

Page 4 NATIONAL AAO LEADER NOTES

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REDSHIRTNATION.COM

$\begin{array}{c} {}_{\text{2021 AAO CONVENTION}} \\ {}_{\text{NOTES}} \end{array} Page {\color{black}{22}} \\ \end{array}$



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TAPS/ New Members/Locator

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Chapter 34 Thanksgiving

¬ reeting Ordies,

I hope this issue finds everyone safe and healthy. We are truly living in demanding times, both mentally and physically, but there may be some light at the end of this long, dark tunnel. COVID-19 and the nation's response to it has taken a toll on many of our members and their families. I am personally glad that the response has sufficiently "flattened the curve" and has allow us to return to an existence that is closer to the pre-pandemic life we enjoyed. To be sure we have established a new normal and life will never be like it was before the pandemic.

The elected officers and members of the Board of Directors recently met to review the current state of COVID-19 restrictions in Reno and on travel throughout the United States. I am happy to report that, after much discussion, we have decided to conduct our 2021 convention AS SCHEDULED. We understand that some of our members will still be unable or unwilling to travel to Reno and participate but we believe we have a sufficient number of members and their guest that are interested in the event to support conducting the convention. We are also mindful that some or all of our active-duty members will be precluded from attending based upon official guidance currently in place, but we are hopeful that the lifting of some of the COVID-19 response restrictions will occur prior to the convention and permit them to participate. All of the traditional convention events are planned and will occur as scheduled and all of the standing committees will conduct their work as normal. All activities associated with the convention will be conducted in a safe and compliant manner. Information concerning the convention can be viewed on our new website, www.redshirtnation. com.

I continue to be amazed by both the quantity and quality of the work being performed by our members throughout the organization even during the pandemic. Our chapters continue to actively participate in the "Adopt-a-Road" programs, conduct charity events of their own design or to support the events of other organizations, and offer a helping hand to struggling members of our armed services or the less fortunate in our communities. I commend you for your efforts and offer my personal thank you for your service. Each of these efforts serves to increase our organization's visibility and improve our standing within our communities while also enriching the lives of others and making our cities, states, and country a better place in which to live.

In closing, I wish you and yours Fair Winds and Following Seas throughout the coming months. I ask that you keep our Sailors, Marines and civilian employees, wherever they are stationed or deployed, in your thoughts and prayers. I ask your additional prayers for all who have been and continue to be affected by COVID-19, both in our country and around the world, and for the first responders and medical professionals who continue to perform their duties in support of our nation and its citizens. Please continue to support this organization, its members, and our Navy and Marine Corps Aviation Ordnance Team. I look forward to seeing you in Reno. Fly, Sail and Steam Safe.

IYAOYAS,

Matt





hoy Redshirt Nation! The light at the end of the jacked up tunnel is blinding, FINALLY! I hope everyone is getting their vaccines so that we rid ourselves of this bug. If you have any doubt as to the effectiveness of it, just look at the news. The lead story isn't COVID-19 anymore, which means it works, nuff said.

That being the case, the Association officers just held a Zoom meeting to discuss the status of this year's convention. I'm happy to say, no, OVERJOYED to say that we're having convention this year! Everything is trending up, states are opening, cases are quickly dropping. Hallelujah! The Governor of Nevada has stated that starting May 1st, all personnel capacity restrictions will be lifted and social distancing (I hate that s(%@)) will not be enforced. Nothing but good news. As for convention registration, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE REGISTER EARLY!!!! Every year we have people register when they get to Reno (walk-ups) and we have to scramble to get more tables set up for the Social and Awards Banquet. While we understand that stuff happens sometimes, if at all possible, send in your registration early so we get a good head count. We're keeping the fees/ ticket prices the same because we're still not sure about any added cost that may have been caused by the pandemic. When the dust settles after convention, and we look at the books, if we can reduce the cost, we absolutely will.

Chapter tables – If your Chapter wants to set up a table in the registration room to sell your merch, send an email to the Convention Coordinator, Kirk Brado (kbrado1@hotmail.com). He will give you all of the information you need. Also, as with early registration, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE COMMINUCATE WITH KIRK BEFORE YOU GET TO RENO!!!! The room is set up for what we know, even the size of the room. If you show up wanting a table and haven't talked to Kirk, there's a chance we might not be able to get you one. PLAN EARLY.

Now that we're back to normal (almost), we can

also return to business as usual with regard to Association business:

Officer Elections – There are (3) Officer positions up for election this year, Treasurer, currently held by Tom Lord, and (2) Board of Directors, currently held by Jeff Sassone and Laura Colby. I received nominations for Todd Pendleton to fill the Treasurer position and Jeff Sassone and Lindsey Smack to fill the Board of Director positions. Being that there were no other nominations, there is no requirement for absentee ballots this year. During the General Business Meeting, there will be a call for nominations from the floor. All nominees must be present and accept the nomination. If there are (2) or more nominations for a position, ballots will be cast. If there is only (1) nomination for a position, the requirement for voting is null and that nominee will be elected.

Aviation Ordnanceman of the Year (AOY)/ Scholarship/Hall of Fame (HOF) Committees – All will proceed as normal on Friday, July 30th, at the Silver Legacy in Reno. Information about any of these committees can be found on the Association's website, www.redshirtnation.com. You can also contact the Committee Chairmen:

AOY – Tim Zimmer (nationalaaovp@gmail.com) Scholarship – Rick Garza (rgarza511@gmail.com) HOF – Jeff Sassone (nationalaaobod5@gmail. com)

SEE YOU ALL IN RENO!!!!!!!!!

IYAOYAS Tim



Greetings Shipmates and Marines –NOW is the time for you to get your reservations and plans ready for Convention 2021 July 29th – August 1st at the Silver Legacy Resort. See the flyers and other info in the Red Shirt for reservations info, etc. We have elections coming up for 2 Board of Directors (BOD), and Treasurer.

