Approved by:

David H. Lepard



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(Continued from page 13)
ADAMS
ADAM SWYGERT SON OF STEWART SWYGERT

RAYTHEON MISSILE DIVISION \$ 2,000.00 KWANINIQUE BRANDON SON OF KENNETH BRANDON ALYSSA PETRONGELLI DAUGHTER OF JAMES PETRONGELLI

Please join me in congratulating our two board of directors who were selected this year; CWO4, Retired, Rob Walecki and CDR, Retired, Jeff Sassone. Welcome aboard to the Board of Directors. We should all give a big thank to Mr. Kirk Brado for stepping up to replace Jim Thomas as our events coordinator. This is a monumental task and Jim has done an outstanding job for us all these years. Additionally, Mr. Tom Lord was voted in as the association treasurer and will be taking the huge job of keeping the finances in order. Accounting is a tough job and JJ has done it with distinction. Tom, we wish you the best and thank you for stepping up to what is probably the hardest job in the association. JJ, once again, thank you for all you've given to the association and each of us.

Membership is down slightly, but with your help, the members, we should bounce right back. I would like to thank all the Chapter personnel once again who are responsible for a great year of recruiting. Now to get the rest of the leadership motivated!! I would like to ask the membership if they know of anyone who has dropped their membership please try to get those individuals back in the Association. We still see hundreds of past members we don't have a current address for, so if they transferred and you know, them, remind them to update their address please. Please if you move let the Treasure know what your new address is!!!!

As the nomination committee Chair I will be accepting nominations for the following positions for next years elections; President, (Capt Dave Lepard); two Board of Directors (Gerald Gladders and Rick Garza). If you have a nomination for any of these positions, the formal nominations must be received by me on or before 01 June 2012. Letters of nominations will be posted in the Red Shirt prior to the convention.

Ever onward, Michael K. Price



(Continued from page 13)

and every day. if you don't know what I'm talking about ASK the GUNNY and CHIEF!!!! Nuff said...

I'll close for this edition, please have a wonderful upcoming holiday season, Thanksgiving and Christmas and New Year's. Be safe and start your planning to attend the 2012 Convention and Symposium. Pat misses you all and promises that she will be in attendance in 2012. Keep her in your thoughts and prayers.. Keep me in your thoughts as well as she will be going full blast and fully recovered from surgeness of the surgeness of t

Warm Regards.. Your President, CAPT Dave Lepard

A letter to the editor.

The Ordies of CVN-77 and CVW-8 are bidding a heartfelt farewell to one of our own. CWO4 Kevin "Gunner" Marks will depart the pattern in a few days marking the beginning of the end of a 30 year Naval career. Kevin is an AO's AO! His leadership, professionalism, and love of our game will surely be missed. No redshit "cruises" the flight deck like Kevin. Please share with our brother and sisters as we congratulate a great American and say "see ya later" to a true friend.

"ALL THE BEST
Vr/ LCDR Dave Fowler,
OHO, GHWB, DEPLOYED



CWO4 Kevin Marks, LCDR Dave Fowler





2012 SYMPOSIUM / CONVENTION PLANNING MEETINGS IN LAUGHLIN, NV.

January 12-16, 2012

AQUARIUS HOTEL 800 / 662 – 5825 or

www.theaquarius.com

Ask for: Group Code "C-AAO12"

Sun - Thu @ \$30.00 Fri & Sat @ \$59.00

(Rates are good 10-18 January)
(No changes to reservation within 72-hours of arrival)

Meetings are held to discuss ideas & plans for the 2012 Symposium and Convention.

Everyone Is Welcome!

Symposium meeting will be held on Friday, January 13 @ 1400. Convention meeting will be Saturday, January 14 @ 0900.

** Meetings are in the Majestic Suite **

(Continued from page 12)

"I told him I didn't want any money, that I had just wanted a Model 1911," Berry said.

Turns out that McGinty had a completely original Colt 1911 manufactured in 1918 that had been owned by John Finn, a longtime friend. Out of gratitude for having received his pistol back, he sent the Finn pistol to Medford for Berry to pick up last week.

"Can't thank you enough for your kindness," read a July 24 note accompanying the weapon. "I have enclosed some cards and a (Medal of Honor) challenge coin. The John W. Finn card was printed on the occasion of his 100th birthday. John passed away last year. Thank you again, George."

With his signature, McGinty, who could not be reached for comment by the Mail Tribune, added "Semper fi."

Finn, who died in the spring of 2010 at age 100, was the last survivor of the 15 Navy sailors who received the Medal of Honor for heroism during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. Wounded nine times, Finn, who acquired the pistol during the war, was the oldest living re-

cipient of the medal.

