

June 2010

The Association of Aviation Ordnancemen

# THE RED SHIRT

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

Issue #112

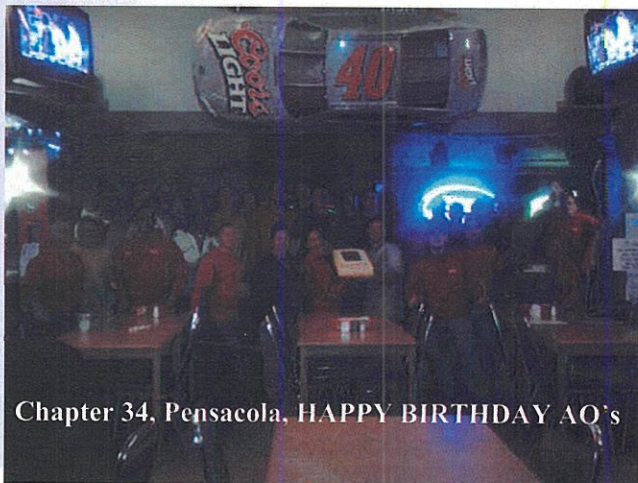
Peace Through Power - We Are The "ARMS" Of The Fleet



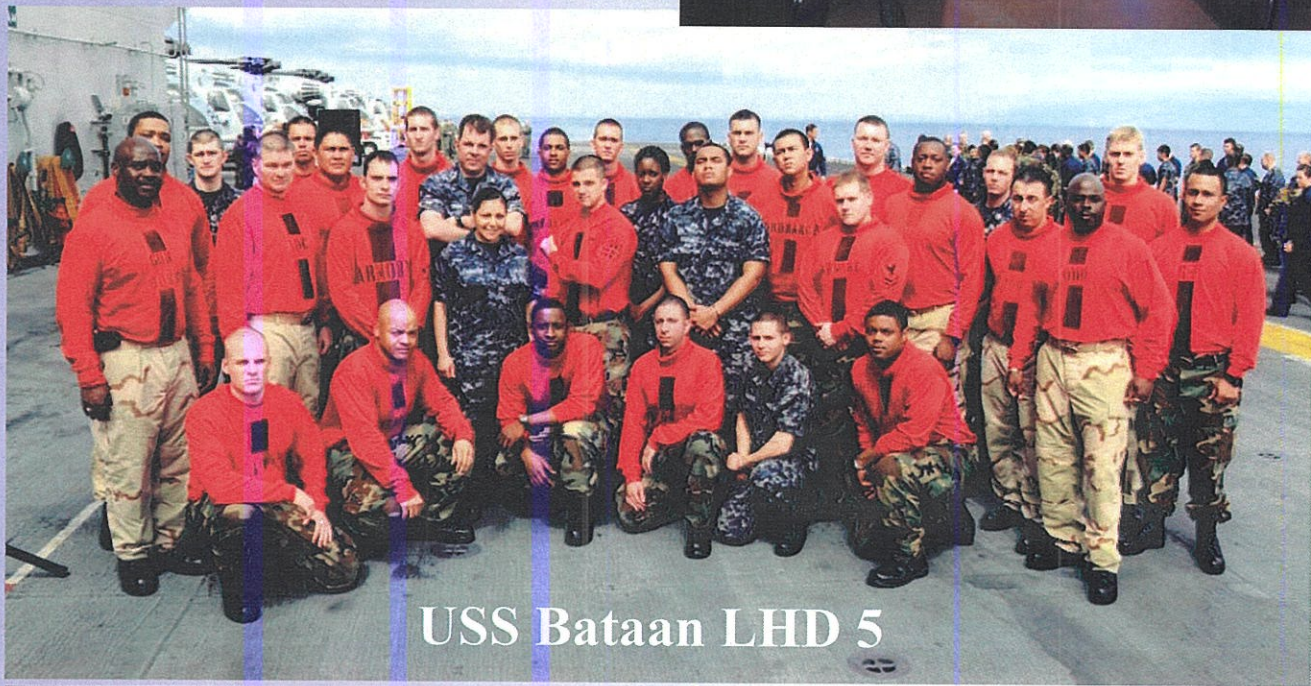
NFL stars Drew Brees, Donnie Edwards and Billy Miller came out to see us yesterday!! Very good visit! Had a lot of fun! USS NASSAU (LHA-4)



Chapter 9 Adopt A Highway FOD Walk-down. Picture was taken by the President's daughter Alyssa Pratt. It was conducted on March 20, 2010.



Chapter 34, Pensacola, HAPPY BIRTHDAY AO's



USS Bataan LHD 5

# John Finn Passes Away



Longtime San Diegan Lt. John Finn, who was the first man to receive a Medal of Honor in World War II, has died.

Finn passed away before 6 a.m. Thursday in San Diego, where he'd been living for more than 50 years.

"We lost a national treasure and a national hero today," said Capt. David Lepard with the U.S. Navy. "It's really touching his death occurred on Memorial Day Weekend and he'll never be forgotten."

Finn was not only the first but also for many years the oldest Medal of Honor recipient from WWII. He lived on a ranch not far from Oak Springs.

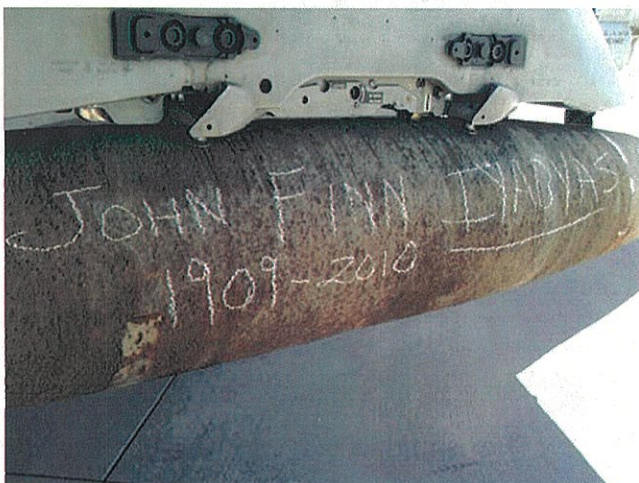
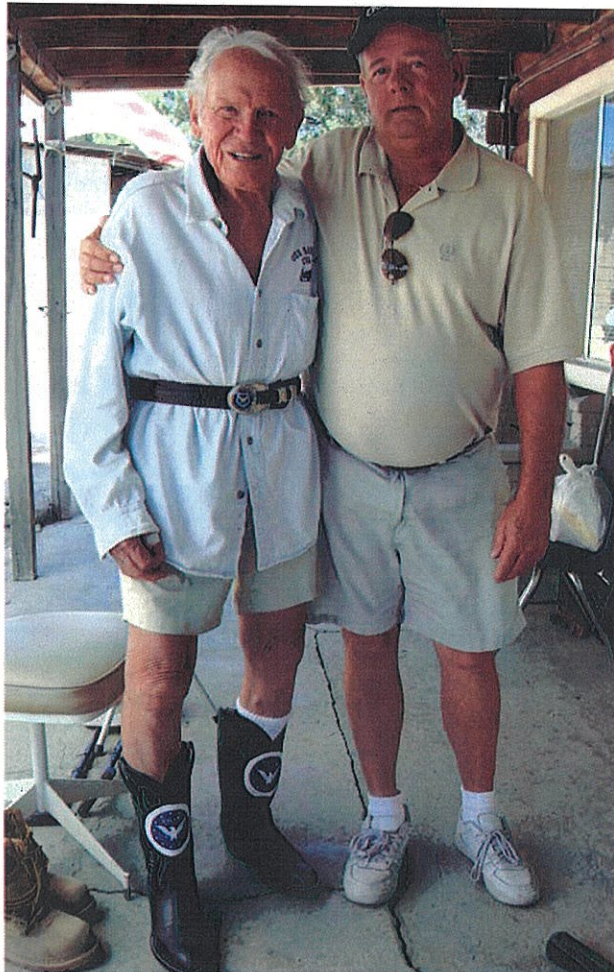
On December 7, 1941, Finn manned a machine gun in the open, fully exposed to enemy fire. He was shooting at and hitting Japanese planes even while he was being hit.

