

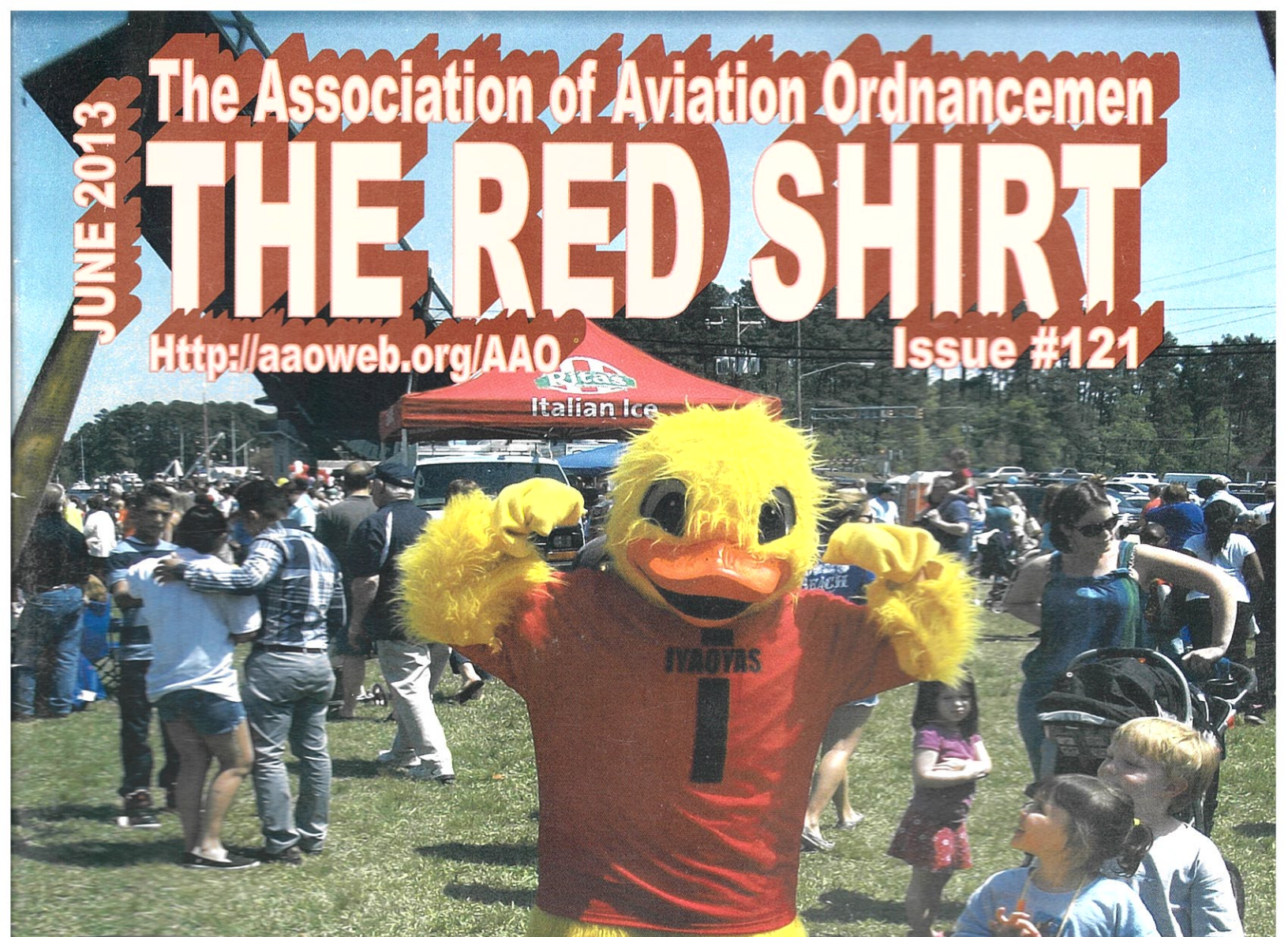
JUNE 2013

The Association of Aviation Ordnancemen

# THE RED SHIRT

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

Issue #121







AOAA Grant Crews, AOC Eric Crews, Mary Crews, CWO4 (Ret) Billy Crews



AOC (Ret) Kevin Meagher, AOC Terry Van Kampen, AOC (Ret) Mike Voelker, CWO4 (Ret) Billy Crews, AOCS (Ret) Jake Soriano







**The Association of  
Aviation Ordnancemen  
Http://aaoweb.org/AAO**

**PRESIDENT**

**CAPT Michael K. Price**  
2017 Wedgewood Pl  
Apt C  
Waldorf, MD  
(H) 540.841.9747  
AAOPresident@aaoweb.org

**VICE PRESIDENT**

**CAPT (Sel) Alan D. Dean**  
AAOVP@aaoweb.org  
2604 Vogel Court  
Virginia Beach, Va. 23456

**SECRETARY**

**AOCM Dennis Costa, USN/Ret.**  
722 E. Avenue  
Coronado, CA 92118  
(H) 619.450.9768  
(W) 619.545.8492  
Fax (H) 619.435.3757 on demand  
Fax (W) 619.545.8505  
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.  
aotreas2011@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

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

**Chapter 1 - Lemoore, CA**  
President: AO1 Laura Colby  
559-998-9320  
Fleet Reserve Club, D Street, Lemoore  
3rd Friday, 1730

**Chapter 3 - Whidbey Island, WA**  
President: AOC(AW/SW) Angela Sobieski,  
360-257-1045 (work) angela.sobieski@navy.mil  
Meeting Place Bakerview Restaurant  
Fourth Wed of the month, 1130

**Chapter 4 - Virginia Beach, VA**  
President: LTJG Michael Gaar  
Michael.gaar@navy.mil  
757-433-1744  
VA Beach VFW #392, 2408 Bowland Pkwy  
3rd Wednesday, 1800

**Chapter 5 - China Lake, CA**  
President: Greg Paulsen  
760-384-1810  
VFW 4080, 117 N. Alvord  
3rd Thursday, 1800

**Chapter 8 - San Diego, CA**  
President: AO1(AW) Joshua DeGhetto,  
619-545-1610  
Fleet Reserve, Chula Vista  
1st Thursday, 1900

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

**Chapter 11 - Kaneohe Bay, HI**  
President: AOC(AW/SW) Wes Thompson  
808-257-2113  
Sam Adams Grill, 2nd Tuesday, 1630

**Chapter 21 - Fallon, NV**  
President: AO2 Gina Middaugh  
775-217-3457  
American Legion Post 16 Fallon, NV.  
1st Wednesday, 1900

**Chapter 22 - Patuxent River**  
President: AO1 Mark Walk  
Mark.walk@navy.mil  
301-997-0036  
VFW, Post 2632 California, MD  
3rd Wednesday, 1900

**Chapter LHD-4 Gator Chapter**  
President: AO1 Neely  
On Board

**Chapter LHD-8 - USS Makin Island**  
President AOC(AW/SW) Travis R. Steele  
steeletr@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 e Dude Gilbert Room  
1st Thursday 1645

**Chapter 65 - USS Enterprise**  
CVN 65 President: AOC(AW/SW) Shane A. Pace  
On Board

**Chapter 68 - USS Nimitz**  
CVN 68 President: AO1 John Hardy  
On Board

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

**Chapter 72 - USS Lincoln**  
CVN 72 President:  
AO1 (AW/SW) Donnie Dowell  
On Board

**Chapter 73 - USS George Washington**  
President: AO1(AW/SW/EXW) Jamie Ransey  
Forward Deployed

**Chapter 74 - USS Stennis**  
CVN 74 President: AO1 Brown  
On Board

**Chapter 75 - USS Truman**  
CVN 75 President: AO1(AW) Ryan Smith  
On Board

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

**Chapter 77 - USS George HW Bush**  
CVN-77 President: AO1 Ronald W Lee  
On Board leerw@cvn77.navy.mil

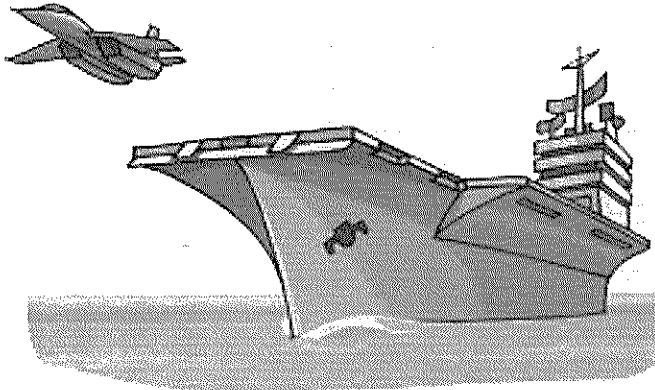
**Chapter Key West,**  
Southern Most President: Unknown  
305-294-2892  
Navigator Bar and grill  
2nd Friday 1300

**Chapter 34 - Pensacola, FL**  
President: AO1 (AW/SW) Richard Corrigan  
850-452-7385 x4154  
Chapter34ordie@gmail.com  
Richard.Corrigan1@navy.mil  
Beef O Brady's  
1st Wednesday, 1830

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

**Chapter CVW 5 - Deployed**  
President: AO1 Corey Hester  
Forward Deployed

**LHA - 5 Iron Nickel Chapter**  
President AO1 (AW/SW) John Lambert



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

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 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.



## Letters To The Editor

*I started a Facebook page called "The Red Shirt". If you have access to a computer look us up and LIKE us!*

Kevin,

Hello from Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, Africa. I'm currently forward deployed on a GSA IA tour until September 13 as the Weapons Officer for the base in support of Operation Enduring Freedom with a few others. AOs, GMs, & a FC.

Other than that I want to share the this link with Peyton Manning's USO tour. [http://espn.go.com/nfl/story/\\_/id/9020118/peyton-manning-uso-tour-journal](http://espn.go.com/nfl/story/_/id/9020118/peyton-manning-uso-tour-journal) Notice he's wearing a IYAOYAS shirt and how many times he wearing it throughout the video clip and appears that the IYAOYAS shirt is from the Stennis. The USO tour made a pit stop on Camp Lemonnier for a couple hours to share a few words with multi-service troops and after words had dinner with the troops. Overall it was a morale buster for all that had an opportunity to meet and greet.

LT Carlos Chairez

Thanks LT,

*I'll pass this on and will include the link in the June edition of the Red Shirt. I'll also put this link on our "The Red Shirt" facebook page. I received a picture yesterday of him in the Chapter 71 Red shirt throwing passes to the guys!! Pretty cool!! Stay safe over there and if you need anything let us know.*

Kevin

Kevin,

Awesome! I actually gave Peyton Manning ordnance coins...one each for Eli Manning, John Elway, & him. I figured I had an opportunity for all Ordies to have a "connection", then the interesting part was seeing the IYAOYAS shirt in the video and pics afterwards. That was weird, but very cool.