"I am absolutely deliriously happy it turned out this way," Berry said.

With the Finn pistol he finally acquired a Model 1911 Colt, but he will tell you that's not the point.

"John McGinty could have just said, "Thanks, have a good life,' "Berry said. "But no matter what was going to happen, I knew I would feel good about getting that gun back to him.

"Concern yourself with what is right and you'll never second-guess that decision," he concluded.

Berry and his wife, Lilliana, plan to visit McGinty later this year.

Reach reporter Paul Fattig at 541-776-4496 or email him at pfattig@mailtribune.com.



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DOUGLAS A-3D SKYWARRIOR RESTORATION – FROM AIRPORT EYESORE TO AIRPORT PRIDE BY DEL MITCHELL AOC (Ret)

The Mojave Desert of southern California can be a very foreboding place during any time of the year, from the extreme dry heat of the summer months, to the cold windy days of winter, it is anything but Mediterranean in climate and temperature. But, it is also here in this environment that Edwards Air Force Base, and the Air Force Flight Test Center (AFFTC) calls home, and during its tenure as one of America's premier test facilities, many of the greatest aircraft, past and present, have been tested, evaluated, and developed. But AFFTC isn't just about flight testing, for over the years many of the systems and adaptations that have been developed and incorporated into current day aircraft had their origins here. For instance, back in the 1960's, the Air Force was concerned about how to slow or stop their aircraft when there was a malfunction to their landing systems, i.e., flaps, landing gear, brakes, etc. The Air Force borrowed a concept developed by the Navy that involved nylon netting set up as a series of barriers on aircraft carriers for aircraft in trouble when landing, but they needed an aircraft to help them with experiments to test this concept at land based facilities. So, the Air Force looked to the boneyard at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson, AZ for a likely candidate, and found a retired Douglas A-3D1 Skywarrior.

Douglas A-3D1 Skywarrior, Navy BuNo 135434, (s/n 10327) was delivered to the Navy in November 1955, and shortly after its acceptance, it was assigned to Operation Redwing in 1956, a series of 17 nuclear tests conducted at Kwajalein Atoll, Eniwetok Atoll, and Bikini Atoll in the South Pacific. Of the 17 tests conducted, 135434 participated in seven, where the scope of the tests evaluated the A-3's special weapons delivery system, as well as instrumentation to record thermal radiation, blast, and gamma ray data. After completion of the tests, 135434 returned to the United Stated where it was assigned to Navy squadrons VAH-3 and VAH-9 at NAS Sanford, Florida. While assigned to these squadrons, 135434 participated in several deployments with various Carrier Air Wing Groups (CAWG) to the Mediterranean before being assigned in the early 1960's to the Naval Air Test Center (NATC), Patuxent River, Maryland, where it was used for barrier/arrested landings, and JATO tests. During one of the JATO tests the speed brakes were accidently actuated causing extensive damage to the aft portion of the fuselage, and although repaired with thick aluminum riveted to the fuselage, the aircraft was flown to Lichfield Park, Arizona for disposition. When Congress mandated in 1966 only one aircraft storage facility as a cost cutting measure, and designated Davis-Monthan Air Force Base as the storage

area for all military aircraft, the Navy closed Lichfield Park and moved all their aircraft to that facility, including 135434. It is here that the Air Force retrieved it for their barrier tests to be conducted at Edwards Air Force Base in the mid 1960's. 135434 was taken out of mothballs, serviced, then flown to Edwards for the impending barrier tests. After arrival, 135434 was modified with heavy aluminum weights, three on each wing, to keep the aircraft from becoming airborne during the tests, and she never flew again. After the barrier tests, the aircraft was declared surplus by the Navy in June 1967, then towed to various locations on the base before finally being abandoned on an unused runway where it sat until the restoration effort began in January 2010 by a group of retired Navy enlisted aviators.

