



# ***THE RED SHIRT***

*Association of Aviation Ordnancemen*

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

Newsletter # 68

March 1998



***"MAMAS PLEASE LET  
YOUR BABIES GROW UP TO  
BE ORDIES"***



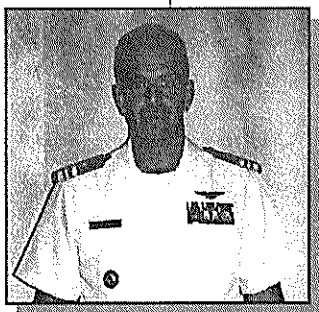
**ORDIES ARE EASY TO LOVE AND  
THEY'RE CUDDLY TO HOLD,  
SOMETIMES THEY GET OUT OF  
LINE AND ACT KINDA BOLD.**

**THEY GET THE JOB DONE AND  
THEY ALWAYS HAVE FUN,  
THAT'S WHY THEY'LL STAY  
NUMBER ONE.**

**REMEMBER THE LINE, WITHOUT  
THEM YOU'LL FIND, ANOTHER  
UNSCHEDULED AIRLINE. YES,  
REMEMBER THE LINE, WITHOUT  
ORDIES YOU'LL FIND, ANOTHER  
UNSCHEDULED AIRLINE.**

## From the President

I have an expanded waistline to prove how much I enjoyed the holidays. However, now it's time to shape up as well as get back to work. That's just what Kenny Foster and his convention committee have been doing this month. The convention is scheduled for 25 - 28 June 1998, at Don Laughlin's Riverside Resort, Hotel and Casino in Laughlin, NV. Our popular Friday night social, costing the same \$15.00 as last year, will feature an upgraded selection of wonderful Hors d'oeuvres (food again! ... more about this in the next issue). Saturday night awards banquet features a prime rib buffet costing only \$25.00. That means that for a total of \$40.00 you'll get two nights of delicious food and the camaraderie of the greatest people on earth (Aviation Ordnancemen, their families and friends). So don't wait for the last minute. Start planning to attend now! Fill out that convention reservation form and send it to the Secretary/Treasurer today.



Byron Boudreaux and Johnny Wheat, web masters extraordinaire, have gotten the new web page up and running. The new site includes an electronic version of The Red Shirt. The next time you're online, be sure to go to <http://www.aaordies.org>. Chapters interested in posting something on the web site must contact Byron.

CDR Gary Laun, CDR Ted Barnett and Chapter 9 are busy solving the problem of moving the Judd Hendricks memorial. You may remember that the memorial was placed at NAS Cecil Field several years ago. Unfortunately, NAS Cecil Field is closing due to the Base Re-alignment and Closure committee (BRAC) recommendations. Now a new home for this impressive display must be found. Currently we plan to move it to the Aviation Ordnance Officers school at NAS Pensacola, FL.

This year we will hold elections for two Board of Directors seats and for the office of Vice President. These positions are extremely important to the running of the Association. While nominations will be accepted from the floor at the general business meeting, it is preferred that written nominations be submitted to the nominations chairman. Nominations must contain the consent and acceptance of the nominee and should be forwarded to:

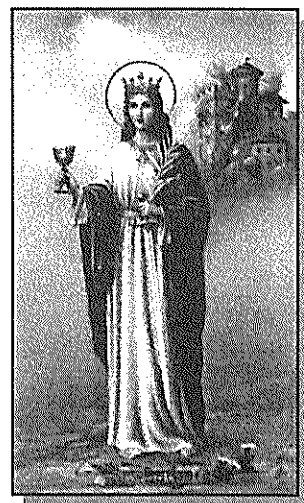


CDR Ray Ramirez  
Weapons Officer  
USS Constellation (CV 64)  
FPO, AP 96635-2870

The Mt. ETNA Chapter (NAS Sigonella, Sicily) of the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen was established on 15 December 1997. In forming the chapter, twelve current members enlisted 17 new members into the Association. Congratulations and "Well Done"!

Last but not least, please direct your positive thoughts and prayers to our Chaplain, Ron Bushta, who is in the hospital battling pneumonia. We hope and pray that the supreme commander is looking out for him. Ron, Cyndy and myself, along with Ordies worldwide are praying for you, Shirley, and your family. We're sure your faith will carry you through. We look forward to seeing you and your hats at the convention. ☺

Take care and God Bless,  
Jeff Sassone



## From the Vice President

Beverly and I hope everyone had a great holiday season with family and friends.

The Association of Aviation Ordnancemen 1998 Convention is five months away. Once again it will be held at Don Laughlin's Resort Hotel & Casino, Laughlin, NV. from 25 - 28 June 1998. Make your reservations now by calling the Riverside direct at 1-800-227-3849. Be sure to tell them you are with the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen. A convention reservation application can be found in this issue (as well as the next Red Shirt). Please fill out the form and send it to Richard Grass, National Secretary/Treasurer. Advance reservations help the Convention Committee make the event better for each member

Hit the bonus jackpot again this year! Jim and Carolyn Thomas, of Point Loma World Travel, are going to reimburse hotel plus tax (5 nights maximum), social and banquet ticket cost to the winner. See details in the convention section of this Red Shirt.

The 1999 and 2000 convention dates and sites have not yet been decided upon, although we have someone checking on a site. How about your ideas? Want to volunteer as convention chairman? There is a national convention committee that supports the chairman. A checklist has been written to help ask the right questions when dealing with hotels/casino's. The national Secretary/Treasurer, Jim Thomas or myself can provide that information. If interested, we want to talk to you!

The 1998 convention committee spent the weekend of 16 Jan. in Laughlin finalizing arrangements. Everything is right on track. The band called "Bullseye", featured at the 1995 convention and enjoyed by everyone have been invited back. This time they will be able to sing the AO song, we gave them the words to learn.

If you have had any trouble with your reunion photos or the reunion book, you should have made contact with the company or Beverly Onken by now! If you need further help, please contact Beverly at (209 924-2503) "NOW" (not at the convention).

Another important item; the following national offices are up for election this year; vice-president and two board of director seats. Please be thinking about responsible people who will accept your nomination and give their time to fully support this fine association.

Chapter One business concerns the AO calendar. We are short in selling 240, which would cover the cost of the daily prizes. This does not even cover the chapters publishing and administrative costs. At the 21 Jan. chapter meeting, we voted to hold off the drawings until 18 march 1998 in the hope that we can sell enough calendars to pay for the prizes. If so, we will have the drawings for Jan, Feb., and March. If not, we will return everyone's money and the AO calendar is yours. Chapter One appreciates your patience in this matter.

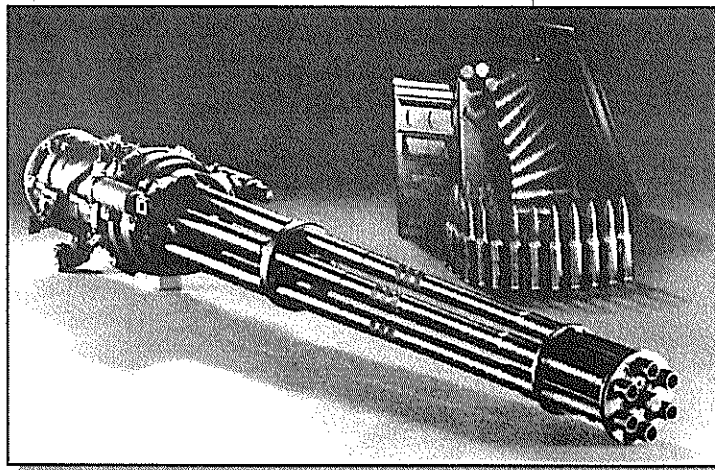
Let's all support the Association. Go out and recruit new/old members.

See you at the convention in Laughlin, NV. ☐

Chuck Onken

*.... Hit the  
bonus jackpot  
and win the cost  
of your stay at  
the convention .*

...