Chapters need to contact Kirk Brado (POC info in this Red Shirt) to set up tables to sell merchandise. Years past we had several Chapters show up with goodies to sell with NO tables were reserved, we were able to accommodate, but cannot guarantee there will be room this year.

Chapter Officers – We are now coming out of Covid restrictions. You have seen my comments in the last several Red Shirts. Chapter Reports have gotten better HOWEVER the rubber has hit the road, and this will be an agenda item at this year's BOD at Convention. The following Chapter will have disestablishment procedures started by the Board of Directors (BOD) IAW the National By-Laws (Article IX):

Chapter	Last Minutes
Received	
LHD 7 Iwo Jima	November 2018

I need Chapter Reports submitted to me to me on a regular basis so we do not put your Chapter into an 'Inactive' status. Please forward the minutes, etc. to nationalaaosec@gmail.com.

It has been a Privilege and Honor to serve as your Secretary for the past 7 years. If there is anything I can do to assist just give me a shout. Look forward to see and meet some of you all in

Reno.



JJ LaMaitre AAO Secretary Where are good to go. The Convention is on. If you look at the AAO21 preregistration form, you will see a jump in registration fees. Some of the restrictions have eased, but we still don't know the total impact on pricing. Therefore, we are going to have to stick with the increased prices. For that reason, I will leave it up to you whether or not you want to send your payment with your pre-registration. Either way, pay now or at registration, it doesn't matter. Please, submit your registration forms as soon as possible so we can get a good head count.

I have seen a number of notifications of death of Ordies on Facebook. I cannot use that as an official notice to include then in the Taps section of the Red Shirt. I will need some sort of formal notification if I am to use it. An email with the pertinent information will do.

Hope to see you next year.

The last year has been a hard one for the Chapters, as well as the National, when it comes to recruiting. Not only has recruiting been down but, renewals have been down as well. Kudos to those chapters that continue to push memberships.

For the Chapter Officers, last year, the response for the request for the Annual Financial Reports was very disappointing. Those reports are part of our income tax filings and are necessary. This year, I hope to see better results. I will be sending out the request for the Annual Financial Report the first week of June. I would like to have them back by 15 July 2021. You can either email them to me or snail mail them. If you are not going to have a representative at the convention, I would like to

R,

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

Address changes are still a problem. I need your changes as soon as you know you are moving. The mailing costs associated with Red Shirt returns are getting out of hand. I try my best to make sure those entitled to a Red Shirt get it. But when I don't have an updated address, I have to pay the post office for its return. That said, in the future, when I get a Renewal Notice or Red Shirt returned to me, I am removing that person from the Red Shirt list until I have a current mailing address. If you see someone's name on the locator list, let them know. Sign up to get yours electronically!!! All you have to do is go to the web site, and download the Red Shirt. If you move or have a PCS coming up, get those address changes to me prior to the move. You can make them via the web site, via snail mail; phone (619)575-1895; or (preferred) you can e-mail them to me at nationalaaotreas@gmail.com. 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 Locater, 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 .

IYAOYAS!

R, Thomas Lord AAO Treasurer



IN SUPREME COMMANDERS SERVICE

AOC Franklin Culligan USN Ret Plankowner

AOCM William L. Laur USN Ret AO1 John J. Nagle USN Ret* AOC John P. Sukup USN Ret AOC Lyle M. Hapgood USN Ret*

* Info from FRA Today Newsletter/

** Info from VFW Magazine/***Other

NEW LIFE MEMBER

AO2 Erika S. Kidd

NEW MEMBERS

AO2 Wilner A. Sison, AO1 Michael W. Mihalcoe, AO1 Esther S. Ahn, AO3 Chance N. Hale, AOAN David Fernandez, AOAN Jose L. Velazquez, AO1 Daniel T. Goe, AO1 Jason C. McManus, AO2 Marina L. Vega, AO3 Curtis L. Robinson, AOAN Scott A. Sawyer

LOCATOR

LT Jere F. Galloway USN Ret (RS) AOCM Robert E. Osis USN Ret (RS) CWO2 Bruce W. McNutt (RS) Mr. Rudy Bowling (RS) AO2 Alexander J. Morris (RN) LCDR George W. Lindsay USN Ret (RS) AO3 Clayton A. Davenport (RS) AOCS Charlie C. Odom (RS) AO1 Ray P. Harding USN Ret (RS) CWO5 Richard A. Brasko USN Ret (RS) LCDR Alidor J. Lemieux USN Ret (RS) CWO4 Eduardo B. Pirando USN Ret (RS) Mr. Jeffrey M. Terzich (RS) LTJG Adam Brophy (RS143)

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 nationalaaotreas@gmail.com T appy Spring everyone!

First thing, YAHOO!!!! Convention is on this year. I have missed you all so much and am looking forward to catching up and doing what we do to support the Ordies. I hope all of you are doing well and trying to get to some normalness again. I know we all have missed seeing loved ones and friends during this past year.

We will be setting up on Thursday in the registration room and look forward to seeing you all. We have some neat memorabilia items and some things for our AOs to do. Linda Earl has some surprises up her sleeve too. LOL

If any of you know anyone that is planning to bring a donation for the Auction, let me know. I am really hoping we can WOW these folks and raise a lot of \$\$\$ for the Scholarship Fund this year. We need to make up for last year. We really appreciate all of your donations and time that you generously give to the Auxiliary to support our mission.

Hope to see you all in Reno!

Take care and be safe. Teresa



MEMORABILIA MARKETPLACE

There have been inquiries about purchasing Memorabilia items by mail. Linda Earl will be happy to mail out any items that you are interested in. There will be a 20% shipping and handling fee added to all orders.

Please fill out the order form with a check made payable to AAAO and send to

Linda Earl, 31667 S. Rim Drive, Polson, MT 59860.

Her contact information is lindaearlmt@yahoo.com or (406)531-2711.











