

THE RED SHIRT

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

Newsletter No. 43

November 1991

From the President

It's really been a busy few months since our last newsletter. Many thanks to Chapter 4, VA-35 and VF-142 for supporting a most impressive awards presentation for our AO of the Year, AO1 (AW) Thomas C. Benhe and Second Runner-up AO1 (AW) Ronald Thames who have since been promoted to AOC, CONGRATULATIONS. Everyone in the Tidewater area knows who Aviation Ordnancemen are now and we received some super recognition. A similar ceremony was also given for AO1 (AW) Dan Moon by his new squadron, the Rampagers of VFA-83 at NAS Cecil Field as VA-46 was dis-established after Desert Storm. I was very proud to personally make these award presentations.

I would like to welcome aboard Chapter 62 from the USS Independence who also picked up members from the crossdecking Shogun Chapter and congratulations to the new Chapter president Kris Hancock and all of his officers. Efforts such as these keep our Association alive and well. We'll be looking to hear good things from Chapter 62. A letter of intent has also been sent requesting a Capitol Area Chapter be established as Chapter 22. CDR Ron Curry was elected President, LT Johnny King - Vice-President and AOC Castro - Secretary/Treasurer. It's great to see them coming aboard.

I also had the pleasure of making a trip to MCAS Cherry Point and giving the AAO pitch to the USMC Aviation Ordnance Officers. Thanks to Major Gary Klaus for that invitation which I hope will rejuvenate the USMC involvement. They are a very valuable asset to the Association. Hope to see some USMC Chapters. Keep thinking chapter involvement, recruiting, finding old members and next years convention 11-14 June, Imperial Palace, Las Vegas, NV. It's never too

early to plan. Also, if you have any questions, our toll free number to the Secretary/Treasurer Bob Ashworth is **1-800-788-1943**.

Gary Laun
President

From The Desk of The Secretary/Treasurer

This office has been rather busy since the 1991 Convention in Reno, NV. First item was to get the General Business Meeting Minutes ready so they could be published in the August newsletter. About the same time the Department of Defense mail officials changed the FPO addresses of all our shipmates afloat and overseas. That wasn't too bad because I had read about the FPO changes in the Navy Times and they listed the new zip codes. I received very few zip code changes from afloat members. Jeff Sassone provided me with an article that gave additional information on the zip code changes. Thanks, Jeff.

With the zip code changes completed and the GBMM's completed I was off to updating address changes and membership renewals received at the convention.

AOC Castro at Patuxent River, MD sent in a request to provide funds to renovate a MK 2 MOD 1 Bomb Truck. For you younger AO's, that was the primary weapons vehicle used during and after WWII and was even in use when I joined the Navy in 1952. With the approval of the Board of Directors the Association provided funds to assist in renovating the bomb truck. Also, the bomb truck is to be donated to the Aviation Ordnance Museum at NATTC Memphis after a visit to the Pearl Harbor Anniversary.

There were two requests for new chapters:

(See SEC/TREAS Page 2)

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN NEWSLETTER

Editor:

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Address Corrections to Secretary/Treasurer:

CDR Robert A. Ashworth USN/RET 133 - H.L. Sudduth DR Panama City, FL 32404 (800) 788-1943



Captain Dave Park, last year's guest speaker, proudly displays his Aviation Ordnance Memorabilia in his office at the Naval Strike Warfare Center. In the note that accompanied the picture Captain Park said: "Ordies have always been and will always be my favorites - they certainly earn it. Thanks for having us and for the great time."

SEC/TREAS . . .

(continued from Page 1)

USS Independence (CV-62) and USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72). They have submitted all the appropriate documents, meet the membership requirements and were approved by the Board of Directors. The Association now has two new Chapters: Chapter 62 and Chapter 72. Congratulations to the new Chapters and all new members.

There was a request by a member to contribute to the United States Navy Memorial Foundation for the Arleigh and Roberta Burke theater. This would allow the Association to place a brass plaque on the arm of one of the chairs in the theater with an inscription. With approval of the Board of Directors the Association donated \$1000.00 to the Foundation. The inscription for the brass plate is as follows:

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN
PEACE THRU POWER - WE ARE THE "ARMS" OF
THE FLEET

19 JUNE 1976

That was some of the business of the Association that occurred during this past quarter or so. Along with the normal renewal of member-

ship, replying to questions and sending out letters to inquiries about the Association. Oh, yes, collecting dues and making deposits and spending the money.

October, November and December are going to be three months when the Association will lose many members. These members are those that failed to renew their membership (pay their dues) for whatever reason. Also you will see in this newsletter a list of "Where are THEY?", these are members whose mail has been returned and the Association has lost contact with them. If you know where they are, please have them forward a change of address to the National Secretary/Treasurer. I like sending the Association correspondence.

We have many members working hard for the Association and increasing their efforts to recruit not only Fleet AO's but those EX-AO's who have served in WWII and periods after that. Recruiting is very important and retention of members is also very important. Most members that the Association loses, move on orders and don't send in a change of address and the Association is unable to maintain contact with them. Members should encourage those members moving to stay in contact with the Association.