## Secretary/Treasurer's Report

### CHAPTER MEETINGS - PLACES / TIMES / DATES

**Chapter 1** - Lemoore, CA  
President: Bill Wright  
209-624-1899  
Fleet Reserve  
3rd Tuesday, 1800

**Chapter 4** - Virginia Beach, VA  
President: Mike Porter  
757-623-4605  
VFW Post 392, Bowland PKwy  
3rd Wednesday, 1900

**Chapter 7** - PT. Mugu, CA  
President: Larry Cowell  
805-485-1925  
The Point (CPO Club)  
3rd Wednesday, 1630

**Chapter 9** - Jacksonville, FL  
President: Robert L. Rodriguez  
Fleet Reserve, Collins Road  
3rd Thursday, 1900

**Chapter 21** - Fallon, NV  
President: Eric Richmond  
702-426-3538  
CPO Club  
1st Tuesday, 1900

**Chapter 62** - USS Independence  
President: Jack Knapp  
Forward Deployed

**Chapter 68** - USS Nimitz  
President: Mike Price  
On Board

**Chapter 70** - USS Carl Vinson  
President: Louis Zavec  
On Board

**Chapter 3** - Whidbey Island  
President: Gilbert N. Trevino  
360-679-6951  
VFW Post 7392 (Whidbey)  
2nd Wednesday, 1700

**Chapter 5** - China Lake, CA  
President: Neely Hall  
619-384-1810  
CPO Lounge in the Wreck Center  
3rd Thursday, 1800

**Chapter 8** - San Diego, CA  
President: J.J. LaMaitre  
619-562-8492  
Fleet Reserve, Chula Vista  
1st Thursday, 1900

**Chapter 11** - Barbers Point, HI  
Being Restructured  
Contact AO3 Chris Nelson  
NAS Barbers Point, HI

**Chapter 22** - Patuxent River, MD  
President: Eric Trexler  
301-866-5082  
Lexington Park Fleet Reserve  
3rd Wednesday, 1900

**Chapter 65** -  
USS Enterprise CVN65  
President: John G. Ketterer  
On Board

**Chapter 69** -  
USS Dwight D. Eisenhower  
President: Michael Phillips  
On Board

**Chapter 72** -  
USS Abraham Lincoln CVN72  
President Anthony T. Ware  
On Board

**Chapter 74** -  
US S John C. Stennis CVN74  
President: Brad Hope  
On Board

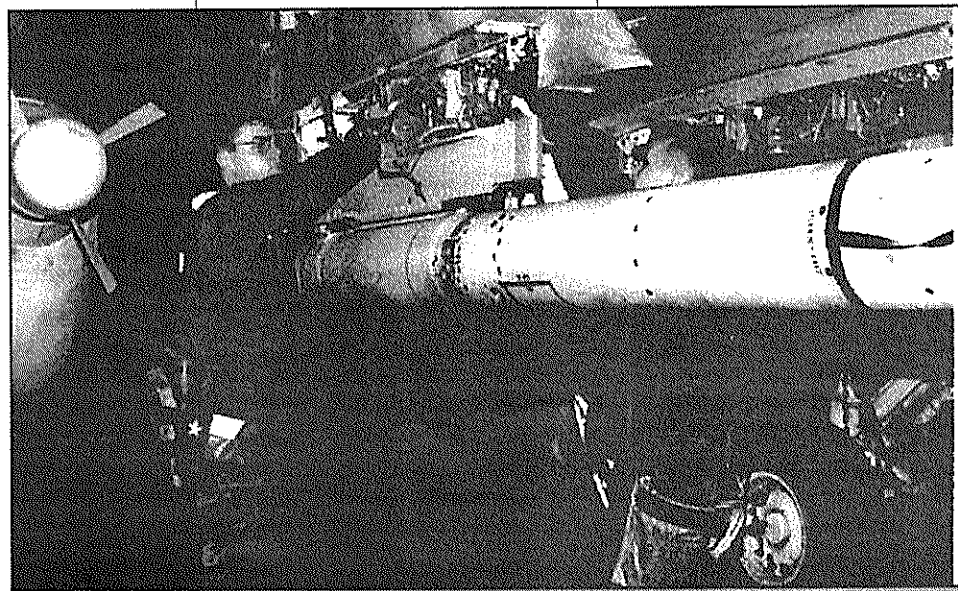
**Chapter New Orleans** -  
New Orleans, LA  
President: ??????????  
Meeting Time & Place ??????????

**Chapter Fuji** - NAF Atsugi  
President: Denise Torrefranca

**Chapter S 87** - Millington, TN  
(INACTIVE)  
For information contact:  
AOCM Al Sargent USN Ret  
901-872-6219

**Chapter Pensacola** -  
Pensacola, FL  
President: Jeff Harsh  
614-545-9567  
Call for meeting time and place

*... Support  
your local  
chapter....  
Attend meetings  
and become  
part of  
something  
good....*



**Chapter Keystone** - Mechanicsburg, PA  
 President: Greg Kellenberger  
 On Base  
 2nd Wednesday, 1130

**Chapter Mt. ETNA** - NAS Sigonella, Sicily  
 President: Michael D. Rogers

### NEW LIFE MEMBERS

CAPT Charles R. Soldner USMC Ret  
 LCDR Robert A. Solomon USN Ret  
 Gary Theis  
 AOAC Marion G. Spain USN Ret  
 AO1 Charlie E. Hart  
 Wilbur C. Johnson  
 CWO3 John Schoonmaker USN Ret  
 Peter Parpan

### NEW MEMBERS

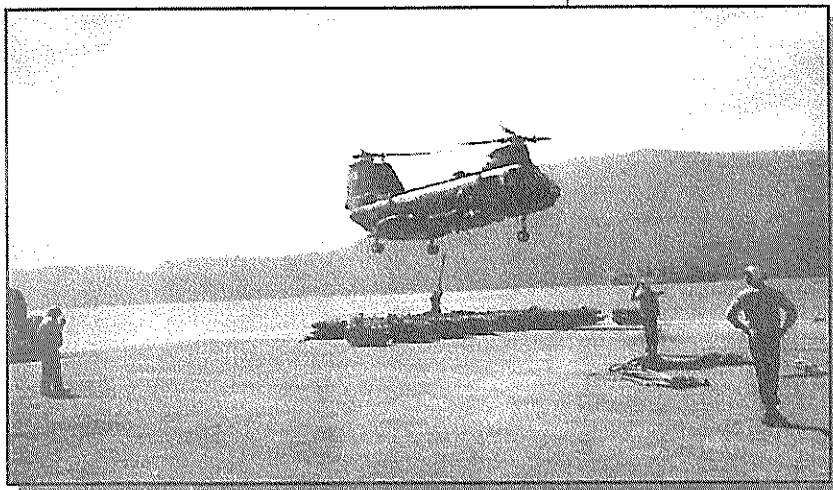
AOAN Christopher  
 AO1 Dirk A. Graves  
 AO2 Steven W. Cross  
 AO2 Robert J. Pavel  
 AOAN Danielle M. Satriano  
 AO3 Michael Wilmot  
 AO3 Christina R. Bragg  
 AO2 John D. Lomba  
 AO1 Michael D. Rogers  
 AOAN Shana Y. Scott  
 AO2 Barry K. Turnipseed  
 AO1 Levi Vaughn  
 AO3 Lamont A. Williams  
 AOAN Angela J. Wilson  
 SK3 J.T. Verette  
 AOC Jesus I. Cortinas  
 AOC(AW) David H. McCloskey  
 Philip D. Strandvold  
 GMCS George Bates USN Ret  
 AO1(AW) Valerie McQueen-Luke  
 AOC Kenneth Lyle USN Ret  
 Donald W. Haney  
 AO2 Kevin G. Kelly  
 GMG2(SW) Brett Herner  
 James R. Brown  
 AO1 Timothy E. Green  
 AO2(AW) Chadwick D. Stephens  
 AO1 Tim C. Doyl USN Ret  
 AO2 John R. Owens  
 AOAN Teresa M. Porfilio  
 CWO3 Jon M. VanFossen  
 AO2 Shane R. Shrader  
 Robert J. Crowell  
 AOAN Angela L. Aguilarbarron

AO2 William J. Brennan  
 CWO4 Herbert J. Carobine  
 AOC George A. Browning  
 Robert J. Wilczynski  
 Gary J. Spinazze  
 AOC Joseph A. Davis USN Ret  
 AOC A.N. Knobloch USN Ret  
 AO2 Randy K. Boese  
 J. David Shatto

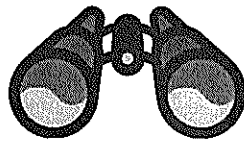
### SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTORS

Leonard L. Jones  
 Frank & Genevieve Fogg  
 Rodney R. Ledger  
 Brian & Renee Albrecht  
 C. John & Marie Schoonmaker  
 David & Helena Overstreet  
 John & Katherina Smith  
 Michael & Rose Price  
 August & Joanne Galante  
 Lawrence & Shirley Singley  
 Dennis & Carolyn Colbert  
 Patrick & Linda Walters  
 Hubert W. Drake  
 Laird & Janice Brinley  
 Paul & Sandra Lotz  
 John & Ellen Connors  
 Richard & Winifred Seeger  
 Edward & Mary McKinnon  
 Kordeen & Camy Kor  
 Joseph S. Hudson  
 Chapter 62  
 Gerald & Margarete Olivas

*.... Your  
 scholarship  
 contributions  
 are very much  
 appreciated. ...*



*Suda Bay - Weapons VERTREP*



# LOCATOR

LT(NC) Joseph Stowell  
 AO2 Vincent R. Cummings  
 WO1 Edward J. Stith  
 James Lindquist  
 AO1(AW) Albert Ramos  
 AOC Roger B. Smith  
 AO3 Brian E. Connelly

AOC(AW/SW) John R. Martinez  
 ABHCS Bruce A. Williams  
 MSGT Terry F. Daniel  
 Kristin V. Fernow  
 CWO3 Danny R. Norris  
 AO3 Lawrence E. Schaffer

*Can you  
 help?.....  
 Know where  
 any of these  
 members can be  
 located?*

## ARTICLE

With the birth of the new year came the birth of our newest chapter. Welcome aboard Mt. Etna Chapter. Please accept our congratulations and best wishes.