"My chest and my belly and my arm and foot were penetrated by shrapnel," Finn told About San Diego's Ken Kramer in 2008.

His Medal of Honor was approved by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on September 15, 1942.

"I don't feel like a hero," Finn once said. "I do know this. I didn't run away. I stayed there and we fought the Japs until the last one left."

Finn will be buried on the Campo Indian Reservation, where his wife is buried, with full military honors. Funeral plans will likely be released sometime next week



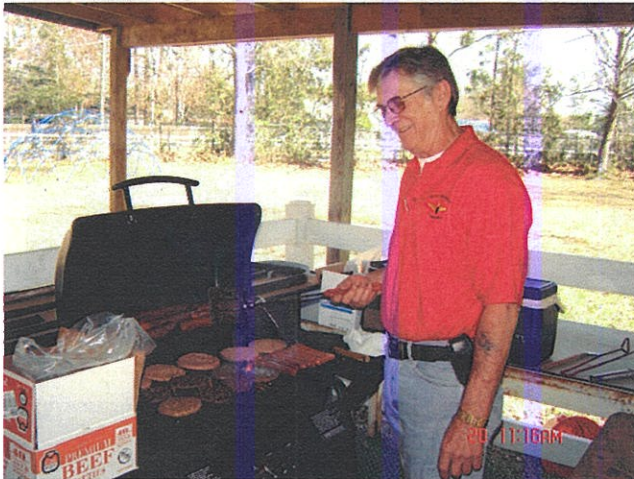
VFA-137 Loading and DROPPING MK-83 on 27 MAY 2010, loaded out of the NAS Lemoore CALA. The troops wanted to put John Finn's name and dates on the load.  
CWO4 Decker, Gunner



## Chapter 9

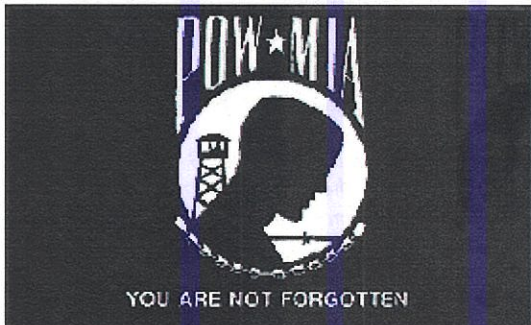


*Nice Dew Bill*



*Master Chief*

Chapter 9 hosted a NJROTC/MCJROTC shooting competition again this year with 93 entries. Four of the teams are pictured on page 5.



## TAPS

LT John Finn USN Ret MoH  
 AOC(AW/SW) Steven Poteat  
 \*AOC James A. Mattina  
 Nicholas J. Mangieri  
 \*AOC Milton J. Nikkola  
 BMCS(MDV) Daniel R. Keller USN Ret.  
 \*AOC Paul T. McElroy  
 \*AOC Charles Mulcahy  
 \*AOC Louis G. Vay  
 \*AOC Robert O. Zamora  
 AOC William E. Kincheloe USN Ret.  
 \*AOC Gilbert E. Daniel  
 \*AOC Billy R. Mabry

*\*Info from FRA Today Newsletter*

## Red Shirt Articles

*are due*

20 JAN 11  
 20 MAY 11  
 20 SEP 10

*Please submit via  
e-mail  
when possible*





Chapter 9 Sailor of the 4th Quarter. AO2 (AW) Casey L. Wheelock from VP-30. Pictured is AO2 Wheelock, CDR Mike Gramolini, AOC Daniel Pratt (Chapter President) along with other VP-30



Photo of AOC Daniel Pratt (Chapter 9 President) and AO2 (AW) Casey L. Wheelock from VP-30 receiving her Chapter 9 4th Quar-



Churchill County, Fallon, NV 3rd place in mixed category. From left to right: Ryan Lipnicki, Sara Smith, Jonathan Travis, Lisa Brown and Colton Oviatt.



Cross Creek who were first place in the mixed category. From left to right; Jordan Poythress, James Foshee, Chelsea Hubbard, Latoni Smith, Victoria Mixon and CDR Shaw.



First place team from the First Year Shooter Category, R-S Central MCJROTC from Rutherfordton, NC: score: 1289 out of 1500; From left to right: Alex Murray, Amber Swink, Courtney Blair, Samantha Morris and Steven Murphy.