The Association has received requests from

several groups of AO's that would like to establish new chapters. They are:

AOC Castro - Greater Capitol Area

NAS Adak

CDR Phil Milling - NAS Pensacola

I will keep you apprised of their status.

Have you begun to make plans to attend the Annual Convention at Las Vegas in June 1992? Plan now, read the brochures in the mail when you renew your membership and make reservations for the Imperial Palace early. The best way to do all this is to make one call with James and Carolyn Thomas and they will take care of it all: Airlines reservations, Tours, and room reservations. All you need to do to get started is to make one call.

The Association received a very nice letter from regular member Howard W. Pattison. He and his wife Doris were returning from a reunion of Carrier Aircraft Service Unit 20 and decided to visit the Aviation Ordnance Museum at Millington, TN. They were given an extra nice tour by AO1 John E. Kneiling and the entire staff at the Mechanical Training Department made their visit very memorable. He sends his thanks to Chapter S-87 for having the pleasure to view your special room. Also, a SPECIAL recognition to AO1 John E. Kneiling for his time and the special effort he took to show him and his wife around.

The fifth revision to the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen By-Laws were mailed on 9 August 1991 to all members in good standing. Any members who may not have received their copy should contact the National Treasurer or call (800) 788-1943 for more information.

Please review the mailing label on the mail you receive from the Association. Ensure all the data on the mailing label is correct. If it is not, please, make corrections and return the corrected mailing label to the National Treasurer. In each Zip Code, there maybe assigned a nine (9) digit zip code. If you have a 9 digit zip code please add it to the mailing label data.

I have had to close down the FAX number because there was not enough Association business coming across the line. But, we still have good communications with an (800) number: (800) 788-1943. Call in those changes of address.

That is about it for this edition. Hope you make plans to attend the convention in Las Vegas and hoping "we will see you there"

Robert Ashworth
Secretary/Treasurer

The Congressional Medal of Honor and John W. Finn Do You Know the Story?

The Aviation Ordnance Rating is very proud to have a Medal of Honor winner, that many of us know about, in the name of John W. Finn. However, you may not have heard the story. The following citation was awarded to then AOC John W. Finn as a result of his actions December 7, 1941. The Aviation Ordnance Museum in Millington is named in Honor of MR John W. Finn, LT, USN, Retired. We're looking forward to seeing him again at next years convention.

John W. Finn, Aviation Chief Ordnanceman, USN, San Diego, CA

Congressional Medal of Honor: "For extraordinary heroism, distinguished service and devotion above and beyond the call of duty. During the first attack by Japanese airplanes on the Naval Air Station at Kanehoe Bay, Honolulu, HI on December 7, 1941, he promptly secured and manned a machine gun mounted on an instruction stand in a completely exposed section of the parking ramp, which was under heavy enemy machine gun strafing fire. Although painfully wounded many times, he continued to man this gun and to return the enemy fire vigorously and with telling effect throughout the enemy strafing and bombing attack and with complete disregard for his own personal safety. It was only by specific orders that he was persuaded to leave his post to seek medical attention. Following First Aid treatment, he returned to the squadron area and actively supervised the re-arming of returning planes. His extraordinary heroism and conduct in this action are considered to be in accord with the highest traditions of the Naval Service.

RING! RING! RING!

No, its not the telephone. Work is going into an Association Ring to be made available for all members. Soon, you will have the distinct honor to wear a ring dedicated to this Association. Additional details, including cost and ordering information will be made available for the next edition of "The Red Shirt" (#44).

Official Association of Aviation Ordnancemen Ring

The ring is 10k or 14k gold with Red Zircon setting in a Fireburst pattern. Surrounding the stone are the words "ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN". On one shank is the AAO emblem with the surrounding words "PEACE THROUGH POWER - WE ARE THE ARMS OF THE FLEET" and founding date



"1976". On the other shank is the Aviation Ordnance wings with the surrounding words "AVIATION ORDNANCE" and the founding date "1926". All raised surfaces are bright gold with background surfaces antique gold. Initials on inside of band.

Thank You!

The Association receives good support from the membership contributing to the Scholarship Fund. The Scholarship Fund was established to assist dependents of a member of The Association, Dependents of a deceased Aviation Ordnanceman of the US Navy or Marine Corps, dependents of associate members of The Association, immediate family of an active member or associate member of The Association.

The Association of Aviation Ordnancemen wishes to express their appreciation for the generosity of the members who have contributed to the Scholarship Fund this past quarter:

AO1 Patricia G. Tracy
 James Bowman
 AO1 Peter J. Dunn
 William H. Weidenheimer, EX-AO3
 Major Edward L. Burwell, USMC
 AOCS Jessie W. Allen (RET)
 LT George N. Erickson
 LCDR J.L. McClain (RET)
 Thank You for your support!

WHERE ARE THEY NOW ????