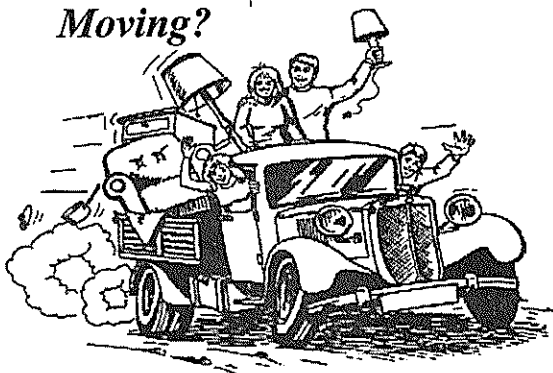
Although it would appear to some, by reading the past few Red Shirts, that our membership rolls are swelling, it is not true. We continue to lose about as many as we gain. Our rolls average around 1850. Everyone's help in retaining members is needed. Life Membership rolls however, do continue to grow. Growth in the past year is higher than it has ever been. It says a lot about the overall strength of the Association. Maybe it's time you looked into the Life Membership program.

Support for the scholarship program through your generous contributions continues to be a source of strength and pride within the Association. It is proof positive of your faith in our youth, and your investment in tomorrow. Please note there is a new application on the street, dated 01 July 1997, which must be used for this year's submission. To obtain a copy, contact your chapter president, Ed Scott (Scholarship Committee Chairman) 805-631-8835, or myself.

Would you like to be in on the Association's decision making and planning? Why not run for office this year? The offices of Vice President and two Board of Director seats are up for election. It is your chance to take an active roll in your Association. Remember, if the nominee is not present at the convention, a letter from that individual accepting the nomination must be presented.

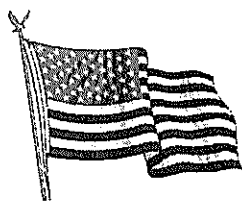
## NEWSFLASH

*Moving?*



The greatest and most important event of the year, the 1998 AO Convention/Symposium, is approaching fast and will be here before you know it. This year's convention will again be held at Don Laughlin's Riverside Resort Hotel & Casino. The dates are 25 - 28 June. If you haven't done so, make your plans to attend now. There are sure to be new faces to join in the fun, games, and sea stories. To miss it would be like missing your own wedding. Plan to come early and stay late. Advance tickets for the Awards Dinner and the AAO Social can be obtained by filling out and sending in the reservation form, found in this Red Shirt, along with your check or money order. Advance orders help your Convention Committee and it is the only way to win one of the great prizes being given by Point Loma World Travel, Inc. ☐

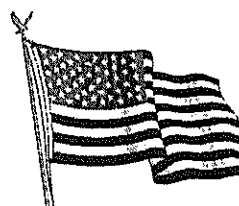
**Please submit a change of address!**



## CHAPTER FIVE



## CHINA LAKE, CA



Now Hear This,

Neal Hall here. Reporting from that exciting desert paradise known as China Lake.

Ordnancemen are a proud and honorable breed. And, nowhere was that pride and honor better displayed than at the funeral of Bob Murray last October. Bob had requested a military funeral. Chapter Five members, from the Weapons Test Squadron here at China Lake, volunteered to be pallbearers. Then, together with an understanding Command Chaplain, an outstanding firing party (organized by the Command Master Chief) and the assistance of the local American Legion Honor Guard, we were proud to fulfill the last wishes of our fallen Shipmate.

In early November, the community of Ridgecrest, California hosted its first ever Hot Air Balloon Festival. They said the Festival was a resounding success. During that period, the Vietnam Memorial Moving Wall was also stationed at Ridgecrest. We (Chapter Five members) volunteered our services to help ensure the success of the Wall's Ridgecrest stay. During that stay, members of Chapter Five helped erect the Wall, provided all night security watches for each night of the seven day stay and helped to dismantle the Wall and load it for shipment.

At our December meeting, our Auxiliary members made it a festive occasion by supplying some delectable goodies. Their homemade cookies, candies and cakes were outstanding. Ah! Christmas was never like this back on the farm. The Bird Farm, that is. Also at our December meeting, Jim Willard announced that he would be relocating to San Diego. Our loss is Chapter Eight's gain. Fair winds and following seas, Jim.

Congratulations are in order for some serious rate grabbers in our membership. Vince Howell was promoted to CWO3 and Scott Rogers, also of the Weapons Test Squadron, was promoted to AO2. And, a belated congratulations to Rick Stables who was promoted to LCDR some time ago. Well done guys.

Our next meeting in February will see an important event in every Sailor's life. Our Chaplain, AO1 Paul Smith, will be reenlisted at the meeting. We members of Chapter Five will bear witness to this time honored tradition.

Visited our new website at [www.aaordies.org](http://www.aaordies.org). Impressive! Bravo Zulu Johnny.  
All for now. Talk to you later.

Neal Hall

.... *Ordies are  
a proud and  
honorable breed*  
....

**CASU 16 & 17  
(TARAWA)  
CASU 44  
(TINIAN)**

**Reunion**  
8 - 12 October 1998  
San Diego, CA  
contact:  
George Gary  
5872 Valley Street  
Dalton Gardens, ID 83815-9280  
Tel: (208) 772-6238



## Auxiliary From The President

It's a new year and it looks like it may be a good one. Plans for the upcoming convention are nearing completion. It promises to be a lot of fun. I certainly hope everyone can be there.

The Auxiliary Board of Directors has approved the following appointments: Marge Barnes as Chairman of the Budget Committee and Beth Kershesnik as Chairman of the By-Laws Committee.

The By-Laws Committee has met. There have been some proposals which will be detailed in our next Auxiliary Newsletter, due to be mailed on or about March 25<sup>th</sup>. By the way if anyone has any articles they would like published in the Auxiliary Newsletter, please mail them to: Trudy Hesbrook, 2421 West College CT., Visalia, CA 93277 before March 15<sup>th</sup>.

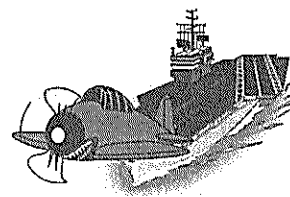
For those of you who are on line, our Chaplain, Elaine Southerland, has an e-mail address. It is ejssouth@aol.com.

Finally, our membership drive contest is still wide open. Everyone has a chance to win. As always your interest in making this organization a successful one is greatly appreciated. ☐

Stella Collier

*..... our  
membership  
drive contest  
is still wide  
open .....*

## CHAPTER 70 USS CARL VINSON



Greeting to all ORDIES from Chapter 70. The holidays are now over and so is all the shipyard work. It's now time to become full-time ORDIES again. We end the month of January with our first weapons on-load. With a large number of newly reporting personnel, we will strive to instill the Ordie tradition of safety and professionalism in them to make an effective group of future Ordies.

It's official! We finally received our sign . . . a section of highway 16 is ours. With well over 17,000 cars a day traveling this highway, we'll have a big job ahead in keeping it clean. Our first highway clean up went well. Afterwards, a barbecue was held at AO1 Steve Massengill's house. A good time was enjoyed by all. Great job, Steve, on the coordination of this community project.

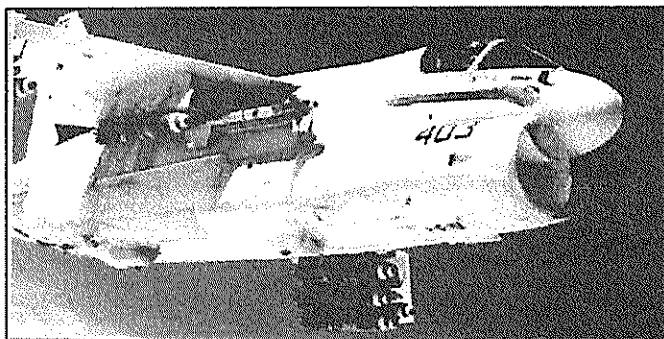
New officers were elected on our last meeting. A motion to split the office of Secretary/Treasurer was approved and AO1 Scott Britton turned over the position of Secretary to AO1 Brian Smith.

