



THE RED SHIRT



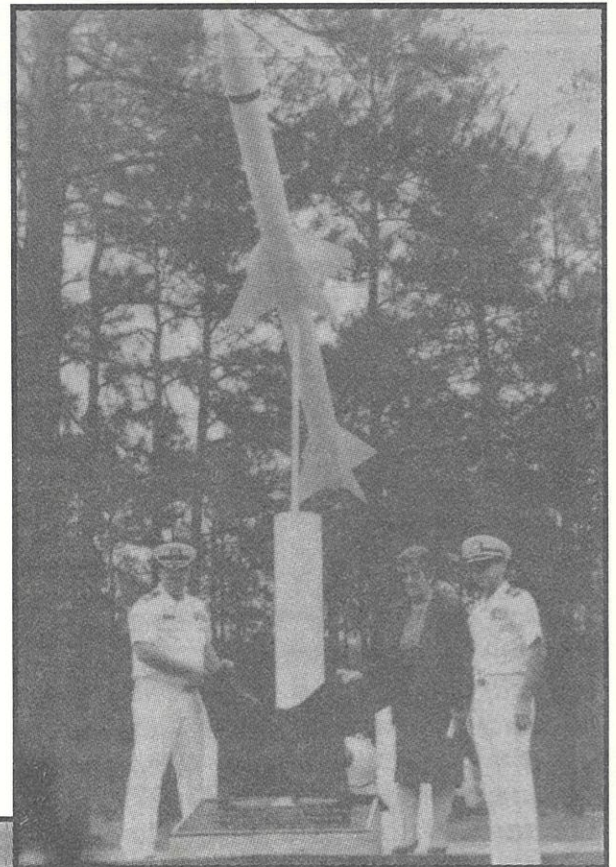
PEACE THROUGH POWER - WE ARE THE "ARMS" OF THE FLEET

Newsletter No. 47

November 1992

Aviation Ordnance Memorial Dedicated

The memorial, erected on Heritage Row at NAS Cecil Field, FL was dedicated on September 27, 1992, in memory of CDR J.J. Hendricks, a retired Aviation Ordnance Limited Duty Officer and former Cecil Field Weapons Officer. CDR Gary Laun was the Master of Ceremonies and CAPT (sel) Ron Curry, the guest speaker, spoke to the audience of approximately 150 on the life and career of CDR 'Jud' Hendricks. CDR Hendricks was instrumental in the development of the first bomb assembly table for rapid assembly of munitions. He also orchestrated the first fully operational evaluation of the Improved Rapid Rearming System during combat operations in the Vietnam War. It is often said that he wrote "the book" for evaluation of ordnance stowage and handling procedures for aircraft carrier weapons operations. The memorial plaque is overlooked by an AGM-45 Shrike missile and Walleye Guided Weapon and is flanked by 2 MK 82 SNAKEYE general purpose bombs. This memorial is the result of



the hard work and efforts of the NAS Cecil Field Weapons Department, Seabees, Strike-Fighter Weapons School Atlantic and Chapter 9 of The Association of Aviation Ordnancemen.

CDR Gary Laun (left in the photo above), Mrs. Lee Hendricks and CDR Floyd English unveiled the plaque.

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN

President

CDR Garry Laun
2726 - Bottom Ridge Drive
Orange Park, FL 32073
Hm (904) 276 - 4981
Wk (904) 778 - 5535

Address Corrections to

Secretary/Treasurer

Gerald F. Gannon
1245 - Cunningham Ave
St. Charles, MO 63301
(314) 946 - 0503

Newsletter Editor

Jeff Sassone
41442 - Avenida De La Reina
Temecula, CA 92592
Hm (909) 676 - 6242
Wk (619) 545 - 2777

From the President

The months of September and October have been very busy and visible ones for The Association. In September the CDR "Jud" Hendricks Aviation Ordnance Memorial was dedicated on Heritage Row at NAS Cecil Field, FL. Jud's wife, Lee, and family members were present for an emotional ceremony in his honor. The guest speakers were our first Captain (select) Ron Curry from NAVAIR and CDR (RET) Tommy Brown. I would like to express my appreciation and thanks to NAS Cecil Field Weapons Department, Public Works Department, Chapter 9 of The Association, and Gunners: Frank Collins, Bob Wildrmuth and Lee Gyron for making this event possible.

During the month of October, I had the pleasure of making presentations to our 1992 John W. Finn Aviation Ordnanceman of the Year, AO1(AW) Scott Palumbo aboard USS Nimitz and AO1(AW) John Boyle aboard the "Tip of the Tail" USS Abraham Lincoln. It's always a pleasure to present the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen Plaque and Navy Achievement Medals to the best "Ordies" of the Year. They were selected by a board with 374 years of active duty and retired, Navy and Marine Corps, Enlisted and Officer experience under the able leadership of LCDR (RET) Digger O'Dell.

Talking to some of our Chapters and Ordies around the fleet and on both coasts, I find that many of our AOs Do Not have a good understanding of just what The Association is, what it does and what we stand for. We need to establish goals for ourselves and our chapters. Our By-Laws explain our charter, goals and organization. Get the word out that we are a CNO recognized Professional organization and ALL Aviation Ordnancemen are strongly encouraged to join.

Since our last newsletter, much of our senior leadership has retired and we will miss them here in the trenches, However, their example and teaching will carry us into the future. I would like to express a sincere "Fair Winds and Following Seas" to a select few of our very best: CDR Del OAKES, CDR John OLSEN and CDR Tommy BROWN.

In closing, I received a letter package from the

estate of our past Secretary/Treasurer that contained membership applications, dues, letters and items that our new Secretary/Treasurer and I have been looking for because our new members were not getting their new membership cards. If you were one of those persons, we are now catching up on the mail. Due to the circumstances that were beyond our control, I would like to apologize for the delay and Thank You for your patience and understanding. Keep Stroking!

Gary Laun
President

From the Desk of the Secretary/Treasurer

Some members of The Association have been wondering why it has taken so long to receive a response to their letters, or Chapter requests for information, receipt of membership cards for both new members and members who are renewing their annual memberships, plus a myriad of other types of requests for information.

I would like to take this opportunity to provide an explanation for some of the reasons for the delay.