Anyone knowing the where abouts of the following members please have them forward a change of address to the National Secretary/Treasurer. Many members lose contact with the Association because when they move or relocate they fail to leave a forwarding address. Mail is returned with no such address, incorrect address or just returned. Please help locate these members so we can get them back in the membership and they can receive their "Red Shirt" and other AAO correspondence.

WILLIAM A. ANDERSON	WILLIAM A. BRACKEN
MICHAEL E. BRADEN	MICHAEL S. BUSBY
JOHN E. CAMPBELL	JOHN E. CLINE
STEPHEN J. COTTA	DAVID F. CROOK
MICHAEL J. DALY	ROBERT A. GUILLEN
GEORY W. HALL	COLIN LEE HEFFLEY
JOHN HOWARD	WILLIAM A. KEELER
MICHAEL G. KELLY	TERRENCE M. LEONARD
LOYD E. LOW	LEONARD T. MARTIN
MARLOW D. MOSIER	JEFFERY J. PIAZZA

A.J. PFAEHLER	KEITH C. QUIMBACK
ANGEL R. SAVILA	KEVIN C. SHAW
ERIC SHELLBARGER	KARL D. SPIEDEL
DANIEL J. STEPHENSON	LORI THOMPSON
ARTHUR E. TRYON	JOE J. VILLANUEVA
KENNETH P. WATERS	



AO3 P.M. BELLINA	AO1 G.H. BUTSHCER
AOC W.L. CRITCHLOW	AO1 W.G. DEESE
AOC F.S. DUNN	AOC C. EISENREICH
AOC N.T. ENLOE	AO1 E.L. FORD
AO2 H.B. LEWIS	AO1 R.D. LOGGINS
AOC R.S. MARTIN	AOC W.A. MERCER
AO2 D.L. MOCK	AOC B.P. MONROE
CWO F. MOULTRIE	AOC F.J. MYERS
AO1 J.W. O'SULLIVAN	AOCS A.J. ST PETER
AO1 H.E. SMITH	AOCS O.D. WELCH

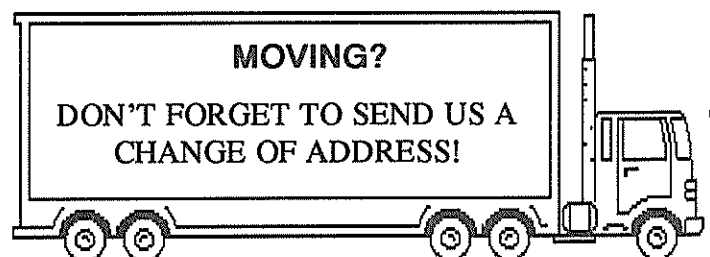
Chaplains Corner

Congratulations to our active duty shipmates who have taken a step up the promotion ladder since the last newsletter. Those who did might take a quick moment to raise your eyes to the sky and say "THANKS BIG GUY". You couldn't have done it without HIM.

More on the Santa Barbara medal. Any religious supply store catering to Catholics will have a variety of medals, from the inexpensive one like I have to those made of silver or gold. The price will naturally vary. Those in our San Diego store run from \$.35 to \$10.00. You can special order gold medals. These will run in the over \$200.00 range.

And don't forget to mark your calendars for 4 December, the day celebrating the Feast of Santa Barbara. Might be a good day to take a moment to remember all of our departed shipmates.

Ron Bushta
 Chaplain



AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN HALL OF FAME AWARD GUIDELINES

1. PURPOSE: To establish criteria for nominating individual(s) for the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen Hall of Fame.

2. BACKGROUND: The Association of Aviation Ordnancemen is a professional organization, composed of active/retired/reserve United States Navy, Marine Corps and entire Department of Defense personnel dedicated to promote professionalism and safety of the Aviation Ordnance rating. Also provides technical and professional support whenever possible to the ordnancemen of the fleet. The award was started in 1988 during the annual convention and the original 22 members were the first inductees. The award(s) will be presented to individuals who have made outstanding contributions, or demonstrated performance with special recognition in the Aviation Ordnance field or Association of Aviation Ordnancemen.

3. AWARDS: The award(s) will be presented during the annual Association of Aviation Ordnancemen's National Convention/Symposium.

a. A certificate signed by the Association President will be presented to the individual(s).

b. A plaque, appropriately inscribed with awardee(s) name will be sent to the Naval Air Technical Training Center, Aviation Ordnance School Museum for display.

c. Awardee(s) will be appropriately recognized at the annual awards dinner and through message to the fleet.

4. ELIGIBILITY: All individuals who are serving and have served in the Aviation Ordnance rating.

5. NOMINATION CRITERIA:

a. Nominated individual(s) must be serving or have served in the Aviation Ordnance Rating, but need not be a member of The Association.

b. Nominated individual(s) must have made a specific contribution through a special achievement or superior performance which has enhanced the reputation, readiness or future well-being of the Aviation Ordnance Rating and or The Association of Aviation Ordnancemen.

6. SELECTION COMMITTEE: The selection committee will consist of Committee Chairman (appointed by President and approved by Board of Directors) and a minimum of 4 committee members. The selection of committee members will be at the discretion of the Committee Chairman. Committee Chairman and Committee members must be members in good standing with the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen.