Retired Navy Master Chief, Mike Glenn, is one of those profound individuals who does not take no for an answer, nor does he let things get in his way, especially when it comes to Douglas A-3's. As a former Navy mechanic during his active duty years working on A-3's, and then as an employee with Hughes Aircraft (now Raytheon Corp), who maintained a fleet of A-3's doing contract work for the Navy, and as a flight engineer with the naval reserve in Patrol Squadron 65 (VP-65) out of NAS Pt. Mugu, CA, and Patrol Squadron 91 (VP-91) out of NAS Moffett Field, CA, Master Chief Glenn knows how to get things done, and he knows how to massage the bureaucratic military system, whether it's orthodox or not. And so, when he found out Edwards Air Force Base had an abandoned Skywarrior on the base, he immediately contacted the Edwards Museum Foundation, and its director, Mr. Fredrick Johnsen, about restoring the airplane. With the blessings of the Museum, Master Chief Glenn began contacting former squadron mates, and other retired A-3 Navy friends to see if they would be interested in the restoration of 135434. In January 2010, a small group of volunteers assembled at the Edwards Museum to begin the task of putting things together to retrieve 135434 from its isolated confines, and, begin the process of restoration, and hopefully, culminate for the Centennial of Naval Aviation in November of 2011. After a cursory inspection of 135434 at its windswept parking space, it was becoming abundantly clear that a lot of hard work was in store for the volunteers, for the harshness of the desert environment, although minimizing corrosion, had definitely taken its toll on plexiglass, control surface hinges, cockpit, radome, bomb bay, aft gun turret, main mount struts, nose gear strut, tires, wheel bearings, and paint. In other words, a huge mess awaited the impending restoration process, but perseverance and skill sets, under adverse situations, is what makes challenges common place for these veterans. Once 135434 was raised from the crumbled asphalt, and new wheel bearings and tires put in place, a two mile tow to the protective confines of a covered hangar was initiated. 135434 was now protected

(Continued on page 28)



(Continued from page 27)

from the harshness of the Mojave Desert for the first time in over 40 years, and the next phase of its rejuvenation would begin in earnest in February 2010.

The February and March restoration sessions was more of an assessment evaluation, and most of the time was spent getting parts together, outlining work priorities, assembling reference manuals, establishing areas within the hangar to work in, coordinating with various Air Force work centers on Edwards for support, assignment of GSE & MHE, moving parts from the Raytheon hangar at Mojave Airport to Hangar 1210 at Edwards, procuring materials and hand tools, and overall, doing minor repairs. The April session involved removing the cockpit instrument panels, seats, hatches, and avionics for cleaning and restoration. Meanwhile, two former Navy Aviation Ordnancemen, and identical twin brothers, Delbert and Delwynn Mitchell, concentrated on the bomb bay and aft gun turret as their areas of the restoration project. After four decades of sitting neglected, all the desert creatures of the Mojave that could crawl, fly, walk, or slither had found a safe and secure nesting and resting area in the bomb bay and gun turret. Years of rodent nests and feces had literally packed the insides of the bomb bay doors, necessitating the drilling of oversized holes in the door ends to remove large quantities of dead vegetation. Pete Nowicki and Art Hernandez concentrated on the cockpit, replacing and cleaning gauges, and rejuvenating the dash area, to include the center console and throttles. Bill Grant and Andy Barbre used their skills as metalsmiths to replace and repair corroded aluminum, and to fabricate patches on torn nacelles and cowlings. Ty Wilcox, and his older brother Dennis concentrated their skills on repairing the cockpit plexiglass and frame, as well as fuselage sanding, engine repairs, and hydraulics. Dennis Lundin also used his talents on the cockpit glass, radome, avionics, and hydraulics. Steve Allyn, John Klepp, and Clark Warren helped in sanding the worn out paint, as well as assisting with the bomb bay and gun turret, and with the cockpit.

In May, 135434 got its first bath in over 40 years. Over six hours was dedicated to thoroughly washing the plane inside and out, top to bottom. It took over two hours just to clean the rodent nests and feces from the bomb bay doors. The once pristine gray and white paint scheme had now dissolved into a river of white, chalky residue as the water and soap carried it to the wash rack drains. Years of leaking hydraulic fluid that had dried on the bomb bay doors, wings, and fuselage underbelly, was now being scoured with abrasive to release their caustic hold from their surfaces. Slowly and aggressively, but with affection and respect, 135434 was being prepped from airport eyesore to airport eye pleaser.

As the months progressed after 135434's washing, a lot of work was accomplished. The J-57 engines were removed

from their pods and thoroughly washed inside and out, then reinstalled. A new antenna cap was installed on the vertical stabilizer, the cockpit glass was removed, and new or repaired glass installed and sealed, corroded metal removed and repaired on the fuselage, ATM's installed, gun turret repaired to move in azimuth and elevation, entire fuselage, wings, and empennage sanded in preparation for painting, new top escape hatch installed, radome installed, cockpit instruments reinstalled, center console rebuilt and reinstalled, and many other accomplishments that literally transformed the aircraft from what it had been in January of 2010. January 2011, a new year for 135434, and she is in the final stages that will lead to a new paint scheme. Final sanding of the fuselage, wings, and empennage area is preparing the metal for eventual painting. During this work session, the wings are unfolded to their flight position, detail work with the cockpit instruments is being finalized, and the cockpit glass is finished and sealed. In February and March, 135434 is finally finished, and now it's a waiting game with the paint shop at Edwards.