On a sad note, we announce that our President, AO1 Louis Zavez, will be transferring at the end of February, to VAQ 129 at NAS Whidbey Island.. He will be taking with him a high spirited attitude that will be missed by all.

Until next time, Chapter 70 wishes you all safe days and nights. REMEMBER IYAOYAS!!! ☐

AO1 Brian Smith





## CHAPTER ONE Lemoore, CA

Greetings fellow Ordies

The holidays were fun but I'm rather glad they are finally over! Chapter

One's Christmas party was held at the Holiday Inn in Visalia. It went very well. Everyone had a good time. Thank you, Commander English, for being our guest speaker. The commander is quite the orator; we learned many things about Santa and the beginning of Christmas.

Calendar sales are slow. We are 240 calendars short of the break-even point. We will be holding off on the drawing until 18 March, at which time we will have a combined drawing for Jan/Feb. and March. . . if we meet our break even quota. If we do not, monies will be refunded while everyone will keep their calendars. We'll really need everyone's help here to insure that this doesn't happen. I would like to ask all Chapter Presidents (and anyone else who has calendars for sale) to canvas their area again and then call Bill Wright or Chuck Onken regarding the status of sales. If you still need calendars call or write.

We recently held a drawing for a Remington 1100 12 ga. shotgun. The lucky winner was AN/Ball from VFA-94. Congratulations!

Chapter One will be holding it's general election in February. Positions to be filled are those of Vice President, Treasurer and one board member. These terms are for two years. Also, the President, Secretary and one board member will be resigning due to sea duty commitments. We will hold an election for the President's seat for a term of one year. We will appoint a Secretary and one board member. I urge all Chapter One members to be there (or don't complain!!!). Meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at 1800 at NAS Lemoore's skeet range. □

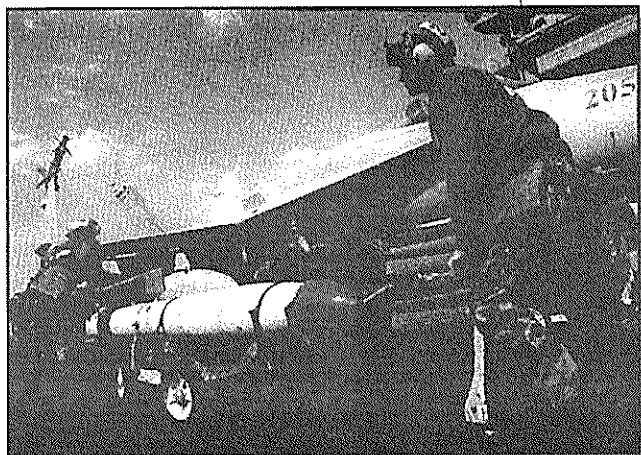
Have a happy and safe New Year.

IYAOYAS!!! (This does not mean "If you aren't Ordnance you are not superior")!!

Respectfully

Bill Wright  
President, Chapter One

.... Buy your  
1998 AO  
Calendar today.  
Call AOC Bill  
Wright or Chuck  
Onken ....





## CHAPTER THREE

*The Great Northwest*

*.... I strongly  
encourage all  
Ordies to come  
out and join us .*

...

Looking back, I can see the chapters accomplishments have been many. We are currently updating our membership list and trying to boost support for the chapter. There has been much in the way of comments and suggestions from the membership and lots of new things are starting to happen. It's wonderful to see. I strongly encourage all you ORDIES to come out and join us. Also, an invitation is extended to anyone who might find themselves up this way. We meet at the VFW Post 7392 in Oak Harbor 2nd Monday, 1700.

With the new year came new officers. Our new Vice President is AOC Bill Prouty. AO1 Elmer Pumphrey took over the helm as Secretary and AO1 Wilton Smith held on to the office of Treasurer for another term. I would like to thank and commend AO1 Tom Decker for the outstanding job he has done as past chapter president. He is on his way to VF-154 U.S.S. Independence CV-62. Tom, you will be missed. Take care and stay safe. I would also like to thank AO1 Pat McCollough for his work as Vice President. That's all for now. Hope to see old and new fiends at the convention this summer. STAY SAFE WORK SAFE.

IYAOYAS

AOC (AW) Noah Trevino  
PRESIDENT  
CHAPTER THREE NORTHWEST

## REUNION

CASU#31

NAS#24

HILO, HI WWII

19-22 October 1998

contact:

Tony Terzich

6052 Hodson Street

San Diego, CA 92120-4205

(619) 583-0246

INCLUDES

SEABEES/WAVES/USMC





## **THE AVIATION ORDNANCE HALL OF FAME**

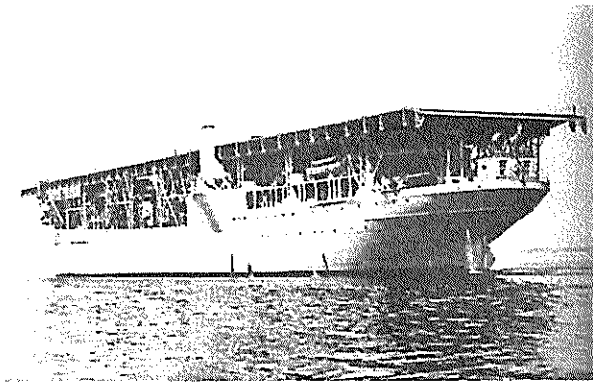
# **THE BEST OF THE BEST**

Inductees are listed in alphabetical order

CDR Roy Asher USN Ret.  
CDR Edward Ashlook USN Ret.  
LT Donald G. Baumer USN Ret.  
LCDR R. Wayne Beasley USN Ret.  
AOC Robert S. Biddle USN Ret.  
AOCM Robert W. Branum USN Ret.  
CW04 Virgil G. Burke USN Ret.  
LT Joseph H. Bums USN Ret.  
AOCM Donald R. Clark, JR. USN Ret.  
James A. Correll  
CDR Robert L. Crow USN Ret.  
CWO4 Billy B. Earl USN Ret.  
AOC Edwin R. Faraday USN Ret.  
LT John W. Finn USN Ret.  
AOCM Gerald F. Gannon USN Ret.  
LCDR Jack E. Hagerup USN Ret.  
CDR Judson J. Hendricks USN Ret.  
CDR Kirby P. Hunt USN Ret.  
LT Alvin R. Kahl USN Ret.  
LT Weldon E. Maki USN Ret.  
LCDR Marion Kirk Nelson USN Ret.  
CDR Delbert Oaks USN Ret.  
LCDR Charles R. Onken USN Ret.  
LCDR Leslie Henry Ovre USN Ret.  
AOCM Frank H. Parker USN Ret.  
LCDR Thomas D. Robins USN Ret.  
AOCS Richard A. Smith USN Ret.  
LCDR James E. Thompson USN Ret.  
LCDR Richard A. Wales USN Ret.



**The Aviation Ordnance Hall of Fame provides the means and opportunity for recognizing truly outstanding ORDIES who have distinguished themselves in their service to the Navy and the ordnance community.**