Linganore Rifle Team, Third in the first Year Shooter category From left to right; back row, Mat Church, Trace Bradley, John White, Daniel Bassett, Austin Swick. Middle row, Jake Murphey, Jacob Stone, Ryan Dye. Kneeling, Alyssa Everett, Haley Feltner, Ed Strakna



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

**PRESIDENT**

**CAPT David H. Lepard**  
2977 Myrtlewood Dr  
Dumfries, VA 22026  
(H) 703.221.7330  
AAOPresident@aaoweb.org  
LDOORD@verizon.net

**VICE PRESIDENT**

**LCDR Larry "Joe" Manley, USN/Ret.**  
2099 Thomas Court  
Fallon NV 89406-8703  
(H) 775.423.9205  
AAOVVP@aaoweb.org

**SECRETARY**

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

**TREASURER**

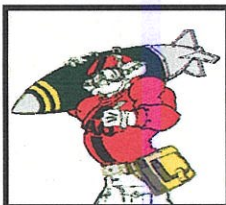
**AOCM J.J. LaMaitre, USN/Ret.**  
9691 Bundy Drive  
Santee, CA 92071-2771  
(H) 619.562.8492  
(W) 619.545.2585  
AAOTreasurer@aaoweb.org

**CHAPLAIN**

**Mart Vance, USN/Ret**  
421 Whitaker Lane  
Fallon, NV 89406  
(H) 775.423.3696  
(C) 775.427.3740  
mart@phonewave.net  
AAOChaplain@aaoweb.org

**MOVING?**

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



**CHAPTER MEETINGS - PLACES - TIMES - DATES**

*Chapter 1 - Lemoore, CA*  
President: AOI Jose Franco  
559-998-0885  
Fleet Reserve, Lemoore  
3rd Monday, 1730

*Chapter 3 - Whidbey Island, WA*  
President: AOI Dustin "Roy" Edsall  
Dustin.edsall@navy.mil  
360-257-2077  
VFW Post 7392 (Whidbey)  
2nd Wednesday, 1730

*Chapter 4 - Virginia Beach, VA*  
President: AOC Mike Hayden  
757-433-2339  
Moose Lodge, VA Beach  
3rd Wednesday, 1630

*Chapter 5 - China Lake, CA*  
President: AOC Robert Vergara  
760-939-9971  
VFW 4084, 117 N. Alvord  
2nd Flex Thursday, 1830

*Chapter 8 - San Diego, CA*  
President: AOI Nanise M. Schroeder  
619-545-6221  
Fleet Reserve, Chula Vista  
1st Thursday, 1900

*Chapter 9 - Jacksonville, FL*  
President: AOC Daniel Pratt  
[daniel.pratt@navy.mil](mailto:daniel.pratt@navy.mil)  
904-542-8541  
Fleet Reserve, Collins Road  
3rd Thursday, 1900

*Chapter 11 - Kaneohe Bay, HI*  
President: AOI Dow  
808-839-2226 ????  
Call for Meeting Time and Place

*Chapter 21 - Fallon, NV*  
President: AOI T. Hixson  
775-217-3457  
American Legion Post 16 Fallon, NV.  
1st Wednesday, 1900

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

*Chapter 39 "Dude Gilbert" - Beaufort, SC*  
President: Del Tingley  
843-228-7827  
[Delroy.d.tingley@usmc.mil](mailto:Delroy.d.tingley@usmc.mil)

*Chapter 65 - USS Enterprise*  
CVN 65 President:  
AO1(AW) Shane A. Pace  
On Board

*Chapter 68 - USS Nimitz*  
CVN 68 President: AO1 Luis Nergon  
[Luis.Negron@cvn68.navy.mil](mailto:Luis.Negron@cvn68.navy.mil)  
On Board

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

*Chapter 72 - USS Lincoln*  
CVN 72 President:  
AO1 (AW/SW) Daniel P. Wickersham  
On Board

*Chapter 74 - USS Stennis*  
CVN 74 President: CWO4 Eric Richmond  
On Board

*Chapter 75 - USS Truman*  
CVN 75 President: AO1 Wes Thompson  
On Board

*Chapter 76 - USS Ronald Reagan*  
CVN-76 President: AO1 Gregory Johnson  
On Board

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

*Chapter Key West,*  
Southern Most President: AO2 Ryan Smith  
305-293-2420  
Southernmost VFW Post 3911  
1st Thursday, 1700

*Chapter 34 - Pensacola, FL*  
President: AO1(AW) Dawn Hannon  
[dawn.hannon@navy.mil](mailto:dawn.hannon@navy.mil)  
850-452-7385 ext 4183  
Kooter Browns  
1st Wednesday, 1830

*Chapter Desert/Southwest - El Centro, CA*  
President:

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



## Letters To The Editor

Mr. Meagher,

Good Morning/Afternoon. I am writing in response to a Letter to the Editor that was posted in the Feb '10 newsletter. It was from a Bekki Walker who was looking for me.

Would you mind forwarding my contact info below to her or providing hers to me?

Any assistance you could provide would be greatly appreciated. Thank You for your time and have a great day!

IYAOYAS!!!

v/r,  
AO1 (AW) Darnell, J. L.

*AO1, hope you all were able to get in touch. Ed*

---

Former Aviation Ordnanceman First Class (AOM1C) Bill Kamm of Atwood, IL turned 102 years old on 9 November 09.

He had quite a colorful background in the Navy. 32 years old when the Japanese attacked Hawaii, he promptly enlisted and was assigned to the Aviation Ordnance School in Chicago, following Boot Camp in Great Lakes. As he graduated at the top of his Ordnance class (of some 130 students), he was assigned to remain at the school as an instructor. He stayed with the school when it was moved to NATTC Jacksonville, FL.

Upon his transfer to NAS Kaneohe Bay, HI, he taught in the aerial gunnery school that had been established earlier by AOMC John Finn.

While Bill never saw combat, he trained many who did. Following the big war, he returned to Illinois.

**T**o all chapters,

Please review your information on the Chapter Meetings - Places - Times - Dates section on page 3. E-mail your changes to me and Dennis Costa. I know some of the phone numbers don't match up and I also need a few E-mail addresses. I get the occasional call from AO's inquiring about a meeting in a certain area and its nice to give them up to date information. If you don't see your chapter on here let me know that also please.

Thanks for the help, Editor

I learned of this fine gentleman while riding on my 'special needs' school bus in Warner Robins, GA. One of my high school students (an AFJROTC member) told me of his great uncle recently turning 102 years old, who had been in the Navy during WWII. When I asked what the gent had done while in the Navy, I was told that it had something to do with guns and bombs, and that he had a newspaper with an article about him. Yes, it turned out he was an Aviation Ordnanceman, and with a little effort, I was able to contact Mr. Kamm and convince him that he should become a lifetime member of the AAO. I also informed him of the annual AAO reunion, of John Finn and a little more about the organization and its members.

Bob Holdman  
AOCM USN (Ret)

*Bob, thanks for the letter, truly amazing how you stumbled across him! I've included your letter to the editor (pg 9) you sent the newspaper and a reprint of the article (pg 22) from the Southern Piatt Record-Herald, unfortunately I could not get a good copy of the pictures. Will try to get that for the next issue.*

---

Good morning,

It is truly a GOOD morning! We have received the results of Tamma's bone marrow biopsy which resulted in being negative for cancer--Tamma is in remission!!! This is the best news that we could have received so far this year. 2010 is shaping up to be a great year. Thank you Lord for answered prayers. Thank you to all of our friends and family members who have kept Tamma in your thoughts and prayers. It has been a very tough 2 years.