April 2011, 135434, has a date with destiny. After forty years of heat, cold, unmerciful winds, and neglect, 135434, awaits the tow tug that will transfer her from the hangar that has been home for the past 15 months, to the Edwards Paint Shop. As the tug tows 135434 to the Paint Shop, a small group of airmen and civilians on the flight line stop what they are doing, and watch, and probably wonder, what kind of relic is this? It is not within their minds what this relic is. for 135434 is as old if not older than the observers watching her being towed, and they probably don't have a clue that she has been a forgotten guest of the Air Force all these years, and now she is on her way, like the Ugly Duckling, to the paint palace to be transformed into a beautiful swan. How ironic it is for 135434 to have been abandoned for so long, and now as she passes, she is capturing the eyes and attention of an inquisitive audience who neither knows nor understands what she has been through.

An old paint scheme, Sea Blue, reminiscent of the Navy of the late 1940's and early 50's, and the color 135434 left the Douglas factory with in 1955, was meticulously applied to her frame and wings, and after curing, she emerged totally different than when she went in. The marvels of paint, and the transformation or illusion it creates, cannot be uncerestimated. In 2010, an airport eyesore unworthy of mention, is now in 2011, an example of what a group of old Navy salts can do with a little encouragement, a lot of skill, an abundance of will power, and a desire to see a forgotten icon of a bygone era be restored to her proper place in aviation history. As Master Chief Glenn once said, "if we don't teach our children and grandchildren about these airplanes, then they'll never know what we did, or what part these machines played in our history". I couldn't agree more. On 14 (Continued on page 29)

The Redshirt *



October 2011, 135434 will be formally presented to the Edwards Museum during the 60th Anniversary celebration of Edwards Air Force Base, and it will be the centerpiece for the occasion. How ironic can it be that a piece of naval history will be the star attraction for an air force base anniversary. One can only surmise that 135434 has risen from the ashes of obscurity to become the symbol for what can be accomplished regardless of service orientation.

For more information, contact the A-3 Association at their website, www.a3skywarrior.com.



kneeling: Master Chief Mike Glenn, Master Chief Art Hernandez, AD2 Pete Nowicki. Standing left to right: AO1 Delwynn Mitchell, AE2 Les Wall, AOC Delbert Mitchell, ADC Dennis Lundin, AD1 Ty Wilcox, Dennis Wilcox, AMSC Andy Barbre, AMSC Bill Grant, and AE1 John Klepp. Missing from photo is AOC Clark Warren, and AT1 Steve Allyn.



Before

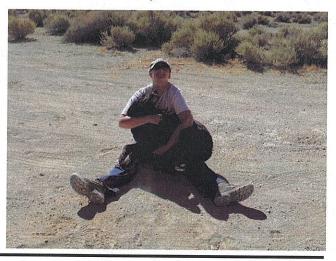


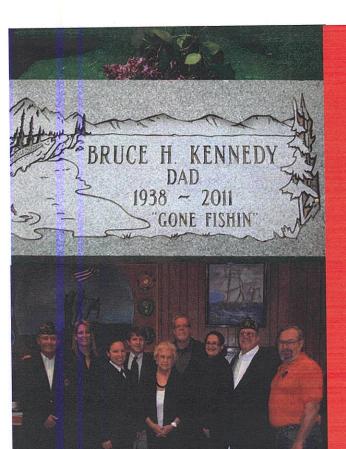
after

Chapter 5 FOD Walkdown 4 June 2011



Chapter 5 Cheryl Scanlon





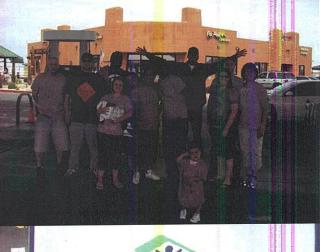














A Taste of Home on CVN-77



Navy and Air Force AMRAAM Outstanding Performers at the AO Symposium in Reno, NV; L to R Kevin Meagher AMRAAM APML, AMRAAM Program Office, AO2(AW/ SW) Leroy Gardiner, AO1(AW) Darell Vandergrifft, CDR Nick Hackard AMRAAM Program Office, SSgt Joshua Roberts, SSgt Tomi Michaels, Concetta Scerbo Air Force PM Intern AMRAAM Program Office



Don't we look enthused! AMRAAM Program Team L to R; Concetta Scerbo, Tony Craighead, Billy Crews, Kevin Meagher during the AO Symposium in Reno, NV





The Red Shirt

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