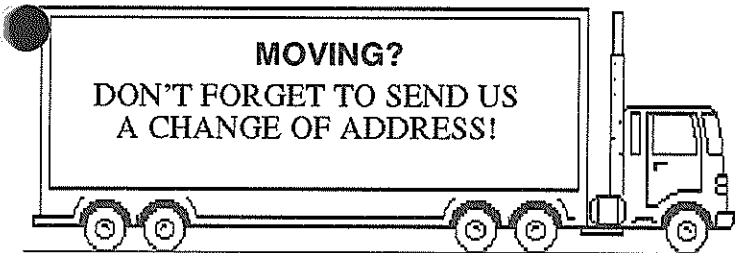
Because of the demise of The Associations previous Secretary/Treasurer it took some time to get The Association's correspondence straightened out. But finally a letter from our President to the Postmaster General in Panama City, Florida seemed to resolve this obstacle and I began receiving The Associations mail. However, as we found out later, the problem was not completely resolved. I still was not receiving all of the mail. Some mail was being held by the law firm which was handling the estate of Bob Asworth, consequently a large quantity of mail including checks, requests for information, scholarship applications etc., were not being delivered. There did not seem to be any rhyme or reason to what mail was forwarded and what was sent to the law firm. We now have the vehicles in place at both the Post Office and the law firm to ensure that any Association mail sent to Panama City, FL will now be sent directly to me. I apologize for any inconvenience this might have caused you. Kathy and I are now back on line and are able to respond to your future requests and to process membership applications in a more timely manner.

This tangle has pointed out once again the importance of making payments by check or money order only. This gives you and myself an audit trail to resolve issues regarding your dues payments, purchasing tickets or Association memorabilia.

New business, I am expecting to hear by the end of 1992 that the registration of the Associations trademark will have been completed. This has been a much longer than anticipated endeavor and I for one will be glad to have it behind us.

Letters, Membership Cards and Newsletters mailing address changes continue to be our biggest problem. Chapter Presidents and Secretary/Treasurers please take the time to notify either myself or the Newsletter Editor when one of your members is transferring. As always, request that all members please take the time to look at the listing of members whose addresses are unknown and provide an update if you can. Notify me or the Newsletter Editor. Both of our addresses are on the front of this newsletter.

Gerald F. Gannon
Secretary/Treasurer



Scholarship News



The Robert Crow Memorial Scholarship Committee was faced with stiff competition for awarding this years three scholarships. We received a total of 15 applications. While this is fewer than we would like, it was still tough picking the winners. To those winners, (Ren'ee D. Richards, Kelly E. Porter, and James C. Edge) CONGRATULATIONS! To those who were not awarded a scholarship keep trying, do not be disappointed, keep up the good work and get your application ready now for next year.

There are two application forms that are being used, we need to get standardized and use only one form. The new form has information arranged in blocks. If you do not have this form please contact your local chapter, write the

national secretary treasure or the newsletter editor for a copy. Some of the applications look as if they were prepared in a hurry and many spaces were left blank. Remember you are trying to convince a committee to award you a scholarship over all other applicants. Their decision is made from the information provided by you - ensure you application is complete! Every line which asks for information must be filled in. Ensure sponsor information is complete. For any information which may not be clear, write a note and explain.

I would like to thank those who served on the committee with me. More will follow in the next Red Shirt. Get started with those applications. Let's get 30 next year.

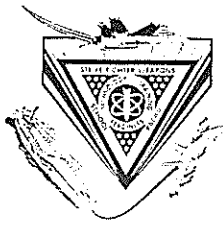
Floyd English
Scholarship Committee Chairman

Thank You!

The Association has received good support from it's membership for the "Robert L. Crow Scholarship Fund". The scholarship fund was established to assist dependents of a member of The Association, dependents of deceased Aviation Ordnancemen of the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps, dependents of Associate members of The Association and immediate family of an active or associate member of The Association.

The Association of Aviation Ordnancemen wishes to express their appreciation for the generosity of the members who have contributed to the "Robert L. Crow Scholarship Fund" the past two quarters:

Betty Crow	Tomas Rangel
Chapter 8	Chapter 3
John Finn	Chapter 21
Chapter 1	Chapter 9
Chapter 72	Auxiliary
Chapter 22	George Adams
Mark Sawyer	Robert Ramsey
Edward McKinnon	Dennis Fitzgerald
Frederick Neslon	Donald Sanders
John Williams	Ronald Mills
Jessie Allen	Ernest Osborn
Rob Horning	Allev V. Smith
Patricia Tracy	William H. Weidenheimer
Steven D. Davenport	Edward L. Burwell Jr
George W. Lindsay	Irvin Koniak
James Ausman	James R. Guss
Edwin R. Faraday	Dorothy Eckard
Lonny J. Svenson	Anna M. Peralta
Larry K. Bryant	Micky C. Schindwien
Robert L. Tyson	



Chapter 1 Lemoore, CA OUTLAW ROUND-UP

From the cornerstone of the NAS Lemoore ordnance world, Strike Fighter Weapons School Pacific (OUTLAWS). For those who do not know us very well, Strike Fighter Weapons School was commissioned on October 15, 1973, by COM-LATWINGPAC as Light Attack Weapons School Pacific. It was re-designated as Strike Fighter Weapons School Pacific (SFWSWP) on July 1st, 1989.

The mission of SFWSWP is to provide standardized fleet readiness training through curriculum covering weapons loading and weapons system employment by strike fighter squadrons. Twenty two weapons oriented courses for strike fighter squadrons are taught on a continuing basis to fleet squadrons, reserve squadrons and naval air stations. The amount of ordnance loaded in courses taught at SFWSWP total over two and one-half million pounds annually. Each year approximately two thousand students complete training through this school. The SFWSWP mission continues to be critically tied to increasing the combat readiness of strike fighter squadrons on the west coast.

Now that you know our command history, we can catch you up on current events.

Welcome aboard to our new gunner, Lt. John Szatko from VA-95. Farewell to our departing gunner, Lt. Wayne Brovelli. Good luck at CAG-7. You will make an outstanding CAG gunner. We are also having a commissioning ceremony of AOC Brad Schwake to the rank of Ensign as an ordnance LDO. This will take place December 1st at 10 O'clock, SFWSWP bldg. 004, NAS Lemoore, CA.

Remember SFWSWP is here for you guys. If we can help with anything at all give us a call at (209) 998-1160 or AV 949-1160.

Chapter one helped out with the State wide clean-up September 19th walking FOD alongside the highway. So far our aluminum can recycling

effort has brought in a little over twenty bucks. Our next highway FOD walkdown is 19 December, 10 O'clock, at the NASL main gate.