Thanks again!  
Carlos

Hi Kevin --

The following is from the oldest nephew of the newly deceased Mr. Bill Kamm, + a few words from me.

Oh yeah... Is it possible to get a copy of the next Red Shirt

sent to Mr Weir? I think he'll enjoy seeing his note in print, along with the rest of the words regarding Mr. Kamm. Thanks to you for all you do.

Bob Holdman

Bob,

Thank you for the email address.

I had written when you first made acquaintance with my Uncle Bill Kamm. but it failed to reach you at the time. This method proved to be the better one.

I am the eldest nephew. Bill was a month and a day past his 23rd birthday when I was born in '31. His hip collapsed on my 82nd birthday leading to his death about six weeks later. He was a fighter all the way even though ready and willing to depart this world. He was truly a Christian gentle man. A credit to the human race.

The main reason for this contact is to tell you personally how much pleasure the lifetime subscription for the Red Shirt magazine provided Bill. He could not believe he deserved it. I tried to assure him that YOU thought so and we family members did too. He told me after a few issues had been thoroughly read cover to cover that he was sure that he would see a name he recognized. Sure enough he did. The man whose name he still remembered was his barber during boot camp at Great Lakes. He also personally knew others whose names appeared. Of course I have forgotten who he named other than the barber and his favorite CPO at Jacksonville. I'm glad you got the classroom picture published in the magazine.

If you are interested I can provide more stories at a later date.

Yours truly,  
Gene Weir

Sir -- Mr. Cothran passed the request for me to send you an email regarding the death of your Uncle Bill Kamm..

Many folks in the Ass'n of Aviation Ordnancemen have passed their regrets of his passing, as I am now doing.

Please respond.  
Bob Holdman.

Mr. Meagher,

Attached is an article and photos of VAQ-132's Harm shoot

*(Continued on page 6)*



(Continued from page 5)

down in Point Mugu back in April. I know a couple of the ordies in our shops read you magazine and it would be nice for them to see their own hard work.

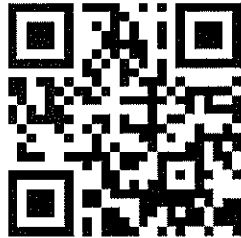
V/R  
LTJG Scott Chuda  
VAQ-132 PAO  
360-257-8041

Thanks for the article. Check out page 8!

Kevin,  
Attached and below is the AAO Website QR code to access the AAO Website from a smart phone. You might want to include the graphic in the next printed Red Shirt.

Regards,  
Johnny R. Wheat  
AAO Webmaster

Hope it works!



Good morning Dwight, (Belin)

I just wanted to take a moment and say thank-you to you and your team that made it to Gary's retirement ceremony Friday. Sending Gary off after 47 years of service in such a manner was fitting, I know Gary was very touched by the attendance and support, thanks for making it special.

The jacket, globe and certificates your team presented went over really well and he was deeply touched. He will be missed by our family here at NMC DET FALLON along with all the personnel coming through here for future training.

I attached a photo of the gift the Peeps chipped in on and made for Gary.

Vr/  
CDR Kevin Forbes  
NMC CWD Det Fallon OIC



## "Scholarship applications are due or post marked not later than 15 July 2013"

Kevin, I've got an article I put together regarding the AO's I served with at NAF Cam Ranh Bay, S. Vietnam (1968 -1970). In addition to regular ordnance servicing of squadrons there, we were involved in base perimeter defense and later training S. Vietnamese gunner's mates. I've got a 2 1/2 page printed article and about a dozen photos (that can be reduced in size—they're 4" x 6"), that depicts what we did. All the AO's there came away with combat action ribbons. I assume you're the guy I would send the article to? Please advise. I was honored to work with those AO's as their Weapons Officer. Just a few weeks ago joined the AO Chapter 3 (?) at Whidbey Island. I live about an hour's drive from there.

Regards,  
John Buckley, LCDR, USN/Ret

John, thanks for sharing. I hope everyone enjoys it as much as I did!!  
Kevin

Dear Chief, I would like to inform you of my fathers passing. He was AO2 Robert A. Swanke WW2 veteran . He passed away at his home in Laconia NH. On 16 January 2013. I would like his name included in taps in The Red Shirt.

Thank you so much,  
Bob Swanke Jr.

Sorry for your loss Bob, I've included him  
Kevin

Here are the only holes in the Hall of Fame Plaques:

Robert "Bob" Branum Missing Dates of Service From...To

Bob Maki Missing Photo and Dates of Service

Thanks for your continued help with tracking these individuals down for information. Any information would be appreciated.

Tim Carroll



Greetings Ordies.

Just had our 'Convention Pre-Meeting' in Laughlin. Regrettably we had to raise our prices across the board by \$5 due to increased costs associated with Convention. FYI our 'Registration fee's' have NOT gone up since their inception (2001). See you in Reno!!

R,  
JJ LaMaitre  
2013 Site Chairman

*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 Dennis Costa. 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*

**EDITOR: AOC Kevin P. Meagher, USN/Ret.**  
21 Wedgewood Lane NE  
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547  
(H) 850.499.0024  
(W) 850.883.0187  
kevin.meagher@eglin.af.mil

## Red Shirt

Articles

*are due*

20 JAN 14

20 MAY 14

20 SEP 13

*Please submit via e-mail when possible*



[www.aaoweb.org/AAO](http://www.aaoweb.org/AAO) \* The Redshirt

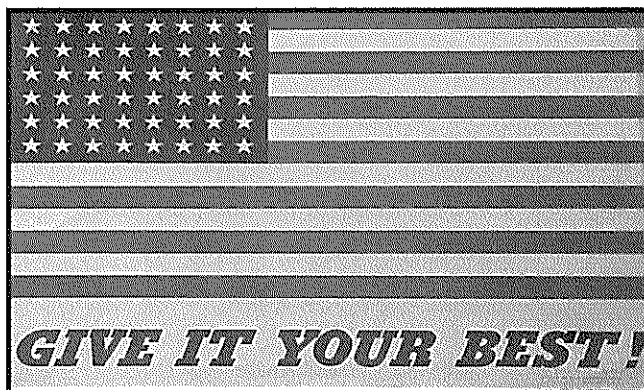
## Chapter 72

### Chapter 72 Elects New Officers

AAO Chapter 72 elected new officers at the May 2013 meeting. Chapter 72 thanks all the outgoing officers who served and wish the newly elected leadership all the very best in keeping our Chapter at the top. IYAOYAS!



From Left to Right  
President- AO1 ( AW/SW) Donnie Dowell, Vice President-  
AO1 (AW/SW) Jesse Willett, Secretary -AO2 (AW/SW)  
Lindsey Smack, Treasurer- AO2 (AW/SW) Sean Smith







# Scorpions HARM Point Mugu

## By LTJG Scott Chuda

### VAQ-132 PAO

NAS POINT MUGU, CA - The Scorpions of VAQ-132 traveled to NAS Point Mugu in southern California to perform an AGM-88 High-Speed Anti-Radiation Missile (HARM) shoot on April 5th, 2013.

The HARM is the EA-18G's kinetic weapon option to combat enemy radars. The missile homes in on the radar emissions of enemy surface-to-air missiles, and allows the Growler aircrew another choice in combating complex Integrated Air Defense Systems (IADS). VAQ-132 made history in March 2011 by becoming the first EA-18G squadron to launch the HARM in a combat situation during their participation in Operation ODYSSEY DAWN in support of a United Nations resolution to enforce a no-fly zone over Libya.

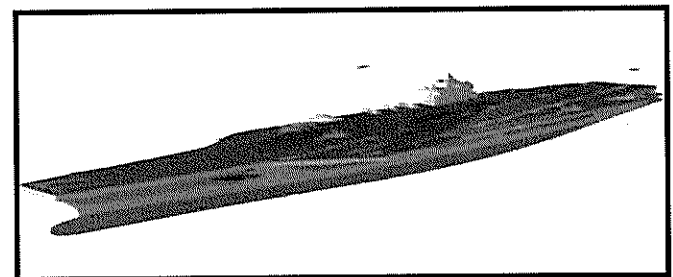

Following closely on the heels of a HARM shoot in December, the most recent HARM shoot created another opportunity for the aircrew and maintainers to fine tune their skills. The detachment was supported by a small group of hand-selected maintainers led by AOC (AW) Dennis Holloman. The Scorpion maintainers and aircrew invested many weeks of planning and pre-flight preparation to ensure that the missile shoot was executed safely and efficiently.

The Scorpion representatives for the shoot were pilot LT Brian "Booger" Smith and Electronic Warfare Officer LCDR Matt "Squeeze" Schlarman. Both aircrew had performed numerous training flights and simulators utilizing the HARM in the past, but the April 5th shoot marked the first time either had employed the actual missile.

"I was very nervous the night before the shoot," said LT Smith. "I had dreams I was going to panic and my thumb wasn't going to be able to press the button, but, when I got into the jet, my training took over and I was able to relax, which made the exercise a great success and very rewarding."

The Scorpions invested many hours of pre-flight preparation to ensure that the missile shoot was executed safely and efficiently. In addition to the Growler that fired the missile, a second VAQ-132 Growler participated to ensure that the range area was clear of all vessels and aircraft. An S-3 Viking from VX-30 was also involved, using its maritime patrol capabilities to ensure that the range was clear of any surface contacts.

The members of the shoot returned to NAS Whidbey Island with an eagerness to continue their training for the next mission that may be placed in front of them.

- **MISSION**  
The Arleigh Burke class destroyers are guided missile destroyers that can detect, track, and destroy threats from the air and from the sea. From their rich armament and sophisticated electronic systems, they are capable of detecting a wide variety of both ballistic and anti-aircraft missiles.
- **FEATURES**  
The John Finn will be one of the U.S. Navy's most advanced class of destroyers in the fleet. Its capability to detect, track, and destroy threats from the air and from the sea is enhanced by the advanced AN/SPY-1 radar system.
- **ARMAMENT**  
The John Finn carries two forward launchers, two A-189 Phalanx CIWS, 15 5.25 inch Gun/ASROC, 15 5.25 inch Gun/ASROC, and 15 5.25 inch Gun/ASROC.
- **PROPULSION**  
The John Finn is powered by two shafts, two shafts, 110,000 shaft horsepower.
- **AIRCRAFT**  
The John Finn can carry up to 20 aircraft.
- **MISCELLANEOUS**  
The John Finn is a guided missile destroyer (DDG) and is the lead ship of the class.

**USS John Finn (DDG 113)**





**\*\*\* SILVER LEGACY RAISES THE BAR \*\*\***

There's not a person that isn't familiar with **Starbucks®** for high quality coffee, teas, pastries, smoothies and more. Silver Legacy is adding Starbucks to the main casino floor by mid-March. Conveniently located next to The Zone Sportsbook and right off Virginia Street, this addition will not only be the jolt and snack that you may be looking for, but with the beautiful stained glass ceiling is a sight to see.