7. ACTION: The Association of Aviation Ordnancemen will solicit nominations through the annual message sent to the fleet and

through the Association Newsletter, "The Red Shirt."

a. Nominations must be submitted to the National Secretary/Treasurer no later than 1 May of the convention year.

b. National Secretary/Treasurer will forward all nominations to the Committee Chairman for review and selection of selection may be made at the National Convention/Symposium. This is at the discretion of the Committee Chairman. The Committee Chairman will forward name(s) to the President and Board of Directors for final approval.

c. Committee Chairman shall an appropriate plaque(s) are purchased to be displayed in the Aviation Ordnance Museum.

d. Committee will consider all nominations and select the most worthy individual(s). Selection of awardee(s) is not mandatory, only the most deserving should be inducted into the Aviation Ordnancemen Hall of Fame.

8. AWARD SUBMISSION FORMAT:

a. Cover letter should include following information:

- 1) Full Name
- 2) Rank/Rate of GS Level
- 3) SSN
- 4) Current Status (active, retired, reserve, etc)
- 5) Current Duty Station
- 6) Current Home Residence
- 7) Spouse's Name
- 8) Enclose photo of nominated individual (if available)

b. Justification for award nomination should be forwarded as enclosure (1) of the cover letter and shall be no more than (2) two single-spaced typewritten pages.

1) Identify specific action, contribution or continuing performance upon which the nomination is based. Any supporting documentation will be appreciated.

2) Outline the impact of the specific action, contribution or continuing performance upon the Aviation Ordnance Rating and/or the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen.

3) Explain why the specific action, contribution or continuing performance merits recognition through presentation of the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen Hall of Fame Award.

4. Nomination must be unclassified.

END

TRIPLE A O'S NEWS

We have our new membership application forms ready to be filled out and returned to Dottie Underwood, 3160 Dallas Drive, Fallon NV 89406. If in the past you have sent something to Dottie and didn't get a speedy answer, please accept her apology--there was a wrong zip code. 89406 is the correct one.

We have six new members since we last went to press: Cynthia Brouker, Mabel Brown, Pat Driver, Mary Ann Laun, Diane Milling and Connie State. Welcome Aboard!

Our President, Kathleen Gannon has a new toy-- a state of the art word processor. It sounds like she is keeping the keys pretty hot. Congratulations, Kathy.

Doris Irving
Triple A O's Newsletter Editor



Brian Witte (center) receives a \$250.00 Scholarship from Chapter One. Presenting the award were Chapter President Bill Scoggin (left) and Chapter Vice-President Wayne Stanley.

Chapter 1 Lemoore, CA

Hello, from Lemoore. Things have been busy around here with Chapter 1. In August we began walking 2 miles of highway 198 as a part of California's Adopt-A-Highway program. Our 2 hour walk under the hot August sun quickly saw us downing refreshments, specifically ice cold brewski's afterwards. On August 31st we held our annual picnic for all AO's and their families at Hickey Park. Tri-Tip, burgers, dogs, sodas and beer were the order of the day. The kids busted open piñata's, there was volleyball and a whole lot of AO socializing. Raffles were drawn for some gifts that were generously donated by a few members. Our \$250.00 annual scholarship was awarded to Brian Witte who attends Fresno State.

In September, Association Calendars were completed. Letters were sent to Chapter Presidents along with order forms. It didn't take long for phone calls and order forms to come in because as of this date we are down to 100 available for distribution.

I am requesting everyone who ordered and received calendars to sell, to info Phil Kershisnik before 30 November on the amount of unsold calendars you have. This is so we can redistribute any remaining to those waiting for some prior to 31 December.

The Chapter is also in work on having an Association ring made.

A complete description is elsewhere in this "Red Shirt". More details, including cost, will be inside "Red Shirt" #44.

Some chapter members volunteered their time

ANNOUNCING

Celebrate, commemorate and honor the 50th Anniversary of the Battle of Midway, June 4-7, 1992. For those veterans, military families, historians and VIPs from government, associations, reunion groups and industry who are interested contact: Battle of Midway and the 50th Anniversary of Midway to the Washington/Anacostia Squadron of the Association of Naval Aviation, PO Box 16408, Arlington VA 22215. Please respond on or before January 1, 1992.

USS PRINCETON RE-UNION will be held 23-26 February 1992 in San Diego, CA. Contact USS Princeton Re-union Association, 1401 Brion PL, Comanche, IA 52730 or call (319) 259-8219.

FIRE AND EXPLOSIONS ON USS ENTERPRISE CVAN-65, on 14 January 1969. Were you there? If so, your first hand account is wanted. Please contact: Mike Carlin, PO Box 98, West Grove, PA 19390, (215) 255-5271.

Thinking of moving/retiring to Oregon? Give Dave Selby Realty a call at 1-800-541-1108. Be sure to mention the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen as Dave is a retired CWO-3 "Gunner".



ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN AUXILIARY

Membership Application
Dues \$10.00 Per Year

Name _____ SSN _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Home/Work _____

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 Auxiliary.

Signature _____ Date _____

Mail to: Dottie Underwood Sec/Treas.
3160 Dallas Drive
Fallon, NV 89406

TEMPORARY RECEIPT

New Members Name _____

Address _____

\$10.00 Dues Received by _____

**ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**
Membership \$10.00 Per Year

MAIL TO:
ASSOC. AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN
R.A. ASHWORTH SEC./TREAS.
133 HL. SUDDUTH DRIVE
PANAMA CITY, FL 32404

Name _____ SSAN _____
Address _____
City/State _____ Zip _____
Phone: Home/Work _____ Duty Station _____

Type Membership Desired: Member Associate Member

Member: *Check Three* Associate Member: (Optional for member)

USN _____ ACTIVE _____ Employer _____
USNR _____ RETIRED _____ Address _____
USMC _____ EX-AO _____
USMCR _____ RANK _____ Occupation _____
RATE _____ Position _____

Dates Served: _____ to _____
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.

(Sponsor) _____
(Signed)

TEMPORARY RECEIPT

Name _____

Address _____

\$10.00 Received By: _____

REUNION BOOK ORDER FORM

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN 1991 REUNION
JOHN ASCUGA'S NUGGET, SPARKS, NV

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

_____ REUNION BOOKS @ \$12.00 EACH _____

100% PAYMENT ENCLOSED _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

"REUNIONS" INC.

P.O. BOX 876

ORLANDO, FL 32802-0876

IF YOU WISH TO CHARGE WITH VISA OR MASTER CHARGE,
COMPLETE THE INFORMATION BELOW:

____ VISA _____ MASTER CHARGE

ACCOUNT NUMBER _____

EXPIRATION DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____

(ORDER SUBJECT TO APPROVAL)

to set up an Association information booth periodically at the NEX and Commissary. This has been met with great success. Memberships, Halloween tickets, AAO Calendars, and every individual who walks by gets sold on what we do. Many thanks to Mr George Segars, a life member of the Association, for his ideas, persistence, and dedication to make this work. Thanks George.

Events in work are: Halloween Party, Christmas Party, converting a cotton trailer over into an Association float for parades, and increasing local membership. Hats off to all members and committee chairmen (especially Mark Risser, our recreation chairman) for the dedicated time you have put into Chapter 1.

This almost covers all of our activity up to date. Until next time, when the fog rolls in, we'll catch you later!

Bill Scoggin
President, Chapter 1



Chapter 3 Whidbey Island, WA

Here's the latest news from Whidbey Island. We recently held elections for new Chapter officers. We would like to express our deepest "Thank You" to the outgoing officers: Doug Fyfe - President; Dave Michel - Vice President; Ed Hannifan - Treasurer; and Scott Palumbo - Secretary, for a "Job Well Done". Congratulations are in order for the following new officers: President - Don Richardson; Vice President - Bill Reynolds; Treasurer - Randy Nolan; Secretary - John Desmoreaux.

We would like to express our congratulations to all the new Chief Petty Officers: AOC (Spitball) Nolan, AOC (Simple) Simon, AOC (Slug) McDaniel, AOC (Bo Peep) Jensen, AOC (Homer) McCloskey, AOC (Beans and Weenies) Vandergraph, AOC (Quaker) Oats, AOC (Air Pump) Shewmaker, AOC (Homey) Siatunuu, AOC (Frankenstein) Wynne, AOC (Retread) Smith.

The planning is in work for our annual Christmas party to be held at the Dugalla Bay club house on December 15, 1991 at 6:00 PM, so if you are in the area come on buy and join in the "Holiday Festivities". Santa Claus will be there to take all requests for gifts.

We would also like to say congratulations for the new arrivals to AOC McDaniel a little girl Autumn and to AO1 Bindschatel a little girl

Alexandra.

We wish everyone and their families a safe and joyous holiday season.

KEEP IT SAFE!

Bill Reynolds
Vice President, Chapter 3

Chapter 4 Tidewater, VA

Elected Officials

President Don Howard, LCDR, RET
Vice-President Bob Peterman, AOCM, USN
Secretary/Treasurer Stu Carson, AOCM, RET

It has been a busy period since Chapter 4's last input, we have welcomed all our members back from Desert Storm. Our Ordies excelled in combat and Ordnance Safety. Well Done guys, your hard work and professionalism in high tempo combat operations certainly made a difference in Iraq's quick and humiliating defeat. That isn't just reserved for the Tidewater Aviation Ordnancemen, it is for all the tail hookers, ship's company and Marines on the sand!

Our congratulations go out to the new president of the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen, Commander Gary Laun. Best of luck in your tenure and Chapter 4 pledges our support in helping you to a very successful term. To the outgoing president our sincere thanks and appreciation Chuck you made a major impact through your leadership and dedication to the Association and in your six years you built us into a strong, well organized and highly respected Association.