	MEMORABILIA	ORDER FOR	M	
ITEM	UNIT PRICE	QTY	TOTAL	
Duffle Bag	12.00			
Bear w/Red Shirt	10.50			
Car Sunshade	10.00			
Red Grocery Tote	4.00			
Red Ruby Lanyard Stadium Blanket	8.00			
Stadium Blanket	15.00			The Bart
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SHIP TO:				
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CITY:______ ST_____ZIP:_____

SUBMIT YOUR CHAPTER INFORMATION: NUMBER & NAME OF CHAPTER, LOCATION OF CHAPTER (CITY, STATE, COUNTRY OR SHIP), CURRENT OFFICERS DATE, TIME, AND LOCATION OF PLANNED MEETINGS, AND A <u>NON-GOVERMENT</u>EMAIL ADDRESS

15 Jul 19

MEMORADUM FOR THE RECORD

From: Force Judge Advocate, Commander Naval Air Forces

Subj: ACTIVE DUTY PARTICIPATION IN NON-FEDERAL ENTITY LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

Ref: (a) DoD 5500.7-R, Joint Ethics Regulation (b) 5 C.F.R. § 2635

(c) 18 U.S.C.

1. The guidance in this memorandum is intended to assist service members in abiding by the rules and regulations regarding interactions with non-federal entities (NFEs). Per reference (a), section 1-217, an NFE is a self-sustaining organization, established, operated, and controlled by individuals acting outside of the scope of the federal government, such as scouting units, civic organizations, and professional associations. Though an NFE is any non-federal organization, some NFEs have a close military nexus and with membership that includes high numbers of DoD personnel. There are several such NFEs that have historically been associated with naval aviation, including the Tailhook Association, the Maritime Patrol Association, the Naval Helicopter Association, the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen, and many more.

2. In accordance with reference (a), section 3-301, DoD personnel may voluntarily become members of and actively participate in NFEs, including managing NFEs, in their personal capacities. Such participation must be exclusively outside the scope of their official position. References (a) through (c) include specific rules governing interactions between DoD employees and NFEs. All active duty service members must abide by these rules. Specifically: a. DoD personnel may not give their NFE preferential treatment, and must ensure that they do not create any appearance that they are using their public office to assist the NFE in any way. See reference (b), section 702.

b. DoD personnel may not endorse the NFE in their official capacity, including allowing the NFE to utilize their official titles or positions in connection with the NFE. See reference (a), section 3-302.

c. DoD personnel may not encourage, pressure, or coerce other personnel, especially subordinates, to join, support, or otherwise participate in outside organizations. See reference (b), section 702(a).

d. DoD personnel may not personally solicit funds for the NFE from subordinates or prohibited sources. See reference (b), section 808(c).

h. DoD personnel may not use appropriated funds, Government resources, or official personnel to assist them in their work with the NFE. Work for the NFE may not be performed during official time. Examples of prohibited behavior include running, planning, and holding meetings for the NFE during normal working hours, using a government email address to conduct NFE business, and making references to the NFE leadership position when conducting business on behalf of the Navy. Any work conducted for NFEs should be done using a personal or NFE email account, limited to lunch time, after or before regular working hours, or other liberty/leave time to avoid this issue. See reference (a), sections 2-301 and 3-300. i. DoD personnel may not disclose non-public Government information to the NFE. For example, the use of distribution lists, VIP visit schedules, and other contact information which the DoD employee may come across during the course of their official duties, but is not available to the public, may not be used to further the NFE's interests. See reference (b), section 703(a).

j. DoD personnel must treat all NFEs equally. Senior officers, especially Commanding Officers and Executive officers, must be cautious that they do not use their official positions to give preferential treatment for logistical support to any NFE in which they participate in their personal capacities. See reference (b), section 101(b)(8).

3. Additional rules apply if military personnel wish to serve as officers, directors, trustees, or otherwise in a leadership position on an NFE that you must be aware of, specifically:

Members wishing to serve in an NFE a. leadership position in their official capacities must seek permission from the DoD General Counsel per reference (a), section 3-202. Members may serve in uncompensated NFE leadership roles in their personal capacity, however, reference (a), section 3-301, prohibits members from serving as an officer, member of the Board of Directors, or in any similar position offered because of their DoD assignment or position. Several naval aviation affiliated NFEs offer leadership positions to military members serving in key billets, such as Wing Commodores or Commanding Officers of Fleet Replacement Squadrons. Prior to assuming a leadership role in an NFE, military members should familiarize themselves with the organization's bylaws to ensure their leadership position within the NFE is not predicated on their official position within the Department of the Navy. Service members should decline any positions offered because of their

current billet; acceptance is a direct violation of reference (c).

b. Members serving in the management of NFEs in their personal capacities must take caution not to violate federal conflict of interest statutes as a result of their positions. Reference (c), section 208 prevents members from participating in any particular matters that may directly and predictably affect the NFE during the course of their government employment. Furthermore, sections 203 and 205, prevent federal personnel from acting as an agent for or representing the NFE before federal agencies on particular matters in which the Government is a party or has a direct and substantial interest. This could include making arrangements for military members to attend annual symposiums at government expense. Active Duty Officers and leaders of NFEs must recuse themselves from official Navy meetings and planning connected to Navy attendance at or support of NFE symposiums and events. Further, Active Duty Officers and leaders should leave communications to the Navy or Department of Defense from the NFE to civilian employees or civilian officers of the NFE.

4. The contribution of NFEs to the naval aviation community and the DoD at large is undisputed.

However, notwithstanding the close military nexus and mission of certain NFEs, all NFEs must be treated equally. Senior officers and junior personnel alike should be mindful of these regulations and the scrutiny involved with NFE interactions.

5. Should you have any questions about this memorandum or the guidance contained herein, my point of contact is LT Sarah Burkett, JAGC, USN, who can be reached at sarah.burkett@navy.mil or by phone at 619-545-279.

COMNAVAIRPAC Force Judge Advocate and Ethics Counselor

CHAPTER LISTING FIND YOUR LOCAL CHAPTER OR START ONE IN YOUR AREA. GO TO WWW.REDSHIRTNATION.COM/ FOR THE APPROPRIATE GUIDLINES.

