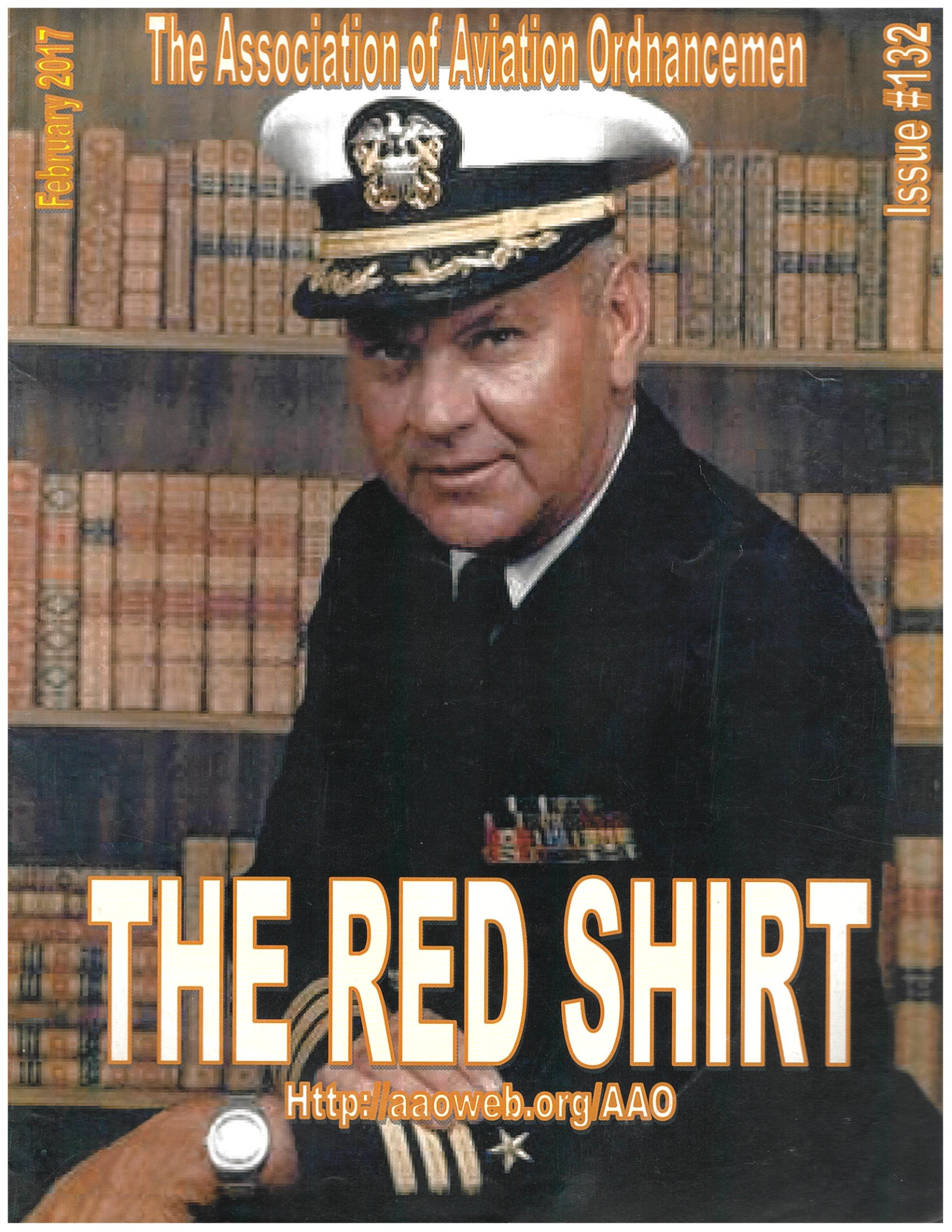


February 2017

The Association of Aviation Ordnancemen

Issue #132



# THE RED SHIRT

[Http://aaoweb.org/AAO](http://aaoweb.org/AAO)

## The Association of Aviation Ordnancemen [Http://aaoweb.org/AAO](http://aaoweb.org/AAO)

### PRESIDENT

**CDR Dion Edon, USN/Ret**  
Dion.edon@cox.net  
1900 Vince Road  
Virginia Beach, VA 23464  
(C) 559.362.0856

### VICE PRESIDENT CWO4 Rob Walecki USN/Ret

698 Woodridge Court  
Lemoore, CA 93245-4432  
(C) (559) 816-0082

### SECRETARY

**AOCM John 'JJ' LaMaitre**  
9691 Bundy Drive  
Santee, CA 92071-2771  
(H) 619 562-8492 (FAX On Demand)  
(W) 619 545-2585  
aaosec@cox.net  
AAOSecretary@aaoweb.org

### TREASURER

**AOCM Thomas Lord, USN/Ret**  
2888 Iris Ave., #122  
San Diego, Ca. 92154  
(H) 619.575.1895  
(C) 619.302.3166.  
aootreas2011@cox.net  
AAOTreasurer@aaoweb.org

### CHAPLAIN

**Mart Vance, USN/Ret**  
421 Whitaker Lane  
Fallon, NV 89406  
(H) 775.423.3696  
(C) 775.427.3740  
mart@phonewave.net  
Papamart290@gmail.com  
AAOChaplain@aaoweb.org

### EDITOR:

**AOC Kevin P. Meagher, USN/Ret.**  
21 Wedgewood Lane NE  
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547  
(H) 850.499.0024  
(W) 850.883.3982  
kevin.meagher.2@us.af.mil

**Chapter 1 - Lemoore, CA**  
President: AO1 Christopher Vancil  
559-998-0957  
Fleet Reserve Club, D Street, Lemoore  
3rd Friday, 1730