**Hussong's Cantina-Taqueria®** is joining Silver Legacy's diverse food lineup. The original Hussong's, located in Ensenada, Baja California, Mexico, was established in 1892. Bringing the birthplace of the first Margarita, along with unbelievably delicious Baja food, a relaxed atmosphere and an extensive tequila menu, it's an addition that we are excited to share with our guests. Located on the mezzanine next to Sterling's Seafood Steakhouse, it is sure to be a favorite watering hole. Look for it to open in early April!

The coffee shop has a new name, a new look and some wonderful new food and drink offerings along with the old favorites. Café Sedona is morphing into **Café Central** just in time for spring. We expect it to be completed by the end of April. Also, Fairchild's Oyster Bar is not only changing things up with a new name and new location but we are broadening the food selection to include some grilled items. The **Pearl Oyster Bar & Grille** will have the same distinct and ever-popular favorites like the seafood Pan Roast, Cioppino and crab cakes but we are diversifying to satisfy all palates. This venue, too, is set to re-open at the end of April, located next to Café Central on the mezzanine level.

And adding to the already well-rounded retailers, Silver Legacy is adding **B-ICONIC Accessories**. B-ICONIC offers moderately priced women's and men's fashion accessories with the look and feel of luxury goods.

A plethora of exciting changes are coming that will give you more Resort than ever. We look forward to sharing them with you and hearing what you think. We have always provided the biggest names in entertainment, the biggest and best events and casino promotions and now we're adding the biggest culinary experience in the Biggest Little City!

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING THE ORDIES BACK!!**



## AAO President

Greetings to all:

Kevin is doing such a great job reminding me my article is due; I don't know what we'd do without him. That was my quick 'shout-out' to our Editor, now on to business. I hope everyone is enjoying the onset of summer as it rolls in.

Let's not forget, "Memorial Day" marked the beginning of summer for most of us, but there are those along the Midwest that are feeling nature's fury still today. We really need to hold all of those affected by this crazy weather in our prayers. What is Memorial Day? It occurs every year on the final Monday of May. Memorial Day is a day of remembering the men and women who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces. Many people visit cemeteries and memorials, particularly to honor those who have died in military service. What did we do this past Memorial Day? Think about it! Did we honor our fallen Heroes or did we just BBQ. I feel the Moment of Remembrance is a step in the right direction to returning the meaning back to the day. What is needed is a full return to the original day of observance. Set aside one day out of the year for the nation to get together to remember, reflect and honor those who have given their all in service to their country.

Now to switch gears...Many of you are waiting for the message to be released announcing the 2013 Convention and rest assured we are working on it. With Dave Lepard being out of San Diego, it's a little harder to get the message traffic through the system, but that will be fixed soon. Speaking of message traffic, on a happier note, we added two new CAPTAINS to our ranks on June 1st, CAPTs Bill Bindel and AL Dean. Also, if you hadn't heard we had LCDR Ray Parham pick up Commander and we made 6 new AO Master Chiefs and they are: MASTER CHIEF AVIATION ORDNANCE-

Ladelia Louis	005	Payne John Do	002
Pressley Tyes	004	Rosado Pablo	003
Schiftner Ala	001	Williams Nikk	006

MAN  
There are many things going on around the fleet as you can imagine and not enough time to put all down here. We are finally starting to see some movement in our pyramid restructuring that will help balance officer promotions which started this year and will continue until somewhere around 2017. It takes time to get laws changed, so don't lose hope. We are also starting to see the furloughs promised by DoD and there's plenty of information out there on this sore subject so enough said. Many will feel the effects of the cuts and we can only pray things get better with time.

*(Continued on page 19)*

## AAO Vice President

As you read this, final plans are being made for this year's convention in Reno. I hope you have made plans to attend. As you know, the symposium was canceled again this year but we have hope that we will be able to get this program back on track in the near future. Its value to our profession is too important to give up trying.

If you are unable to attend the convention, you can still take part in voting in new officers. The absentee ballot in this edition of the Red Shirt allows you to participate and have a voice in the election/voting process. We will be voting for the National Office of Secretary, two Board of Directors (BOD) and Vice President. The below listed individuals have been nominated. A brief biography of each nominee is included in the Red Shirt for your review.

Board of Directors: David Lepard, CAPT, Retired  
Timothy M. Zimmer, AOCS (AW), Retired  
Michael Gramolini, CDR, USN

Vice President: Alan D. Dean, CAPT, USN

**DO NOT SUBMIT AN ABSENTEE BALLOT  
IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE CONVENTION**

Nomination for the offices will still be accepted from the floor at the general business meeting. If after submitting an absentee ballot you decide to attend the annual convention, you will not be allowed to vote at the general business meeting unless you request to have your previously submitted absentee ballot destroyed before voting commences. You will then be allowed to vote at the general business meeting.

When submitting your absentee ballot, clearly mark your ballot for the nominee(s) of your choice. When marking your selection/s, ensure you follow the instructions on the ballot. Your ballot must have your printed name, membership number and be signed and dated in the appropriate boxes to be valid. When you have filled out your ballot, place it in a sealed envelope, and mail to the address below. All absentee ballots must be received before 31 July 2013.

**BALLOTS RECEIVED IN ANY OTHER MANNER  
THAN INDICATED ABOVE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**  
Mail all absentee ballots to the following address:

AAO NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN  
20812 Flour Mill Court  
Great Mills, MD 20634

*(Continued on page 19)*





## AAO Treasurer

It's that time of year again. Convention is less than two months away. Now is the time to send me your convention registrations. The sooner I get them, the sooner your officers can formalize all the plans that go into making your convention a success. You probably noted some changes on the registration form. One of the changes already made is we started using a different credit card processor. The new system requires the addition of the three-digit CVV code in order to process the cards. This year's registration form has been amended to reflect that information. If you use a credit card and want a copy of your receipt e-mailed to you, there is a block on the registration form for your e-mail address, right after the credit card info. Get your registration packages in to me as soon as you can so we can start coordinating the events.

Starting this year, tickets for the Social and Awards Banquet will not be mailed out to the attendees. You will be able to pick them up at the registration table during the day or at the entrance to the event that night. By doing this we not only save postage, but we don't have to worry about reproducing back-up tickets for those that might have forgotten them. If you want to be notified when I receive your payment, include a self-addressed stamped envelope or postcard or your e-mail address and I will get that information back to you.

See you in Reno!

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 starting to drop off again. I need your changes as soon as you know you are moving. Not having address updates cost us a considerable amount of money for Red Shirt returns. 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 aootreas2011@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!  
Thomas Lord  
AAO Treasurer

## AAO Secretary

Greeting ORDIES,

Our convention is getting close and it looks to be another great event so get your reservations in. As A reminder to all Chapters Secretary's please get your monthly minutes into me. I do pass them to the President so he can keep abreast of your activities. Please e-mail me at my work or home e-mail address so I can keep the National BOD up to date on your activities.

For those Chapters that can't make it to the Convention please send me what you would like reported to the General Membership.

CONGRATS to the NEW AOCM's

LADELIA LOUIS 005	PAYNE JOHN DO 002
PRESSLEY TYES 004	ROSADO PABLO 003
SCHIFTNER ALA 001	WILLIAMS NIKK 006

Still looking for a NEW SECERTARY, My term is up at this year's conventions.

Dennis

Dennis Costa  
AAO Secretary  
722 E Ave  
Coronado Ca 92118  
aocm@aol.com Home  
dennis.costa@navy.mil Work  
619-540-9768 Home  
619-545-8492 Work  
619-545-8505 Fax





## Chapter 3

### THE ROCK IS BACK IN BUSINESS!

Chapter 3 is rapidly getting back on track. 2013 will be a great year for us. At the Convention last year we were only piecing back together our Chapter, since then things have made a turn for the better. Our membership is steadily growing and we hope it continues as more of our brothers and sisters from Lemoore make their way up here to "The Rock". I would like to mention that because our history and heritage is very important to our rating that during our March meeting we had an opportunity to share information about an AAO Hall of Fame Inductee and the path they paved for us new Ordies. We discussed CDR Floyd English who was inducted in 2011. It was nice to hear sea stories about him from people who worked with him such as AOCM(Ret) Joel Clayton and AOCM(Ret) Dave Michel. Our history is our future.

We recently adopted a street in Oak Harbor to perform roadside clean up. Our first clean up for the year was held the 12th of April and our turn out was a success. Additionally, we adopted a park to maintain for the city of Oak Harbor and we were fortunate enough to be able to obtain the park that the communities A-6 and EA-6B are displayed at.

We have designed a new coin for our Chapter and recently started our memorabilia committee to bring in some funds to support the Scholarship Foundation. Our first \$200.00 check was sent in May. If you are interested in our memorabilia it will be displayed on our Facebook website with a point of contact for purchase.

The chapter is hosting a Pancake Breakfast 9 June at the Oak Harbor Applebee's. We are also holding our Annual Summer Picnic/Membership drive July 20th. Additionally, August 2013 will be the Chapter's thirty year anniversary and we are planning a celebration. All our information on events can be viewed at the Chapter's Facebook page- <https://www.facebook.com/aviation.ordnance.5>. So if you are in the area feel free to stop by and join the parties.

Attached our pictures from our park clean up and roadside clean up.

Take care and be Safe!  
AOC(AW/SW) Angela Sobieski  
"Sobie"  
Chapter 3 President







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## Weapons Department

### NAF Cam Ranh Bay, RVN (1968 -1970)

#### By: LCDR John T. Buckley, USN (Ret)

I arrived at Cam Ranh Bay, June 25, 1968. All incoming personnel temporarily reported to the Army 22nd Replacement Company there. Once screened through, I was transported a few miles down the road to the Naval Air Facility. It was in close proximity to the Vietnamese village of My Ca. After getting temporary billeting, I checked in with the NAF Weapons Department headed by LT. Vaughn Knight. The Weapons facility consisted of a trailer, and a cluster of CON-EX Boxes that were sandbagged and serving as ready service magazines. It was located centrally within our base perimeter.

The mobile weapons equipment consisted of a six passenger International/Harvester Truck with 4 wheel drive. An MJ-2 Bomb truck, some loaders and trailers. The primary mission was to support the VP aircraft. There were three types: (1) The P3 Orion Patrol Aircraft from Fleet Air Wing TEN, (2) Special Reconnaissance Squadron VO-67 that had specially configured P2 Neptune aircraft. Their bomb bays were fitted with rapid fire XM 292 vertically firing belted 40mm anti-personnel grenades. In addition to wing racks, they had diagonally wing mounted 7.62 machine guns (for strafing) . Infra-red sensing gear was fitted into the nose section of the aircraft for night reconnaissance. We supported a U.S. Army Squadron (First Radio/Research Squadron) That also had resurrected U.S. Navy P2 aircraft that performed specialized reconnaissance for the Army. They had their own classified missions, but we supported them whenever required.