Chapter 9 - Jacksonville, FL

President-LCDR (Ret) Steve

Treasurer-AOCM(Ret) Rick

Fleet Reserve, Collins Road

Chapter 11 - Kaneohe Bay, HI

Wing 2 Bldg, (John Finn Bldg)

President-AO1 Alexandria

Chapter 21 - Fallon, NV

1st Wednesday, 1830

President-AO1 Brent Nesbitt

Treasurer-AO2 Taylor Jones

Secretary-AO2 Jocelyn Nicolet

American Legion Post 16 Fallon,

Vice President-AO1 Juan Pelavo

ordy04@yahoo.com

3rd Thursday, 1900

Vice President-AOCS(Ret) Dennis

Secretary-LCDR(Ret) Steve Cashat

Cashat

Patterson

Wyman

Williams

NV.

1st Friday, 1600

Chapter 1 - Lemoore, CA President-AO1 Cindy Valdivia Vice-President-Bionica Boyd Secretary-Chris Hathaway Treasurer-Johnny Wheat Fleet Reserve Club, D Street, Lemoore 3rd Friday, 1730

Chapter 3 - Whidbey Island, WA President-AO1 Jennifer Watson VFW Post 3037 Fourth Wed of the month, 1130

Chapter 4 - Virginia Beach, VA President-AO1 Jaree D. Cokley VA Beach VFW #392, 2408 Bowland Pkwy 3rd Wednesday, 1800

Chapter 5 - China Lake, CA President-AOC Casey Wheelock chapter5chinalake@outlook.com VFW 4080, 117 N. Alvord Last Flex Thursday of Month, 1800

Chapter 22 - Patuxent River President-AO2 Brian Spaccarelli Vice President-AO1 Albert Bennett Treasurer-AO1 Vasilisa Bingham Secretary-Rob Pavel VFW, Post 2632 California, MD 3rd Wednesday, 1800 **Chapter 34** Pensacola, FL President-AO1 Ann Briggs chapter34ordie@gmail.com O'riley's Irish Pub downtown 321 S Palafox St, Pensacola, FL 1st Wednesday, 1830

Chapter 35-Lightning Chapter President-AO1 Garrett Ly-Kinhan CNATT Det Eglin JSF F-35 ATC 3rd Thursday, 1500

Chapter 39 Dude Gilbert Beaufort, SC

President-Rob Farmer

Vice-President-Chris Hooper hoop9777@gmail.com

Treasurer-Del Tingley

Secretary-Jason Grayson

After Burners Staff NCO Lounge

1st Thursday 1645 When permitted with COVID restrictions

Chapter 671 - Guam President-AO1 Marcus Van Molly McGee's onboard Naval Base Guam 3rd Thursday, 1900

Chapter Desert Southwest - El Centro, CA.

President-AO2 Georgina Ahumada geenah90@gmail.com

Chapter 8 - San Diego, CA

President-Michael Sheppard

Vice President-Diane McQueen-Gipson

Secretary & Treasurer-Barry Stemler bstemler36@gmail.com

American Legion Post 255, National City

1st Thursday, 1900

Chapter LHD 4 Gator Chapter President-AO1 Trenton Hagley On Board

Chapter LHD 7 - USS Iwo Jima President-AO1 Rosalie A. Lashley On Board

Chapter LHD 8 - USS Makin Island President-AO1Terrance Dukes On Board

Chapter CVN 68 - USS Nimitz President-AO1 Walter Adams On Board

Chapter CVN 69 - USS Dwight D Eisenhower President-AO1 Cory McIntyre On Board

Chapter CVN 70 - USS Carl Vinson President-AOC Jason Nixon Secretary-AOC Jeffery V. Williams Jefferywilliams085@gmail.com On Board

Chapter CVN 71- USS Theodore Roosevelt President-AO1 Jose Pando On Board

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

Chapter CVN 73 - USS George Washington President-AO1 Thurman McDowell On-Board **Chapter CVN 74** - USS Stennis President-AO1 Benjamin Llewellyn On Board

Chapter CVN 75 - USS Truman President-AO1 Dixon Vice President-AO1 Flowers Master at Arms-AO1 Everett PAO-AO3 Nichols Secretary-AO3 Bates Treasurer-AO2 Crider On Board

C**hapter 76** - USS Ronald Reagan President-AO1 Justin Fallone On Board

Chapter 77 - USS George H.W. Bush President-AO1 Rebecca Wright On Board

Chapter CVN 78 - USS Gerald Ford President-AO1 John Perry VFW Post 3160 111 A View, Norfolk, VA last Thursday of every month, 1400

Chapter Southernmost

Key West, Fl President-AO1 Carmenta Mesa Sunset Lounge, at Sigsbee ANNEX

Chapter Spartan Souda Bay, Greece President-AO1 Kyle Langerman Meeting Time and Location Varies 3rd Thursday of the month From the Editor: If you all noticed I placed the

"15 Jul 19

MEMORADUM FOR THE RECORD" on page 9; If you didn't notice PLEASE go back and read it! I will be more than happy to place your article in the newsletter, however I will not publish your "@navy.mil" email accounts.

Suggestion create ONE email for your chapter (ex: chapterredshirt@gmail.com) give the password to any one who sits on your BOD, Pres, etc. change password every couple of months and check the email every couple of days. KEEP IN TOUCH with the National. The folks who want to know that you are still living up to the Ordnancemen standard are on page 2 (National Secratary, treasurer).

It is no secret that I am in charge of the web page, the newsletter and the National BOD. I have an email address for each one so as not to miss anything. I want to ensure your contributions to the communties, to the Ordnance rate and to the Navy and Marine Corp are seen and heard!

I hope to meet some of you soon at the convention this year. Stay safe, IYAOYAS!