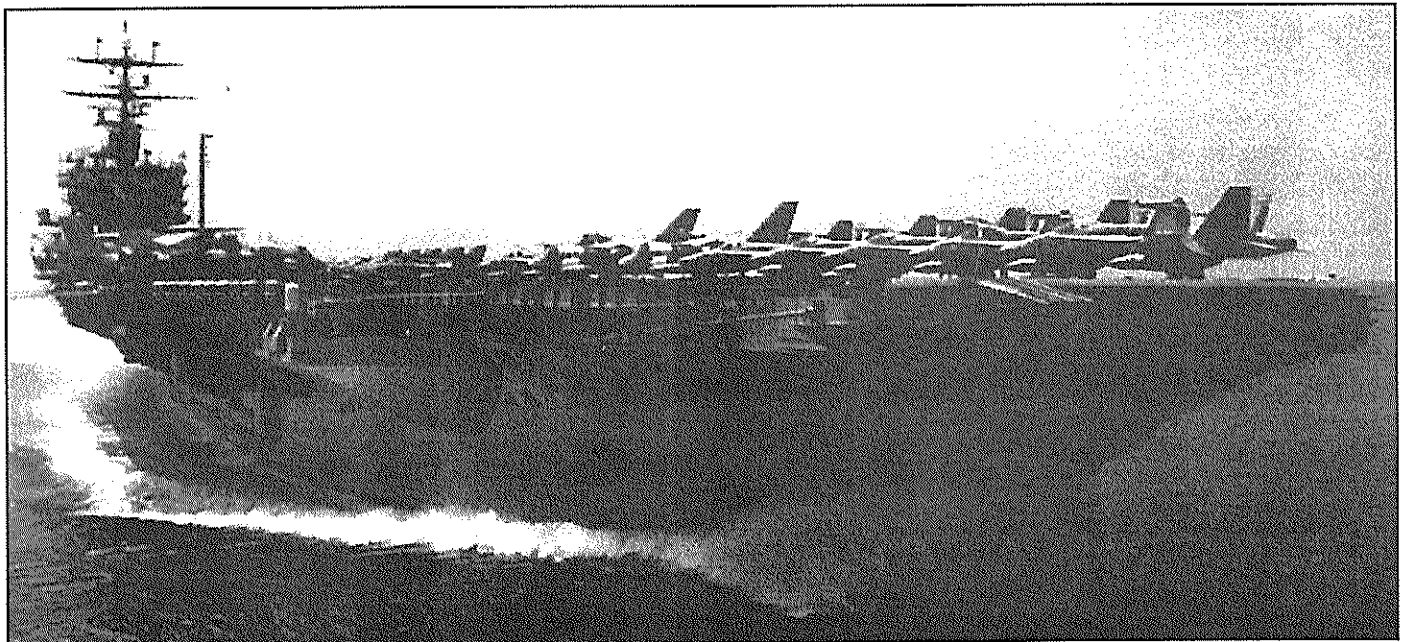


*The Navy's first Aircraft Carrier, Langly, CV-1, puts to sea circa 1923. Below, USS Carl Vinson, CVN-70, underway in 1997, is an example how far carriers have come in the past 75 years.*

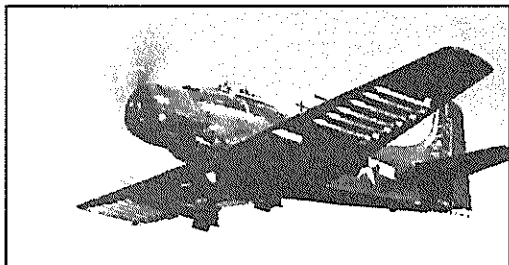
Since its inception,  
the Aircraft Carrier  
has combined man's ancient  
desire for flight with  
unlimited global mobility.

"The way you make deterrence work is to put in a force that's intimidating,  
and there's nothing more damned intimidating than a carrier battle group."

..... Secretary of Defense William Perry, 29 November 1996

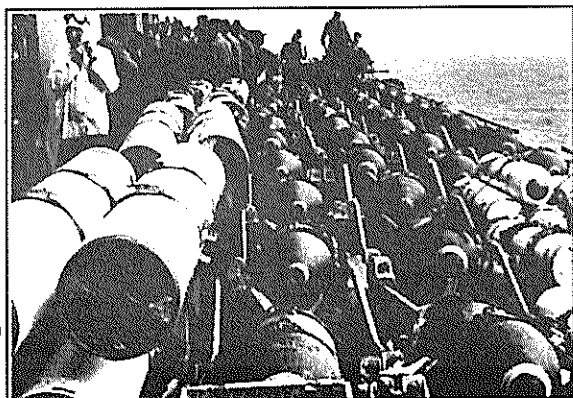
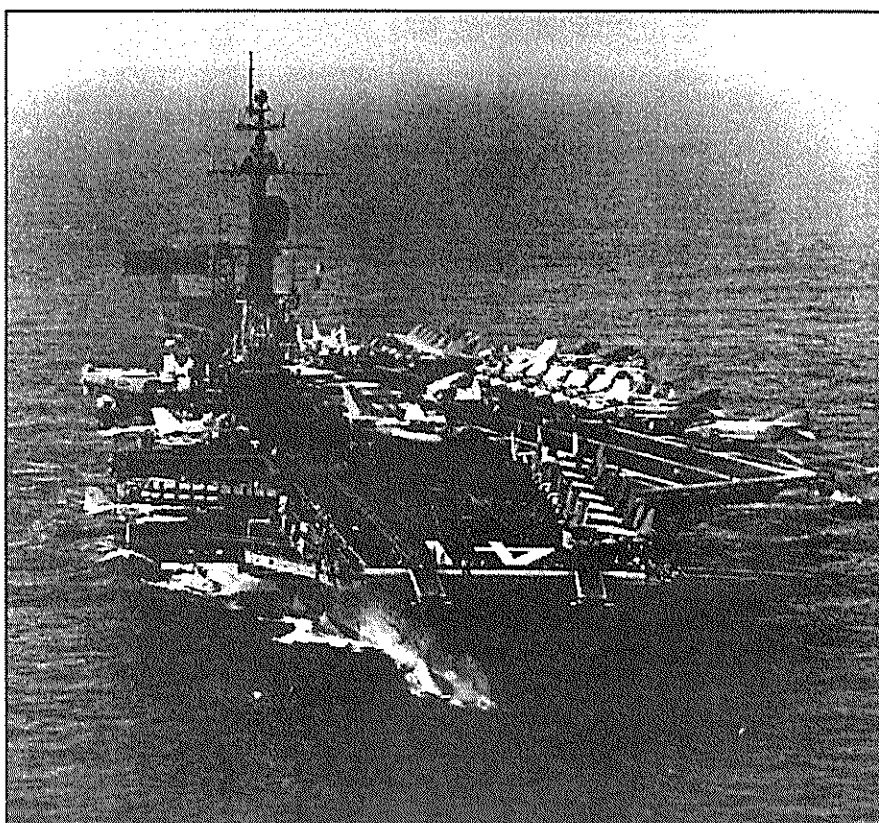


AD SKYRAIDER

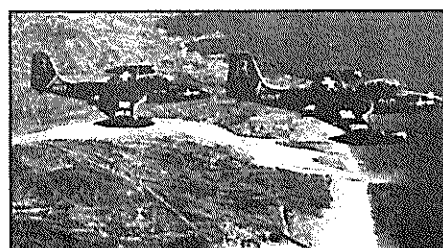


USS SARATOGA - WWII - U.S. PACIFIC FLEET

THE "AGELESS WARRIOR" USS MIDWAY, CV-41. CHRISTMAS 1979 ARABIAN SEA IN RESPONSE TO THE HOSTAGE CRISIS IN IRAN.

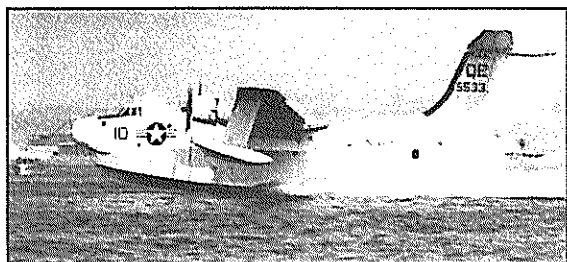


BOMB FARM - YANKEE STATION - VIET NAM ERA

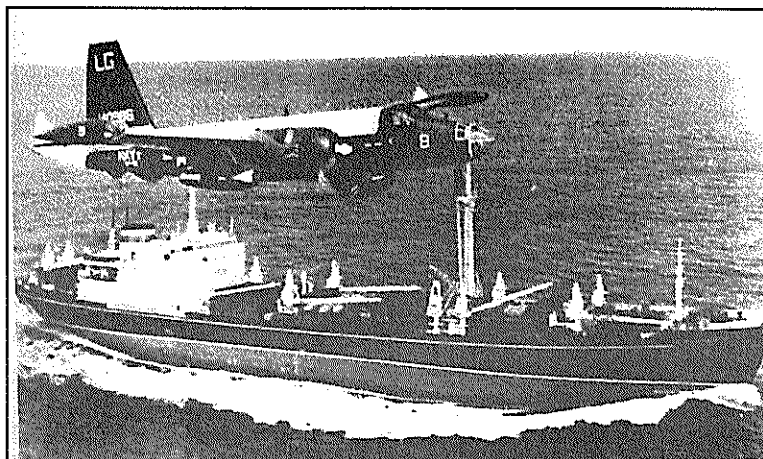


F2H BANSHEE - KOREA





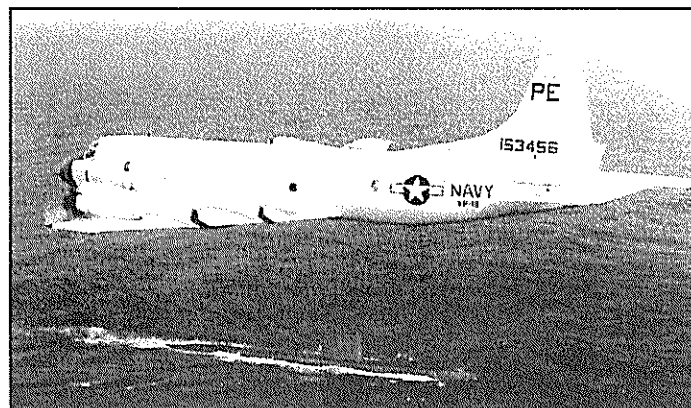
LAST OPERATIONAL FLIGHT OF P5 MARLIN  
FLYING BOAT BY VP-40 AT NAS NORTH  
ISLAND, NOVEMBER 6, 1967.