The first AAO Calendar drawing for 1993 Calendars will be on 16 December for the month of January '93. This date is dried in cement. Nothing will change it, including if hell freezes over. So be sure to get your calendars sold and stubs sent in time to make the first drawing. And please, if you have calendars that are sitting around not being sold, send them back to Chapter one so we can give them to people who want to buy them. I know everyone remembers that BIG AO Master Chief who retired not so long ago and found a crab job down at Naval Weapons Center, China Lake, CA.. You know, the one with a size 14 boot and arms comparable with those found on 500 pound gorilla's. Bill Overby. Bill has gone above and beyond (as he always has) in promoting the sales of AAO calendars. We sent 200 and he called saying that wouldn't be enough. THANKS FOR YOUR OUTSTANDING SUPPORT BILL. You have done one hell of a job.

Had a Halloween party on the 24th of October. Several couples came dressed up in some pretty hilarious costumes all bidding for the best dressed couple prize. The winners were Dave and Connie Moore dressed as a priest and a pregnant nun. (Dave was the priest). Pulling a close second was Lewis and Jamie Lachney dressed as a caveman and cavewoman. (They might have won if Lewis wore a costume!)

The ordies of Strike Fighter Wing Pacific, welcomes aboard AOC (AW) John Dawson and his wife Josie to Wing Ordnance code 74. John is coming from VFA-27 with 9 years of FA-18 experience behind him.

SOMETHING NEW...

Deployable Flight Incident Recorder Set (DFIRS) is a new aircraft explosive system found in Lot 14 and above block 289 and above on FA-18 C and D aircraft. It is designed to explosively deploy the flight incident recorder in the event of a mishap. It consist of 16 Thin Layer Explosive (TLX) lines, an impact initiator, under-water activated initiator and a flexible linear shaped charge (FLSC) attached to door 63L atop the aircraft. Personnel must be ordnance certified to handle, install and store this system. Something to get smart on.

Our meetings at the fleet still draw members who remain dedicated to the purpose of this Association. Something new at our meetings of professional curriculums covering a wide range of need-to-know ordnance related items. October was Lithium Battery hazards. November is DFIRS. A bunch of good information for red shirts working in a steadily advancing profession.

The 51st space shuttle mission being flown by the Columbia was launched the 20th of October for a 10 day flight. Shuttle pilot Michael Baker carried an Association patch with him. This piece of memorabilia will be framed and donated to the AO museum in Millington, TN time and date TBA.

Welcome aboard to the VFA-137 Kestral ordnance shop. They were greeted with a pot-luck at the NAWC trailer hosted by CSFWP, SFWSP, NAS Weapons, AIMD ordnance and their sister squadron VFA-151. The Kestrals came from Cecil Field to join 151 as they make preparations to join CAG 2 aboard the Ranger. Welcome aboard ordies.

This doesn't even come close to covering it all but my brain just went on pause. Until next edition, later on.

Bill Scoggin
President Chapter 1

Chapter 3 Whidbey Island, WA

Chapter 3's September elections are over. The results were unanimous:

President - Bob Sage

Vice-President - Mark Kolwyck

Secretary - George Guenther

Treasurer - Randy Nollan

A big thanks goes out to the departing Chapter 3 officers, Don Richardson, Bill Reynolds and John Desormeaux for a very successful year with lots of community involvement.

This years Thanksgiving food drive is underway, followed by our annual Christmas party scheduled for December 17, 1992.

We would like to express our deep regret in the untimely death of Richard Ferguson, AOC (RET). He was a very active member of Chapter

3 and the Boy Scouts of America. The Chapter has named the Chapter's Scholarship Fund "The Richard Ferguson Memorial Scholarship Fund" in his honor. Until the next Red Shirt.

George Guenther
Secretary Chapter 3

Chapter 4 Tidewater, VA

Greeting again to all fellow Aviation Ordnance-men. Since the last newsletter Chapter 4 has been quite active in community work, formal ceremonies and social events.

On 5 OCT 92, AOC Mike Snider was commissioned to CWO2 at NAS Oceana, VA in VA-36's ready room. The 'new' Gunner is going to USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71) as the Air Gunner. Congratulations and the best to you.

A well done to two other Chapter 4 Gunners who were recently selected to CWO4. They are 'HL' Allison, VA-36 and 'Moose' Kimbrell, VA-42.

On 16 SEP 92, Chapter 4 was privileged to hold a re-enlistment during the meeting. AO2 Larry Henry was given the oath of enlistment by our President, Don Howard LCDR (RET). Congratulations to Petty Officer Henry for continuing to serve his country and the U.S. Navy. AO2 Henry was attached to NAS Oceana AIMD and has received orders to VF-45 at NAS Key West, FL.

Recently the USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67) sailed from pier 12 to relieve the USS Saratoga (CV-60) on an extended deployment to the 6th Fleet. We have a lot of Chapter 4 members on the 'Big John' and CVW-3 (her embarked airwing). Best wishes for a safe and incident free cruise. Around 6 NOV 92, we will extend a welcome home to the Ordies of VA-35, VF-74 and VF-103 as they are part of CVW-17 embarked on SARA.

The recently commissioned USS George Washington (CVN-73) returned to NORVA. This was after a very successful six week shakedown cruise. CVW-7 is embarked on 'GW' with VA-34, VF-142 and VF-143 from NAS Oceana. The ship must of had an outstanding port visit to FT Lauderdale, FL as gunner Bill Bindel, VA-34 Ordnance, had to call his roomy, AOCS Paul Hamann to send him more money and blank checks.

On 16, 17 and 18 October, Chapter 4 had a camp out weekend at Camp Seneca, near the North Carolina line. Dawn Seely-Crosby fabricated a 4'x4' sign painted red (of course) with a big black AO emblem on it and appropriately titled in big letters as "Red Shirt Ranch", everybody in attendance signed it. It was a chilly Virginia October weekend and the wind whipping off of Back Bay made it worse, however, it was an enjoyable weekend. Everybody was a Davey Crockett, Kit Carson and Jim Bridger, but the 'Mother of the Rock', Mrs Gerry Snock kept the 'den' in order. A well done to head chefs Tom William CWO4 (RET) and Stevie Marcel, a civilian but ardent supporter of our chapter. We had a great time sitting around the campfire talking ordnance and sea stories as Don Howard presided, wearing Bermuda shorts. How did he do that?