PLEASE send your Red Shirt Submissions via email to redshirteditor@gmail.com NLT

20 January, 01 May and 20 September

G reetings from **Chapter ONE** Lemoore, CA. We all would like to bid, "Farewell and Following Seas" to Mr. Randy R. Horner (AOCS RET) and congratulate him on his 17 years of civil service as the Lead Missile Technician for Navy Munitions Command DET Lemoore and his 27 years of active duty. Randy you are a wealth of ordnance knowledge, not likely to be replaced, IYAOYAS and best wishes on your retirement! Pictured below are LCDR Brian Garcia and Randy Horner.



Congratulations AO1 Brandon Hudson from Strike Fighter Weapons School Pacific on your Back Seat Ride. Thank you to VFA-122 and CDR Johnson for making this day possible. Outstanding job AO1!



Shoutout to VFA-136 Knighthawks.



All the hard work, training and dedication paid off.

They conducted their CWTPI on March 30th, 2021 with a perfect score. The camaraderie, pride and dedication is what the Ordnance community is all about, and they definitely showed us their AO pride.



Congratulations, and keep up the good work! IYAOYAS!!!

Best wishes to everyone! Stay safe out there.

AO1(AW) Valdivia

Greetings Ordie Nation,

n behalf of the **Chapter 4** AAO from Virginia Beach, VA and all of Hampton Roads, we would like to recognize a few squadrons from the F/A-18 community at Naval Air Station Oceana. Also, we hope everyone is staying safe and COVID free. See you at the convention in July! Very Respectfully,

AO1(AW/SW/IW) Cokley, Jaree

Greetings from CHAPTER 8, San Diego, "The Chapter Where It All Started." As with our previous Red Shirt input, our January through April meetings were conducted virtually via ZOOM due to COVID-19 restrictions. As of this writing we have received authorization to resume in-person meetings in May. It appears things are starting to return back too normal but with all things, time will tell.

At our 7 January Chapter meeting, Diane McQueen-Gipson officially became our Chapter Vice-President as a result of Michael Sheppard stepping up to the President position when our previous President, Victor Ada stepped down due to being selected for Chief and his transfer to the USS CARL VINSON for sea duty. At our 4 February Chapter meeting, David "Goose" Nelson and Joshua Casey became our two newest Board of Directors. Both have been very pro-active with the Chapter and promise to bring a lot of talent and leadership with them.



On Saturday, 6 February, we held our first Adopt-A-Highway Walk for 2021 with 17 volunteers showing up to support.

In March we recognized the Aviation Ordnance rate's 95th Birthday but were unable to hold any kind of ceremony due to COVID-19 restrictions. COVID-19 restrictions also played a major factor in the Chapter deciding to cancel our Chapter 8 Annual Family Picnic for the second year in a row. All are hopeful that this will be the last year we have to cancel due to COVID concerns.

In April, thanks to several private donations, we met our \$2,000 goal in support of the LCDR James E. Thompson 2021 Scholarship Award that will be awarded at the 2021 AAO Convention, Reno, NV. The Chapter would like to acknowledge Tom Lord, Al Ten Eyck, Bob Jackson, Jim and Carolyn Thomas, and Christopher Carter for their generous donations that made reaching our 2021 goal possible.

On April 13th, several Chapter members attended the NAS North Island Building 35 dedication ceremony in honor of AOC Charles Robert "Rob" Thacker who passed away on April 13, 2020 due to COVID-19 complications. The ceremony was led by Chapter 8's AOC(AW) Joshua Casey who did a great job coordinating every aspect of the ceremony including getting the building identified with



Chief Thacker's name below an Aviation Ordnance emblem.

Until next time, keep it safe out there and IYAOYAS!! V/r CWO3(Ret) Barry Stemler

hapter Nine. Life has certainly changed since March of 2020 and not for the best. We have experienced the same problems most of you have and are doing our best to overcome the effects. Attendance at meetings has dwindled form an average of 30-35 down to half that number mainly because of the restrictions on active duty gathering in crowds. Another repercussion is scholarship donations and merchandise sales have fallen off. Who would have predicted that even the "Blue Angels" schedule would be compromised? Their annual air show in the JAX area was a major fund raiser for the Chapter. In short, we are down but not out and continue to gather monthly, thankful for those that can attend. Most of our senior members have been vaccinated and are returning to life as usual. Even our most vulnerable members WWII vets Jack Purtee and Robert Bohnstengle fortunately have remained COVID free. We will adapt and overcome as life as we know it returns to "normal".

Congratulations to our newly elected Officers and Board of Directors elected in April for the 2021-2022year. And special thanks to outgoing President; AO1 Lindsay Smack, you served an extra year thru the turmoil and the Chapter says THANK YOU.

Take pride in serving this great country and being part of the best rate in the Navy. Thank you for your service...Stay safe and healthy. Remember to put our Nation first in all you do. Until my next installment.......Happy 95th birthday AO's.

IYAOYAS.

AOCM Richard Wyman (USN ret)

The **Desert southwest chapter** is back in action!! With new members hungry and ready to embark on a journey that will allow ourselves to standout from the crowd but also place us in our community where we can help our fellow members new and old to achieve our goals.

AO2 (AW/SW) Georgina Ahumada

Greetings from Chapter 21 in Ordnance Town U.S.A, Our chapter is thriving here in Fallon making things happen by complying with Covid-19 guidelines no matter how stringent they may be. We have been able to hold our regular meetings the first Wednesday of the month at the American Legion which is extremely gratifying being able to interact with all Ordies whether retired or active duty from resident commands and those who come on detachments to NAS Fallon. With that said we hosted a hike at Grimes point which had ordies from NMC, NAWDC, & the CVN-75 what a great turnout. in May. With the news of the ordie convention being on we are super excited to see everyone in July in the great state of Nevada!

