

# AO NEWSLETTER

No. 5

25 Sept. 1978

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

I would like to congratulate the membership on behalf of the Association Officers for the outstanding convention held in RENO. This was the best. It was very gratifying to witness the arrival of members from all over the U.S. and beyond. Many old friendships were renewed and new ones began. The business meeting was beneficial not only to the Association but to the participants as well. The eager and active voices of agreement and dissent were equally important and contributory to the successful outcome of the meeting.

The dinner and Capt. Parode, our guest speaker, culminated the most enjoyable two days. Capt. Parode is to be congratulated on accumulating such a broad reservoir of good humor and developing such a lively delivery. I haven't laughed that hard since, I can't remember when, and at the same time been provoked to serious thought about our nation and it's future. Thank you again Capt. Parode. The best always to you and your lovely family.

Gentlemen, your association is alive and well. Growing stronger every day, as evidenced by the recent establishment of the scholarship fund. This is one of the most significant accomplishments of your fine generosity. You have to be congratulated on responding so quickly and whole heartedly. The first award is in the bank and waiting. In fact, because of your eager response, there have been inquiries about increasing the award or giving more than one. But please - - don't let my enthusiasm damper your generosity, the fund will survive and grow only with your spirited response.

I feel it is important at this time to thank Tony Klissus for his hard work as Chairman of the Scholarship Committee.

Cliff DeGraw wasted absolutely no time in getting us underway for the 1979 convention. Cliff is Chairman of the 1979 Convention Committee and is hard at work arranging a good time for all next year. I know it will be a good one.

The elections were a primary issue of business in Reno. I am pleased that Tom Robins, our Secretary/Treasurer agreed to another term. He has provided the real backbone and principal effort in the accomplishments of our association and is most deserving of the gratitude of the entire membership. Thank you Shipmate !

Gentlemen, Thank you for our outstanding convention. Frank, your hard work paid off. I sincerely wish that our entire membership could have availed themselves of the fine accomodations and abundant good times. I hope to see all of you next June in Las Vegas.

Kirk Nelson

SCHOLARSHIP FUND ESTABLISHED - The Association of Aviation Ordnancemen, at the 1978 convention in Reno, Nevada, approved and established The Aviation Ordnancemen Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship is for dependents of current members and deceased members of the Association, dependents of deceased Aviation Ordnancemen of the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps and dependents of associate members of the Association. The scholarship is funded by donations, memorials and, when required, by the general fund of the association. The scholarship, currently \$250.00 annually, may be utilized to pay tuition, purchase books and supplies, and assist with living expenses of an eligible individual who is in a continuing education program beyond high school level. This may be at a university, college, technical, trade or specialty school level and is not limited to any specific field of endeavor.

Criteria for selection of the individual to receive the scholarship is based on academic record, needs, goals and eligibility. Selection of the individual and award of the scholarship will be done at the annual convention. Nominations for the scholarship must be received by the Secretary/Treasurer of the Association no later than 1 May of the year of the award. The nomination shall consist of a personal letter from the applicant to the scholarship committee outlining the following points:

- o Eligibility
- o Educational goals
- o Past academic record
- o Monetary needs of the applicant
- o Eligibility and award of other scholarships and educational grants

In addition to the personal letter from the applicant, an application form is required. This form will be made available to all association members in the next newsletter.

The award selectee will be notified by letter as soon as practicable after the annual convention and the selection will also be announced in the newsletter.

The scholarship is primarily dependent on donations and memorials to the scholarship fund. Donations may be forwarded to the Association Secretary/Treasurer - marked for the Aviation Ordnancemen Memorial Scholarship Fund. Establishment of memorials for the purpose of perpetuating the scholarship is encouraged and may be done in the name of an individual or organization. Further details concerning this may be obtained from the President or the Secretary/Treasurer of the Association.

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DID YOU KNOW ? That the first Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance was CAPT. William Montgomery CRANE, USN. He served in that position from 1 Sept. 1842 until 18 May 1846.