Tamma will have to go through maintenance chemotherapy (ongoing therapy) which entails either 1 month of 4 treatments and 5 months off for up to 2 years or 1 treatment every 3 months for up to 2 years. With this ongoing therapy it has been shown to significantly lower the risk of the cancer returning by more than 50%.

As you all can imagine, we are going to have a party tonight and celebrate life. Tamma's hair is starting to grow back.

We will deal with this "chronic disease" as each day comes but we are very excited about the latest news. Tamma is such a sweetheart and will always be.

Very respectfully,  
Bill

CDR Bill Bindel  
Gun Boss  
PEO Unmanned Aviation and Strike Weapons



Chief,

I'm a greenshirt who received a copy of your excellent magazine from a subscriber, Dave Rogers. I read it cover to cover in search of names I recognized from the past. I didn't find any, but I'm sure many of my AO shipmates read your magazine. I was especially impressed with the article about Ed Wentzlaff and how he wants his ashes interred on USS Arizona because "that's where all my friends are." I hope more people make the effort to preserve the stories of our older veterans.

CAPT Diane Diekman, USN (ret)  
Upper Marlboro, Maryland  
dee.jean@verizon.net  
http://dianediekman.com  
Author of "Live Fast, Love Hard: The Faron Young Story"

Kevin,

Attached is a photo of 9 AO's assigned to the Noble Eagle 4135 MP Navy Guard Group 11 and they are currently doing detainee ops/convoy training in the desert of Ft. Bliss, Texas and Ft. McGregor, New Mexico. It is very unusual that 9 AO's ended up in the same unit. After training they are headed to Afghanistan. Some of them are old shipmates and we just want to say thank you for their service and come home safely.

From left to right back row  
AO2(AW) RYAN SMITH, AO2(AW) JUSTIN BRITT,  
AO1(AW) DANIEL LUEBBERT, AO2 DAVID INGRAM,  
AO1(AW) DANIEL GLAZE, AO2(AW) MAURICE  
CHILDRESS From left to right front row  
AO1(AW) RICARDO RUSSO, AOC RODOLFO SALAS,  
AOC CHAD SORIANO

Respectfully,

CDR Bill Bindel  
Gun Boss  
PEO Unmanned Aviation and Strike Weapons

*Thanks for the pic Bill, its included on page 31*

Dear Editor,

As I glance at the front page of the Feb 2010, The Red Shirt, I have to smile as I see technology has not advanced in 55 years that I am aware of. We are still loading ordnance by hand, (AKA), brute strength. However, until someone perfects the art of levitation there will never be a quicker way to load ordnance, than by hand. We really found this out during the Vietnam War when we used up all the WWII fat bombs and started loading the MK 80 series bombs, in earnest. We could have never met the turn around time if we

did not load by hand. As in the picture we also used 5 Ordies to load MK 82's and 7 to load MK 83's. Using that highly advanced technical loading equipment, the "Hernia Bar." I also observed some Ordies using the short handle of the aero 12-B bomb skid to help load bombs. They would also pass the handle under the tail end of the bomb with 2 Ordies on each side. This would upset the Ship's Ordies some what, in that they did the maintenance on the skids. However, I never did see a bent handle. Looks like some things never really change.

Sincerely,  
Bob Solomon  
LCDR USN (RET)

*Bob, I always love your letters.....thanks!*

Greetings Chief,

It has been a long time since I have ordered any items from the Red Shirt and I haven't seen the list published for a very long time. Are they being sold only at the annual convention or are they still available from the Red Shirt? I have lost a couple of my metal Ordnance Wings that I wear on my caps and I want to obtain some replacements. I can wait for an order form from the next publication of the Red Shirt. If not, then I'll manage to get them another way. So much for the request info.

Now on to another subject. The last publication of the Red Shirt front cover shows a terrific shot, of Ordies loading what looks like a Mk83, without the aid of a hoist. Chief, I suggest you get a flak jacket real fast if 1 copy of that publication gets to any Ordnance Safety Officer. The reason I know this is, I lost my right middle finger onboard the "Connie" CVA-64 in 1966 in WestPac when 8 of the 11 men stepped away to load another Mk-83 and the rack broke and took 3 of us to the deck. I was the only one hurt as the tail fin caught me and took me with it. I'll be the last guy in the world to criticize anyone's work efforts because I broke a lot of the rules when I was in there slingin' ammo. I just don't want to see you get clipped for something you are not responsible for. Additionally, it is said that you really don't understand Safety until you're right in the middle of one of its violations. Take it from me Chief, you were blindsided, but at least you weren't injured. Have a great day and stay healthy.

Your shipmate and friend,  
AO1 Richard J. Quinn USN Ret  
(ordie1stclass@yahoo.com)

*Can someone help Mr. Quinn out with an order form please? Thanks for the letter, these are what make this publication possible!*





---

Sir please see attached picture of some very proud Ordnancemen.

My Ordies led by CWO4 (sel) Boyd and AOCS Burton wanted me to share what we experienced going ashore in support of Haiti.

I wanted to share some Ordie pride that we have here aboard Bataan. My crew, AO's and GM's, performed outstanding during the current ongoing mission Operation Unified Response Haiti. Bataan returned from a 7 month deployment on 8 Dec 2009. On 14 Jan 2010 immediately following our POM Bataan got under way to render aid to Haiti. We have no idea when we will return to Norfolk. Though we miss our families dearly, we are focused on the mission and always on the defense of the ship and explosive safety. As you know humping ordnance is what we do, so the transition to humping rumble to clear streets of Grande Gouave was just another day for my AO's and GM's. We assisted all of Bataan in donating \$5,718.15, removal of 150 tons of rumble, built 65 shelters for 130 families and passed out over 500,000 meals to the Haitians. We do have another very big mission after we depart Haiti. We will be going to Earl, NJ to complete a major ammo offload in preparation to entering the shipyard. Ordies are true leaders no matter what the task.

IYAOYAS

LT Major A. Gooden  
Gun Boss / Weapons Officer  
USS Bataan LHD 5

*LT, welcome home and thanks for representing. Picture on page 2. Tell AOCS Burton I said hello!*

---

Dear Editor,

Re: Your 11 Nov 09 article concerning former AOCS1 Bill Kamm.

I'm truly honored to be writing this letter.

As a retired Navy Aviation Ordnanceman, I now ride a school bus for special needs children to keep busy. I was very interested when one of my high school students told me of his great-great uncle who was a sailor during WWII, having turned 102 years old and that he was carrying a copy of your paper. My ears really perked up when told that the gent worked on weapons. When I saw in your article that he was what is now called an "AO", I was truly honored and amazed.

So, I have a few things to pass your way.