The NAF Weapons Department's secondary role was in base perimeter defense. NAF Cam Ranh was a section of the overall U.S. Air Force Base at Cam Ranh Bay. Our location was on the western side facing the upper reaches of Cam Ranh Bay itself. Base Defense was coordinated by the US Air Force and NAF basically protected their own perimeter. There were sandbagged emplacements on our perimeter for machine guns and automatic weapons.

In about a week's time LT Knight had completed indoctrinating me in all the required functions and inter-service requirements. We drew our ammunition from the U.S Army tri-service storage area. In the last week of June, 1968 I relieved LT Knight and he departed for a well earned tour of duty back in CONUS.

I had about 35 ordnance men. AOC's Sam Bass and Harry Miller were the seniors. Later in the year AOC Hoyt G. (Willy) Wilburn reported for duty. All the ordnance men were good troops. Forty-five years has dimmed my

memory a bit, but I recall AO1 Laird Brineley, AO1 Marlow Gunderson, AO1 Braxton and AO1 Rozier (later field promoted to AOC) There was AO2 McCracken, some AO3's and non rated men. I especially remember AO3 Cotta and AO3 Brado, they did good work on our small arms. Later in their careers they would move up to Chief Warrant Officer and Master Chief respectively.

It was common knowledge that blowing sand was a special problem for machinery on the Cam Ranh Peninsula. We had a number of M60 machine guns for both defense and replacement use of the assigned squadrons. My previous knowledge in working with both the Browning .30 and .50 caliber machine guns caused me to think that I wanted some additional and substantial/reliable perimeter defense weapons. I therefore requisitioned four .30 caliber Browning M1919A1 machine guns. In short order they arrived from the Naval Reserve Armory in St. Louis, Missouri. We de-preserved them and put them in firing order. I felt better about perimeter defense once we had them operating. They would later be put to other uses.

The entire U.S. Military complex (Army/Navy and Air Force) on the Cam Ranh Peninsula was frequently subjected to ground launched mortar and rocket attacks. The latter were of 107 and 122mm Communist ordnance. Swimmer/sappers were also active the Bay so Navy patrol boats patrolled the waters there. It was sometime in late 1968, October or November that the U.S Army 6th Field Hospital sustained a Viet Cong sapper attack. The hospital was located in the northern end of the peninsula about 2-3 miles from NAF. There were some injuries, but the Army Reaction teams drove off the attackers.

I was there less than a month when we had a red alert: I.e. incoming rockets and alarm sirens going off. Fortunately, the incoming communist fire was very inaccurate. Later when I experienced mortar fire, the incoming was closer but never did any substantial damage. In one attack a 107mm rocket impacted in the sand about 30-40 feet from our weapons compound. It was sometime later that we decided to put sand filled 55 gallon drums (two high) around our armory. The near miss got our attention. Sand is a great shock mitigating material for absorbing exploding ordnance. The attacks occurred randomly on the average of 2 -3 times a month.

Sometime early in 1969, The South Vietnamese Navy established a training camp on the lower Cam Ranh Peninsula. Afterwards NAF Cam Ranh was tasked with aiding the South Vietnamese Command there. The NAF Weapons Department aided in training South Vietnamese their gunners mates . They would later man the patrol boats within and outside of Cam Ranh Bay. My ordnance men were en-

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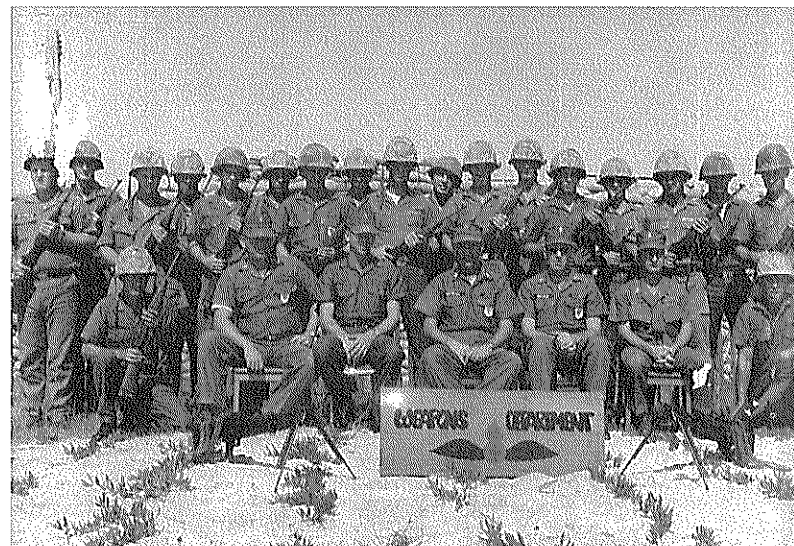
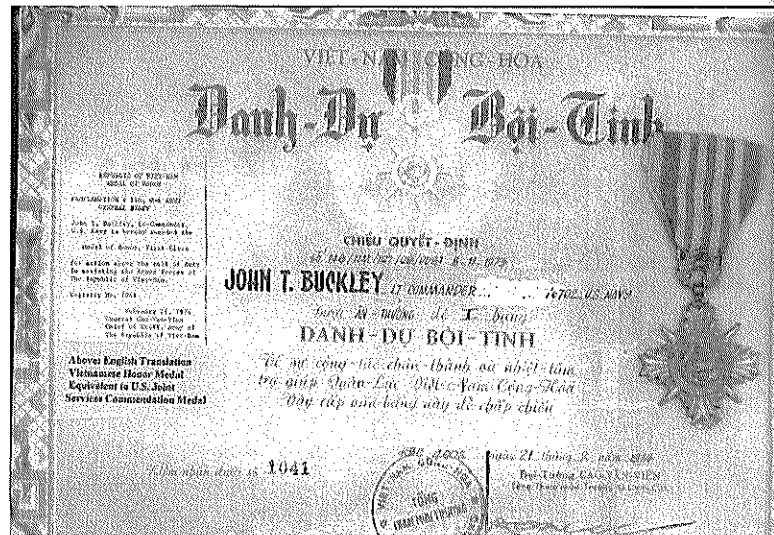
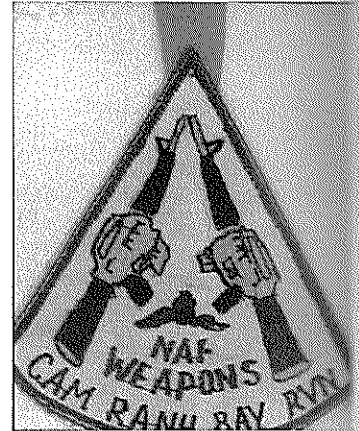
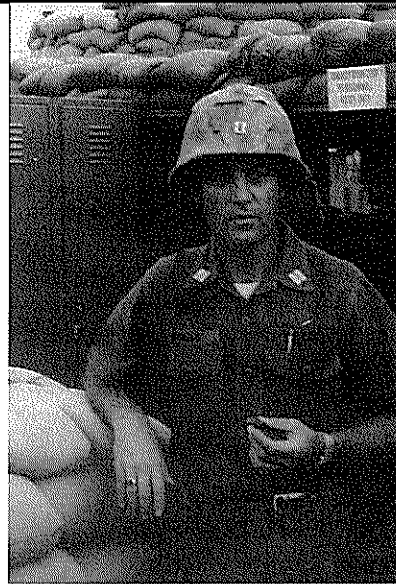
thusiastic about checking out the trainees on the M60 7.62 mm, and Browning .30 caliber machine guns. I considered it good training as well to have our own ordies experienced in their use. We also trained our own NAF personnel in the use of M16 rifles. Duty sections would draw them daily from our armory and turn them in when going off duty.

Another unique contingency was placed upon NAF Cam Ranh Bay in the summer of 1968. In August of that year (2 months into my tour), a contingency plan involving inter-service support was developed in the event the battleship USS New Jersey (BB-62) required replenishment of her main armament, i.e 16 inch projectiles. In my recollection 600,16 inch rounds were pre-positioned with U.S. Army tri-service ammo storage area. Since NAF had no helicopters at its disposal, I was tasked with developing a plan to get support from the U.S. Army 10 Aviation Battalion, headquartered at Nha Trang, RVN, 35 miles north of Cam Ranh Bay. The Chinooks could carry two 16 inch projectiles at a time (each one weighed 1900 lbs.). So after some repeated trips to Nha Trang and Don Ba Thin it was agreed that they could VERTREP 16 inch projectiles to USS New Jersey, standing off shore if the necessity ever developed. Fortunately, it never did. I have often wondered (to this day) if stray communist rocket fire ever hit the 16 inch storage area (open revetments), what would have happened? Mostly likely the largest swimming hole in Southeast Asia.

So I forward this to present day active duty ordnance men, and those past, in that the tour of duty that I and my fellow ordnance men was unique in many ways. It involved ground combat readiness. It likewise required standard support, and arming/ re-arming naval aircraft. It was performed under combat conditions in which NAF Cam Ranh was subjected to numerous rocket and mortar attacks. In August, 1969 NAF Cam Ranh was subjected to a Viet Cong sapper attack. A suicide squad breached the main gate after a B-40 rocket attack and attempted to use satchel charges on our flight line. It was blunted by an alert flight line sentry who shot several of the attackers and by the NAF Security Squads who killed the remaining attackers. Two of the NAF personnel were killed when the watch tower was struck by the rocket. I completed my tour of duty (19 months) and departed for NAS Cubi Point, R.P. in February, 1970.

Enclosed are a sampling of pictures (labeled) including a group photo of the NAF Weapons Department and various scenes such as the impacted 107mm VC rocket near the Weapons compound. I salute the service of all who served there. IYAOYAS.

John Buckley, LCDR, USN (Retired)







## Chapter 8

Fellow Ordies!!

Greetings from sunny San Diego! It has been a long time since Chapter 8 has had an update in the REDSHIRT and there has been some changes.

First off the new elected offices for Chapter 8 are as follows: AO1(AW) DeGhetto, Joshua (President), AOC(AW) Carey, Richard (Vice President), AO1(AW/SW) Casey, Joshua (Secretary/Treasurer).

Chapter 8 would like to say thank you once more to the VFW Coronado for letting us host our annual Chapter 8 picnic which was a great turn out and to the Ordies of the USS ESSEX for their help in setting up. Overall we had 120+ Ordies and family members at the picnic!!! Thanks to everyone for coming out and having a good time in the great weather with Chapter 8.

Next, I would like to give a big "WELCOME HOME" to CAG 9 and the two NASNI Squadrons HSC 8 and HSM 71 from their 8 month deployment!!

Chapter 8 has a new stretch of highway for our FOD walk downs, we were able to secure a section of the beautiful Silver Stand between Imperial Beach and Coronado. Come join us and help keep San Diego clean!