**Chapter 3 - Whidbey Island, WA**  
President: AOC Allen

Meeting Place Bakerview Restaurant (CPO Club)  
Fourth Wed of the month, 1130

**Chapter 4 - Virginia Beach, VA**  
President: AO1 (AW) Alofi Pome'e  
757-433-9047  
VA Beach VFW #392, 2408 Bowland Pkwy  
3rd Wednesday, 1800

**Chapter 5 - China Lake, CA**  
President: Angela Heppe  
760-939-7189  
VFW 4080, 117 N. Alvord  
Last Flex Thursday of Month, 1800

**Chapter 8 - San Diego, CA**  
President: AO1 Breanna Coachman  
619-545-9392  
American Legion Post 434, Chula Vista  
1st Thursday, 1900

**Chapter 9 - Jacksonville, FL**  
President: AO1 James Peters  
Fleet Reserve, Collins Road  
3rd Thursday, 1900

**Chapter 11 - Kaneohe Bay, HI**  
President:  
Wing 2 Bldg. (John Finn Bldg) 1st Friday, 1600

**Chapter 21 - Fallon, NV**  
President: AO1(AW/SW) Torez F. Kendrick  
torezferecuskendrick@gmail.com  
American Legion Post 16 Fallon, NV.  
1st Wednesday, 1830

**Chapter 22 - Patuxent River**  
President: AO1 Willard Riffe  
VFW, Post 2632 California, MD  
3rd Wednesday, 1900

**Chapter LHD-4 Gator Chapter**  
President: AO1 (AW/SW) Trenton Hagley  
On Board

**Chapter LHD-8 - USS Makin Island**  
President AO1 (AW) Terrance Dukes  
dukest@lhd8.navy.mil  
On Board

**Chapter 671 - Guam**  
President: AO1(AW/SW) Timothy Fennell  
671-488-6277 fennell145@yahoo.com  
American Legion Mid-Pacific Post 1 in Tamuning,  
Guam, 3rd Thursday, 1900

**Chapter 39 "Dude Gilbert" - Beaufort, SC**  
President: Del Tingley  
843-228-2827  
Delroy.d.tingley@usmc.mil  
Hard Corps Caf  Dude Gilbert Room  
1st Thursday 1645

**Chapter 68 - USS Nimitz**  
CVN 68 President: AO1(AW/SW) Marc Merrill  
On Board

**Chapter 69- USS Dwight D Eisenhower**  
CVN 68 President: AO1 (AW/SW) Justin Sims  
On Board

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

**Chapter 71- USS Theodore Roosevelt**  
CVN 71 President: AO1(AW/SW) Charles Hart  
On Board

**Chapter 72 - USS Lincoln**  
CVN 72 President: AO1 Roden  
On Board

**Chapter 73 - USS George Washington**  
President: AO1 Thurman McDowell  
Forward Deployed

**Chapter 74 - USS Stennis**  
CVN 74 President: AO1(AW) Loran R. Kennedy  
On Board: loran.kennedy@cvn74.navy.mil

**Chapter 75 - USS Truman**  
CVN 75 President: AO1(AW/SW) Kirk Godair  
On Board : mailto:godairkl@cvn75.navy.mil

**Chapter 76 - USS Ronald Reagan**  
CVN-76 President: AO1 Sheila Brown  
On Board

**Chapter 77 - USS George HW Bush**  
CVN-77 President: AO1(AW) Jeremy Reed  
On Board : reedjm@cvn77.navy.mil

**Chapter 78 - USS Gerald Ford**  
CVN-78 President: AO1 Chris Tysor  
On Board : Chris.Tysor@cvn78.navy.mil

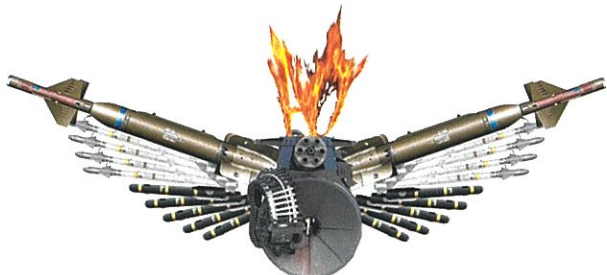
**Chapter Key West,**  
Southern Most President:  
AO1(AW/SW) Elliot Rodriguez Diaz  
305-294-2892  
Sunset Lounge, at Sigsbee ANNEX  
1st Wednesday 1700

**Chapter 34 - Pensacola, FL**  
President: AO1 (AW/SW) Christopher Bossier  
850-377-9196  
Chapter34ordie@gmail.com  
Alexanna.williams@navy.mil  
Beef O Brady's  
1st Wednesday, 1830

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



Moving? PCS?  
Your Change of Address is  
Important . . . Please submit one to the  
national treasurer



**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 WEBSITE <http://aaoweb.org/AAO>. THE GUIDELINE FORMAT 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,

Jeff Sassone (H) 301-757-7307, ( C ) 240-925-6848  
E-mail [jeffrey.sassone1@navy.mil](mailto:jeffrey.sassone1@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

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE: \_\_\_\_\_  
          LAST          FIRST          MI

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: home: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ cell: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

RATE/RANK: \_\_\_\_\_ BRANCH OF SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_ Active ( ) Retired ( )

DATES SERVED: \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_ Last 4 SSN: - \_\_\_\_\_

Marine Corp MOS: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of membership: Regular ( ) Associate ( )

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 Thomas Lord USN Ret.  
2888 Iris Ave., #122  
San Diego, CA 92154


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.