First, is that his Navy/Marian Corps field is extremely proud that we have one of only two associations recognized by the

Chief of naval Operations—that is the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen. Our website is [www.aaoweb/ao.org](http://www.aaoweb/ao.org). Hopefully you will all take the opportunity to check out that site. Please scroll down and click on the rectangle for "The Red Shirt", which is the AAO periodical. Its so known as that's the color of our shirt while at sea...When his address becomes known to us, I'll send him my latest paper copy of same.

Next, is to notify you that I'm forwarding this letter to the AAO officers, along with a request that I be sent the bill for Mr. Kamm's lifetime AAO membership. President, CAPT Dave Lepard will contact Mr Kamm as soon as possible.

And lastly, I'll request that Mr. Kamm's information be passed to retired Navy Lieutenant John Finn, who recently turned 100 years old, and is the oldest surviving Medal of Honor recipient, and was a Chief Aviation Ordnanceman when the Japanese attacked HI. John then set up the aerial gunnery and weapons school in Kaneohe Bay where Mr. Kamm subsequently taught.

Most Respectfully  
Bob Holdman  
AOCS USN Ret

PS. There is no i in Ordnance.

---

Hello JJ LaMaitre,

Thanks again Chief LaMaitre for continued interest in the Association of Ordnancemen. You are appreciated completely.

Thank-you for writing to tell where you attended Ordnance school. It is always interesting to me to know about other peoples background in the military. At our local VFW and American Legion meetings I get members to relate where and when they served, one on one. How else can we get to know a service person completely. So often, a man or woman never feels free to express and release their military experiences. Man it is so interesting, generally, once they open up and let the memories come floating back!

I was a graduate of the 7th class, December 1942—March 1943, at Memphis (Millington) TN torpedo school July 1943 at San Diego destroyer base; across the bay from North Island and mine school at Yorktown, VA 1951. Likely, you didn't know the latter schools for Navy Ordnance existed. You might smile when I tell you the .30 CAL machine gun on a TBF Grumond that I synchronized, first time ever, didn't put a hole in the propeller! Now that was an experience for a 19 year old kid fresh out of Ordnance school at North Island Naval Air Station, May 1943 – Squadron VC-21.

Until next March  
H. Pattison

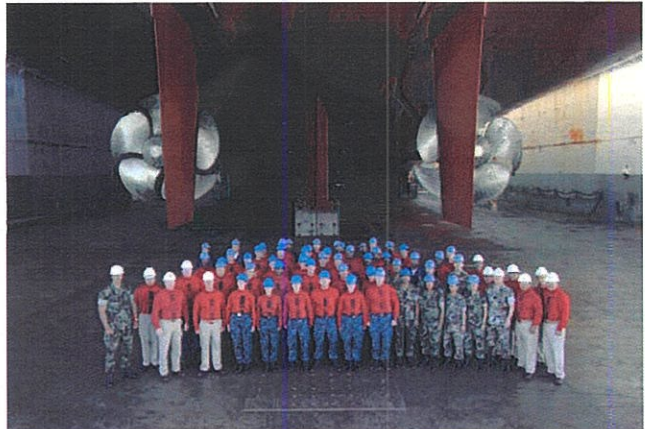


All,  
See the Gator Navy can do it too!!  
V/R,  
Jim  
LT Jim Bell  
Gun Boss  
USS NASSAU (LHA-4)  
FPO AE 09557-1615

AAO Leadership,

Don't know if you all have seen these photos yet attached.  
We are back in the water at Pier 13 do to our power needs  
4160 we can only be parked at North Island or Pier 13.

Very Respectfully,  
AO1 (AW/SW) Steele  
Weapons Department  
G-3 Division Leading Petty Officer  
Chapter LHD 8 AAO President  
"RAIDER ORDNANCE"  
USS MAKIN ISLAND (LHD 8)





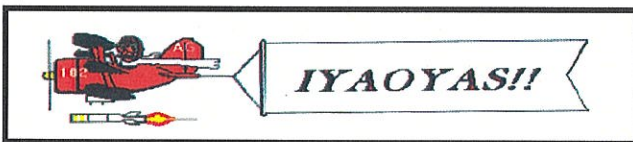
Kevin...howzit going...would like to slide this into the RED SHIRT if you could, give our Helo bubba some KUDOS, with the following right up:

Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron Two Three (HSC 23) AGM-114B missile shoots 7-9 April 2010. 1st Expeditionary HSC squadron to successfully fire two AGM-114B. Detachment loaded missiles at NAF El Centro with the support of NAF weapons department...even though the ground was still rumbling throughout the 2 day event from aftershocks after the earth quake that was centered in nearby Calexico days prior to the event. HSC-23 did a great job and will no doubt be capable of putting warheads on foreheads.

L to R: Gunner Martin, AE2 Hanford, AT1 Longardner, AT2 O'Neill, AO2 Griffith, ATC Hughes and AO3 Groll.

Photo submitted by Juan Morris FWST rep, NAS North Island

Thanks Kevin...ride safe brother.  
Juan



**EDITOR**  
AOC Kevin P. Meagher, USN/Ret.  
21 Wedgewood Lane NE  
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547  
(H) 850.243.0237  
(W) 850.883.0187  
kevin.meagher@eglin.af.mil

**National Auxiliary Officers  
2009/2010**

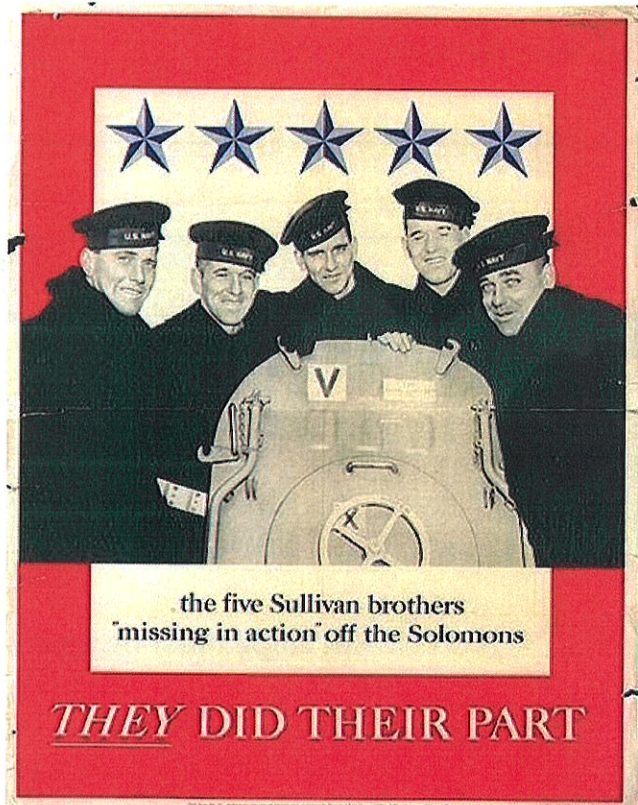
President : Janice Clasen  
Vice-President: Beverly Jo Myhand  
Secretary: Dorothy Michel  
Treasurer: Carolyn Thomas  
Chaplain: Linda Scott  
Parliamentarian: Sally Vance