The Fleet is rapidly changing and so is the Ordnance world, everyday we are developing new weapon systems or modifying old ones to fit the need of our Navy's mission. Most notably the addition of 20mm and Rockets to the H60 platform. Although the weapons themselves are not new they are new to the community and platform. I can say that the Helicopter community as a whole has embraced the addition of these weapon systems and is ready to put more rounds down range!!!

Change is a great thing, however having the properly trained Ordnancemen and following the publications is the key to success. Follow the PUBS, TRAIN HARD, and LEAD from the FRONT.

From everyone here at Chapter 8,  
I.Y.A.O.Y.A.S.

AO1(AW) Joshua R. DeGhetto  
HSC Weapons School Pacific Fleet  
Weapons LPO  
Chapter 8 President

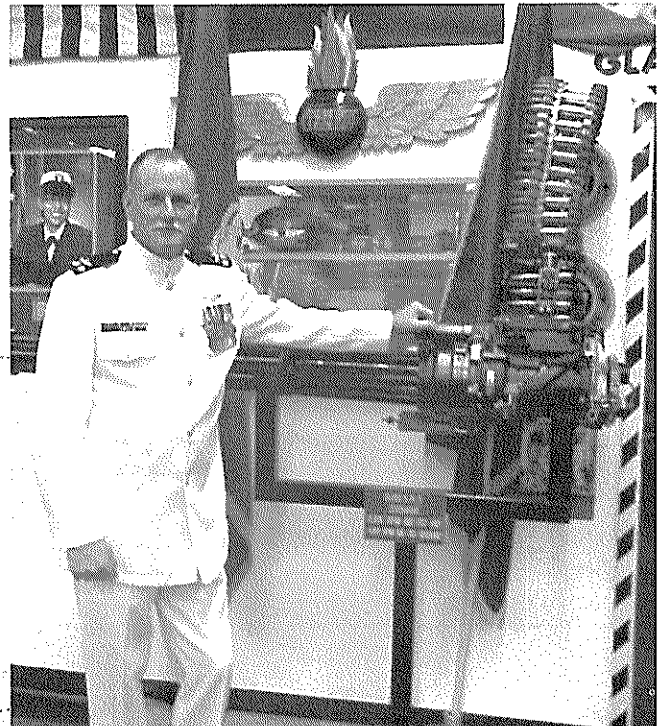
## Chapter 4

Greetings from Chapter 4!

It is with a heavy heart that we have to inform you that a fellow brother has passed. CWO4(Ret) Donny Ellis lost his fight with cancer on 03 May 2013. Donny retired in November of 2010 after 30 years of service encompassing 10 deployments to include both Persian Gulf wars. His duty stations were:

RTC SAN DIEGO (SEP 80-DEC 80)  
USS CONSTELLATION (CV 64) (DEC 80-NOV 82)  
USS CONSTELLATION BEACH DET (NOV 82-JAN 84)  
USS CONSTELLATION (JAN 84-OCT 84)  
HSL-43 (OCT 84-OCT 86)  
VF-124 (OCT 86-JAN87)  
VF-213 (FEB 87-OCT 92)  
NAMTRAGRU DET MIRAMAR (DEC 92-SEP 95)  
VF-211 (SEP 95-SEP 99)  
NAS NORFOLK (OCT 99-APR 02)  
VFA-83 (MAY 02-JAN 06)  
VFA-106 (JAN 06-JUL 08)  
VFA-37 (JUL08-APR09)  
STRKFIGHTWINGLANT (APR 09-NOV 10)

Many of you knew Donny and the impact he made on our Aviation Ordnance community. Donny was a true AO; a caring mentor and natural leader. He was a loving husband, son, brother, uncle, and stepfather.



(Continued on page 16)



(Continued from page 15)

Donny is survived by his high school sweetheart and wife of five years, Veronica Ann Ellis; his parents, Richard and Reny Ellis; 2 brothers, Rick Ellis and wife Monica, and Mike Ellis and wife Juli; 3 stepchildren, Justin, Daniel, and Mary; 2 nieces, Amanda and Becky, and 2 nephews, Michael and Andy.

Rest In Peace Gunner! IYAOYAS!

Chapter 4 has been busy since we were last published in the Red Shirt. We had our annual Red Rock Retreat in September 2012 and are currently planning our next retreat for 27-29 September 2013. We are also having our annual Summer Picnic at the NAS Oceana Front Gate Park on July 12, 2013. We hope to see everyone at both events! We have completed six highway cleanup projects and participated in "Save The Bay" Day supporting our local communities.

Over the past few months we have had several guest speakers at our monthly meetings. ESSOLANT presented a brief on the Shipboard Explosive Safety Inspection (SESI) process. Ron Jerasa (CWO4 Ret) presented an updated brief on USS Gerald R. Ford (CVN-78). J.W. Jones (CWO4 Ret), AIRLANT, presented a brief on current shipyard repairs and scheduled maintenance.

Congratulations to this year's LDO/CWO selects. Well done! Recognized below are our Chapter 4 members selected:

AOC Cremin (VFA-136)  
AOC Elliott (CVW-3)  
AOC Jimenez (VFA-213)  
AOC Slater (CVW-17)  
AOC Mendoza (VFA-143)

As we press into another great summer, we look forward to the return of CVN-69/CVW-7 and wish CVN-75/CVW-3 fair winds and following seas throughout their deployment. As most of you know, the Tidewater area keeps our fellow brothers and sisters very busy with workup and deployment schedules. We wish everyone the best of luck throughout the summer; wherever they may find themselves. Stay safe and enjoy the weather!

IYAOYAS!! From everyone at Chapter 4!

Submitted by:  
LT Mike Gaar  
Chapter 4 President

## Chapter 1

Hello from the USS Nimitz somewhere in the Pacific Ocean, and from the always sunny and beautiful Lemoore, CA. It has been awhile since I have last reported Chapter One news, and I am now currently Deployed and happy to report that Chapter One has been having a great year.

First I would like to congratulate our Gunner select's: AOC Rasberry, AOC Camp and AOC Jenkins, job well done! Another, congrats to Gunner Carlo on his commissioning ceremony, what an outstanding addition to the Mustang community. With every advancement we also have retirements, Chapter One would like to Thank AOCM Michael Jensen and CWO4 Thomas Decker (GUNZ) for the many years of service and sacrifices they have made. We appreciate you and wish you a Happy Retirement.

We just wrapped up our 2013 Relay for Life, and what a successful event that was. Thank you AO2 Chris Vancil for being the team captain for The Ordies and Outlaw team. We successfully raised a little over \$7,000 for the American Cancer Society earning us 2nd place, and once again Ms. Beverly Onken took home 1st place for individual fundraising. Thank you all for your great generosity and support on this wonderful fundraiser!

Next up we have our annual Adopt a Highway clean up on Highway 198, if anyone plans on being in the area hit up the old guys in FWST trailer in Lemoore, Rob Walecki or Tim Nanstiel. Another future item we will be doing our Annual 4th of July TNT firework sells 1-4 July at the Fleet Reserve in Lemoore. If you are in the area stop on by and show some Ordie Pride.

IYAOYAS

AO1 (AW) Laura Colby  
Currently Deployed USS Nimitz







**2013 CONVENTION RESERVATION APPLICATION**

**ADVANCE ORDER FORM**

**DEADLINE IS 20 July 2013**

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

- 1 Aug (Thu) Board of Directors Meeting \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Aug (Fri) AO of The Year Committee \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Aug (Fri) Scholarship Committee \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Aug (Fri) AAO Hall of Fame Committee \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Aug (Fri) Membership Committee \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Aug (Fri) By-Laws Committee \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Aug (Fri) Nominations Committee \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Aug (Sat) General Business Meeting \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Aug (Sun) Board of Directors Meeting \_\_\_\_\_

**AUXILIARY OF THE ASSOCIATION OF  
AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN**

- 1 Aug (Thu) Board of Directors Meeting \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Aug (Sat) General Business Meeting \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Aug (Sun) 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.

**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 20 JULY 2013. ORDERS & MONEY RECEIVED AFTER THIS DATE WILL BE RETURNED OR MUST HAVE LATE FEE'S INCLUDED.

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 20 Jul 13)  
Name of Member \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)
- 2. Non-Member \$40.00 (\$45.00 after 20 Jul 13)  
(Not including guest or spouse)  
Name of Non-Member \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)
- 3. Additional Guests (Spouse) 18 and over \$15.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Names of Guests \_\_\_\_\_  
(Spouse) (please print)

Advance Social & Awards Banquet ticket prices:

- Friday AAO Social \$30.00 each (\$35.00 after 20 Jul 13) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Sat Awards Banquet \$40.00 each (\$45.00 after 20 Jul 13) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Credit Card Fee \$10.00 (if applicable) Non-Refundable \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Total amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

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

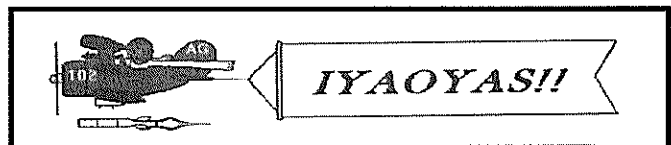
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

For credit card payees, if you want your transaction receipt sent to your e-mail address, please include it.

**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.**





## Chapter LHA-5 The Iron Nickel

USS PELELIU (LHA-5) Iron Nickel Chapter

Fellow Ordies!!!

Greetings from the Iron Nickel Chapter. It was great seeing the Iron Nickel Chapter's first article in REDSHIRT # 120!

The Iron Nickel Chapter elected new officers! They are as follows:

- AO1 (AW/SW) Lambert, John (President)
- AO2 (AW) Adams, Christopher (VP)
- AO3 (AW/SW) Guerrero, Carlos (Treasurer)
- AO3 (AW/SW) Loera, Alexander (Secretary).

Congratulations to the entire crew of USS PELELIU for finally completing an eight month deployment! The Ordies onboard have been working very hard to provide ammunition and support to the Marines of the 15th MEU while conducting operations in the Fifth and Seventh fleet Areas of Responsibility. However, there is always time for a little R&R in exotic ports like Thailand, Jordan, Jebel Ali, Hong Kong and Pearl Harbor, HI. While import Hawaii PELELIU was able to embark "Tigers" and participated in a very successful Tiger Cruise while enroute to homeport San Diego, Calif. During the Tiger Cruise Sailors and their Tigers had a chance to see ordnance and small arms on display, see Air Power Demonstrations and participate in everyday shipboard activities. Tigers also had a chance to view the capabilities of the Marine Helicopter AH1-Cobra as it fired Rockets and 20 mm rounds displaying its combat capabilities. Following the tiger cruise the PELELIU will be debarking the Marines and their vehicles off the coast of Camp Pendleton and return to homeport the following day, where fellow Ordies will be allowed to see and spend time with their loved ones.