At our Oct 21 meeting we kicked off our 3rd annual holidays food drive, for needy Navy families. Our last two yearly drives were extremely successful and we encourage all Ordies in the Tidewater area to get involved to make this Thanksgiving and Christmas the best yet for financially strained Shipmates. Bob Borges AOCS (RET) from MATWING ONE is the coordinator and his keymen are: CDR Mel Swartz AIRLANT, AOCS Mike Jarret NAS Oceana Weapons and AOC Mike Braddy VF-101. The above keymen and locations are drop-off points for non-perishable food items, cash and gift certificates. Thanks for volunteering guys!

Chapter 4's last scheduled highway clean-up (4 per year) is on 31 OCT. We really have made a noticeable impact on our one and a half mile section of London Bridge Road. A big thanks to the many members who have given up their Saturday mornings to aid in the 'FOD' walk-downs, as the participation was outstanding. The sad thing though is, as we ordies in our cute little Day-glo safety vests are picking up litter, people going by at 55 MPH are still tossing stuff out of their vehicles!

At our last meeting, Rick Walters CWO4 (RET) attended and joined Chapter 4. He was in the states on a vacation from Kuwait, working for Kay Associates (F-18) in Kuwait. He stated there are a lot of Ordies working contracts there. Rick wanted information on forming a Chapter in Kuwait, but because of rapid turnovers of person-

nel our President, Don Howard, recommended they become part of Chapter 4. This was to prevent them from going defunct without a stable nucleus of key officers and board of directors. So we are looking forward to working with our fellow Ordies in the Desert. It again demonstrates just how much interest there is worldwide in the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen and what a tight knit group of professionals we are.

Recent retirements of Chapter 4 members:

- In August AOCS Bob Peterman retired, the Master Chief's last tour was as LCPO of NAS Oceana Weapons Department. He made a major difference in Ordnance professionalism throughout his career. He is going to be a farmer in Kansas and we hate to see him leave the Tidewater area, as he was an active member in the Chapter.

- In September CDR Del Oakes retired, his last tour was at the Naval Safety Center, NAS Norfolk. The Commander's steadfast diligence and ethical leadership values throughout his long and illustrious career have laid a solid foundation for today's Aviation Ordnancemen. He is of the 'Old Breed' and through his countless endeavors, the Aviation Ordnance community gained immense respect throughout the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps. Fortunately for our community and chapter Del is making his home in Tidewater and is very, very active in Chapter 4 events.

- LT Oscar 'Robbie' Robinson retired at AIRLANT and during his last tour he was the Force OHO. CDR Mel Swartz, Force Weapons Officer, gave 'Robbie' a lasting tribute during his dynamic narrative of the Lieutenant's accomplishments and dedicated service. Of particular note, through 'Robbie's' knowledge and untiring efforts that 4 AIRLANT CV/CVN's and their Airwings were topped off/loaded out, Ordnance wise, on extremely short notice. The combat effectiveness of our carriers was demonstrated many times during the Air War against Iraq.

Chapter 4 meetings are on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 1900. We meet at the VFW Post 392, off London Bridge Road in Virginia Beach. Our new Vice-President, AOCS Paul Hamann, sez get out, join and support the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen and Chapter 4.

Stu Carson
Secretary/Treasurer Chapter 4

Chapter 8 San Diego, CA

Hello from Chapter 8. We hope this edition of The Red Shirt finds all Association members healthy and happy.

The USS Kitty Hawk deployed on November 3rd, leaving the carrier pier at North Island empty. What a difference from last year when Ranger, Midway, and Kitty Hawk were all here. While those that work a North Island will not miss the bridge traffic, we all wish Kitty Hawk smooth sailing with the hope of a safe and successful cruise. We also pray for the continued safety and success of Ranger, who is on station in the Southwest Asia operating area keeping a watchful eye on Saddam.

The annual Chapter 8 picnic in May was a great success. A special thanks to all those Chapter 8 members responsible. During our October Chapter meeting we discussed at length ways to increase the participation of young, active duty AOs. LT Chuck Mach's idea of having a 'Current Ordnance Issues' brief at each Chapter meeting was adopted and the Current Ordnance Issues Committee was established with the chairman being Chuck Mach (who else?). The committee is to provide or schedule a briefing at each Chapter meeting. The purpose of these briefings (all unclassified) is two fold: one is to provide professional growth to the younger, active duty AOs by providing current information covering the broad spectrum of our rating and the second is to bring our retired members up to date on the changes (somethings never change) taking place in Aviation Ordnance.

In closing, the members of Chapter 8 extend to all members of The Association and Aviation Ordnancemen everywhere **our best wishes for a safe and joyous Holiday Season.**

Chapter 9 Jacksonville, FL

This past quarter has really been exciting and eventful here on the First Coast of Florida. Aside from the devastation of Hurricane Andrew in the South and the ravaging rains here in the North, we have had some exciting happenings going on within our Chapter. Although our attendance at

meetings has been somewhat reflective of the actions of a "yo-yo", we hope to eliminate the downward action with more publicity in the Station newspapers and personal contacts.

Foremost in our activities of this quarter was the completion and dedication of the AVIATION ORDNANCE MEMORIAL, named in honor of the late Cdr. Jud Hendricks at NAS Cecil Field on the 25th of September. We certainly owe a lot of thanks to all the members of the committee who made this such a memorable occasion. Despite the accumulation of more than four inches of rain the dedication ceremony went off on schedule without problems. Mrs. Hendricks and family, were in attendance and were really overjoyed with the event and to realize that so many of us felt so highly of our departed shipmate.

With intermittent rain showers falling during the ceremony we regret not having a larger tent as quite a number of our guests got wet. Special thanks to AOC Ken Ricci's Color Guard Unit who really felt the brunt of the showers. Cdr. Curry, our guest speaker, gave an outstanding presentation on the life and career of Cdr. Hendricks. Following the ceremony an excellent reception was held in the Saratoga Room of the NAS Cecil Field BOQ. I made a video tape of the entire event which will be made available for showing at next years convention.

Of an estimated 150 people in attendance at the ceremony, many were guests from up and down the east coast, and we certainly appreciate their attendance. Some, unaware of the dedication ceremony, were in town for the retirement of Cdr. Tommy Brown, the NAS Cecil Field Weapons Officer who retired on the previous day. We wish Cdr. Brown and his family good luck in their retirement.

During our Chapter meeting on the 17th of September, Cdr. Laun conducted a re-enlistment for AO3 Jim "Tiny" Howard. Jim, of VP-24, will soon be joining VFA-81 at NAS Cecil Field. A letter of appreciation was given to Jim's wife, Lee Ann, who is presently stationed at Cecil Field.