> Very Respectfully, AO1 (AW/SW) Nesbitt

hapter 22. All is well here at PAX. Hope the rest of Ordie Nation is maintaining their sanity. It has been interesting having to meet virtually since January. Even though that was the case, we have still been busy. Our elections were held in March and AO1 Vasilisa Bingham was re-elected as Treasurer, AO2 Brian Spaccarelli was elected as President, AOC Brandon Capron elected as a BOD, and Mike Bruns/Tom Brouwer re-elected as BOD. Congrats to our re-elected and newly elected Officers/BOD. Good Luck! We had a super turn out for our first 2021 highway clean up in April, so we were able to maintain that event without interruption. We had to cancel our annual Chili cook off in February due to meeting virtually, but no worries if you're in the area on May 19th we are having our first annual wing cook off outdoors at one of our member's campsite (F26) at Solomon's Camp Ground. In addition, we are planning to have our annual summer picnic on July 17th at the Wildewood Clubhouse. So, remember if you are visiting and want to know if we have any events going on use the Redshirt and contact our President. Stay safe and healthy brothers and sisters. IYAOYAS!

V/R Rob Pavel

Chapter 22 Secretary

Now that vaccines are rolling out, we are having more and more opportunities to integrate into the community and host some volunteer events starting **HAPTER 34.** Due to COVID-19, students remain restricted to base. Although we are unable to PT and the students are to remain on base, chapter 34 still found a way to boost morale for the junior ordnance sailors. Chapter 34 provided over 300 meals for Navy and Marine students during Thanksgiving break while being able to maintain social distance. Chapter 34 also had the privilege of giving out numerous prizes that included speakers, shower caddies, water canteens, headphones and so forth.

Chapter 34 also threw a pizza party for the students to close out the 2020 year prior to Christmas stand



down. Which also included a raffle. Along with the pizza party, the chapter was able to give back to the Pensacola community. We teamed up with Loaves & Fishes, a local homeless shelter and soup kitchen, to provide 7 low income families with a Christmas dinner and gift cards for the children of the families.



It was such a joy seeing the smiles we were able to bring to those family's faces! It's been a very challenging sailing through these uncharted waters during this COVID-19 pandemic, but Chapter 34 has continued to persevere for our sailors and local community. However, we are committed to keeping morale high within the schoolhouse so that we can send the best sailors to the fleet while giving back to the community as well. Our chapter is growing despite the pandemic and we are looking forward to getting back to our regular schedule and hopefully meeting with other AO chapters in the near future. From all of us here at the AO schoolhouse, stay safe & IYAOYAS! Chapter Meetings: First Wednesday of the month. Limited Audience(Cabinet members/ board chairman only.)

President: AO1(AW) Briggs, Ann

hapter 39. "Dude Gilbert"

On Thursday April 22nd and Friday April 23rd, 2021 the Lowcountry Ordnance Chapter 39 and Ordies from all squadrons and units aboard MCAS Beaufort helped celebrate the 99th Marine Corps Aviation Ordnance Birthday. Which is recognized on April 25th.



With lots of help from the retirees and some family members this year's festivities were pulled off without a hitch.

Due to COVID restrictions lots of the competitions and events were not able to be played. But it did not stop this amazing group of Ordies from celebrating



the Ordnance heritage.

There was a golf tournament held on Thursday where prizes were handed out for 1st,2nd and 3rd place. There were also prizes handed out for the longest drive as well as closest to the pin. On Friday there was a picnic where families were invited. You could not have asked for better weather or a better turn out. Lots of free food and beverages were devoured during this picnic. The oldest and youngest Ordie was well as the furthest traveled Ordie were all recognized with custom made plaques. As the event came to an end every Ordnance Marine along with retirees came together to discuss how important next year's celebration will be and how important it is to continue the long tradition that currently stands.

Next year every ORDNANCEMEN will be celebrating the 100th birthday of the Marine Corps Aviation Ordnance. (IYAOYAS) -Chris Hooper (VP)





IYAOYAS

hapter 70. AAO Chapter President AOC Jason Nixon on his birthday (21 APR) and AOC Natasha Swartley's Hail and Bail/ Retirement. To add, Weapons department did their part by helping the command achieve a passing grade during INSURV and received an outstanding score for SESI. Our department continues to exceed expectations and we are honored to be a part of such a great group of Sailors. Have a great evening! I.Y.A.O.Y.A.S!

> Very respectfully, AOC (AW/SW) Jeffery V. Williams



Greeting from AAO Chapter 75! Hopefully our fellow Ordies have been well and able to maneuver during the COVID-19 difficulties. The ordies onboard the Mighty USS Harry S. Truman have been working hard to finish refurbishing our weapons elevators, handling equipment, and magazines during our current E-CIA in Norfolk Naval Shipyard to prepare to get back to the business of reshaping the earth. The Sailors have been hitting the ground running, even during COVID-19, to ensure that we meet all of our deadlines so we can get this war ship back in the fight.

We want to take this time to congratulate newly elected sailors for the Chapter 75 AAO Association Cabinet.

President: AO1(AW/SW/IW) Dixon Vice President: AO1(AW/SW) Flowers Master at Arms: AO1(AW) Everett PAO: AO3(AW/SW) Nichols Secretary: AO3(AW/SW) Bates

Treasurer: AO2(AW/SW) Crider

The AAO Chapter 75 has also dedicated \$200 for the beautification of the MOTT facility to ensure the Fleet's premier training facility continues to shine. Let's keep leading the Fleet and showing everyone what it means when we say IYAOYAS. Keep giving 'em Hell!

IYAOYAS!

ARMS OF THE FLEET



VFA37: AO2(AW/SW) YELVERTON P50960 VFA34: AO3(AW) MILLER AND AO3(AW) ROSARIO

VP1 Kadena Det L to R AO3 Phillips AO1 Thompson CWO4 Hanna, AOAN Fuentes AO3 Tuua Okinawa, Japan



VFA106: AO2(AW) BROWN, AO3(AW) NIELSEN, AO3(AW) SWANSON, AO3(AW) REYES, AO2(AW) GUILLEN

VP1 OKINAWA, JAPAN



NUMBER 1

1 AUGUST 1976

AO NEWSLETTER

As some of you probably know, we (meaning us AOs) had a reunion in San Diego last month. We had many responses from those who could not make it, as well as a good representative group in attendance. We know the word missed many of you who would have attended had you known about it. We are now trying to reach the majority of all AOs.