On May 19 Ordies of the Iron Nickel Chapter will be participating in the annual Bay Bridge Run in Coronado, California, and will represent the chapter and PELELIU by holding a banner with the chapter's name. Shortly after it will be back to business and the Weapons Department will focused on preparing for the PELELIU's ammunition offload scheduled for mid July.

That's all for now, updates soon to follow! Keep working hard by the book with the book open, stay safe out there. IYAOYAS!!!!

## CHAPTER 671

Greetings from Guam Chapter 671,

We are pleased to announce our Chapter's 1 year anniversary. We are extremely grateful for the opportunity to establish a highly successful chapter in the Island of Guam and proudly show the Navy and the citizens of Guam what the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen is all about while continuing to expand our chapters throughout the world in traditional fashion.

Although our brothers from NAWMU-1 and HSC-25 had numerous chapter members deploy, we came together and served our community by coordinating several building rehabilitation projects, developed and purchased our very own flag, logo, coins and T-Shirts, raised funds to provide donations to various causes and the scholarship fund, provided our members with countless hours of professional guidance and ordnance safety training and even found the time to enjoy our first chapter picnic.

We would like to take the time to thank transferred plank owners AO1 Marlon Blackmon, AO2 Quindric Woods, AOC Chris Miller and LT. Matt Eaton for their hard work and dedication in the establishment of the chapter. We wish them the best of luck in their future assignments.

Today, Guam Chapter 671 stands 25 strong and are in discussions to expand by establishing an AAO Auxiliary and a Facebook page. 2013 will be our breakout year and we plan to elevate our community volunteer efforts such as beach clean up and local schools rehab projects, raise twice the funds to donate to worthy causes and scholarship funds, and host quarterly picnics for our chapter members and TAD/visiting chapter members.

As always, if you are in Guam either on leave, TAD or PCS, please contact Guam Chapter 671 president or Vice President at: 6

Hafa Adai!!!! V/r,  
AO1 Timothy Fennell, Chapter President







*(Continued from page 10)*

Our Guest speaker this year is charged and ready for the convention. I hope each of you will be there to hear him speak to us about current and future readiness. Here's your sneak peak:

Rear Admiral Mark D. Guadagnini Director, Maritime Headquarters, U.S. Fleet Forces Command.



I've rambled on enough! I'm looking forward to my first convention as President and would ask that you be gentle with me. I don't tell jokes nor have Dave's gift of gab, but I will do my best. So until then, stay safe and see you in a couple of months.

God Speed Friends and Families,  
Michael K Price  
AAO President

*(Continued from page 10)*

It's not too late to make plans to attend the convention. A lot of hard work went into the planning and execution so if possible; please plan on being there to support your Association. The Social and Awards Banquet are the "must attend" events of the year. Make your plans and reservations now and avoid the possibility of being unable to attend the Social and Awards Banquet.

If you need help with travel contact Point Loma World Travel at 800-783-8646.

Save yourself a few dollars and send in your advance order form for Registration, Social and Awards Banquet to our Treasurer, JJ LaMaitre at 9691 Bundy Drive, Santee, CA, 92071.

As always, get out and recruit a new member. Our membership numbers have gone down considerably. Thanks for your support.

Alan D. Dean  
Vice President AAO

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NOMINATION FOR THE ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION  
ORDNANCEMEN, NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

I'M PROUD TO NOMINATE DAVID LEAPARD, CAPT. U.S.N., RET FOR NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS, FOR THE ASSOCIATION OF ORDNANCEMEN. DAVE IS THE PAST PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION AND WAS VERY ACTIVE IN THAT POSITION FOR 12 YEARS AND HE KEPT THE ASSOCIATION VISABLE TO THE FLEET AND SENIOR NAVAL COMMANDS. HE HAS BEEN AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR A GREAT NUMBER OF YEARS. HE ADVANCED THROUGH THE ENLISTED RATE AND OFFICER RANK TO BECOME THE SENIOR LDO IN THE U.S.NAVY, BEFORE HIS RETIREMENT. HE HAS SERVED IN SQUADRONS, ABOARD SHIPS, SHORE COMMANDS, MAJOR STAFFS, AS A COMMANDING OFFICER, AND AS SENIOR LDO AVIATION ORDNANCE OFFICER. HE HAS SERVED ON SEVERAL COMMITTEES AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL AND WORKED WITH NUMEROUS COMMITTEES AT THE LOCAL CHAPTERS. HE HAS BEEN A CHAMPION OF THE ASSOCIATION WITH THE SENIOR NAVAL OFFICERS IN THE NAVY, AND SPEAKS ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION EVERY CHANCE THAT HE GETS. DAVE IS HIGHLY RESPECTED THROUGHOUT THE NAVY AND THE AVIATION ORDNANCE FIELD AND IF ELECTED TO THE NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS, HE WOULD CONTINUE TO BE A CREDIT TO THE ASSOCIATION, THE AVIATION ORDNANCE FIELD AND THE UNITED STATES NAVY.

DAVE HAS ACCEPTED THE NOMINATION FOR NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND SAID "IF ELECTED HE WOULD DO THE BEST HE CAN FOR THE ASSOCIATION AND IT'S MEMBERS". NOMINATION WAS ACCEPTED 18 JAN. 2013.

V/R  
CHARLES R. ONKEN



NOMINATION for Association of Aviation Ordnancemen  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS ICO TIMOTHY M. ZIMMER,  
AOCS(AW) (ret) LIFETIME MEMBER 5441

I am nominating Timothy M. Zimmer, AOCS(AW) (RET), Lifetime Member 5441, for the office of National Board of Director, Association of Aviation Ordnancemen. He has agreed to accept the nomination and abide by the requirements set forth in the Association By-Laws.

Tim came into the U.S. Navy in October of 1984 and advanced through the ranks, retiring in September of 2005. He is currently employed by NAWCWD as a logistician supporting PMA-201 Aircraft Armament Equipment at NAS North Island, continuing to provide support to the Ordnance community. During his career, he has served with distinction in various squadron platforms, Instructor/inspector, Naval Air Station, Carrier Air Wing and Type Wing.

Since becoming an Association member, he has served at the Chapter Level with Chapter 1, Lemoore CA (President, various committees) and Chapter 23, Patuxent River, MD, (Vice-President, Secretary, various committees). At the National Level, he has served on the John Finn Aviation Ordnanceman of the Year Committee. Tim's devotion to the Association and the Aviation Ordnance community is beyond reproach and is noticeable to every member both past and present. He is also active in community Veterans Organizations, previously serving as Post Secretary, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5562, Chairman of Board of Governors of the Fleet Reserve Association, Branch 261.

I have known Tim for over 20 years and he wants nothing but the best for this Association and will dedicate his efforts to that end.

NOTE: Tim's wife Teresa is the current President of the Auxiliary of the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen.

Respectfully,  
Robert S. Walecki, CWO4 (RET)  
Life Member 0948

NOMINATION for Association of Aviation Ordnancemen  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS ICO CDR Michael Gramolini

CDR Gramolini enlisted in the United States Navy in 1980. He was promoted to Chief Petty Officer in September 1992 and commissioned in January 1994 as a Limited Duty Officer. He is a Graduate of Phoenix University in Technical Management.

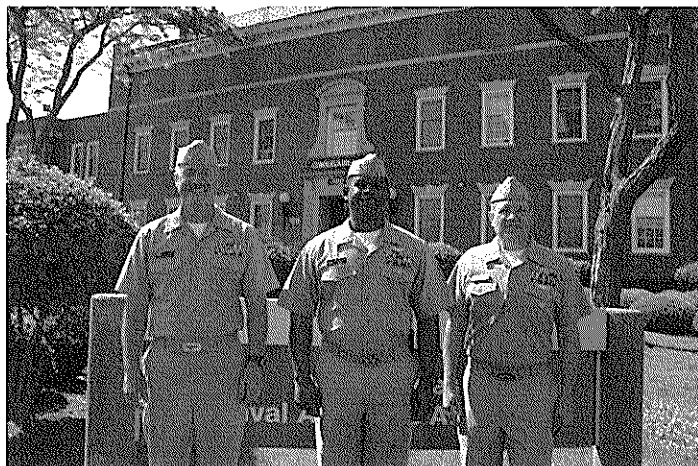
In November 2001, he proceeded to COMCARAIRWING 11

Staff as CAG Gunner. In August of 2003, he transferred to the USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN-74) as the Ordnance Handling Officer. LCDR Gramolini was responsible for the safe handling, movement, accountability and requisitioning of all ordnance and ammunition logistics onboard the USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN-74) and the Carrier Battle Group.

LCDR Gramolini was assigned to USSTRATCOM Joint Duty as Subject Matter Expert for Nuclear and Conventional munitions in support of joint forces.

LCDR Gramolini was then assigned to COMUSNAVCENT as Weapons Officer/ Planner/Logistics. As the Force Gunner, he was responsible for all Ammunition coming in and out of the Fifth Fleet AOR for Navy and Marine Corps assets. LCDR Gramolini worked with the U.S. Embassy and the Bahrain Government on expanding Magazine space for the U.S. and helped in the negotiation process of Foreign Military Sales with the SM1 and SM2 programs.

CDR Gramolini was then assigned to CNATTU Jacksonville where he completed his Executive Officer and Commanding Officer tour from October 2009 to July 2012. CDR Gramolini is presently assigned as the Chief Staff Officer at Navy Munitions Command, Yorktown, VA.



CAPT Bill Bindel, CAPT Mike Price, CAPT Al Dean



CAPT Bill Bindel, CAPT Al Dean, CAPT Bill Glenn (Ret), CAPT Mike Price,





## CHAPTER 9

This article finds Jacksonville drying out from 10 inches of rain over a three day period. It wasn't a hurricane but it wet the area like one. It certainly has been a different spring in northeast Florida.

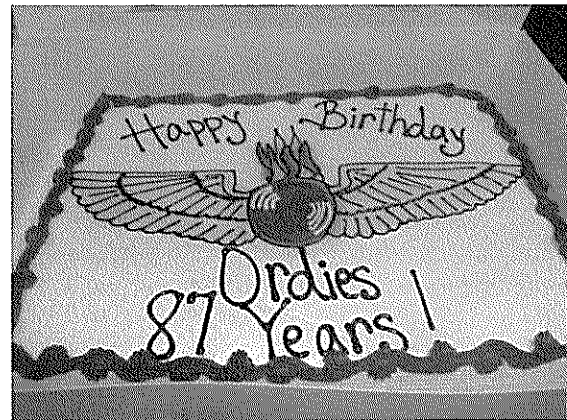
Chapter 9 wishes a happy birthday to the Aviation Ordnance Rate. Without it, what boring job would you be stuck in? We celebrated the occasion with a cake and great fellowship at our April meeting. This celebration is normally held in March following our quarterly FOD with a picnic afterward. But the rain squashed that celebration.