**National Auxiliary Board of Directors**

Marlene Grass Delores Manley  
Cyndy Sassone Teresa Zimmer  
Denise Walecki Julie Brado

**National Committee Chairs**

Audit: Julie Clayton  
By-Laws: Pat Castro  
Historian: Beverly Onken  
Memorabilia: Dorothy Michel  
Nominating: Teresa Zimmer  
Raffle/Auction: Delores Manley  
Taste of Home: Ashley Crews





---

**AAO ABSENTEE BALLOT 2010**  
**DO NOT SUBMIT IF ATTENDING CONVENTION**

Vice President  
Secretary

Michael Price, Capt, USN  
Dennis Costa, AOCM, USN/Ret


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

Charles Onken, LCDR, USN/Ret  
Billy Earl, CWO4, USN/Ret  
Bill Bindel, CDR, USN  
Mike Gramolini, CDR, USN

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

---

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

Print your Name _____ Membership NO. _____
Members Signature _____ Date _____

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

MAIL TO  
AAO NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN  
2099 THOMAS CT.  
FALLON, NV 89406

**NOTE: Envelope must be postmarked not later than 1 August 2010**



## AAO President



Hello fellow Navy and Marine Ordnancemen,

Wow, time sure is flying by since the last Redshirt!!!, and we are getting even closer to the Convention dates. I hope you have all considered attending and joining us for the big event. The Convention Committee has all but set the table for you and your families to be there. In this edition of the Redshirt, you will

find all the information you will need in order to make your reservation as well as register and reserve your spot at the Friday evening social and Saturday award dinner. The folks at the wonderful, Silver Legacy are standing by to assist you with your Hotel reservations and any other special needs you may have.

Let me talk about today's Marine and Sailor for a few moments. I had the pleasure of being in Pensacola for several major events recently, mainly to attend the Change of Command for CAPT Kent Miller (LDO) who was relieved by none other than CAPT Mike Price our other Aviation Ordnance LDO CAPT, CAPT Price now owns the entire Aviation "A" School process for both the Navy and Marine Corps. Mike, we all congratulate you for assuming this Major Aviation Command and for all the accomplishments in your career to date. CDR(SEL) Rick Sherman, AOCM (RET) Tim Carroll and I visited the Aviation Ordnance "A" School house while their, and I was honored to talk to both the USMC and Navy Ordnance "A" school classes. It certainly appears that we have some very bright and eager Ordnancemen headed to the fleet.

Let me say a few words about those who are currently deployed, we all back here can't thank you enough for all that you doing for this great nation, we all know the deployments seem to just drag on and on, but we all want you to stay focused and pay attention to your job and mission. As I've always said, do it by the book or don't do it at all, just keep that in mind. As you all can understand both LTCOL Mike Sexton and I along with our fellow Senior Ordies are watching the happenings in the fleet and we are all awfully proud of what you are doing for our Marine Corps and Navy, but most importantly what you are doing for our great nation. Be safe and take care of your fellow WAR-FIGHTER.

As we all know the Navy and USMC operational pace remains very busy due to global demands, and that our presence is required in many places around the world. Our CNO and Commandant of the Marine Corps are truly providing the leadership in order for us to accomplish our mission.

They are providing the tools and equipment for us to meet mission needs, we all just need to make sure that we are caring for and maintaining our war fighting equipment by the book. You just never know when we will need to employ our skills. I've talked in the past about our core values; make sure your living by them each and every day. Many Marines and Sailors who have gone before us laid the foundation for us to follow, some which may be your brother's, father's, aunt's, uncle's, and grandfather's. make them proud of you every day.

As I close this input, let me bring you all up to date on LT. (RET) JOHN W. FINN, John was recently moved to the California Veteran's home in Chula Vista CA. He has started to show his age and it was determined by his family that this move was the best for John, he will receive 24 hour a day nursing care and will be around some of our most senior veterans, all be it John can call all of them "Boot Camp's" this truly was in the best interest for John. Out at the ranch, no one could ever ask for any better care that Francis was providing to John, So Francis your our Hero for all that you have done for John these past several years you truly are a part of our Ordnance Family!!!

Pat and I look forward to seeing you all at the Convention in Reno, and yes she has done pretty good lately of not buy any new shoe's. (She injured her knee and can't drive and I won't take her shopping) so that help's a whole lot..

Very respectfully  
CAPT Dave

## AAO Vice President

It is time again to get those Absentee ballots filled out and in the mail to me. You will find in this newsletter an absentee ballot for all of you that will not be able to attend this convention. This allows our members who can't attend the annual convention to still participate in the election and voting process. It is the time again to vote for your selection of the Vice President, and two Board of Directors. The below listed individuals have been nominated for those positions.

Vice President  
Secretary  
Board of Directors

Mike Price, CAPT, USN  
Dennis Costa, AOCM, USN/Ret  
Charles Onken, LCDR, USN/Ret  
Billy Earl, CWO4 USN/RET  
Bill Bindel, CDR, USN  
Mike Gramolini, CDR, USN

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find a brief biography of each nominee to familiarize you with the candidates. You will also find an absentee ballot for your use.

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



Nomination for the offices will still be accepted from the floor and members who have previously submitted absentee ballots will not be permitted to vote if they attend the General Business meeting. If you do decide to attend the annual convention and have submitted an absentee ballot you may request to have your ballot destroyed and then vote during the elections.

When submitting your absentee ballot, clearly mark your ballot for the nominee(s) of your choice. When marking your choice for board of directors insure that you follow the instruction on the ballot. **Your ballot must have your printed name, membership number and be signed and dated in appropriate box to be valid.** When you have filled out your ballot place it in a sealed envelope. Mail to the address below. All ballots must be delivered to me **postmarked not later than 1 August 2010.**

**BALLOTS RECEIVED IN ANY OTHER MANNER THAN INDICATED ABOVE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**

Mail all absentee ballots to the following address:

AAO Nomination Chairman  
2099 Thomas Ct  
Fallon, NV. 89406

Make your plans and reservations now and avoid the possibility of being unable to attend the Social and Awards Banquet. Save yourself a few dollars and send in your advance order form for Registration, Social and Awards Banquet to Treasurer J J LaMaitre at 9691 Bundy Drive, Santee, CA, 92071.

This will be my last letter as the Vice President. I have decided that 9 years as your Vice President and 30 years of being deeply involved with the National Association it is time to step aside. It has been a true honor and pleasure to have served you through those years. I'm looking forward to coming to the conventions and being able to enjoy the actives and sit around telling sea stories with all my shipmates. See you all at the convention in Reno August 11 - 15.

