



AO NEWSLETTER

No. 16

25 Sept. 1982

A NOTE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Fellow Gun Plumbers:

I wish to thank you for the confidence you have extended to me by selecting me to act as your President for the next term. I will try to not let you down and will attempt to make the Association grow as grow it must to accomplish the goals we have set.

It behooves each of us to expand the growth of our group in any manner possible. If any member has any suggestions on how to increase our growth, feel free to forward your suggestions to Tom Robins or me.

If anyone has special requests for tours or shows at Reno this next year, please send those requests as soon as possible. Sam Siddons is anxious to get this "83" Convention organized even if he has to go to Reno twice a week to monitor it.

Our San Diego Convention was a great success. We had 171 for dinner in "82" — let's see if we can double it next year in Reno!

Thank you again for your continued support.

Submitted by: Don Baumer, President

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T-SHIRTS AND HATS

Jim RUPERT and Jim IRVING outdid themselves in obtaining T-shirts and baseball hats emblazed with the Association insignia for distribution at the '82 Convention. WELL DONE Shipmates. Members interested in obtaining a T-shirt or hat should contact **AOCSS** Jim Rupert, VF-126, NAS Miramar, San Diego, Ca. 92145

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It is not too early to submit applications for consideration in the 1983 Scholarship Awards. Applications may be obtained from Tom Robins, Sec./Tres., 729 Buddlawn Way, Campbell, CA 95008.

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PRESTON, Leonard H.
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1982 CONVENTION NEWS

The Association of Aviation Ordnancemen held it's seventh Annual Convention on 18-20 June 1982 in San Diego, CA. The turn-out was tremendous and everyone had a fun weekend. We had 48 members at the General Business Meeting and (believe it or not) 171 for dinner and dancing.

The 1982 Convention Committee ("Digger" O'DELL, Jim RUPERT and Jim IRVING) did an outstanding job in making all the necessary arrangements. WELL DONE Shipmates. Captain Richard PARKER, CNAP Code 90, our guest speaker, gave a very informative presentation on modern day air weapons. The Navy Band provided us with music for after dinner dancing and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves.

At the General Business Meeting, chaired by our VP, LCDR Warren SPAL, Lt. Joe MANLEY and LT. Chuck ONKEN were elected to the Board of Directors for a term of three years and Don BAUMER was elected to serve as President for a term of three years. Congratualtions to all the newly elected officers. A Life-time Membership Program was proposed and unanimously accepted by all members present. Details on the Life-time Membership will be published in the next issue of the Newsletter and application forms will be sent to each member of the Association. Bob UNDERWOOD accepted the position of EDITOR of the Newsletter. His address will be found elsewhere in this Newsletter.

RENO, Nevada was over-whelmingly selected as the site for our 1983 Convention and Don BAUMER, Jim SOOTS, Sam SIDONS and Art MEEKINS have promised that '83 will be the best so far. June 24-26, 1983 is the weekend selected, so make your plans to attend now. Details will be published as they become available.

Our CONGRATULATIONS to Ms Lorraine OWEN of Tucson, AZ and Andrew FERRELL of Sunnyvale, CA on being selected as the 1982 winners of our Scholarship Awards.

Submitted by: Tom Robins, Sec./Tres.

NEW MEMBERS

* * *

LAMB, ROBERT T.	CHAVEZ, RUDY	RYNOLDS, DAVID W.
AKE, WILLIAM G. AOC	SPANGLER, RALPH G. LCDR	SCOSSONE, JEFFERY P. AO1
SIEVERS, RICHARD R. AO1	FLEMING, HERMAN T. AOC	FOUSIF, HOWARD M.
BEACH, Edwin C.	LA RUE, Lloyd R.	RILEY, Larry D. AO3
DAVIS, William C.	MAY, Kenneth E.	SAMPSON, James B.
DE BOER, Johan W.	MC KENZIE, Lewis E.	SIDDONS, W. S.
FRAZIER, Walter G.	MEEKINS, Arthur M.	THILL, Frank L.
HUNT, Kirby P.	QUINN, Richard J.	WAGNER, Brockton B.
HOLLINS, Alfred R.	FOSTER, Kenneth F. AOC	LARSON, Leonard D. AOC
KRUTSINGER, PHILLIP E.	NFLSON, JOHN E. AO1	THOMAS, WILLIAM A. AO1

A SPECIAL THANKS

Doris and I wish to thank all of you for bearing with us and getting information to us for the Newsletter. Please give Dottie and Bob the same help. Remember, it is your Newsletter.

Submitted by: Jim Irving

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As we already know the aviation ordnance specialty was authorized in 1926. The first ordnancemen to meet a combat environment were Marine corps ordnancemen.

On 25 February 1927 VO-1M squadron landed in Nicaragua to assist the government against the insurrection of Sandini. The squadron consisted of 8 officers and 81 enlisted with 6 DH aircraft. On 23 May VO-4M arrived and joined VC-1M. The first combat flights began 15 July with strafing and dive bombing. In December the DH were replaced with the more modern O2U aircraft. (During the operations there were Navy ordnancemen present but numbers are not available. It is known that one was an instructor in AO "A" school at Norfolk in 1940.)

The first ordnanceman captured by the enemy was Sgt. F.E. Dowell, after the aircraft in which he was backseat gunner crashed. He is believed to have been tortured and hanged by the Sandinistas.

Also in 1927 other ordnancemen were with Marine aircraft in China, but did not load a bomb or fire a gun in anger.

Our next combat ordnancemen were also Marines who were in action December 6, 1941 at Wake Island with VMF 211 with 12 F4F3 aircraft. The arrival was so rushed on December 4 that the crew consisted of 2 master sergeants, specialty unknown, and 45 ordnancemen with one AMMI probably from the tender WRIGHT. Ordnancemen performed all maintenance as they were very versatile people, as we prove from time to time.

Total ordnance expended until all aircraft were lost, consisted of 20 one hundred pound bombs and 20,000 rounds of .50 caliber. The bombs were loaded with suspension lugs hand made on the spot due to problems in configuration. (sound familiar)?

Source: History of Marine Corps Aviation in World War II, by Robert Sherrod 1952.

Submitted by Doug Weaver your Historian.

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION Membership \$10.00 Per Year		Assoc. Aviation Ordnancemen THOMAS D. ROBINS, Sec/Treas. 729 Buddlawn Way Campbell, CA. 95008
NAME _____	SSAN _____	TEMPORARY RECEIPT MEMBER/ASSOCIATE MEMBER \$10.00 Received By:
ADDRESS _____	PHONE - HOME _____ WORK _____	
_____ ZIP _____	DUTY STATION (ACTIVE) _____	

TYPE MEMBERSHIP DESIRED: MEMBER _____ ASSOCIATE MEMBER _____		
MEMBER:	ASSOCIATE MEMBER: (OPTIONAL FOR MEMBER)	
USN _____ ACTIVE _____	EMPLOYER _____	
USNR _____ RETIRED _____	ADDRESS _____	
USMC _____ EX-AO _____	_____	
USMCR _____ RANK/RATE _____	OCCUPATION _____	
DATES SERVED: _____ to _____	POSITION _____	
Under the Freedom of Information Act, 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.		
_____	_____	
(Witness)	(Signed)	