We said goodbye to another WW II vet, Ed Kniec, who joined the Navy in 1941 and was a shipmate of John Finn when Pearl Harbor was attacked. He was a faithful attendee along with Elbert Sawley who we lost late last year. These American heroes from "The Greatest Generation" are passing quickly. If you are blessed to know one of these heroes be sure to thank them for their service and sacrifices.

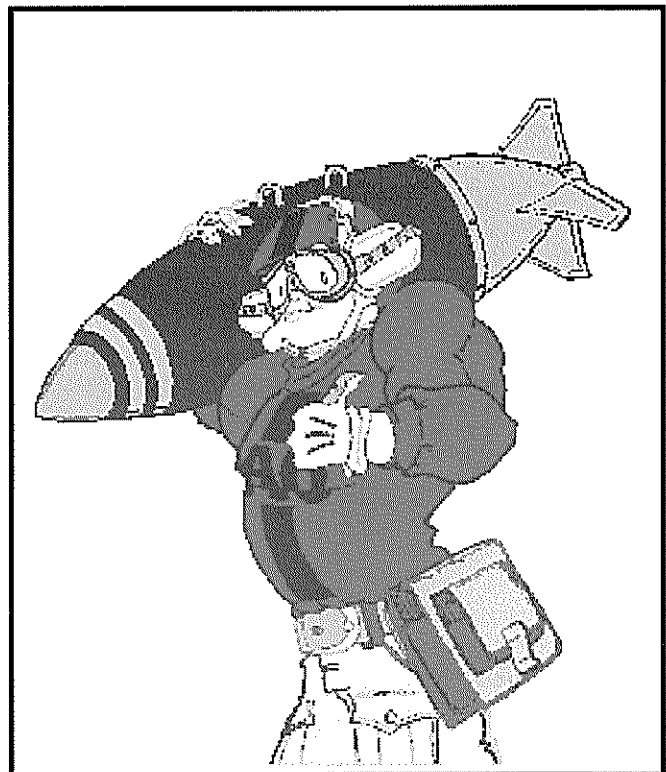
Thanks to all chapter members who volunteered in support of the Area 12 NJROTC Regional Championship Field Meet held April 2nd at the Jax Aviation Commerce Center (formerly Cecil Field). Sixteen NJROTC teams from Georgia and northeast Florida competed to see who the best of the best in their region was. If you think that patriotism and teamwork is lacking in today's youth, locate a JROTC field meet and see how military habits benefit high school students. This is why Chapter 9 has committed to recognizing the local units with leadership awards, rifle postal competitions, and supporting their local competitions. Some of these students may even be lucky enough to grow up to be AO's.

Congratulations to the newly elected Chapter officers; New President AO1 Jessica King, Vice President AO1 Taylor Porter (just returning from an arduous split deployment to Japan and Australia), we are glad you returned home safe, Secretary LT. Jeff Hall and the incoming Board of Directors. Thank you outgoing President LT. (ret) Jack Elrod for your excellent leadership of the Chapter over the past two years. We are looking forward to another successful year.

Recognition goes out to our AO of the Quarter for the 4th QTR of 2012; AO2 Alex Zima from NMC Jax, Former Chapter President Bobby Price and AOC Coach who are now Chief Warrant Officers.



CWO2/Ret. John Printy (oldest) and AOAN Demonte Orr, HSM-70 (youngest) making the first cut.





## Chapter 75

Greetings from USS HARRY S. TRUMAN CHAPTER 75!

We have been busy with work ups and preparing for a deployment which has been delayed due to the Sequestration. We are manned and ready when called upon and we thank the ships for providing that blanket of freedom for us overseas.

Our Chapter has come along way this past year and is continuing to grow. After we finished the house in Portsmouth, Virginia in support of Habitat for Humanity, we have partnered up with CHIP (Children's Health Initiative Program) in Chesapeake, Virginia. CHIP provides services for children, prenatal through age six, in the focus areas of health improvement, reduction of child abuse and neglect, and school readiness. Services include case management, home visitation, and parent support, education and referral. Their motto is "Healthy communities start with healthy children and every child have a healthy, loving start, so he or she enters school ready to learn and succeed."

Attached are pictures from when we assisted CHIP, moving furniture and getting set up for the hiring of more employees.

The Chesapeake Annual Duck Race took place on 27APR13 and Chapter 75 volunteered numerous hours to help get it organized and had a great time at the race cooking food, running games for kids, and dressing up as the CHIP Duck! A big thanks goes out to all the personnel that came out and made it possible - Gun Boss and family, Gunner Miller and family, Gunner Barba, Senior Talabong and family, AO1 Anderson, AO1 Nolan and family, AO2 Allen and family, AO3 Harris and family, AO3 Laroe, AO3 Fields, AO3 Barreto, AN Neild, AN Nichols, AN Zapor, and AN Minor. A special THANKS goes to EM2 Schenck, AO2 Contreras, AO3 Harris, and AO3 Barreto for taking turns wearing the Duck Costume! They were all good sports (even though it was about 120 degrees in the costume) and the kids had a blast.

CHIP recognized Chapter 75 for all their hard work and presented us with a plaque, thanking us for making the success of the Duck Race possible. They sold around 12,000 ducks and raised over \$70K for CHIP.

On a side note, we would like to congratulate our two new Third Class Petty Officers who were selected under the Command Advancement Program (CAP). CONGRATS AO3(AW) Brent Liberto and AO3(AW) Zytia Simmons! Gunner Rucker was promoted to CWO3, "Fair winds and Following Seas as

he is heading to CVN-77!" Also, fair winds and following seas to OHO Tom Brouwer who is retiring this summer!

And last but not least a BIG CONGRATS goes out to our newly advanced AO's from CVN-75, THE BEST WEPS DEPT on the water front!!!! Congrats to AO1 Thompson, AO1 Parker, AO2 Thomas, AO2 Barreto, AO2 Jenkins, AO2 Nicholas, AO3 Bohn, AO3 Buldakov, AO3 Davis, AO3 Franklin, AO3 Glanville, AO3 Godette, AO3 Heredia, AO3 Hoke, AO3 Lunsford, AO3 Neild, AO3 Nichols, AO3 Phillips, AO3 Riviere, AO3 Ronza, and AO3 Swartentruber. Fair winds and following seas to LCDR Brouwer and AO1 Tvydik who will be retiring this summer! Good luck to you both.

IYAOYAS  
Very Respectfully,

AO1(AW) Smith, Ryan M.  
USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75)  
Weapons Dept, G-4 Division LPO  
AAO Chapter 75 President  
smithrm@cvn75.navy.mil

*Hi Ryan,*

*Thank you again for all your support! We have some really good pictures of everyone as soon as I have the time I will send them to you.*

*We raised around seventy thousand for the duck race! We had about fifteen hundred people show up to the event, as you could see there was no way with just a staff on 26 people could get this event set up and work all the station. Without the USS Harry Truman AO's this would have been very hard for us to pull this off. We THANK each and every one of you for all that you do to help support CHIP!*

*Beth Warren*

*More pics on page 27  
Kevin*



**2013**



Plan to Attend

**AAO CONVENTION**  
**1 - 4 August**

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***Make Reservations By 7 July***

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For Convention Information, Call:

Jim Thomas

619/421-3991 or email: [plwt@cox.net](mailto:plwt@cox.net)



# 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.

AOC Kevin D. Imes USN Ret	AO3 Barney J. Morgan
AOCS Victor R. Almodovar	CWO4 Daniel Clough USN Ret
AOAN Robert S. Patterson	AO2 Christopher A. Reazer
AOAN Meagan D. Staggers	AOAN Sarah Martin
AOAN Michael L. Jamison	AO3 Alesha Stock
AO1 Santee L. Gipson	AO1 Tiffany N. McEntyre
Theresa L. Zalewski	AO2 Andrew R. Marton
AO1 Christopher L. Duff	TM2(SS) Jarrod L. Herdt
AO2 Donald F. Harris	AN Alejandro R. Torres
AO3 Jacob A. Steeb	CWO2 Byron R. Edelstein
AO1 Sean V. Lopez	James W. Turner
AOC Thomas J. Holzer USN Ret	CWO2 Byron R. Edelstein
AO2 Shakira C. Smalls	CWO3 William F. Pilkington USN Ret
AOC Dwayne A. McConnell	AO3 Cametria D. Tobias
AO2 Andrew F. Meier	AO2 Robert C. Rafalski
CWO2 Michael C. Miller	AO2 John N. Bush
AOAN Jesse C. Lanuevo	AOC Shane A. Pace
AO3 Antonio M. Villanueva	CWO3 Wesley C. Stephens USN Ret
AO1 John W. Snow USN Ret	LCDR John D. Moore
AOAN William M. Smith	NC1 Steven J. Mourey
AOC Travis R. Steele	AOAN Ricardo S. Socastro
AOC Justin Darnell	AO2 Donald F. Harris
AO2 Julian K. Hodges	AOAN Joseph R. Smith
AO1 Brian J. Garcia	

## SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTORS

AOCM William G. Foote USN Ret  
 CWO4 Gary & Carol Lutz USN Ret  
 MGYSGT William & Jackie Rice USMC Ret  
 J. Ronald & Sue Brown  
 AO2 Jaime & Lillybeth Rodriguez USN Ret  
 AOC Angela Sobieski  
 AMH1 Pete and Joan Ronbeck USN Ret  
 AOCS Johnny & Ann Oates USN Ret  
 CWO2 Carl & Sandra Fargon USN Ret  
 CWO4 Thomas K. Williams USN Ret  
 AOC Delbert & Judith Mitchell  
 Richard J. Peipert Jr.  
 Mary K. Feldman  
 AOC Nash & Marlys Flores USN Ret  
 AOC Jeffery & Beverly Shaw  
 AO2 Catherine G. Carney  
 LCDR John & Lydia Buckley USN Ret  
 LCDR Jason & Julie Parmley  
 Bruce Kaiser  
 Dennis Klazewski  
 AOCM William & Rosanna McCracken USN Ret

## IN MEMORIAM CONTRIBUTIONS

Doris From - In loving memory of CWO3 Roy A. From USN Ret

## ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION OFFICERS



*President (2005-2014)*  
 o Edward C. Scott  
 35 Palmyra Lane, Palm Coast, FL 32164  
 Cell (386) 445-0968/ Home (386) 405-6940  
[egunner@att.net](mailto:egunner@att.net)

*Vice President (2010-2013)*  
 Steve Cashat  
 1260 Paradise Pond Rd  
 St Augustine, FL 32092  
 (904) 940-0890  
[gummerc@bellsouth.net](mailto:gummerc@bellsouth.net)