- **MISSION**  
The Arleigh Burke class destroyer is a guided missile destroyer designed to counter threats from the air and from the sea, from aircraft, ships, and submarines. USS John Finn will be capable of carrying a wide variety of both precision and non-precision munitions.
- **FEATURES**  
USS John Finn will be one of the U.S. Navy's most advanced, state-of-the-art warships in the fleet. Its extensive array of weapons will include the world famous AEGIS system, which is served in more in engaging multiple enemy targets simultaneously, and it will be equipped by the most advanced long- and short-range missiles.
- **ARMAMENT**  
Harpoon, Tomahawk and Standard missiles, SM-61 VLS, 1 or 2 SM-61 Phalanx CIWS, 1 Mk45 5-inch/54-caliber gun, 1 Mk45 5-inch/52-caliber gun, Mk52 dual VVTT launchers.
- **PROPULSION**  
Four General Electric LM2500-30 gas turbines; two shafts.  
(100,000 total shaft horsepower)
- **AIRCRAFT**  
Two Sikorski Seahawk helicopters.
- **MISCELLANEOUS**  
Displacement: 9,000 tons; 142,000 gross tons full load  
Crew: 224 officers and 300 sailors  
Length: 180.0 feet  
Beam: 30 feet  
Speed: 20.5 knots

**USS John Finn (DDG 113)**

# Red Shirt

## Articles

are due

20 JAN 18

1 MAY 17

20 SEP 17

Please submit via e-mail when possible



## NEW MEMBERS

Mr. Scott Harris  
AO1 Mikeal M. Carey  
AO3 Stephanie Rohe  
AO2 Orlando M. Diaz

AO1 Victor G. Ada  
AO1 Michelle R. Roden  
AO1 Ivan Arzaluz  
AO2 Nathan G. Veal

## LOCATOR

Can you help? Know where any of these members can be located? If you have a mailing address or phone number, please contact me at [aaotreas2011@cox.net](mailto:aaotreas2011@cox.net), snail mail or give me a call.

AO2 Mary A. Veazey (RN)	AO1 Oliver T. Flannery (RN)
AO2 Joshua S. Gann (RN)	AO1 Oliver T. Flannery (RN)
LJTG Joshua D. Allen (RN)	AOAN Teresa L. Lopez (RN)
Mr. Jack E. Lepper (RS131)	AOC Brad W. Botle (RS131)
Mr. Davis B. Deibert (RS131)	Ms. Pamela Knotts (AAA0)(RS131)
AO1 Michael D. Rogers USN Ret (RS131)	AO1 Willie D. Jones (RS131)
AO1 Daniel R. Davison (RS131)	RADM Donald K. Bullard (RS131)
AOC Edward Madera (RS131)	COL Loyal P. Stewart USAF Ret (RS131)
CDR Wayne M. Bovelli (RS131)	AOM/T1 Walter Lastoskie (WWII)(RS131)

Notes: (RN) =Renewal Notice Return / (RS131) = Red Shirt Return

## SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTORS

Rick & Dale Nelson	AO1 Robert & Jessica Gwyn, Jr.
AO1 Michael & Donna Rogers USN Ret	Mr. Mark D. Wendell
LJTG Josh & Megan Willhite	Allen & Arleen Steiner
MSGT Dennis & Margaret Colbert USMC Ret	AOCs John Cataldi USN Ret
Gene & Kiyoko Vickers USMC Ret	

To all chapters,

Please review your information on the *Chapter Meetings - Places - Times - Dates* section on page 3. E-mail your changes to me and JJ LaMaitre. 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.

Thanks for the help, Editor



# TAPS

Mr. Edmund Clement  
AO2 Ruby C. Perez  
AOCS Charles R. Bover USN Ret "Plankowner"  
AOC William D. Hluchyj USN Ret\*  
AOC Allen I. Kellman USN Ret\*  
Mrs. Anne Robins  
LT Roderick "Rick" Griner USN Ret  
Archie Goodwin

\* Info from FRA Today Newsletter \*\* Info from VFW Magazine



Man the  
**GUNS**  
Join the **NAVY**

## NEW LIFE MEMBERS

AO2 Garrett Strachan	CWO4 Charles T. Maner USN Ret
ENS Matthew Kelly	AO1 James L. Wiseman USN Ret
ENS Gary A. Woods	AOC John E. Clark
ATCS Gerald L. Tripp USN Ret (VAH-21)	

Check us out on Facebook.....  
"The Red Shirt"



Dear Association of Aviation Ordnancemen members

Thank you so much for allowing me the honor to receive the 2016 Robert L. Crow Scholarship. It is thanks to this gracious award that I will be able to afford much needed textbooks and supplies and to contribute towards my tuition.

Most importantly this scholarship will help me reach my educational and career goals I have set for myself to make a successful future. I am certain that my sophomore year at Virginia Commonwealth University will make the AO Association proud to have chosen me as this year's scholarship recipient.

Sincerely,  
Marcella Burmeister

Hi Kevin,

We lost phone contact when you passed me to your voice mail. If it's not too late, please put the following in the Red Shirt:

If you know the status or whereabouts of Virgil D. Tummons AOC (RET), contact Bob Solomon, (619) 691-9328

I'm a long time volunteer at the USS Midway CV 41 Museum. If you are in San Diego, let me know.

Regards,  
Bob Solomon

*If anyone can help Bob, please give him a call. Also, Bob gave me a personal tour of the Midway about 10 years ago. Very informative!!*

### Retirement of CWO4 Michael Todd Pendleton, and Mrs. Gunner

Wanted to pass these pics to you, hope I'm in time. Gunner Pendleton retired with 32 years of military service, 30 years active duty. Wife Linda, Mrs. Gunner, retired as well with 34 years of service to the Navy, on active duty and as a Civil Service Civilian. "We salute all whom we've served with, those still on watch, and all of us who protect our country every day whether on active duty or ever served." Thanks.

CWO4 (RET) Pendleton



# John Wileys 70th Birthday!!



All - Former Gun Boss (CV-61) Roger Brady is now a Volunteer Docent onboard the Midway and is looking for anyone who was onboard Midway during Desert Storm. See the e-mail below for details.