Mary Ann Laun, the AAO Auxiliary Chaplain, was in attendance at the September meeting and gave a good recruitment talk concerning the growth of the Auxiliary and encouraged all present to assist in this recruiting effort. She identified the possible formation of Chapters, and

the Auxiliary efforts in supporting the National Scholarship program.

Lest I forget! A very special Thanks from Chapter 9 to Chapter 4 for the donation providing for the festivities associated with the Memorial Dedication.

October has been hectic thus far, and we have a three day Air Show to work yet. Our Chapter will be manning a beer booth for the NAS Jacksonville Air Show. Hopefully we can make enough to replace the funds we are allocating for food baskets during the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons. Thanks to Gunner Bohac for all his efforts in arranging this fund raising opportunity.

Jacksonville will certainly be a booming town the last weekend of October as the following will be occurring at the same time: NAS Jacksonville Air Show, The Greater Jacksonville Fair and the World's Biggest Outdoor Cocktail Party (The Florida vs Georgia football game or should I say the Georgia vs Florida game). Plenty of activity for everyone looking for something exciting to do. From all of us in Chapter 9 to all Ordnancemen throughout the universe, "Good Luck, Smooth Sailing and please KEEP IT SAFE."

Bob Hall
PAO Chapter 9

Chapter 21 Ordnancetown U.S.A. Fallon, NV

Greetings from Ordnancetown U.S.A. Over the past few months we adopted the Fallon Senior Citizen Center and Convalescent Home. Special thanks go to LCDR Gary Witte, AOCM Gerald Copple, AOCS Gary Buse, AO1 Wayne Bolin, AO1 Dennis Borgen, AO1 Paul Hebert, AO1 David Hillman, AO1 Ron Mounts, AO1 (RET) Mike Haskell, AO2 Jeff Vochatzer, and Jim Purcell for their many volunteered hours spent in upkeep of the Fallon Senior Citizen Center and Convalescent home.

In addition we have adopted the 2nd grade class of Lahontan Elementary School.

The Chapter donated \$100.00 to a local family that lost their home to Hurricane Andrew.

NAS Fallon held its annual airshow in October,

the Chapter had a Weapons Display that attracted many people, however, the Blue Angels were the stars of the day.

Chapter 21 held an Association picnic on October 10. Much fun was had by all. We held a rifle raffle and a \$50.00 spouse's raffle at the picnic. Mrs. Judy Nykes is the new owner of a Ruger 10/22 Rifle and Mrs. Melissa Tibbetts is \$50.00 richer thanks to their winning tickets.

Welcome aboard to our new members: AO1 (RET) Mike Haskell, AO1 James Maccioni, AO3 Monty Cooper and AO3 Jerry Mathes.

Farewell to AO1 John Gasaway - VFA-22 and AO2 Mark Anthony - VP-8.

If any of you Red Shirts are in the area, our meetings are held at the American Legion Hall, 90 North Ada ST, Fallon on the 1st Thursday of each month starting at 1900 hours. Stop by and say Hi!

Jay Goodrich
Secretary Chapter 21



Chapter 22 Capitol Area

Greetings fellow Ordies from Chapter 22, The Association's newest and fastest growing Chapter. Currently, our membership is 90 members with more newcomers every day. Chapter 22 is quite unique, in that, we are a conglomerate made up of three regional areas: Washington D.C., Patuxent River and Indian Head. Recently, our Chapter held their annual officer elections and would like to take this opportunity to hail those coming and fairwell those going. CAPT (sel) Ron Curry won by a landslide decision and remains as President (although no one ran against him). Lt Johnny King put up a tough reelection campaign (paying off fellow members), but was defeated by MGSgt (RET) John Shalblack as Vice-President. Last, but not least, AOC (RET) Al Castro, was ousted by AOC Mike Warner (who was successful at paying off fellow members) as Secretary/Treasurer. We would like to welcome aboard our new officers and thank those who have served the Chapter so well and

for the hard work and effort they contributed to getting the Chapter going. On 16 October, we held our first Chapter 22 picnic, complete with an awards ceremony, handing out plank owner certificates to all members in good standing. They were signed and presented by CAPT (sel) Ron Curry, which in our opinion was an honor and is a piece of Naval History memorabilia. Take note of the following, Chapter 22 has it's own mailing address:

Chapter 22
Capitol Area AAO
P.O. Box 331
California, MD 20619-0311

Make note of this so when you order a Chapter 22 patch (shown at the beginning of this article) or just want to correspond with us you know where to write. Speaking of patches, Chapter 22 is proud to announce the sale of their newly designed patch. The cost is \$6.00 and by the looks of this sharp, well designed piece or artistry it would be a fine compliment to any patch collection. In closing, Chapter 22 would like to take this opportunity to express their sympathy to the family of Mr. Bert Aquino, a member of Chapter 22 who recently passed away, our hearts go out to them during this difficult time.



Chapter 70 USS Carl Vinson (CVN-70)

HELLO ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDANCEMEN. I am taking over for AO1 Thomas E. Lane as Chapter 70 President and I'm also a current member of Chapter 3 since I recently transferred aboard, coming from instructor duty at Medium Attack Weapons School Pacific at Whidbey Island. Since the USS Carl Vinson has been in overhaul for some time now and is shortly coming back on line this Chapter has had little activity for two years so, any and all help you can provide Chapter 70 in our endeavor to re-establish our good standing among our Ordnance brothers will be greatly appreciated. We will soon be holding elections to replace key positions in our Chapter.

From the deck of the GOLD EAGLE,
Ao1 William R. Prouty
Chapter 70

Chapter S-87 Memphis, TN

Man, oh man what a week! In July the AO PIP Conference was hosted by COMNAVAIRLANT at NATTC Memphis, and is alive and well. It was great to see all the AO buds from days gone by. Mr Charley Middlebrook presented the MK 2 Mod 2 Bomb Truck to John W. Finn (his first chief), who in turn presented it to the AO Museum. Mr Jack Hagerup (LCDR, RET), a charter member of the AO Association, donated the plaque from the quarterdeck of the USS Oriskany, which commemorated the 44 men killed on 25 October 1966, in an Aviation Ordnance mishap, to CDR Gary Laun who on behalf of the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen accepted it for display in the Aviation Ordnance Museum. This plaque was a memorial given to the USS Oriskany from the people of Oriskany, NY and was located in the U.S. Navy Archives by Jack Hagerup.

For those of you who have seen the John W. Finn Aviation Ordnance Museum patch, stand by for a change. Mr Finn has authorized the use of his Medal of Honor on the patch.