Along the same lines Chapter 4 wishes to give our outgoing Chapter president, Bob Borges AOCM RET a "BRAVO ZULU" as without his initiative and guidance there wouldn't be a Chapter 4. Also a "THANKS" goes out to Dutch Holland AOCM RET for his hard work as the Vice-President during our first and formative year.

On 16 May 1991 Chapter 4 invited Captain John P. Gay, USN, Commanding Officer USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67) to be our guest speaker. The Skipper gave an outstanding informative and enlightening presentation on the combat role JFK/CVW-3 played during Desert Storm.

August 16th was a Red Letter Day in Tidewater with a formal ceremony for AVORDY and the second runner up. Commander Gary Laun made the Award presentation to the Aviation Ordnanceman of the Year; AO1 Thomas Benhe, USN, Attack Squadron 35 and to second runner up AO1 Ronald Thames, USN, Fighter Squadron 142. There were approximately 175 guests at the ceremony in Hangar 111 at NAS Oceana. A reception followed at VFW Post 392 with an

outstanding turnout. Congratulations to AOC Tom Benhe and AOC Ron Thames for receiving their prestigious awards. We in Chapter 4 are extremely proud of having them both as members in our chapter.

Chapter 4 also has something else to boast about as we had eight of our members selected to Chief Petty Officer from this last selection board. The new Chiefs are:

AOC Thomas C. Benhe (VA-35) AVORDY

AOC Michael E. Braddy (VF-101)

AOC Andrew L. Brown (FASO Det Oceana)

AOC Steven Newell (FASO Det Oceana)

AOC David R. Neidermayer (VF-14)

AOC Ronald Thames (VF-142) 2nd Runner Up
AVORDY

AOC Michael J. Warner (CVW-7)

AOC Jeffrey L. Waugh (USS Nassau LHA-4)

Well Done and keep charging Chiefs.

On 2 May and 7 September the chapter hosted family picnics in honor of our returning ships/squadrons from combat. Both get togethers were well attended and a great time was had by all. Kudos to Dutch Holland for planning and carrying out the 2 May affair and that goes for our head cook the old 'Bubble Head' Bob Single EMC(SS) RET. The pig roast of 7 September was successful and a lot of thanks goes out to VA-35 Ordies for planning and organizing it, especially AOC Chris James, LTjg Ken Minnard and AOC Tom Benhe and a special thanks to the cooking and carving team of AOCS Bill Darger, Bob Borges AOCM RET and AOCS Frank Rough.

Chapter 4 is full speed ahead on our second annual holiday's food drive for needy Navy families. This year's Chairman is Frank Rough and his committee is Bob Borges and AOC Mike Snider. Any Tidewater Ordies wishing to donate canned goods, cash or gift certificates please contact AOCS Rough at work 433-9183. We are hoping to surpass last year's total of around \$400.00 and with gracious donations we can do it ordies!

We would like to recognize commands in the Tidewater area who are or have been very active in building our Chapter and through their dedication to the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen they have been beneficial in Chapter 4 now having over 130 members, they are as follows:

Attack Squadron 35 - AOC Chris James

USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67) - LCDR Jack Wilson

NAS Oceana Weapons Dept. - AOCM Bob Peterman

Attack Squadron 36 - AOC Mike Snider

SWATSLANT (formerly MAWSLANT) - AOCS Frank
Rough

NAS Oceans AIMD Ordnance - Gunner Ron Jerasa
USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71) - LCDR Bill Cole

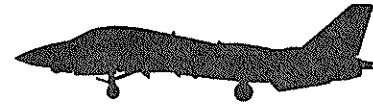
Keep up the great work guys!

Our congratulations and best wishes go out to AOCS Steve Stanley who retired 27 September 1991.

The USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN-69) is on an extended deployment to the Persian Gulf/Mediterranean and the USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67) has commenced her work-up cycle. To both man-of-wars the Chapter wishes SAFE and SUCCESSFUL steaming and flying.

Ordies interested in joining Chapter 4 can get information from Stu Carson 804-468-9249. The Chapter meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 1900. We hold the meeting at VFW Post 392 on Bowland PKWY just off London Bridge Road. We'll keep the light on for you - see ya there!

Stu Carson
Secretary/Treasurer, Chapter 4



Chapter 8 San Diego, CA

It has been awhile since the last newsletter and a lot has transpired since the last one. Brian Leach transferred to Whidbey Island, and I assumed duties of President as of 3 May 1991. Ken Heidt was elected to fill my position as Vice-President.

Our annual picnic, held on 18 May was a roaring success - over 100 Ordies, family and friends showed up. Gunner Bill Maxwell (VF-154) was our raffle winner.

At the annual convention Ron Bushta was elected to the office of Chaplain and Frank Thill was placed on the Board of Directors. Well done!

Unfortunately while at the convention we had a box of our memorabilia worth \$365.00 stolen. Just a minor set back that we're recovering from.

Flowers and get well wishes have gone out to Beverly Onken and Joe Manley. Hope your recovery was speedy and complete.