R,  
JJ LaMaitre  
AAO Secretary

Hi Commander Edon,  
Roger Brady here, Gun Boss on Ranger oh so many years ago.  
When I came to the AO site I was very pleased to see you as President and especially an Officer. My very belated congratulations.

I would appreciate any and all assistance to get Midway and their Docents the right info on AO/Weapons Department description.

Another thing I saw on Midway is their Ordnance Control in Hangar Bay One. Currently being used as an office for rehab work around the ship. It still has the grease board and most of its hardware there. Midway is considering spending money to rehab some more spaces and I'd like to see Ordnance Control on that list but they need some good info. Is there anybody in the Association that was on Midway in the 1988 - 1992 period that can give us a correct picture of Ordnance Control, an OHO, Chief or First Class that worked in there? I'm interested in recreating the status board to reflect a build for a Desert Storm strike (all of the displays on ship reflect Midway 1991).

If there is someone, from the Association, who can work with me to get this on the right track that would be great. I am in San Diego, if that person or persons are here I can bring them onto Midway, at no charge so they can see what can be done.

Thanks in advance for any assist you and the Association can provide.

Roger Brady  
cv41docent@gmail.com

---

Would you please pass to Chapters that I received confirmation from Ordie One, CAPT Bill Bindel, that the USS JOHN FINN, DDG-113, will be commissioned 15 July at pier K-10, Pearl Harbor Hawaii.

Thanks.  
Best,  
Dion

---

Good Morning Gentleman,

Wanted you to get word if you haven't already - SECNAV has approved 15 July 2017 as JOHN FINN's commissioning date in Pearl Harbor. Hope to see you all there.

VR, CMC Conway

CMDCM(SW) T. M. Conway  
USS JOHN FINN (DDG 113)  
Command Master Chief

Hi All-

I'm forwarding this email on behalf of Gary Trevino to invite you to meet Gary's father, a WW2 Aviation Ordnanceman who was an aircrew gunner on PBYS in the Pacific. Mr. Trevino is the oldest living AO and will be at the VFW Pax River this Friday Feb 10th at 1300 celebrating his 95th birthday.

Please invite anyone you think would like to meet him, put on a red shirt, and come meet him and sign the Bravo flag.

Hope to see you there!

-Ant  
IYAOYAS

Morning Ant,

I'm pretty sure you received the email from chapter 22 in regards to Dad's Birthday February 10th at the VFW starting at 1300. He will be turning 95, but the big thing is he happens to be the oldest living Aviation Ordnanceman. I would love to see the house in RED Shirts.

I will have a BRAVO flag for all to sign. If you would be so kind as to send this to all the Weapons Platforms heads for distribution to all the Ordie/Ordie working community. It will not be every day you will be able to shake the hand of the oldest living Aviation Ordnanceman and help him celebrate his 95th!

Thanks My Brother,  
Gary M. Trevino



# Frank Trevino's 95th Birthday



**2017 CONVENTION RESERVATION APPLICATION**

**ADVANCE ORDER FORM**

**DEADLINE IS 15 July 2017**

**I plan to attend the following activities  
(please check appropriate ones):**

- 27Jul (Thu) Board of Directors Meeting \_\_\_\_\_
- 28Jul (Fri) AO of The Year Committee \_\_\_\_\_
- 28Jul (Fri) Scholarship Committee \_\_\_\_\_
- 28 Jul (Fri) AAO Hall of Fame Committee \_\_\_\_\_
- 28 Jul (Fri) Membership Committee \_\_\_\_\_
- 28 Jul (Fri) By-Laws Committee \_\_\_\_\_
- 28 Jul (Fri) Nominations Committee \_\_\_\_\_
- 29 Jul (Sat) General Business Meeting \_\_\_\_\_
- 29 Jul (Sat) Board of Directors Meeting \_\_\_\_\_

**AUXILIARY OF THE ASSOCIATION OF  
AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN**

- 27 Jul (Thu) Board of Directors Meeting \_\_\_\_\_
- 29 Jul (Sat) General Business Meeting \_\_\_\_\_
- 29 Jul (Sat) Board of Directors Meeting \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE**

Committee Chairmen will require the assistance from the membership for the above listed committees. Please indicate committee or committees that you wish to participate in. If interested in more than one committee, annotate priority by numbers 1-6.

**ADVANCED TICKET ORDERING INFORMATION**

**Payment of the Registration Fee is required to attend any meeting or convention function. Registration Fees must be paid prior to purchasing tickets for the Social and/or Awards Banquet.**

Registration Fees are not required for dependents 17 and under. However, they must purchase tickets to attend the Social and/or Awards Banquet.

**For active duty E-4 and below:**

1 year free membership in the Association is included in your registration fee. If you are already a member your membership will be extended one year. To qualify for this special registration package please include a completed application with your registration and or ticket order.

ORDERS & MONEY FOR ADVANCE REGISTRATION FEES, AAO SOCIAL AND AWARDS BANQUET TICKETS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN FRIDAY **15 JULY 2017**. ORDERS & MONEY RECEIVED AFTER THIS DATE WILL BE RETURNED OR MUST HAVE LATE FEE'S INCLUDED. (See order form )

Visa/ MasterCard Credit Card Fee's are Non Refundable.