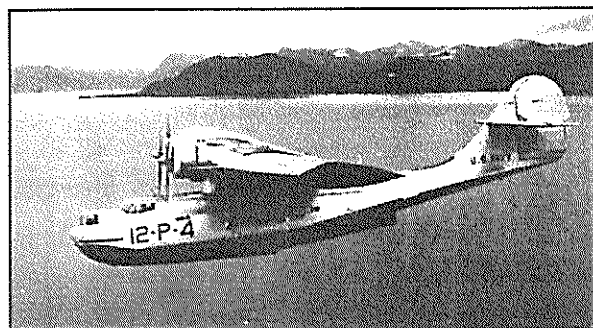
P2V-7 NEPTUNE OVERFLIES THE SOVIET CARGO SHIP  
OKHOSTK, OCTOBER 22, 1962. (CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS)



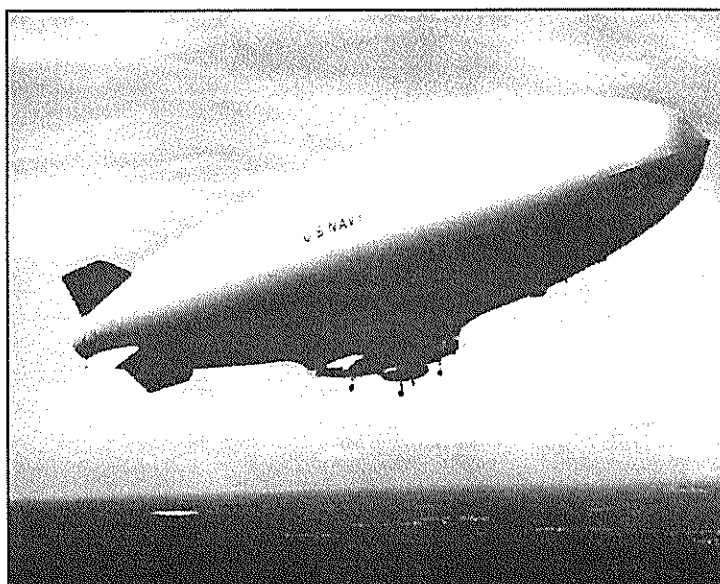
P3 BOMB BAY WITH MK 50 TORPEDO



P-3 ORION OF VP-19 OVERFLIES A U.S. SUBMARINE. JULY



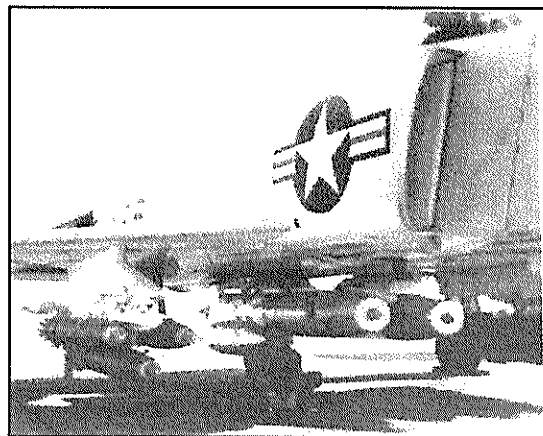
PBV-1 NEUTRALITY PATROL TO GUARD THE  
SEA APPROACHES TO THE UNITED STATES  
AND THE WEST INDIES, SEPTEMBER 1939



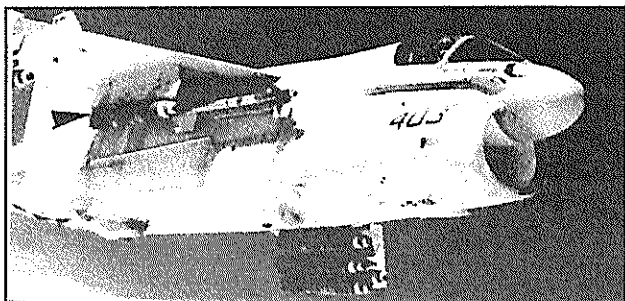
THE LAST FLIGHT OF A NAVY AIRSHIP TOOK PLACE  
AT LAKEHURST, NJ ON 31 AUGUST 1962.



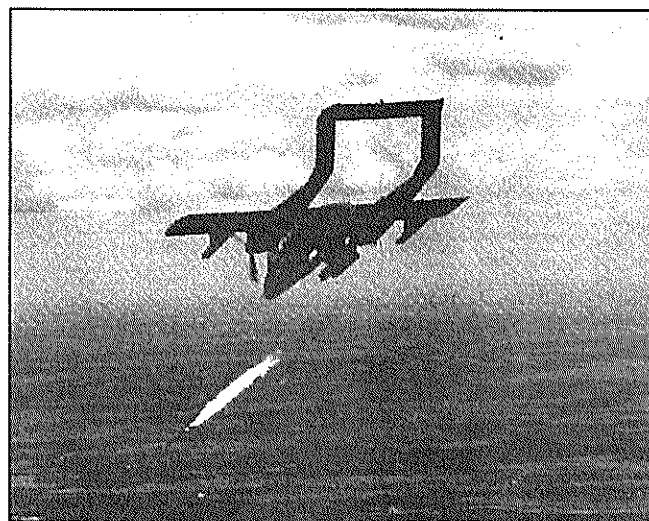
UH-1 HUEY OF HAL-3 PROVIDED CLOSE AIR SUPPORT FOR  
U.S. AND VIETNAMESE NAVY RIVERINE OPERATIONS



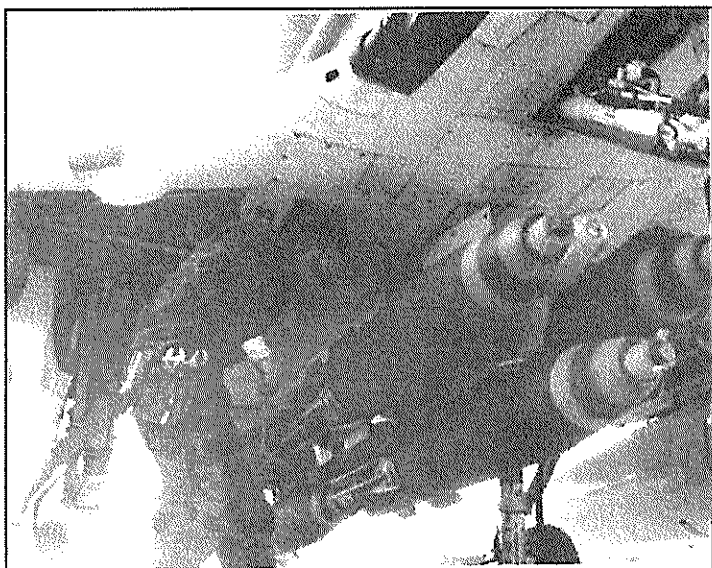
F-4 PHANTOM OF MARINE FIGHTER  
ATTACK SQUADRON VMFA-333



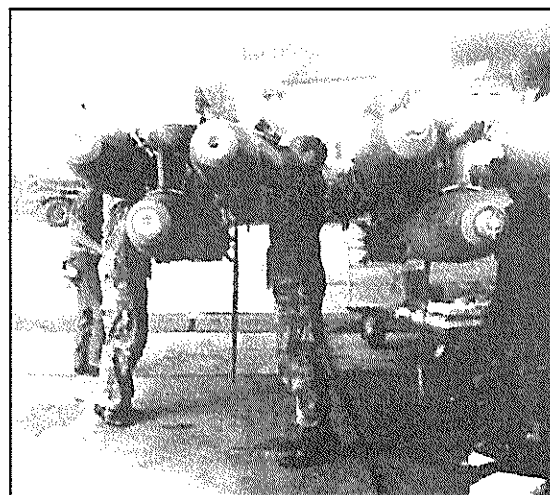
A-7 CORSAIR INBOUND TO TARGET



VAL-4 OV-10 BRONCO, VIET NAM 1969, PROVIDED  
FIXED-WING CLOSE AIR SUPPORT FOR NAVY  
RIVERINE OPERATIONS



A-4 SKYHAWK OF VMA-311



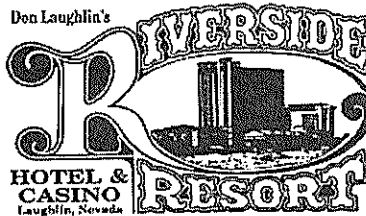
MARINE ALL WEATHER ATTACK SQUADRON  
A-6 INTRUDER