IYAOYAS

Joe Manley

***AAO Treasurer***

CONVENTION - Make your plans NOW for Convention 2010 at the Silver Legacy. Registration forms are located elsewhere in this Red Shirt. Deadline is August 1<sup>st</sup>. See you there!!

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 have gotten better, BUT are still costing your Association. 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)562-8492; or (preferred) you can e-mail them to me at [aaotreas@cox.net](mailto:aaotreas@cox.net).

FYI the US Postal Service has an on-line Change of Address section, see it at [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com).

Until next time IYAOYAS.  
JJ LaMaitre  
AAO Treasurer

***AAO Secretary***

Greetings Ordies,

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

Let put in a pitch for the AAOEF who is in need of a Secretary. Please look at the Red Shirt for information to qualify, and then contact Ed Scott if you would like to apply for the position.

Congratulations to our Newest Master Chiefs...

1 Percent of the Navy's Finest!!!!

GILBERT MICHA	004	HARSH JEFFREY	001
HAYES REGINAL	003	MAYE THORSEN	005
ROBBINS DANIE	006	WINKELMAN MAR	002

Dennis Costa  
AAO Secretary  
722 E Ave  
Coronado Ca 92118

<a href="mailto:aocm@aol.com">aocm@aol.com</a>	Home
<a href="mailto:dennis.costa@navy.mil">dennis.costa@navy.mil</a>	Work
619-540-9768	Home
619-545-8492	Work
619-545-8505	Fax



# Chapter 1

At the 2010 Convention, during the first Association Board of Directors meeting, the AAO's Board of Directors will hold elections for a number of Officer Positions in the AA-OEF. **I, as Foundation President, am soliciting advance nominations for the following offices:**

Office	Incumbent
Vice President	CDR Mike Gramolini
Secretary	Dennis Costa <i>(has indicated will not seek reelection)</i>
Board of Director	Larry Cowell
Board of Director-Auxiliary Representative	Shannon N. Mullins

Eligibility requirements for these offices and the duties of the office are in the AAOEF Bylaws, which you can find by going to: <http://aaoweb.org/AAO> then clicking on Scholarship Information then scroll down to and click on the By-laws section. All individuals seeking election should familiarize themselves with this information and then have a Regular Member of the Association nominate them. All are reminded of scholarship application or sponsor restrictions imposed to all officers within IRS directives.

I, as President of the Foundation, will be accepting advance nominations by U.S. Mail or E-Mail for collection and presentation to the Associations President. The deadline for submitting advance nominations is 30 days prior to the first AAO Board Meeting. To make a nomination you must be a Regular Member of the Association and a written acceptance by your nominee must accompany your nomination. All nominations of individuals received will be verified as current Regular Members of the Association; if applicable, Auxiliary through the National Treasurer or Auxiliary Treasurer.

Nominations will also be taken from the floor during the first meeting of the Association's Board of Directors. All are reminded of scholarship application or sponsor restrictions imposed to all officers within IRS directives.

Mail advance nominations to: 35 Palmyra Lane, Palm Coast, FL 32164-7517 or E-Mail them to: [egunner@lightspeed.net](mailto:egunner@lightspeed.net).

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at (386) 445-0968 (H)/ (386) 405-6940 (Cell).

Edward C. Scott  
AAOEF President

Greetings, fellow Ordies from beautiful NAS Lemoore, CA, home the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen (AAO) Chapter One. It is just now beginning to warm up outside but the chapter has been hard at work already. In early April we held our first Adopt-A-Highway event of the year, which with the help of the personnel from around the area made the event a success. We would like to thank VFA-125, CNATTU, VFA-22, Navy Munitions Command DET Lemoore, and the SFWSPAC for their participation and support. Not only did we support the Adopt-A-Highway organization, we also supported the Great American Clean-up campaign collecting over 30 bags of trash along Highway 198, just outside the main gate.

Once again the chapter participated in the Lemoore Relay for Life. The event is a nationwide program that supports the American Cancer Society through fundraising to fight cancer through research, development and awareness. Our team "The Ordies" captained by AO1 Theresa Manko, consisted of 23 members, raising over \$6,000 in donations. Mrs. Beverly Onken raised \$4,614 of that total personally and was awarded first place in the individual fundraising category for the event. We had a great time and are looking forward to next years relay.

We also bid farewell and safe travel to our former President LCDR "Gerry" Gladders as he begins his overseas tour at NSA Bahrain. I, AO1 Franco was appointed to the position. Also, leaving the chapter was our former Vice President ENS Garcia, he began his assignment at VFA-195, and the position was filled by CWO4 "Tim" Nanstiel. I would also like to congratulate two of our newly appointed BOD officers AO1 Laura Colby and AO1 Joshua Willhite. The chapter also began planning for our summer picnic this year. It will be held at Jack Stone's Barn in right here in town on the September 11<sup>th</sup>. More information to come as the date nears.

With that my friends, I and the Chapter 1 Ordies wish you the best of luck on your summer endeavors, stay safe, and if you are ever in town on the third Monday of every month, come join us at our monthly meetings.

Respectfully  
AO1 Franco  
President





# Re-enlistment aboard CVN-68

BY CWO4 Hayward Dunn, USN/Ret

On March 22, 2010 the USS Nimitz CVN-68 welcomed aboard 1500 Tigers in Bremerton, Washington for a four day trip down to San Diego, California. AO3 Amanda M. Church and invited tigers; Father AOCS Gary E. Church (Ret) and Grandfather CWO-4 Hayward D. Dunn (Ret).

Amanda is assigned to the Weapons Department G-2 division where she was able to demonstrate her abilities as a Mount Captain on a 50 Cal. Gun mount for Full Bore during special sea and anchor detail and her many other responsibilities within the division. A night time Full Bore gun shoot exercise was demonstrated to the crew where the sky was lit up with tracer rounds from four port side gun mounts. Did I say that grandpa was able to get in a few rounds also? Amanda previously was assigned to G-3 forward bomb assembly.

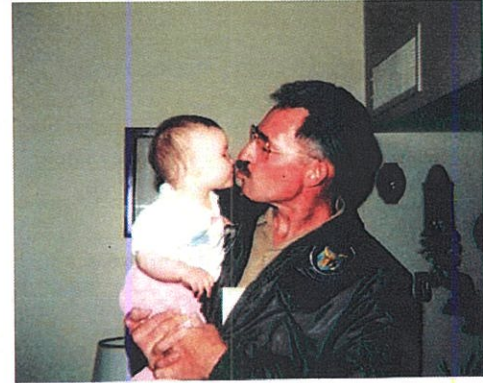
After fifty eight years of service between both Hayward and Gary you would have thought they'd had their fill of ship board life but that is not the case for those two who looked forward to this at sea time with relish. How often do you have three generations of Aviation Ordnanceman onboard the same ship at one time? Is there some pride here? You bet Hayward and Gary are busting with pride and for Hayward the significance of this is that he had spent the last four years of his thirty year career, two as Air Gunner and two as G-3 Division Officer onboard Nimitz retiring in 1992. Who would have thought that years later his granddaughter would be on the same ship, same division, and same occupation?