For Registration Fees, AAO Social and/or Awards Banquet send check, money order, or credit card info made payable to and mailed to:

**ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN**

Thomas Lord  
2888 Iris Ave., #122  
San Diego, CA 92154

Registration Fees (choose appropriate category):

1. Member \$25.00 (\$30.00 after 15 Jul 17)  
Name of Member \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)
2. Non-Member \$40.00 (\$45.00 after 15 Jul 17)  
(Not including guest or spouse)  
Name of Non-Member \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)
3. Spouse/Guests 18 and over \$25.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Names of Guests \_\_\_\_\_  
(Spouse) (please print)

Advance Social & Awards Banquet ticket prices:

Friday AAO Social \$40.00 each (\$45.00 after 15 Jul 17) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*\*\*Children See Note

Sat Awards Banquet \$40.00 each (\$45.00 after 15 Jul 17) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*\*\*Children See Note

\*\*\*\*Note: Children 5 to 12 - \$20/Children 13 & Over - Full Price

Credit Card Fee \$10.00 (if applicable) Non-Refundable \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Name exactly as it appears on credit card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Master Card/ Visa # \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Billing ZIP code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card payees may also use the registration form on the AO Web Site. If you use this form, the above credit card information does not need to be filled in. Once you send the form, I will receive an e-mail and will, in turn, send you an invoice with the payment requirements. NOTE: This process will not work for military e-mail addresses.

TICKETS WILL NO LONGER BE MAILED TO ATTENDEES. ALL TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE REGISTRATION TABLE EVERY DAY. IF YOU DESIRE NOTIFICATION OF RECEIPT OF PAYMENT, INCLUDE A SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE OR POST CARD OR YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS.







**Plan to Attend the 2017**

# AAO CONVENTION

27 July – 30 July



**800/687-8733**

or online at

**[www.silverlegacyreno.com](http://www.silverlegacyreno.com)**

**Book Code: AAO17**

**Must Make Reservations By 4 July**

**Rates are good from 25 July thru August 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Sunday – Thursday**

**Standard Room - \$69**

**Friday & Saturday**

**Standard Room - \$93**

Deluxe Spa Suites Are Available

**Free Airport Shuttle**

For Convention Information, Call:

**Kirk Brado**

**619-962-6158 or email: [kbrado1@hotmail.com](mailto:kbrado1@hotmail.com)**

## PREZ

**H**appy 2017 Ordie Family!

I pray that all is well with you and yours to date and hope you had the opportunity to enjoy quality time with your family and friends over the holidays and New Year's. As I write this input, Valentine's Day is fast approaching so I hope you did not forget your special someone. As always, send up prayers for our Marines and Sailors serving around the globe for continued mission success and a safe return home. This goes for all deployed service members. Be safe and lethal out there!

December 7th 2016 marked the 75th anniversary of the attacks on Pearl Harbor. I hope you took time to reflect on those events to honor past Veterans whose actions continue to inspire our current and future warriors. I do my best to seek out and impart knowledge to individuals who do not know the story of a true hero near and dear to me (and a lot of us), LT John W. Finn, during that time of year. Continue to recognize John to those around you. This is one of the small ways we can continue to honor him for his bravery and service to our nation.

Pat and I attended the National AAO mid-year planning meeting 2017 Convention in Laughlin, NV 12-15 January. We managed to attack the business at hand first and then played a little after the National and Auxiliary business was finished. A handful of us took the liberty to host Mrs. Frances Carmichael. She had a wonderful time interacting with the officers, BOD, and members present on a more personal level. It was a pleasure for all of us too. Thank you to all who made it happen.

I whole-heartedly express my gratitude to the National and Auxiliary Officers, and all Board members who made the trip to Laughlin to support our preparations for the AAO 2017 Annual Convention. For the Officers and BOD who could not fit the trip into their schedule this year, we aspire to see you there next year if possible. I applaud you all for your continuous support which is indispensable to me and our professional association. Thank you!!!

I am obligated to mention an issue that affect's Ordies attending the convention with children. This change will begin this year and become the "new" norm for following years. In short, due to increases in convention costs, we will be charging set prices for children attending the Friday night social and the Saturday night banquet. You will see these changes included on the 2017 registration card. For planning purposes, the cost for children 5-12 years old for Friday night social and Saturday night banquet will be \$20.00. Children ages 13 and older will pay full price, \$40.00.

Overall, the Silver Legacy continues to work with our association to provide superior services to fit our budget. That said, it is not too early to make your plans to attend the 2017 41st annual convention. I hope we will fill every seat and have a need to ask for more seats than last year to be added. Plan to be there and register early to save yourselves a few dollars. If we know you will be attending Friday and/or Saturday night in advance, it does make the process go smoother towards making sure we have room for everyone.

Until next time. IYAOYAS!!!

Dion



L-R front row: Francis Carmicheal, Chuck Onken, Denise Walecki, Marg Beers  
L-R second Row: Jim Thomas, Dave Lepard, Dion Edon, Pat Edon, Amy Stemler, Julie Brado, Tess La Matrie, Timothy Zimmer, Rob Walecki  
L-R third Row: Berry Stemler, Delores Manley, Stella Collier, Bob Jackson, Kirk Brado, J.J. La Matrie, Carolyn Thomas, Kid McCoy, Teresa Zimmer

## VP

**H**ey Ordies!

I hope this edition of the Redshirt finds you all in good health and spirits. By the time you read this article we will have already conducted the Pre-Convention meeting in Laughlin NV over MLK day, I'm sure it will have been a productive meeting as usual. It's part of the business end of the Association and I would like to thank all that attended this year and in years past for your support to the AAO. Only about 5 months left before we hold this year's Symposium and Convention at the Silver Legacy in Reno NV. For those of you that have never attended one, you are missing out on some valuable information, as well as seeing old friends and making new ones, and meeting Ordies that you might not know and have only heard their names before. I cannot stress enough to everyone, please get involved, it's YOUR Association, and you'll enjoy yourself as well! In addition, it is time to start thinking about your inputs to the various Committees that will be meeting in July, such as the John W. Finn Aviation Ordinance of the Year, Hall of Fame, and the numerous scholarship that are

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

available. Please don't procrastinate in submitting your packages, there are deadlines and you have plenty of time to meet them.