# AO CONVENTION

## 25-28 June 1998

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## 1998 CONVENTION RESERVATION APPLICATION

### I Plan to Attend the Following Activities:

DATE	ACTIVITY	MEMBER	GUEST
25 June (THUR)	Board of Directors Meeting	_____	
TBA	Attend Safety Meeting	_____	_____
26 June (FRI)	AO of the Year Committee	_____	
26 June (FRI)	Scholarship Committee	_____	
26 June (FRI)	AAO Hall of Fame Committee	_____	
26 June (FRI)	AAO Social & AAAO Auction	_____	
	(NO-Host) Cocktails & Dancing		
	(\$15.00 per Person)	_____	_____
27 June (SAT)	General Business Meeting	_____	_____
27 June (SAT)	Awards Buffet Dinner	_____	_____
	(\$25.00 per Person)	_____	_____
28 June (SUN)	Board of Directors Meeting	_____	

### AUXILIARY OF THE ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN

26 June (FRI)	Board of Directors Meeting	_____	
27 June (SAT)	General Business Meeting	_____	_____
28 June (SUN)	Board of Directors Meeting	_____	

### NOTES

1. Request that you please bring your AO Name Tag Button. The Association will Provide new convention ribbons. For those who need them buttons will also be provided.
2. Committee chairman will require assistance from members for the following committees (sign up at convention):  
A. AO of the Year  
B. Scholarship  
C. AAO Hall of Fame Committee
3. For the AAO Social and/or Awards Buffet Dinner ONLY, send check or money order made payable to and mailed to:

Association of Aviation Ordnancemen  
Richard J. Grass Secretary/Treasurer  
613 Tennis Avenue  
Ardsley, PA 19038-1704

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

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

PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT/MEETING</u>	<u>ROOM</u>
<u><b>25 June</b></u> Thursday	0800-1700	Registration/Exhibits, Cocktail Party & Dinner Tickets	Harbor Port 1 & 2
	1030-TBA	Association Board of Directors Meeting, Committee Chairmen & Chapter Presidents/Reps	President's Suite
<u><b>26 June</b></u> Friday	0800-1600	Registration/Exhibits, Cocktail Party & Dinner Tickets	Harbor Port 1 & 2
	0900-1200	Auxiliary Board of Directors Meeting	President's Suite
	0900-1700	John W. Finn AO of The Year Committee	Harbor Port 3
	0900-1700	Robert L. Crow Scholarship Committee	Gold Room
	0900-TBA	AAO Hall of F@ Committee (If Required)	TBA
	0900-TBA	By-Laws Committee (If Required)	TBA
	1800-2300	Cocktail Party & Auction Music by BULLZEYE @ 1900	Starview Showroom
<u><b>27 June</b></u> Saturday	0800-1200	Registration/Exhibits Dinner Tickets	Harbor Port 1 & 2
	0900-1300	Association General Business Meeting	Starview Showroom
	0900-1300	Auxiliary General Business Meeting	Harbor Port 3
	1630-1930	Reunion Book Photos	Starview Showroom
	1800	No Host Cocktails	Starview Showroom
	1900-2130	Dinner	Starview Showroom

**GUEST SPEAKER****ANNOUNCEMENTS OF:**

John W. Finn Aviation  
Ordnanceman of the Year



**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT/MEETING</u>	<u>ROOM</u>
<b>27 June</b> Saturday		AAO Hall of Fame	Starview Showroom
		Introduce Newly Elected Officers (AAO & Auxiliary)	
		Special Raffle	
<b>28 June</b> Sunday	0900-1200	Association Board of Directors Meeting & Installation of Officers	President's Suite
	0900-1200	Auxiliary Board of Directors Meeting	President's Suite
	1100	Hotel Checkout	

**Rooms & Times Subject to Change**

**HIT THE BONUS JACKPOT AT 1998 CONVENTION!!**

*Here's how YOU can win!\**

Just send in your prepayment for BOTH the Social and Awards Banquet PRIOR TO ARRIVING at the Convention.

Your name will then be entered in a drawing for reimbursement of:  
**HOTEL & TAX** (5 Nights maximum), **SOCIAL & BANQUET**  
(Drawing at the Friday night Social)

**DO NOT MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY! SEND YOUR MONEY**  
**NOW TO RICHARD GRASS!**

\*Members (Association or Auxiliary) in good standing.

Courtesy of **POINT LOMA WORLD TRAVEL**



ther Bryon or Johnny. All recommendations are welcomed. It's the association's site and all members/chapters are encouraged to submit their ideas.

Steve Cashat  
Editor

**- NOTE -**  
... Red Shirt  
articles are due  
as follows ....  
25 Mar 98  
25 Jul 98  
25 Oct 98

Dear Sir:

*In a thrift store, I found a hard cover cruise book from the USS INDEPENDENCE, 1980-81.*

*If you know of anyone that would like to have it have them contact me.*

*I have never made it to the Redshirt reunion but go every year to CASU 44 reunion. Was on Tinian WWII.*

Thanks,  
George E. Cary  
208-772-6238

From the Editor

I invite those of you on line, to view the ORDIE website located at <http://www.aaorides.org>. Thanks to our two dedicated webmasters, Bryon Boudreaux and Johnny Wheat, we have brought the aviation ordnance community into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This presents us with a supper opportunity to link our great association to the entire world. Anyone who has recommendations should contact ei-

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Business Card	\$ 25.00	\$75.00
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1/2 Page	\$75.00	\$250.00
Full page	\$150.00	\$500.00

For more information contact Steve Cashat, Richard Grass or any of the association officers

**ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION  
MEMBERSHIP DUES \$15.00 PER YEAR**

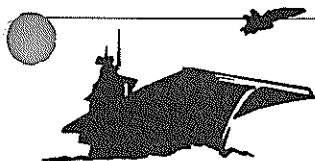
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CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE: home (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ work (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP: Regular ( ) Associate ( ) Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_  
BRANCH OF SERVICE: Active ( ) Retired ( )  
RATE: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ 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.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO: LCDR RICHARD J. GRASS, USN RET.  
613 TENNIS AVENUE  
ARDSLEY, PA 19038-1704

NOV 97



## CHAPTER EIGHT

### San Diego, CA

Greetings from the ORDIES of the San Diego area. Hope your holiday season was a joyous one and you had an opportunity to spend time with your family and loved ones. It has been a busy period for the Chapter. WE have accomplished a great deal and have a great deal yet to accomplish in the next couple of months. First off, **THANKS** to the many of you who have contributed to the Holiday fund this year. I especially want to thank Jim and Caroline Thomas for their more than generous donation . . . you went beyond the call of duty and it was so greatly appreciated. Those Ordies and their families who were helped by the generosity of so many of you were most appreciative of your kindness.

Our Highway clean-up is alive and well. Ten people showed up for our first clean up in October. Our highway section had not been maintained for awhile (we found several steel beer cans!!) and it showed. All of us were tired and sore after we amassed over 40 bags of trash, and several piles of junk (military jeep hood, tires, numerous pieces of unidentifiable metal, etc.) too big to put into the bags. Afterward, we went down to Lake Morena and had a BBQ. Our second walk in December went much faster, despite fewer folks showing up. Del Butler found a \$100 dollar bill!! (Maybe we can con him into buying the first round at the Convention). We plan on another highway walk down on March 7th (tentatively). We hope to have a photo taken in front of OUR sign for publication in the next Red Shirt. Our area is I-8 just east of Japitual Road (Julian) Highway 79 exit. We meet at 0900 at the "Park and Ride" on the North side of the exit. Come on out, get some fresh air, and help us keep our area spotless.

Coming events include CHAPTER 8's, 5th ANNUAL ORDIE BASH on March 7th at the Mira Mesa Moose Lodge on Miramar Road (facing the Mailbu Grand Prix Race Track). WE NEED SPONSORS FOR THIS EVENT. The same people have been sponsoring this event for the past several years. We need some new people to step up to the plate. If you can donate \$50.00 please contact me at (work) 619-545-2812, or (home) 619-562-8492.. I CHALLENGE THE KHAKI COMMUNITY (YES, GUNNERS AND CHIEFS, THIS MEANS YOU) to make this happen. Also it will be nice to SEE THE MCAS MIRAMAR PEOPLE GET IN ON THIS TOO!! We also are looking for a "duty driver" (who will be compensated). Each year we have a great showing. You do NOT need to be an AAO member to attend. Spouses are highly encouraged to attend. ORDIE memorabilia will be available.