*Secretary/Treasurer (2010-2014)*  
 o Kevin Meagher  
 21 Wedgewood Lane NE  
 Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547  
 (850) 499-0024 (H)  
 (850) 883-0187  
[valions15@cox.net](mailto:valions15@cox.net)  
[Kevin.meagher@eglin.af.mil](mailto:Kevin.meagher@eglin.af.mil)

*Board of Director (2012-2015)*  
 o Dennis W. Patterson  
 8668 Marlee Rd.  
 Jacksonville, FL  
 (904) 778-3618 (H)  
[Ordie173@aol.com](mailto:Ordie173@aol.com)/ [dennis.w.patterson@navy.mil](mailto:dennis.w.patterson@navy.mil)

*Board of Director (2005-2013)*  
 o Shamon N. Mullins- Auxiliary  
 11620 Amos St  
 Eads, TN 38028  
 (252) 567-1732 (Cell)  
[shammullins@gmail.com](mailto:shammullins@gmail.com)

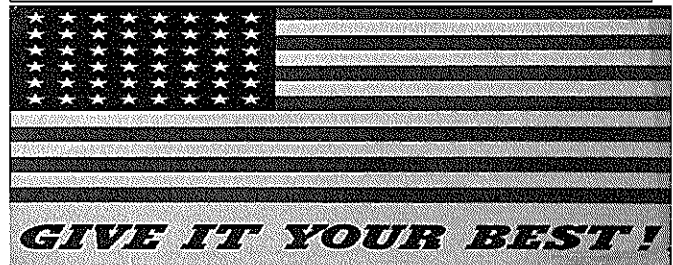
*Board of Director (2005-2013)*  
 o Larry Cowell  
 77 Shenandoah Drive  
 Davisville, W. V. 26142  
 (304) 485-1558  
[Larry\\_cowell@hotmail.com](mailto:Larry_cowell@hotmail.com)

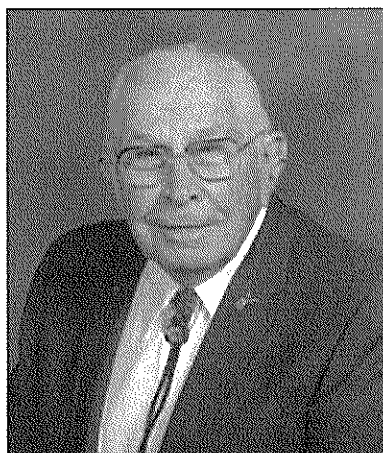
*Board of Director (2005-2014)*  
 o David Moore  
 525 Ash St  
 Lemoore, CA 93245  
 Cell (559) 381-1977  
[moored@inreach.com](mailto:moored@inreach.com)

*Scholarship Committee Chairman*  
 Rick Garza  
 P.O. Box 1064  
 Lusby, MD 20657  
 (703) 863-8740 (Cell)  
[rick\\_garza@navy.mil](mailto:rick_garza@navy.mil)  
[rgarza238@verizon.net](mailto:rgarza238@verizon.net)

*Foundation Bylaws Committee Chairman*  
 Kirk Brado  
 478 Alhview Ct  
 Chula Vista, CA 91910  
 (619) 656-1268  
[Kirk.brado@navy.mil](mailto:Kirk.brado@navy.mil)

*Reconciliation Reviewer*  
 Karen Kumlackey  
 487 Seafoam Rd.  
 Houston, TX 77058  
 (281) 910-5151 (cell)  
[kumlackey@gmail.com](mailto:kumlackey@gmail.com)





William A. Kamm, 105, of Atwood, IL, passed away at 12:15 a.m., Tuesday, February 26, 2013 at the Arthur Home, Arthur, IL

Funeral Services will be held at 2:00 p.m., Friday, March 1, 2013 at the Hilligoss Shrader Funeral Home, 66 East US Highway 36, Atwood, IL, with Rev. Michael Drake officiating. Visitation will be held 1 hour

prior to the services at the funeral home. Burial with military graveside rites accorded will be in the Mackville Cemetery, Atwood, IL.

Bill was born on December 11, 1907 in Atwood, IL, the son of John Adam and Maude Shonkwiler Kamm. He married Pearl A. Woolverton on August 15, 1928. She preceded him in death on February 29, 2000.

Survivors include many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, 3 brothers and 1 sister.

Memorials are suggested to the United Church of Atwood.

Bill was a retired US Postal Service rural letter carrier. He was a member of the United Church of Atwood, James Reeder American Legion Post #770, Rural Letter Carriers Association, Arizona Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame, 700 Bowling Club of America and the Association of Aviation Ordnance-men.

Bill served his country as a member of the US Navy during World War II.

He enjoyed reading, bowling and spending time with his friends and extended family members.

Online condolences to the family may be shared via hilligossshraderfh.com

### NEW MEMBERS

AOAR Jacqueline R. Munos  
AO2 Alex Zima  
AO2 Renee L. Duhaime  
AO1 Jason D. McFarlin  
AOAN Matthew Guppy  
AOC Geoffrey W. Marshall  
AO1 Raymond T. Scott  
AOAN William M. Smith  
AO1 Scott P. Kramer  
AOC Richard Carey  
AO1 Christi J. Streeter  
AOCS Feagaiga V. Tuismatatele  
AOAN Jonathan P. Rodriguez

Frederick P. Simpson  
AO2 Michael R. Turner  
AO1 Melinda J. Ambers  
AO1 Johnny T. Ledesma  
AO1 Cornelius M. Deary  
AO1 Ralph P. Ornelas  
ADC Daniel C. Singer  
AO1 Thomas R. Wright  
AO3 Amanda Bower  
AO1 Joshua I. Casey  
AO2 Joshua R. Deghetto  
AOAN Seth M. Wiley  
AO3 Nicholas W. Brannan



## TAPS

AO2 Robert A. Swanke WW2 veteran  
AOCS Earl D. DuShane USN Ret  
AO1 Roy T. Pevehouse USN Ret\*  
AOM1 Bill Kamm (WWII Vet)  
AO1 Jerald Rooks USN Ret\*  
AOC Stanley Valonis USN Ret\*  
LCDR A. Douglas Weaver Ret USN Plankowner  
AOMT1 Arthur Furtado USN Ret\*  
AOC Wayne D. Preman USN Ret\*  
AOC Pete Wahoo Preston USN Ret\*  
AOC Donald C. Gardner USN Ret  
CWO4 Donald W. Ellis USN Ret

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

## On The Cover

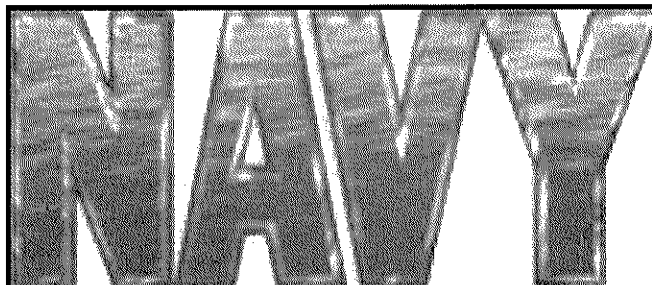
CHAPTER 75, EM2 Schenck, AO2 Contreras, AO3 Harris, and AO3 Barreto taking turns wearing the Duck Costume! Supporting The Chesapeake Annual Duck Race

## Backpage

Peyton Manning throwing passes on board USS John Stennis CVN-74

### NEW LIFE MEMBERS

AOCS Nikki S. Williams  
AOCS Heidi Martin  
AO2 William L. Hudson  
AOC Nash J. Flores USN Ret  
AOC Johnny L. Williams USNRet  
Michael W. Brown  
AOC William D. Gamblin USN Ret





## AUXILIARY LUNCHEON – Saturday, August 3

Please join us for a Deli Luncheon following our General Business Meeting. The luncheon will begin at 11:30 am in Silver Baron B. The cost is \$18 for Auxiliary members and \$21 for guests. Everyone is invited.

Teresa Zimmer, our Auxiliary President, will be talking about the Navy Exchanges and their policies in order to compete with the civilian retailers. It should be very informative.

Please contact Carolyn Thomas @ carolynthomas01@cox.net if you plan to attend. You can pay at the convention. Final numbers have to be turned into the hotel by noon Friday, 8/3.

Hope to see you there!

### AAO ABSENTEE BALLOT 2013 DO NOT SUBMIT IF ATTENDING CONVENTION

Board of Directors  
(Pick 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choice  
By placing Number 1 or  
2.beside.name)

David Lepard, CAPT, USN/RET  
Tim Zimmer, AOCS, USN/RET  
Michael Gramolini, CDR USN

Note: vote for only two (2) Board of Directors

**FOR BALLOT TO BE ACCEPTED ALL INFORMATION IN BOX BELOW IS REQUIRED.**

Print your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Membership NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Members Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**PLACE COMPLETED BALLOT IN ENVELOPE**  
**MAIL ENVELOPE TO ADDRESS BELOW**

MAIL TO

AAO NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN  
20812 Flour Mill Court  
Great Mills, MD 20634

**NOTE: Ballots must be received by the committee chairman not later  
than 20 JULY 2013**



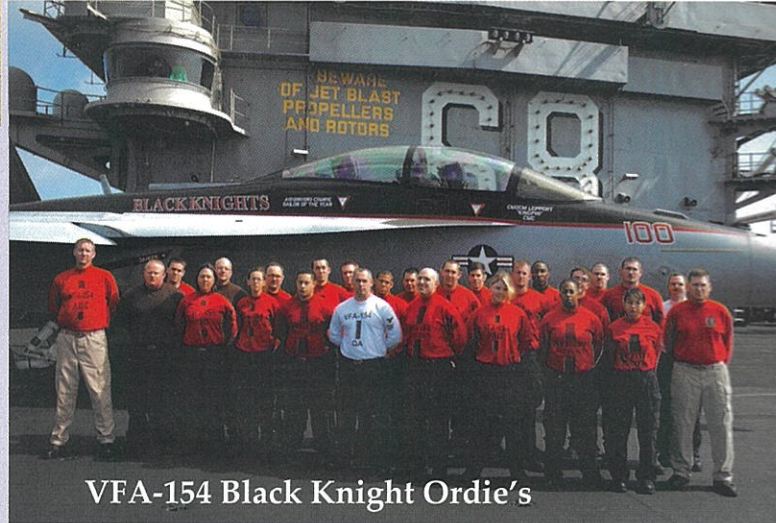
China Lake Chapter 5 AAOs  
 FOD Walkdown  
 17 Nov 2012  
 Lacy Paulsen  
 Greg Paulsen  
 Patrick Zawchenuk  
 Sheryl Scanlon  
 Jake Scanlon



28 February 2013 ~ Chapter 5,  
 China Lake, CA ~ AAO Meeting



CHAPTER 75



VFA-154 Black Knight Ordie's



CHAPTER 75



VFA-154 & G-1



CHAPTER 75



LT Carlos Chairez



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