We will also be voting on National Officers during our Saturday General Business meeting. The Office of Treasurer, as well as 2 Board of Directors positions will be open to nominations. As per our By-Laws, if you are going to nominate someone for any of these positions, remember, prior consent of the candidate is required before the name is placed in nomination. Candidates must be present at the General Business meeting unless previously approved by the Board of Directors. Nominations will also be taken from the floor during the Business meeting, the above requirement still applies. Absentee ballots will be included in the next Redshirt prior to the Convention. Nominations for the above mentioned offices have a submission deadline date of 1 April 2017 so the candidate's names can be placed in the Redshirt prior to the convention for absentee ballot purposes.

Finally, I hope to see you all in July, it'll be a great time as always and I am looking forward to seeing a lot of new faces along with the old ones! I'm confident that if you're attending your first convention, it won't be your last one! Stay safe

---

## SECRETARY

Greetings Shipmates and Marines –

Hope you all had a safe Holiday Season. Was good seeing some new faces in Laughlin at the Tropicana for the Convention Planning Meeting over the Martin Luther King weekend, a good time was had by all.

Start NOW to make your plans for Continuum & Convention will be held at the Silver Legacy Resort, Reno, NV (Continuum) from 23 July thru 27 July 2017, and (Convention) from 26 July thru 30 July. Chapters need to contact Kirk Brado (POC info in this Red Shirt) to set up tables to sell merchandise. Our numbers are trending up this year with folks staying over from the Continuum and we are seeing more families with children attending.

Chapter Officers – You need to get into the National By-Laws (Article IX) to see what your responsibilities are. I need the Chapter Reports forwarded to me on a regular basis so we do not put your Chapter into an 'Inactive' status. Please forward the minutes, etc. to [aaosec@cox.net](mailto:aaosec@cox.net).

It has been a privilege to serve as your Secretary for the past 2 years, thank you for your confidence.

R,  
JJ LaMaitre  
AAO Secretary

---

## TREASURER

Convention 2017 is fast approaching, time to get your pre-registration forms to me. We just completed our planning meeting in Laughlin and it looks like prices will stay the same as last year. For you Ordies who are not members of the National and intend to come to the Convention, DON'T register as a non-member. Pay the member \$25.00 registration fee and add the \$20.00 for a

membership. For you E-4 and below who plan on coming, you get one year membership with your registration fee. If you are a non-member, I will sign you up with your registration. Cut off for pre-preservation is 15 July 2017. Anything mailed after that may not get to me before I leave for Reno. If you are contemplating attending but not sure due to personal or command reasons, give me a call or send me an email and we can discuss your options for registering.

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

Address changes are still a problem. I need your changes as soon as you know you are moving. The mailing costs associated with Red Shirt returns are getting out of hand. I try my best to make sure those entitled to a Red Shirt get it. But when I don't have an updated address, I have to pay the post office for its return. That said, in the future, when I get a Renewal Notice or Red Shirt returned to me, I am removing that person from the Red Shirt list until I have a current mailing address. If you see someone's name on the locator list, let them know. 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 me at [aaotreas2011@cox.net](mailto:aaotreas2011@cox.net). Chapter officers, division LPO's, shipmates, if you know a member is transferring, talk to them about submitting an address change. If you see somebody you know on the Locator, it means I don't have their current mailing address and can't send them update materials. If you know their e-mail address, drop them a line to get in touch with me.

FYI the US Postal Service has an on-line Change of Address section, see it at [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com).

IYAOYAS!

R,  
Thomas Lord  
AAO Treasurer

## CHAPTER 1

**G**reetings from CHAPTER ONE, Lemoore CA. Awfully wet here lately, just great for our Lemoore area farmers. Everyone is very busy here, and I would like to welcome back VFA-86 we are glad to have you home safe, and welcome VFA-125 happy to see you back again.

Support for the Lemoore Veteran's Day Parade was terrific a handful of us got together to support and honor our Lemoore area veterans. We also had a nice turn out and a fun ride with the NAS Lemoore Marines and the Toys for Tot's run we hope to see more Ordie's next year.

10 December 2016, was our annual Holiday Party. Plenty of Ordie "shenanigans" at the party and a great turn out as always! It was fantastic to see such camaraderie between Active Duty and Retired Ordie's and we will do it all again next year.

We are getting together and starting to ramp up for the Relay for Life in April. This will be our tenth year in supporting The American Cancer Society and the Lemoore Ordie's. I want to thank the NMC CWD DET Lemoore Ordie's for taking the lead in this endeavor and all their support for the community. Stay safe out there. IYAOYAS!!

AAO Chapter One Vice President  
Jeffrey Coe AOCS(RET)



## CHAPTER 8

**G**reetings from Chapter 8, San Diego, "The Chapter Where It All Started." Since October 2016 our Chapter membership has continued to grow as we added 8 new Chapter 8 Life Time Members.

On 16 October, several Chapter members supported the San Diego Breast Cancer Walk by joining the AO team, "Bombs for Boobs", coordinated by AO1 Nanise Schroeder. The team raised over \$300 profit in t-shirt sales and \$95 in on-line contributions. BZ Nanise for her team's efforts.

On 29 October the Chapter showed up at the Chula Vista Veteran's home to pull weeds and clean-up around Building F. A special acknowledgment went out to AOCM Diane McQueen-Gipson for her impressive ability to sit down and pull weeds with one hand while holding a cup of coffee with the other hand. BZ Master Chief!!! An acknowledgement also goes out to the HSC-23 Ordies who showed up in force and contributed to more than 50% of the overall volunteer force. BZ to HSC-23 Ordies and their superb Leadership.

On 3 September, we held our quarterly Highway Walk on the Coronado Strand with 16 Chapter members. By far this was the best showing at this Highway Walk location.