Chapter S-87 hosted a party at Navy Lake for all our AO brethren, it was a blast and everyone had a good time. Also, the AO's held a surprise birthday party for Mr Finn who celebrated his 83rd birthday and is looking younger than ever.

We wish give a special thanks to LT Robinson, NAVAIRLANT; CW03 Sparanzi, NAVAIR; Gene Forbes, NAS Club System Manager; Jim Temple, AOT; Steve Cashat, AOT; and Boyce Elliot, AOT for the success of this year's AO PIP conference.

There is a lot on the agenda for our next Chapter meeting. One thing in particular is where and when, we would like to hold our scheduled meetings. Drop on by and discuss any new business ideas with us. Lets try to bring our association closer and make it better for all. Presently we're looking towards the New V.F.W. for our meetings.

The AO Christmas Party will be on 12 DECEMBER vice the 19th, we had a mix up on the date.

See Ya Soon

M. Gramolini
President Chapter S-87

CHAPLAINS' CORNER

Greetings again, and our "THANKS" to the "SUPREME COMMANDER" for the gift of your being there to read this. Always something to be thankful for. Try this one; "Luke" Lukey (AOCM Ret) read in "Proceedings" that our very own John Finn (LT Ret) is the last surviving Pearl Harbor Medal of Honor awardee. Hang in there John, and God bless you with many more years!

Still working on the Saint Barbara poster. Trying to get the quality up a bit more. Will keep you posted on the progress.

Back to christian history again and our line-up of protective spirits. I have a few more in my reference. Still dealing with patrons of SAILORS, who from my experiences need a lot of protection, next in line I have ST. CUTHBERT. Now, how some of these early christians came to be associated with sailors I'll never know, but they are listed as patrons and maybe from your ethnic heritage you can identify with some of them. This guy was said to be either Irish, Scot, or more notably a Briton in the latter part of the 600s. He did most of his religious work in the area of southern Scotland, hanging out with several other recorded saints during his lifetime. He was the honcho of several monasteries in Scotland and Ireland, a missionary, a hermit, and a bishop of several sees. He did a lot of his work in the Farne Islands, which are off the east coast of southern Scotland. Maybe this is where his connection with sailors came in. The last years of his life he spent administering to the sick of a plague that wiped out most of his diocese, and worked many miracles of healing. He was also blessed with the gift of prophesy. Now these last two sentences sound like something a good, compassionate sailor would do. He died on March 20, 687 on Inner Farne. Amen!

Again, giving thanks for small miracles, I was wandering around the area of West Philly several months back and was led (?) to the best V.F.W. Post in Folsom, PA. To make a long story short I met one and signed up two AOs from the 'Nam era, Larry Doyle and Bob Bailey. You can meet them in Reno next June.

Recruiting can take place anywhere, anytime. Also onboard the Connie in the Philly yard I got a renewal and a new member, AO1 Rolle and AO1 Smith.

In closing, how about a moment of internal silence to remember those who have passed to the headquarters of the Supreme Commander.

Until next time, Peace and Love to ALL.
Ron Bushta



- AOC Dennis Bondurant
- AOC George Curley Jr.
- ** AOC Richard Ferguson
- AOC Reinhold Gast
- ** LCDRJake Layton
- AOC Elwood LeCompte
- AOC Wilbert McCommons
- AOC Everette McMahan
- AOCMHagan Morrison
- * CDR James Pokrywka
- AO1 Richard Roberts
- AOC Martin Schools
- AOC Harold Shreve
- AOC Thomas Talley

* member in good standing

** life member



3RD Marine Aircraft Wing Ordnance Officer Memo

Once again, with pen in hand, I would like to address a very important issue that comes to light every so often in our community. With the constantly changing nature of our weapons systems, delivery platforms and armament equipment, and the need or desire to rapidly upgrade or train, we sometimes lose sight of the single most important issue affecting smooth, efficient professional operations. That is issue is: communication up and down the chain of command. A book could be written on this single subject and

all of the nuances that go along with it. In this particular discussion though, I want to focus on just one of those critical factors that tend to quite often bite us in the most embarrassing places.

In our efforts to make things work, to make things happen and to see an operation succeed, we frequently find ourselves in a position where we must decide to follow proper procedures or try to manipulate the system. Many times, pressure from lateral or higher forces try to press us into doing so. I do not attempt in this memo to pass judgement or stifle flexible, calculated and intelligent decisions that attempt to ensure a shop or unit is combat ready or those efforts that try to assist one's command to succeed. However, there are some basic courtesies, regulations and systems that have been put in place to ensure that well established programs will operate smoothly and benefit the many rather than the few, or the one. More specifically, it is perfectly acceptable to indulge in phone conversations or other forms of communications with various units and/or supporting activities on any issue. It is not, however, correct to act upon those liaisons unless specifically authorized to do so by your immediate senior commands. Generally and preferably, any discussion or agreement/proposal must be staffed up and down both of the parties chain of command for concurrence/deliberation or passing/tasking instructions. The mere indication by a seemingly much senior individual or command that an act is acceptable or condoned does not mean your command will necessarily have to agree or that that particular individual is aware of other factors or influences that must be considered. Nor does it negate the requirements or duty you have to request appropriate message traffic be properly routed from that individual or command through those above you. Many times expediency clouds the judgement and we lose sight of this fact. The most destructive enemies that our community has are the short notice requirements and the pressure from those outside our community to meet each and every one of them. The days of "make it happen at any cost" are gone! Tricking the system hurts the entire effort. Today we must do our best to help others plan better. To help them address requirements within established lead times, to ensure that we make every effort to explain the correct paths for meeting aviation ordnance related

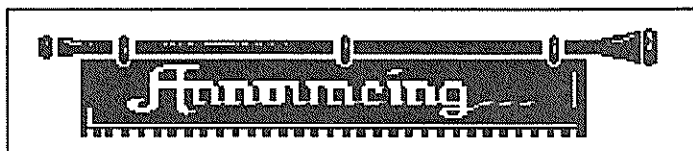
goals, and most of all, that we observe chain of command procedures.