We are again sponsoring 2 families with Thanksgiving baskets. Food or cash donations are being accepted at North Island Station Weapons AAE. Additionally we need the names of 2 families (preferably AOs) needing a little help. Submit names at meeting in November or call J.J. LaMaitre at 545-6209.

AAO Calendars from Chapter 1 are in. They're selling fast. For a mere \$20.00, you get the

chance to win a minimum of \$25.00 each day next year and you can win more than once!! Contact Gunner T.C. Moore at 537-4747 of J.J. LaMaitre for one or more.

Chapter 8 will be voting on chapter by-laws in November.

As always our meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at 1900 in the Fleet Reserve Branch 61, 288 3rd Ave., Chula Vista, CA.

Larry Miller
President, Chapter 8



Chapter 9 Jacksonville, FL

Chapter Nine, in the land of alligators and sunshine, continues to grow and all goes well. One of our goals is to become the largest chapter of the AAO, and hopefully that can be achieved within the next year. This past year, under the leadership of: President Billy Harkin; Vice-President Tim Baird; Secretary Mike Dennis and Treasurer Bill Taylor, we've progressed exceptionally well in motivation and are striving to improve in all areas. Even though the terms of this slate of officers expire in November, we enjoy complete confidence in the abilities and leadership qualities of other Ordies who exhibit confidence and a willingness to serve.

During the past quarter our President Billy Harkins presented the Fleet Reserve Association, Branch 91, with an AAO plaque in appreciation of their providing us with a nice meeting place each month. Our branch recently voted to advertise our existence in three of the areas Fleet Reserve Association Newsletters which hopefully will increase the membership in both associations. We have additionally voted to reduce the price of our AAO Chapter ballcaps for all new members.

Our safety discussions during this past quarter have been very enlightening and has made many of us aware of significant changes which are forthcoming. Having attended Motor Vehicle and Railcar Shipping Inspectors refresher training in June, Bob Hall gave a briefing in July concerning the implementation of Hazardous Materials Regulation 181 (HMR-181) which is required to be fully implemented by 1996. BOE-6000K is an excellent source of information concerning HMR-181. Our long standing terms such as EXPLOSIVE "A", EXPLOSIVE "B", etc, will become items of the past as our references will refer to the explosive materials by Class and Division. The more we can learn now and put into practice, the better off

we'll be as the phasing in of this regulation progresses. In August CDR P.D. Driver, NAS Jacksonville Weapons Officer, gave an excellent brief concerning the lessons learned and problems encountered while moving thousands of tons of ammunition and explosives through NAS Sigonella during the Desert Shield/Desert Storm crisis. To move so much explosives without an incident certainly indicates the soundness of the Explosives Safety Program in effect. Surely the hours were extremely long and tiring and we can all feel proud of our fellow Ordies who participated in those evolutions. September's meeting was kind of an open floor discussion of everything from 'Blue tubes' to LUU-2s to arming solenoids, so we are making it a definite point to discuss safety at all meetings.

Chapter 9 is still growing and very active in a recruiting effort. Nominations have been given for November's elections and we hope to have a super turnout as we've been averaging 40-50 members present each month. Motions were made and we're also preparing for food baskets and help for shipmates in need for the upcoming holiday periods. Chapter 9 would also like to challenge all east coast chapters to have the most members at the National Convention in June.

Bob Hall
Chapter 9, Member-at-large

Chapter 12 NAS Cubi Pt

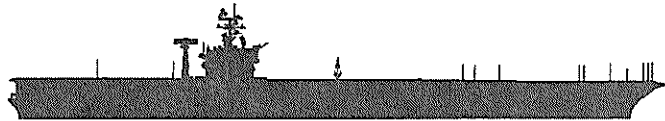
Greetings from the land of endless excitement! Things are getting back to normal here since "Black Saturday" 15 June 1991 (major eruption of Mt Panitubo). Air field is back to full operation and we are doing our normal support mission. CVW-5 off the "Indy" has been down here in full force making life very interesting. The chapter is back to our regular monthly meetings. We are in the process of electing new officers. AOCs Gary Husman has stepped down as Chapter President due to his transfer to the fleet reserve early next year. Senior Chief Husman has done an excellent job as Chapter President the last year. We wish him "Fair winds and following seas" as he retires to Iowa!

Jon Juris
Chapter 12

Chapter 21 Fallon, NV

Hello from all the Ordies of Chapter 21. Recently our chapter held an auction to raise money for a local Fallon child, Aican Hendrix, who is needing a bone marrow transplant. Our

chapter was able to raise \$2,100.00 for the very needy cause. I would like to thank all the wonderful people who volunteered to help make this happen. Well Done! In closing, if your ever in the Fallon area be sure and look us up, our meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at the American Legion Hall, anyone passing through is always welcome.



Chapter 68 USS NIMITZ

We're back! After departing the desert heat and overcast skies of the Arabian Gulf, the "Ordies" of Chapter 68 spent some well deserved time recuperating in Pattaya Beach, Hong Kong and Pearl Harbor enroute to the green hills and blue skies of the Pacific Northwest.