In November we kicked off our annual AOCS Jason May Thanksgiving Holiday Hand-up and concluded it by giving out \$1,100.00 in Commissary Gift Cards to 11 Aviation Ordnance families. The generous donations from the AOCS Jason May Family and Chapter members made this highly successful event possible.

December was a busy month as we focused on our annual Christmas Holiday Hand-up and concluded it by giving out \$500 in Commissary Gift Cards to five Aviation Ordnance families. The Chapter also pitched in to support AO2 Ruby Perez who was in Naval Hospital San Diego (Balboa) with Stage 4 Cancer. AOCM Diane McQueen, with President Breanna Coachman, and members Lester Gipson and Misty Beck chipped in to pack up Ruby's belongs at her home with the understanding she would be discharged the next day. Unfortunately, Ruby was too sick to be discharged and passed away days later; However, the Chapter's \$500 donation to Ruby's family was graciously accepted by Ruby's family.

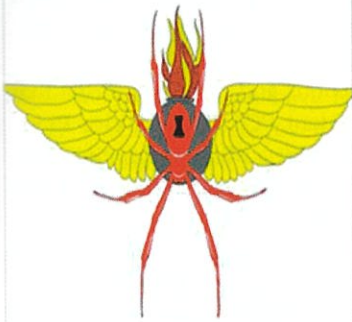
On 1 December, The Chapter presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the HSC-23 Ordies for recognition of their exceptional volunteer service and outstanding support to Chapter 8 in 2006. Gunner Curry humbly excepted the certificate. Additionally, HSC-23 was given \$100 to augment any shop party they may have, 20 AO coins, and 10 skull caps. In gracious style, the HSC-23 Ordies donated the \$100 back to help Ruby Perez and her family that were in need.

On Saturday, 10 December, we held our annual Holiday/Christmas Potluck with about 20 individuals in attendance. A special thank you went out to Tess La-Maitre for her raffle donations as well as all her help and take charge support in setting the event up.

Until next time, keep it safe out there and IYAOYAS!!!

V/r  
CWO3(Ret) Barry Stemler  
Chapter 8 Secretary/Treasurer

# DESERT SOUTHWEST CHAPTER



**G**reetings from El Centro!  
Congratulations to those who advanced this past cycle and for those who did not, please keep your head up.

We hope everyone had a great holiday season and welcome to 2017. We say Farewell and Following Seas to those who have retired and send a big IYAOYAS to Ordie heaven to those who have passed on. They will forever be missed.

Just a quick update on what has been going down in this part of ordnance town. In October we worked hard catering to numerous detachments. Since NAF El Centro has been certified for armed Helos, the work load has increased drastically with manning to catch up slowly. It is still hot as hell's oven here, with temperatures still soaring in the hundreds.

In the later part of October we welcomed our one and only CNAP Force Gun Boss, Captain Bindel to the Pearl of the Desert. During our Ordie call, he congratulated our SOQs and our MAP recipient, AO1 Rivera. We later welcomed NMC CWD's Commanding Officer Capt. Dahlke after he recently assumed command. We were honored by his announcement of our FY-16 SSOY- AO1 McGillin, SOY-AO2 Cortez and JSOY- AO3 Ceja. (pictured front: ESO Marco Jasso, NMC CWD CO Capt Dahlke, NMC CWD Executive Director Merrill Bailey, JSOY now AO3 Ceja, NMC El Centro Deputy OIC Eric Rube, pictured back: NMC CWD CMDCM Schraeder, NMC El Centro SEL AOC Allen, SOY AO2 Cortez, NMC Det El Centro OIC LTJG Willhite and SOY AO1 Mcglin ) AO3 Ceja had also won Blue Jacket of the Year for the whole Navy Munitions Command. BZ AO3!!



During the month of November, we had our first AAO DSW picnic. Congratulations to Michael Williams on winning the corn hole board raffle and a big thank you to Megan Willhite on constructing and donating the boards. BZ to the officers and chapter members who put it all together! (pictured)

The Chapter also donated boxes of goodies for the "Taste of Home" project run by our ladies at AAAO. We recognize that even though all of our Ordies



could not be home for the holiday, they would not miss out. BZ to AO2 Castrellon for organizing the event.

The following weeks we were engulfed in last minute Explosive Safety Inspection preparations for end of November to December. Our efforts proved beneficial with our outstanding remarks from all inspectors of ES-SOPAC and ESSOLANT. Two individuals (AO1 Schroeder and AO1 Thomas) were lauded in their efforts to enhance each program and they both received coins and a special announcement in the December monthly explosive safety announcements as recognition. Before we go, we would like to take the opportunity to say thank you Chapter 8 for their Holiday hand up donations to personnel here at NMC CWD Det El Centro. We also want to welcome our new SEL, AOCs Alcala and congratulate all the first quarter FY-17 Sailor of the quarter awardees; SSOQ-AO1 Thomas, SOQ-AO2 Simpson and JSOQ-AO3 Yanez.

Until pen meets paper...IYAOYAS!



## CHAPTER 9



**H**appy 2017 from Chapter Nine.

I trust this year will be even better and safer than ever for all you "Ordies".

For us, 2016 ended with our final FOD walk-down of the year; cleaning 2 miles of highway 21 (Blanding Blvd), we had the privilege of manning a Blue Angels memorabilia booth during the November Air Show, and Chapter 9 hosted an all AO pizza luncheon for the Nas Jax "Ordies". It was a busy last quarter for Chapter Nine.

To celebrate Veterans Day one of our members LCDR Jack Purtee USN(ret) of Orange Park, FL. was honored for his life and service to the country by the Fleming Island NJROTC unit. Jack joined the Navy in 1942, serving during WWII, Korea, and Viet Nam.