The group who made it to San Diego had a great time, from swapping sea stories by the batch and flying in back seats of "Black Cats" and "TBDs" (what are those?), to discussing current problems on today's fleet aircraft. The blast lasted three days (we even had a bomb scare from the ATs), but we all came out in pretty good shape.

At the dinner dance, RADM Monger was the guest speaker. Among the other guests was CAPT Crow, currently COMNAVAIRPAC Weapons Officer. We even came out of all this revelry with an association yet!

Yes, we did decide to form an association of Aviation Ordnancemen, for camaraderie' of the most exclusive group of people in the world! In the future, we plan to discuss the common, seemingly unsolvable problems that we all share. If enough of us talk about it, maybe something will happen!

The charter of our organization is now in preparation and should be ready for incorporation shortly after you receive this newsletter. Under the in preparation charter, an election of officers was held with the following results:

PRESIDENT:	VICE-PRESIDENT:	SECRETARY-TREASURER:	
Kirk Nelson	Gerry Gannon	Tom Robins	
1160 N. Gracia	Mine Warfare Group	729 Buddlawn Way	
Camarillo, CA 93010	NS, Charleston, SC	Campbell, CA 95008	
	BOARD OF DIRECTORS:		
Les Ovre	Jack Hagerup	Bob Branum	
P O Box 833	1918 Wilton Dr	80332 Mountain Dr	

P O Box 833 Healdsburg, CA	1918 Wilton Dr Bloomington, Ind 47401	80332 Mountain Dr Trona, CA
Jim Correll	Bob Brake	Frank Parker
1031 Los Robles Blvd	129 W. Third St.	1229 Las Posas Ct
Sacramento, CA	Waynesboro, PA	Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Some of the highlights from the charter are that anyone joining the association prior to 28 March 1977 (which is the <u>50th</u> (golden) anniversary of the AO rate) will be a plankowner. The association mambership is open to all Navy and Marine Corps AOs, past, present and future. The association is also open to civilians who have demonstrated expertise in the development and maintenance of airborne weapons and related equipment. Membership dues have been established at \$7.50 for the first year. 1.00 1.1

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Right now, we need members, ideas for future get-togethers, help from those who want to devote a little time, and most of all, help from each and every one of you in our Sea Service membership drive.

Each of you know someone in addition to your shipmates now with you, who may have been an Ordnanceman, who is now an Ordnanceman, a person who is associated with ordnance or weaponry, or a retired Ordnanceman that we have not contacted. The main point is: Let's Get It Together! Talk to the guy in the next squadron, talk to your retired buddy, talk to the Tech Rep who helps you out, talk to anyone associated with Aviation Ordnance. <u>COMMUNICATE</u>!

If you run out of membership applications, either Xerox some more, Make some more, or write to Frank Parker, 1229 Las Posas Court, Ridgecrest, CA 93555. (He's the guy that misspelled "Ordnancemen" on the application you now have) Send completed membership applications, along with a check or money order made payable to the "Association of Aviation Ordnancemen", to Tom Robins, 729 Buddlawn Way, Campbell, CA 95008. Send any ideas, suggestions or offers of help to any officer of the organization.

Next year, there will be another convention (reunion), at a place to be determined by your response on the membership applications. The basic idea is to ping-pong the conventions from one coast to the other, with an occasional stop somewhere in between. (New Orleans, St. Louis, Las Vegas, Oshkosh, Wis., etc.) This will come in the future as our association grows. In any case there will be a get-together every year somewhere.

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\$7.50 Received By:	TEMPORARY RECEIPT	ZIP DUTY STATION (ACTIVE) ED: MEMBER ASSOCIATE MEMBER: (DTIONAL FOR MEMBER) EMPLOYER ADDRESS OCCUPATION OCCUPATION	HENGERSHIP IR: ACT RET RET SERVED:
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LET US HEAR FROM YOU SOON!

21



PLAN TO ATTEND THE 2021 AAO CONVENTION

29JULY – 1 AUG

A NEW WAY TO BOOK YOUR ROOM!

A dedicated website is now available to book your hotel rooms online. Reservations can be made by following the below link

https://book.passkey.com/go/AAO21

In the event that you would still like to call the hotel please see the information below:

(800)687-8733 Book Code: AAO21 Must Make Reservations NLT 4 July Rates are good from 25 July thru Aug 3 Sunday – Thursday Standard Room - \$77 Friday & Saturday Standard Room - \$101 Resort FEE included-IF YOU ARE CHARGED A RESORT FEE PLEASE SPEAK WITH KIRK BRADO 619-962-6158 OR EMAIL: KBRADO1@HOTMAIL.COM *Deluxe Spa Suites Are Available* **Free Airport Shuttle** MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY https://www.redshirtnation.com/convention-information

2021 JOHN W FINN AVIATION ORDNANCEMAN OF THE YEAR

AOY message and example packages can be found on the website: https://www.redshirtnation.com/committees NOMINATIONS FOR THE JOHN W. FINN AOY AWARD MUST BE RECEIVED BY COB ON 23 JUL 2021. NO PACKAGES WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DEADLINE. REQUEST SUBMITTING COMMANDS PROVIDE AN EMAIL ADDRESS IN ORDER TO ALLOW POC TO PROVIDE CONFIRMATION THAT SUBJECT NOMINATION PACKAGE WAS RECEIVED AND VERIFIED COMPLETE. EMAIL PACKAGES TO THE AOY CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE AT nationalaaovp@gmail.com.



ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN HALL OF FAME

Nomination(s) must be submitted to the Association National Secretary or Hall of Fame Committee Chairman, no later than 23 July 2021. The nomination package, may be e-mailed to the Committee Chairman, but a PAPER COPY and a DISC COPY (ELECTRONIC COPY) must be hand delivered to the Committee Chairman at the Association Convention or mailed to the Committee Chairman.

Jeff Sassone

20812 Flour Mill Court

Great Mills, MD 20634

nationalaaobod5@gmail.com

Nominated individual(s) must be serving or have served in the Aviation Ordnance Rating/ Field and Department of Defense, but need not be a member of the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen.