During our transit back, a special ceremony was conducted in the chapel to formally bless Santa Barbara medals for chapter members. LCDR Gubbins, the Catholic Chaplain, presided over the ceremony. He thought the idea of the AO's having a patron saint was rather unique and was extremely pleased to perform the ceremony.

Since our return, the Chapter had an opportunity to get together for some BBQ, horseshoes and volleyball at Illahee State Park. While everybody enjoyed the food and brew, the redshirts from G-3 enjoyed dominating the sporting events. The team of Mike "Shoes" Norris and Kevin "Ringer" Imes went undefeated in the pits and then joined up with Mick Boyer and Bob Kline to kick butt on the volleyball court. The day was beautiful, the company couldn't have been better and a good time was had by all.

The 16th of September added another khaki to the Chapter when Bob Kline was initiated as a CPO. While the food was not as good as the BBQ, Bob seemed to have eaten more than his fill.

Now that the post-deployment standdown is about over, we are looking forward to some well deserved sea time to get us out of the house. Going home is fun, but it is not liberty

Thomas E. Lord
Secretary/Treasurer, Chapter 68

Chapter 72 USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Greetings to all "ORDIES" everywhere, from the Navy's newest and largest warship, USS

ABRAHAM LINCOLN CVN-72 (The Legend). As of this writing we are awaiting final approval from the National Board of Directors in becoming a recognized Chapter of the Association. We would like to say that we are honored and proud to be following in the foot steps of our brother Ordnancemen in joining the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen. Our elected Officers and Board of Directors are as follows:

President: AO1 (AW) John Boyle
Vice President: AO1 Terry Littlejohn
Secretary/Treasurer: AO1 Gregory King
Board of Directors: AOC (AW) Richard Voorhees
AO1 David Marsh
AO1 Mark Jalonen
AO1 Darwin Kipillii
AO1 Kevin Taylor
AO3 Maurice Perkins

Currently we are positioned in the Arabian Gulf, keeping a watchful eye on our good buddy Saddam and his friends. For many of our redshirts, like that of the LINCOLN, this is their first major deployment. Like every deployment they will have many stories to tell the folks back home. Seeing different cultures and foreign lands. None, bigger than their part in the world's biggest peacetime evacuation of over 4000 Department of Defense/Military/Civilian personnel from the volcano, Mt Panitubo, in the Philippines. Once again, the "ORDIES" showed why they are the "ARMS" and "BACKBONE" of the Navy. We helped bring children, pets, luggage, supplies and injured/elderly folks up the gangplanks in driving rain. We set up watch teams to watch 2000 plus animals that we brought on board, while their owners were afforded the time to take a hot shower, get some food and a good night's sleep. Once we had transported the evacuee's to the island of Cebu, for further transportation to the states, we were there helping to ensure that no one had forgotten anything. For all of us, it was a great feeling knowing that we were able to help in just a small way during a time, when it must have seemed like the whole world was coming down around them.

As the time draws near, when we will be heading back to the Pacific Ocean and our home in Alameda, CA, we are looking forward to stopping in the Philippines and renewing old friendships and starting new ones with the members of Chapter 12.

Gregory King
Secretary/Treasurer, Chapter 72

**17th ANNUAL
AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN CONVENTION
IMPERIAL PALACE HOTEL, LAS VEGAS, NV
JUNE 11 thru JUNE 14, 1991**



**EDITOR'S
NOTES**



First of all I'd like to say **Thank You** to all the people who sent in their 'Change of Address Form' when they moved, with your help we were able to cut our "address correction and return fees" in half. Please continue your efforts to eliminate this unnecessary expense so we can put the money to better use!

Now for the not so good news. If you are a member of a Chapter of the Association, please go back and look to see if your Chapter was represented in this Newsletter. If your Chapter isn't represented please help me get an input for the next edition of 'The Red Shirt'. You can do this by giving your Chapter officers a gentle reminder (threatening with a hernia bar shouldn't be necessary, but if it works...) or better yet, get involved in your Chapter and volunteer to be the Chapter Writer!

The **deadline** for submission of articles for the Newsletter #44 will be **25 January 1992!**

I've transferred since the last newsletter my new duty station is:

COMNAVAIRPAC CODE 931

NAS NORTH ISLAND, CA 92135-5100

A735-2772 or COM 619-545-2772

Feel free to give me a yell.

I've been thinking of putting together an Ordnance related crossword puzzle for the newsletter on an occasional basis, any help I could get from you trivia buffs or puzzlers would be greatly appreciated.

Please have a safe and joyous holiday season!

Jeff Sassone
Editor

flash report

We're pleased to announce that Chapter 22 "The Capitol Area" Chapter has been approved. **Congratulations!**

Transportation to Hawaii for the MK 2 MOD 1 Bomb Truck from Patuxent River was provided by a Marine opportune lift. **Semper Fi!**

We regret to inform you of the death of AAO member **Tony Dominitis, AOCM, RET** on 28 October 1991.



MERRY CHRISTMAS



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