In almost every case there is a way to achieve our objective. It may not be on the same time schedule as some might desire, but it is simply a choice of either the right way or the wrong way. I have observed and experienced first hand, the struggle each of you faces with the mad race to do everything, with nothing, forever. It is up to us to bring that era to a close. Cutbacks, draw downs, fiscal constraints and shortages of assets is a fact of life. However, it will get better; it will bottom out and our task will be much more bearable if we begin a new thought process of making the system work rather than fighting it every step of the way. Remember Camaraderie, Cooperation, Chain of Command. The three C's of Aviation Ordnance will not fail to assist you if you make them a part of your daily routine. If a discussion, phone call or communique with someone outside your individual command or group seems to be leading towards a commitment of any kind, contact the next person in your chain of command structure and advise or alert them. Patience may not actually be a virtue but it often times produces acceptable results and allows you to sit down without sliding off your chair. The harder we properly use the established systems the more smoothly they will run. Believe! However, as with any system, one must expect hiccups and accept negative answers on some issues. That too is life. Stay hard Devil Dogs. You're doing a great job.

Major Jim Ledbetter

Third MAW Ordnance Officer

✉ Editors Note: The above article was taken from the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing Aviation Ordnance Newsletter #12 of 8 September 1992.



Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division, Point Mugu has established a compressed work schedule (CWS). Under the new CWS, the Fleet Liaison office along with the in-service engineering department will be closed for normal business on civilian service payday Fridays. The Fleet Liaison office can be reached 24 hours a day for any fleet Aviation Ordnance related problems by calling DSN 351-6468 or Commercial (805) 484-6468. Gregg Healy, Fleet Liaison Officer

WHERE ARE THEY NOW ????

Anyone knowing the where abouts of the following members please have them forward their change of address to the National Secretary/Treasurer. Many members lose contact with the Association when they move or relocate, they fail to pass on their new address. Mail is returned with "moved and left no forwarding address" or "insufficient address". Please help locate these members so we can send them their "Red Shirt" and they can see what's going on in the AO community.

KENNETH E. BALDWIN	AOAN JAMES D. CARTER
AOC W.L. CHANDLER	DALE A. CLOUTIER
KIRK W. DILL	LT WILLIAM P. DUNN
DONALD S. EDGINGTON	CWO JOHN "Z" ESPE
AOC EUGENE R. ENNIS	AO1(AW) M. D. GOOMAN
AO1 RONALD J. GILBERT	AO1 KENNETH GURLEY
AOAN GREG E. HOPKINS	ROGER HORN
AO3 TERRANCE HOSLER	AO1 JAMES R. KERR
AO1 S. KIHSTADIUS	AO3 RICH KIOSKE
AO1 K.L. KNOOP	AQC LOYD E. LOW
AO1 MARTIN S. MANKINEN	AOCM R. L. PETERMAN
AO1 PATRICK SALTER	AO1 CLEMENT SANTOYO
AO2 J. SCHWARTZ	AO3 RANDALL SCUDDER
AO1 WARREN G. SMITH	AO3 R.E. TERRELL II
SGT ROBERT WALTERS	

If you known someone that is listed have them call (314) 946-0503 and pass on their new address or mail it to Jerry Gannon, 1245 Cunningham Ave, St Charles, MO 63301.



Vice-President Speaks



First of all, Reunion Books should be mailed out sometime around the first of November 1992. If you have not ordered one, an order form is in this newsletter. If you have had any problems with the photos taken at the convention, contact the company or Beverly/Chuck Onken, 291 Spruce PL, Lemoore, CA. 93245-1969 (209) 924-2503 and we will try to help you out.

The Aviation Ordnance field is one of the closest rates in the United States Navy. Starting at E-1 right out of AO "A" School to the O-6 up in NAVAIR, retired AO's and Association Members, we all look out for everyone's welfare. The new non-rated and junior petty officers wonder what The Association will do for them. The Association provides recognition for the AO rate throughout the military and civilian communities. In addition

to social function, The Association provides academic scholarships for your dependents and family members, helps with professional advancement through the AO of the Year Program, and provides comradeship to all AO's whether you just do your four years and get out, or stay on active duty and retire. The saying "Once an AO, always an AO" is a very true statement. The junior AO's may think why should I join The Association or attend meetings, let the senior AO's and retirees do that. Besides, it isn't important. But it is important when you get a little older and more mature. You will look back and cherish the close friends and comradeships you had with your fellow AO's. Then you will wish you had joined, stayed an active member and stayed in contact with your shipmates. AO's care about each other. It takes everyone's cooperation and work to make The Association function. That includes E-1 thru O-6, active duty, reserve, or retired Navy and Marine Corps and associate members.

So if you aren't a member, join now and sign up one new member. If you are a member, sign up at least one new member and don't forget to keep your dues current.

THIS IS YOUR RATE AND YOUR ASSOCIATION, SO SUPPORT IT!!!

Chuck Onken
Vice-President

Convention Program Advertisement

Ordies now have the opportunity to place advertisements in the 1992 convention program. The program is distributed FREE to each member attending the convention, and will be mailed to any member requesting a copy (1 month prior to convention).

WHAT AN OPPORTUNITY....Ordies providing a product or service to Ordies!

And the Advertising rate are **LOW**:

Business Card (2 11/16" x 2") - \$22.50

1/4 Page (2 11/16" x 4 1/4") - 38.00

1/2 Page (5 3/8" x 4 1/4") - 65.00

Full Page (5 3/8" x 8 1/2") - 115.00

ARTWORK MUST BE CAMERA READY....No

Exceptions! Business card ads will be reduced to fit. Artwork must be received NO LATER THAN 1 APRIL 1993. Mail to

Jim Thomas
1394 Lilac Ave
Chula Vista, CA 91911-3829

Artwork will not be returned. If there is a possibility your artwork will be used in subsequent programs, please make note on a separate paper and include with ad. Funds received in excess of expense, will be forwarded to The Association.



Aviation Ordnance Officer Career Progression Course (AOOCP)

The Naval Aviation Schools Command (NASC) Pensacola, FL has announced the FY93 class schedule for the newly established AOOCP course. This course has been developed for the USN/USMC Aviation Ordnance community. It is designed to build incrementally upon previously acquired skills and provide a professional career path for Aviation Ordnance Officers and Chiefs.

The course has been separated into three levels:

- Level I is a six week period of instruction and will focus on newly commissioned LDO/CWO's, Officers in their early career stages and senior enlisted personnel. This portion contains instruction on administrative, technical, logistical, and safety oriented instruction which will significantly enhance the professionalism of successful students.

- Level II and Level III will each be a two week course of instruction aimed at officers and senior enlisted personnel who are at their mid/upper career point. Focus will be placed on job related functions that are associated with assignment to ordnance management billets (i.e. Airwings, Funcwings, Tycoms, Ordnance Handling Officers and Washington D.C. area).