1978 CONVENTION - The Association of Aviation Ordnancemen held it's third Annual Convention on 16 - 18 June, 1978 in Reno, Nevada. The largest turn-out in the history of the Association (84 for dinner) helped make the convention a huge success. Those of you who could not make it, missed two very enjoyable days.

Tom Robins was re-elected to the position of Secretary/Treasurer and Al White and Jim Rowe were elected to replace Les Ovre and Bob Bramum on the Board of Directors.

The attending members approved and established The Aviation Ordnancemen Memorial Scholarship Fund.

By a majority vote it was decided that the 1979 Convention will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada on 22-24 June 1979. More information will be forthcoming as the details are worked out. Reserve those dates on YOUR calendar.

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AAO HISTORIAN APPOINTED - The third Annual Convention provided the Association with the appointment of the Association Historian. The President, Kirk Nelson, appointed Al White of Bonita, Ca. to that function. During the forthcoming year Al will formulate the goals of the Historian. The simple goal will be the recording of the history of our Association. The long range goal will be compiling the history of the Air Ordnance rating in the U.S. Navy and the Marine Corps. Obviously this will require inputs from many sources, so we shall need your cooperation and assistance.

Every AO probably has something of significance to contribute to the history of the rating; a picture of an ordnance crew, a document copy, an old OP, etc. You are being asked to share those bits of history with the Association. Copies of pictures or documents are what the Association wants for the historical files. When providing copies of pictures please try to identify the AO's in the picture, the place and the date. Also provide any amplifying information you may have. The historian will credit donors with their contribution. You may forward software you have to contribute to the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen, c/o Al White, P.O. Box 185, Bonita, Ca. 92002.

At this time please do not donate hardware. If you do have something in this category to compliment the history of the AO Rating, let Al White know, but do NOT send it to him. One of the long range goals of the Association is to have an Aviation Ordnance Museum.

Presently the historic files contain several photos, WW II vintage, a copy of the COMNAVAIRPAC Notice 5440 dated 14 April 1967 which established the Weapons Division on that Staff, and a tattered copy of BUORD Circular Letter OCL X7-43 which promulgated the Legend of Santa Barbara and the history of the Navy Ordnance Flag.

WHAT CAN YOU CONTRIBUTE ?????

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MEMBERSHIP REPORT - Our membership roles are increasing but not as fast as they should be. If we ever want to fully accomplish the goals of the Association - we must all help. Each member get another member. Use the membership application here to sign up a fellow ordnanceman.

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN  
 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION THOMAS D. ROBINS, Sec/Treas.  
 Membership \$10.00 Per Year 729 Buddlawn Way  
 Campbell, CA. 95008

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SSAN \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE - HOME \_\_\_\_\_ WORK \_\_\_\_\_  
 ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ DUTY STATION (ACTIVE) \_\_\_\_\_  
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 TYPE MEMBERSHIP DESIRED: MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ ASSOCIATE MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
 MEMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
 USN \_\_\_\_\_ ACTIVE \_\_\_\_\_ ASSOCIATE MEMBER: (OPTIONAL FOR MEMBER)  
 USNR \_\_\_\_\_ RETIRED \_\_\_\_\_ EMPLOYER \_\_\_\_\_  
 USMC \_\_\_\_\_ EX-AO \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 USMCR \_\_\_\_\_ RANK/RATE \_\_\_\_\_ OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_  
 DATES SERVED: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ POSITION \_\_\_\_\_

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I do/do not authorize release of my name, address and telephone number to other members or prospective members of the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen.

(Witness) \_\_\_\_\_ (Signed) \_\_\_\_\_

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TEMPORARY RECEIPT

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBER/ASSOCIATE MEMBER  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 Received By: \_\_\_\_\_

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NEWSFLASH - Just received a call from Joe Jensen, the Chairman of our 1979 Nominating Committee. He informs me that the committee is hard at work looking for candidates for the election in June of 1979. The position of President and two seats on the board of Directors come up for election in June.

If YOU would like to contribute your expertise - call Joe Jensen and volunteer for the position of your choice. Tel. (805) 482-7840 or Autovon 351-6424.