Our ANNUAL CHAPTER 8 FAMILY PICNIC will be held on Armed Forces Day, May 16<sup>th</sup>, at Admiral Baker Recreation Park, area 7. RAFFLE TICKETS are available for Grand Prize's of \$200 and \$100 (you do NOT need to be present to win) as well as other items. We are hoping to have the "Clown Troupe" back to entertain us. How about another a horseshoe tourney? Hamburgers, hot dogs, etc. will be on the menu. We need DUTY MESS COOKS this year. . . CDR Ray Rameriz will be up in Bremington, and CRD Floyd English has transferred to the Navy Safety Center. This family event grows each year. It's wonderful to see it so well supported.

Ron Bushta is still going through chemo-therapy. Hang in there Ron, our prayers and thoughts are with you.

Before closing, Chapter 8 would like to THANK Frank and Thelma Thill for their many years of service to our Chapter. Frank was one of the original members, and has always been the BACKBONE of the chapter. He was always supported by his bride, Thelma. She may be missed more than Frank! Someone had to keep him in line!! To the Whidbey Island Chapter, you owe us!! You have just been blessed with a great member and friend. Frank and Thelma - YOU WILL BE MISSED.

Last but not least, Chapter 8 is the "Official Sponsor" of the convention this year in Laughlin June 25-28. If you are going to attend this years Convention and can spare a couple of hours at the reception table (we need a minimum of 6 people per day) contact any Chapter 8 officer and we will get you on the watch bill.

That's all for this quarter. Hope to see you at our meeting on the first Thursday of the month at 1900, at the FRA, 288 3rd Street in Chula Vista. Out of towners are always welcome. Take care and God bless. ☐

*.... Help is needed to man the convention reception table. Contact any Chapter Eight member if you can help. . . .*

# CHAPTER NINE



***Jacksonville, Florida***

*.... in the  
planning  
stages for our  
annual pic-  
nic with ten-  
tative dates of  
17-19 April .*

Greetings, from the "Gator Gang" here in sunny Northeast Florida. The Holidays have come and gone with nothing remaining except the Christmas bills. Typical. However, Chapter 9 did manage to distribute some good will again this year. We donated two \$100 food gift certificates for Thanksgiving and two more for Christmas to deserving brother's in arms and their families. All gifts were well received and in one case could not have come at a better time, as most of their possessions had been lost in a house fire.

November '97 marked the last meeting of the year for Chapter 9 and with it came the election of new Officers. The 1998 Officers are as follows; President, AOC Robert L. Rodriguez. Rod is still active duty and currently assigned to NAS Jacksonville, Weapons Dept. Vice President, AOCS Ruben Pena. Ruben is also active duty and currently assigned to NAS Cecil Field, Weapons Dept. Secretary, CWO4 Patrick A. Walters. Pat is also still on active duty and currently assigned to Strike Fighter Weapons School Atlantic. Treasurer, AOC (Ret.) William H. Taylor. "Bill" is retired and has done such a superb job as Treasurer the last few years, the Chapter figured... why mess with success? Also, our new Board of Directors include, Tony Gonzalez, Doug Strickland, Jim Bohac, and Tom Rose. All Officers stand ready to face the challenges of the new year and have renewed their dedication to making Chapter 9 a voice to be heard.

A very special thanks to the outgoing officers, President, AO1 Jim Howard, Vice President, AO1 Tim Baird, Secretary, AO1 Jeff May, and Treasurer, AOC (Ret.) Bill Taylor. All have done a tremendous job for the Chapter this past year and have vowed to remain active, participating members in the new year.

Some goings on... We're currently in the planning stages for our annual picnic. A committee has been formed, chaired by AOCS Pena once again. Last year's was such a huge success, we're planning on doing it again at Camp Blanding. Tentative date has been set for the weekend of 17-19 April. So, if you're in town then...come join us!

AOCS Pena also came up with a tried and true fund raising idea. Look for the Chapter 9 Ordies to be working at one of the concession stands at the Jacksonville Jaguars Alltel Stadium. We're looking forward to the next NFL season to kick off, but in the mean time we may be called upon for any major event held at the stadium. BZ to Ruben for making that happen!

We're also in the process of querying the National Association over the "Cdr. Judd Hendricks Memorial" situation. Chapter 9 is volunteering to lead the way in the relocation of the plaque currently on display at Heritage Row aboard NAS Cecil Field, to its new home at NATTC Pensacola. A Chapter 9 member has already volunteered to donate the expense of moving "Judd" to his new home. We're looking forward to making that happen this year.

Chapter 9 would also like to query the National Association, as well as all other Chapters, about the possibility of establishing an award for "Gunner/Aviation Ordnance Officer (can't leave out the LDO's) of the Year" named after the late, great, Cdr. Judd Hendricks. The maintainer types have the Capt. Chuck Nechvatal Award, for maintenance excellence, approved by OPNAV and they don't even have an association behind them! Chapter 9 stands ready to lead the charge for this cause.

In closing, fair winds and following seas to one of our living legends. CWO4 James J. Bohac Jr., USN. retired from active duty on 16 January 1998, from NAS Jacksonville's Weapons Department after 30 years of faithful service. Gunner Bohac has been shaping and producing fine young Ordnancemen here in the Jacksonville area for as long as most of us can remember. He is also one of the most vigilant and active members in Chapter 9. Thank you, Jim! Your contributions to Naval Aviation Ordnance are a matter of record! Your presence on the flight deck /flight line will be sorely missed. However, we'll catch up with you over a "Lite" at the monthly meeting! ☐

***IYAOYAS!!!***

Pat Walters, Secretary, Chapter 9



Chapter IV hopes everyone had a wonderful Christmas. Please accept our wishes for a happy and safe 1998.

Our chapter was extremely busy during the holidays. Well before Thanksgiving, we started our annual food donation/collection drive benefiting needy military families. We, and the NAS Oceana Weapons Department collected \$345.00 in cash, and \$220.00 worth of non-perishable food items. These contributions were delivered to the NAS Oceana chaplain's office, who coordinated the Holiday Food Assistance Program. Our help was very much appreciated. Unfortunately, the list of needy military families grows larger each year.

Thirty five Chapter IV members, associates, and ladies volunteered to cook, serve, decorate and clean-up when VFW Post 392 hosted a Christmas Dinner for 72 patients at the VA Hospital in Hampton, VA on December 6<sup>th</sup>.

Shortly thereafter, we hosted our first Annual Christmas Dinner Dance. It was well received with 120 in paid attendance. We offered a prime rib dinner, cooked to absolute perfection by Stevie Marcel, our new honorary member. Tom Williams did a wonderful job of chairing the committee responsible for planning and organizing this event. Special thanks to Al Lidtke, Raf Monell, Rick Bill Swilley, Gloria Beckwith, Janice Petersen, Pat Stokes, and Molly Trebble, who all lent a vital hand in the overall success and enjoyment of this party. Bravo Zulu!

Continuing in the party mode, the Chapter hosted 70 folks for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual AFC/NFC championship games. . . fun, food and frivolity enough to invite the entire VFW Post to join us.

Our January meeting found us bidding a fond "farewell" to our President, CDR Mike Porter. We sent him off with a plaque and our deepest appreciation for his faithful service to Chapter IV. He's off to Guam to assume the position as Commanding Officer, NAMU-1. God speed Mike: We'll miss you. On the plus side, we extend a hearty welcome to CDR Floyd English, who relieves CDR Porter at the Safety Center.

We look forward to welcoming back USS Nimitz (CVN-68) and her Airwing in early March and USS George Washington and CAG 1 in mid March. Well Done! Both USS John Stennis (CVN-74) and CAG-7 will relieve "GW" and shift homeport to San Diego. Fairwinds shipmates!

Red Shit Ranch XI (campout) is scheduled for mid-April. Call for details. Also, call for details about our first 1998 highway fod walk down. See you at our February meeting.

We extend our hardy congratulations to our newest Lieutenant, Paul E. Hamann of VF-102 on board "GW". "Well Done" Gunner! ☐

Submitted by  
AOCM Stu Carson USN/Ret  
Secretary/Treasurer Chapter IV

# CHAPTER IV



## *Tidewater Area*

.... Redshirt  
Ranch XI is  
scheduled for  
mid-April. Call  
for details ....

**Anyone who served with or who  
knows anyone who served in  
VF-92 in KOREA  
please contact:  
Ed Ellstrom  
3702 Robin CT.  
Loveland, CO 80537  
or  
Jim Mewhinton  
110 Cabin Lane  
Pittsburgh, PA 15238-2214  
regarding a proposed reunion**



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Aviation Ordnancemen**  
[www.aaordies.org](http://www.aaordies.org)

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# 1998 AO CONVENTION

## 25-28 June 1998

Laughlin, Nevada

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