Following schedule is provided:

Class Dates

93001 8 Feb - 19 Mar 93

93002 22 Mar - 30 Apr 93

93003 3 May - 11 Jun 93

93004 14 Jun 23 Jul 93

Aviation Ordnance personnel who are interested in attending should contact quota control at NASC Pensacola, FL.

Comm: 904 452-8626/4230, DSN: 922-8626/4230, FAX ext 2290

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thank you for this opportunity to become an associate member of your association. Thanks also goes to Mr Frank Thill who's notice in The Hook informed me of your group.

The reason that I am interested in The Association is that my father, Richard E. 'Dick' Kennedy served on the USS Intrepid (CV-11) as an AOM 1/c from June 1944 until February 1946. He was USNR. I am very interested in the carrier war in the Pacific. I am also an associate member of the V-18 "Sunday Punchers" Association. They were on the Intrepid in the fall of 1944.

I would be interested if any of your members were on the Intrepid at the same time as my father, and that might remember him.

Thank you for allowing me to join your tremendous organization.

Sincerely,

Jon R. Kennedy
9216-L Westbury Woods DR
Charlotte, NC 28277

Editor's Note: This letter was originally sent to the Secretary/Treasure, who sent it to me for publication.

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT
EDITION OF THE RED SHIRT
IS JANUARY 25, 1993**

Association of Aviation Ordnancemen Calendar Drawing Winners

September 1992

- 1 Ken Jones Hanford, CA
- 2 Bob Meyers Keyport, WA
- 3 Dick Graves San Diego, CA
- 4 Dick Wales Chula Vista, CA
- 5 Brad Schwake Lemoore, CA
- 6 George Pivnicka Oak Harbor, WA
- 7 Harry Downey Silverdale, WA
- 8 Pete Kerrigan Lemoore, CA
- 9 Sherry Williamson Fallon, NV
- 10 *Carol Dillon Hanford, CA
- 11 Roberta Archuleta Hanford, CA
- 12 *Bill Wellington Virginia Beach, VA
- 13 Dean Shults Hanford, CA
- 14 Frank Thill Chula Vista, CA (50)
- 15 Bill Notarangelo Lemoore, CA (50)
- 16 Lewis Lett Fresno, CA
- 17 Cecil Hall Quaker City, WA
- 18 R.C. Taylor Lemoore, CA
- 19 *Dennis Smith Oak Harbor, WA
- 20 Barry Rahn Lemoore, CA
- 21 Keith Butler Shandon, CA
- 22 John Finn Pine Valley, CA
- 23 James Anthony San Diego, CA
- 24 Cliff Harrel Palmdale, CA
- 25 *Tom Gordon Lemoore, CA
- 26 *Jack Gunn Lemoore, CA
- 27 Randy Guinn Lemoore, CA
- 28 Mark Lowe Lafayette, IN
- 29 Lynda Virden Lemoore, CA
- 30 *Gladys Waldron San Diego, CA

October 1992

- 1 Mike Wear Oak Harbor, WA (100)
- 2 *Chapter 3 Whidbey Island, WA
- 3 Dick Jarques Hanford, CA
- 4 M.P. Choffee Virginia Beach, VA
- 5 D.E. Conway Winchester, CA
- 6 J.F. Bailor Stratford, CA
- 7 *J.H. Bingham San Diego, CA (50)
- 8 *Cindy Gerhart Hampton, VA
- 9 *Bill Darger Virginia Beach, VA
- 10 R.J. Nallan Coupsville, WA
- 11 Ed Lopes Lemoore, CA
- 12 *Dottie Underwood Fallon, NV
- 13 Cliff Degraus Hanford, CA
- 14 H. Moorer Lemoore, CA
- 15 Art Rutecki Oak Harbor, WA
- 16 George Smith Oak Harbor, WA
- 17 *Bob Coffey Oxnard, CA
- 18 C. Charvez Port Orchard, WA
- 19 K.R. Beord San Diego, CA
- 20 Ken Davis Ridgecrest, CA
- 21 J. Hollingsworth VF-154
- 22 *Paul Loop USS Kennedy
- 23 J.C. Klein Lemoore, CA
- 24 Bennie Homell Lemoore, CA
- 25 D.J. Hart Ridgecrest, CA
- 26 T.L. Gilbreath Ridgecrest, CA
- 27 A.W. Newbolt Whidbey Island WA
- 28 H.L. Read Franklin, VA
- 29 N.A. Phillips Virginia Beach, VA
- 30 Joe Griggs Chula Vista, CA
- 31 Francis Simpson Ridgecrest, CA

November 1992

- 1 L.A. Fairweather Newport News, VA
- 2 T.E. Lord USS Nimitz
- 3 T.J. Datz VX-5
- 4 B.B. Earl Oak Harbor, WA
- 5 *Tina Canales Santa Monica, CA
- 6 *Marvin Meissel Oak Harbor, WA
- 7 *R.A. Gotterson Lemoore, CA
- 8 *B.J. Brookmyer Ossin, IN
- 9 *Tom Gordon Lemoore, CA
- 10 *Ed Clement San Diego, CA
- 11 *Bill Notarangelo Lemoore, CA (100)
- 12 *Cecil Hall Quaker City, CA
- 13 *Tommy Andrews USS Enterprise
- 14 W.M. Gavin Alameda, CA
- 15 *Bruce Grosso VA-115
- 16 Susie Johnson Ridgecrest, CA
- 17 M.D. McCool Lemoore, CA
- 18 Lori Ahern Atlantic Beach, FL
- 19 *Gail Gavin Virginia Beach, VA
- 20 Michael Bicherstaff Norfolk, VA (50)
- 21 *Ron Burdett San Antonio, TX
- 22 *George Adams Fallon, NV
- 23 N.E. Derouin Lemoore, CA
- 24 *John Finn Pine Valley, CA
- 25 Eve Bonin San Diego, CA
- 26 Gary Buse Fallon, NV
- 27 J.P. Gunning Virginia Beach, VA
- 28 D.L. McCammon Newport News, VA
- 29 *Ron Burdett San Antonio, TX
- 30 *Bob Borges Virginia Beach, VA

Awards greater than \$25 are indicated in parenthesis following location. Names preceded by an asterisk (*) are repeat winners.

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN
GERALD F. GANNON - SECRETARY/TREASURER
1245 - CUNNINGHAM AVE
ST CHARLES, MO 63301

BULK RATE
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
TEMECULA, CA 92589
PERMIT NO. 192

FORWARDING & RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