Over the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays the Chapter donated \$450 to deserving AO families as a helping hand.

Congratulations to AO2 Joey McCrary, AO of the Quarter for the third quarter 2016 and to AO2 Wondolowski, AO of the quarter for the fourth quarter 2016. Both these individuals are new to Chapter Nine but are already making an impact.

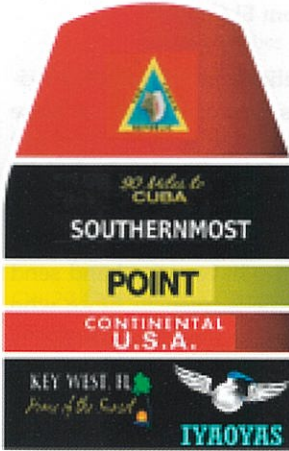
Keep retired AOC Tony "speedy" Gonzalez in your prayers. Tony worked many years at NAS Cecil Field after retiring from active duty and had an impact on many of us.

2017 promises to be a great year. Continue to work safe and smart, always look out for each other. IYAOYAS!!

AO1 James Peters, President AAO9



## SOUTHERN MOST CHAPTER



A Big Hello to all our Brothers and sisters in Red from the southernmost chapter in Key West, Florida.

Our Chapter held elections and the new officers that were elected are President PO1 Azaluz, Vice President Chief Alford, Secretary Mike Gramolini CDR (Ret), Treasure PO2 Rodi and Board of Director LTJG Slater. Congratulations new elected Officers.

I would also like to thank all outgoing officers President Rodriguezdiaz, Vice President PO2 Hurst, Secretary PO1 Shalla, Treasure PO2 Funk and Board of Director Mike Gramolini CDR (Ret). Thank you for all the hard work that you all did on making this Chapter better in the last year.

We would also like to welcome the new Gunner that just came in and to be the Officer in Charge of Nay Munitions Command Key West LTJG Slater. Welcome aboard Gunner!

Like every other quarter, our chapter also completed the Highway Clean Up picking up trash that was on the side of the road but mostly brought in the raising tides. We also had a few Car washes to raise money. The Chapter also ordered new shirts that just came in. They look really good.

I would like to invite all my brothers and sister out there to come visit us when they are in town. Our meetings are held on the Sunset Lounge over at Sigsbee ANNEX the first Wednesday of the month at 1700. In the next couple of months we have a camp/beach clean-up over at Dry Tortuga and multiple car washes. To all those ORDIES out there stay safe I.Y.A.O.Y.A.S!!!

Very Respectfully  
Mike Gramolini  
Southernmost Chapter Secretary



## CHAPTER 72

**G**reetings from Chapter 72, currently in the Newport News Shipyards for RCOH. IYAOYAS!

It's been a long and strenuous RCOH period, but the end is nearing for us and we couldn't be more ready! As many of you have experienced, a yard period is tough for AO's because we have no "toys" onboard; instead, our magazines were overtaken by other departments and utilized for offices. Our AO Pride has been stripped from our doors and bulkheads and painted with white paint like we had never owned them. As we approach our RCOH drawdown with an influx of old and new Ordies, we are creating an "OPERATIONAL REJUVENATION" of ORDIE PRIDE! Our new Sailors have arrived onboard with tenacious drive and are eager to join the IYAOYAS team.

We are excited to bring AAO Chapter 72 "out of layup" and show these young Sailors what the AO family is all about. As we finalize our weapons magazines, AWSE bay and all other Weapons spaces, we are starting to paint our murals on our bulkheads and we cannot wait to share those works of art with the "Red Shirt". Now more than ever we have a chance to mold our future Ordies into future leaders for our community and we are all very excited! So, be on the lookout for great things to come from Chapter 72 because we're coming out locked, on target with guns blazing!

Chapter 72 wants to give a HUGE shout out to all of our Orides around the world that have advanced off the last Navy-wide advancement exam. Onboard ABE, we had 30 Ordies advance and they're all ready to take they fight to the enemy, if needed! To all of the Ordies on deployment, conducting work-ups, in the yards or holding it down on shore duty, Chapter 72 sends a loud and proud IYAOYAS!

The picture shown is from our Command PT session where we represented with true ORDIE PRIDE!

AO1(AW/SW) Michelle Roden  
Chapter 72 President



## CHAPTER 5



Happy New Year from Chapter 5 China Lake,  
Meeting, 20 Jan 2017 @ VFW Ship 4084

Sheryl Scanlon, Leonard Ehler, Dale Harper, Lisa Harper, Greg Paulsen, Lacy Paulsen, Violet Ehler, Matthew Ehler (Vice President), John Sherry, Bennis Aaron, Chris Matlock, AO2 Brions Campbell, Angel Hepps (President) Amanda Ehler (Secretary/Treasurer)

## ON THE COVER

### CDR Robert L. Crow, USN (Ret)

#### BIOGRAPHY

Robert L. Crow was born February 18, 1932 to Gooley and Pearl Crow. Died April 13, 1985.

Robert Crow enlisted in the U.S. Navy May 1949 in St. Joseph Mo. Was Commissioned Ensign June 1960 through the LDO program. In August 1977 achieved the rank of Commander, and retired from the Naval service after 30 years of successful and challenging assignments throughout his career on 1 March 1979 at North Island, San Diego, California.

Robert Crow married the former Betty Johns on March 28, 1951, they had 2 daughters; Deborah Crow/Quinn and Rhonda Crow/Jones and 1 grandson, Robert M. Tupper

## BACK PAGE

USS John Finn crew

# The Red Shirt

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



S3 P3

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
BIRMINGHAM, AL  
PERMIT NO. 1776

\*\*\*\*\*AUTO\*\*3-DIGIT 920

SECRETARY  
9691 BUNDY DR  
SANTEE CA 92071-2771