Nominated individual(s) must have made a specific contribution through a special achievement or superior performance which has enhanced the reputation, readiness or future well-being of the Aviation Ordnance Rating/ Field and/or the ASSOCIATION of AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN."

https://www.redshirtnation.com/hall-of-fame-nominee

2021 AAO ROBERT L. CROW SCHOLARSHIP

Application guidlines have been posted on the web site https://www.redshirtnation.com/educational. Commity Chair: Rick Garza can be contacted at rgarza511@gmail.com

Dear AO Association Scholarship Committee,

Thank you for the generous financial support towards my higher education. I am sincerely honored to have been selected as one of the recipients of the Robert L. Crow scholarship, I am able to concentrate on what is most important to me, education.

Neither of my parents had the ability to attend college but taught me education was always my number one priority and made sure I'd have all I needed to get through college. Their dedication and service to the U.S Navy provided me with many opportunities and resources, including this scholarship that has allowed me to be one step closer to my goal.

Thank you again for this tremendous blessing.

Dominique Ambers

ROBERT L. CROW 2020 SCHOLARSHIP RECEIPENT



SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTORS

Chapter 22 James & Pat Sensing AOC Calvin & Joyce Abers USN Ret CAPT Tommy C. Wimberly USN Ret Tomas & Tacia Wheelock AO1 Jason & Jennifer Luthge AOC Jeffery & Beverly Shaw USN Ret AOCM Robert & Nancy Tyson USN Ret AOC Delbert & Judi Mitchell USN Ret

2021 CONVENTION PRE-REGISTRATION APPLICATION

DEADLINE IS 15 JULY 2021

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

30 Jul (Fri) AO of the Year Committee* 30 Jul (Fri) Scholarship Committee	30 Jul (Fri) AAO Hall of Fame Committee
$\frac{\text{*Note: AOY Committee restricted to Active/ Retired}}{\text{E-7 \& Above}}$	
30 Jul (Fri) Board of Directors Meeting	31 Jul (Sat) Board of Directors Meeting
31 Jul (Sat) General Business Meeting	
AUXILIARY OF THE ASSOCIATI	ON OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN
30 Jul (Fri) Board of Directors Meeting	31 Jul (Sat) Auxiliary Luncheon

31 Jul (Sat) General Business Meeting _____ 31 Jul (Sat) Board of Directors Meeting _____

NOTE

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

ADVANCED TICKET ORDERING INFORMATION

Payment of the Registration Fee is required to attend any meeting or convention function. Registration Fees must be paid prior to purchasing tickets for the Social and/or Awards Banquet. Registration Fees are not required for dependents 17 and under. However, they must purchase tickets to attend the Social and/or Awards Banquet.

For active-duty E-4 and below:

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

ORDERS & MONEY FOR REGISTRATION FEES, AAO SOCIAL AND AWARDS BANQUET TICKETS WILL BE COLLECTED DURING REGISTRATION IN RENO.

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

ADVANCE PRE-ORDER FORM

For <u>PRE-REGISTRATION</u>, AAO Social and/or Awards Banquet <u>tracking</u>. The option to submit payment with your pre-registration form or at the Convention Registration Desk is your choice. Either way is acceptable. Mail or email the Pre-Registration form to:

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN Thomas Lord 2888 Iris Ave., #122 San Diego, CA 92154 Email: nationalaaotreas@gmail.com

REGISTRATIO	N FEES (choose appropriate category):			
1. Member - \$50. (Not including	00 guest or spouse)			
Name of Member		\$	Coin #s:	/ /
	(Please Print)	(Note 1)		(Note 1)
2. Non-Member - (Not including	\$60.00 guest or spouse)			
Name of Non-Me	mber	\$	Coin #s:	/ /
	(Please Print) s 18 and over - \$50.00	(Note 1)		(Note 1)
Names of Guests		\$	Coin #s:_	
(Spouse)	(Please Print)	(Note 1)		(Note 1)
		_		
ADVANCE SOC	IAL & AWARDS BANQUET ticket prices:			
Friday AAO Socia	al - \$50.00 each (Children: See Note A)	\$		
Saturday Awards	Banquet - \$50.00 each (Children: See Note A)	\$		
(Note A): Childre	n 5 to 12 - \$25/Children 13 & Over – Full Price			
	Total amour	nt of order \$		_
Phone # (Note 2):				
E-Mail Address (1	Note 2):			

Note 1: Included in the Registration Package will be a serialized coin commemorating the 45th Anniversary of the Association and the 95th Anniversary of the Aviation Ordnance Rate. Preferred numbers will be given to members on a first come, first served basis. In the column above, please indicate your preferred numbers (002-112/114-200) by first, second and/or third choice.

Note 2: Please, include your phone number and/or email address to allow notification of any changes that may impact Convention 2021.

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION https://www.redshirtnation.com/ MEMBERSHIP DUES:

FIRST TIME MEMBERS \$25.00 PER YEAR OR \$40.00 FOR TWO YEARS. PREVIOUS MEMBERS AND ANNUAL RENEW \$25.00 PER YEAR

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SPONSOR					•		

I elect to receive my Red Shirt by downloading if from the web only (Please intitial) 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: AAO NATIONAL TREASURER 2888 IRIS AVE #122 SAN Deigo CA 92154-3352 EMAIL TO: AAO NATIONAL TREASURER <u>nationalaaotreas@gmail.com</u> **GIVE THIS FORM TO A FELLOW ORDNANCEMEN **SPECIAL** FIRST TIME RE-ENLISTMENT 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.



THE RED SHIRT

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN 2888 IRIS AVE #122 SAN DIEGO, CA 92154 STANDARD MAIL U.S. POSTAGE PAID KEY WEST, FL PERMIT NO. 16





Another CWTPI in the books HSC85 has the world's finest Ordies. This crew makes my life as a gunner easy.~ Calvin Pratt (AO brother Sisterhood FaceBook)