The highlight of this tiger cruise came on the day that AO3 Amanda Marie Church was discharged by her dad and re-enlisted by her grandfather in the US Navy for four more years. She was told that the next time that her father and grandfather made a tiger cruise they would prefer to have accommodations in the Chiefs berthing or a state room as we have high expectations of you Amanda.

On Friday March 26<sup>th</sup> 2010 the USS Nimitz CVN-68 pulled into San Diego after a grueling 8 month deployment with 1500 very happy tigers. For Amanda, Gary and Hayward waiting pier side was Amanda's mother Alice, Grandmother Mary, brother AC2 Matthew A. Church and his Wife Kate with their six week old daughter Lillian Autumn. What a homecoming!

Did I say that Matthew is assigned to the Ronald Reagan; we don't hold that against him or that he is not an Aviation Ordnanceman?

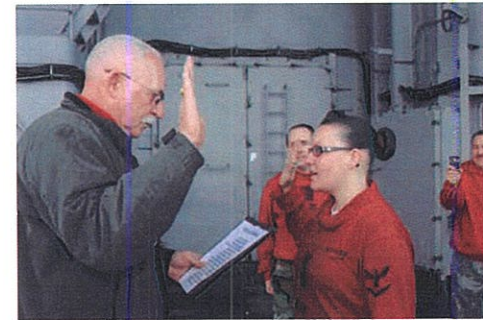
I.Y.A.O.Y.A.S.



Amanda greeting her Grandfather CWO-3 Hayward D. Dunn after his return from deployment with VF-32 onboard USS John F. Kennedy CV-67



AO3 Amanda Church being congratulated by her Dad AOCS Gary Church upon her discharge



AO3 Amanda Church being reenlisted by her Grandfather CWO-4 Hayward Dunn



AOCS Gary Church (Ret), AO-3 Amanda Church and CWO-4 Hayward Dunn (Ret)





# **AAO CONVENTION**

## **11-15 AUGUST 2010**

# **SILVERLEGACY**

RESORT CASINO RENO

For Reservations:

BOOK GROUP CODE: AAO10

**800/687-8733**

or

**[www.silverlegacyreno.com](http://www.silverlegacyreno.com)**

SUNDAY - THURSDAY

STANDARD - \$69  
SPA SUITE - \$114

FRIDAY & SATURDAY

STANDARD - \$94  
SPA SUITE - \$134

**MAKE RESERVATIONS BY 18 JULY**

FREE AIRPORT SHUTTLE



**NOTE:**

***SOCIAL & AWARDS DINNER TICKETS  
HAVE BEEN REDUCED 20%!!***

*(From 2009 Costs)*



## Chapter 72

Chapter 72 has been through a very rigorous and demanding work up cycle. With the completion of TSTA/FEP we are preparing for some much needed time at home. For most they will stay at homeport, while others ramp up for the Fallon Detachment in support of CVW-2 before our upcoming deployment. Since January 2010 we have finished our nine month availability at Naval Shipyard Bremerton, completed Sea Trials, Carrier Qualifications, INSURV, Ammunition Onload, AORR/COSR TAV and now TSTA/FEP, all with flying colors. My hats off to these outstanding Ordies!

Over the past few months the Chapter has accomplished a lot in the way of Moral , Community Service, and fundraising. One of our most recent events was our 1st Annual OHO (LT Pulley) vs. Gun Boss (CDR Patton) Basketball game. Team OHO was victorious with a final score of 56-54 followed by a trophy ceremony for team OHO. During half-time we conducted a raffle drawing for three prizes: (1) \$200 Visa Gift Card (2) Nintendo DSI (3) \$50 Visa gift card. The winners were: (1) AOAN Kelich, G3 Division (2) AO1 Charles, G3 Division, (3) AO3 Mortimer, G3 Division. Congratulations to Team OHO, the drawing winners, and a big thank you to team GB. It was a lot of fun for the players, and the crowd of Weaponeers and Dependants that attended.

Our current meetings are being held onboard while out to sea and at the VFW Post 2100 in Everett, WA while in port. I invite all to attend!

Chapter 72 also celebrated the AO's 84th Birthday onboard the USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN. At a cake cutting ceremony we had the youngest Ordie (AOAN Hart), the oldest Ordie (AOCS Alamo) and the ships Executive Officer (CAPT Kuehhas) do the honors before enjoying some birthday cake. (See Photo) Chapter 72 would like to send a Happy Belated Birthday to all Ordnanceman around the world, we are the arms of the fleet!

Last but not least I would like to remember our fellow Ordies currently on IA and wish them a safe return home.

Currently on IA: AO1 Gleason and AO3 Gutierrez. (See Photo) AO3 had a motivating story from his IA Tour in Iraq that I think all of you would like to hear so I would also like

to share that story now. (Edited for personal information, length and with his approval to submit)

"I've gotten to see some things first hand that I'll never forget. Some positive, and some not so positive; but I now know firsthand why we fight this war, and many sailors who will never get this opportunity, will never truly know, and if not for this tour, I may not have had the opportunity myself. Many Senior Army Enlisted and Officers have asked me what it is I do, and I proudly tell them I'm an AO. You have no idea how many have shaken my hand and said thanks for what we do, because they have either been in combat during Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom or in Afghanistan. They say that if it wasn't for the air strikes that they had to call in, they wouldn't be here today. That the bombs they called in literally saved their lives and the lives of their men. Those words came from an E-9 who is the equivalent of a CMC. He shook my hand, and all I could think about was telling everyone who's an AO that even though we don't see what happens to the weapons after they leave the ship, we can still be privileged to see those personally affected by what we do."

V/R,  
AO1 (AW/SW) Daniel P. Wickersham  
Chapter 72 President

*Pictures are on the following page*





## Chapter 34



To all,

I would like to thank everyone that came out and helped last night at loaves and fishes it was a great turn out. I am looking forward to doing this again. Below are a few pics that Tim Carroll took.

Thanks again to all  
AO1 Hannon





## NEW MEMBERS

AO1 (AW) Christopher S. Heinz  
 LT Kenneth A. Brandon  
 CDR Allen W. Wooten  
 Marianne L. Schmid  
 LCDR Leon 'Pat' Canaday USN Ret.  
 AOCS Claude I. Leasure USN Ret.  
 William L. Hudson  
 AO3 Christopher P. Pinnick  
 AO2 Michael R. Martin  
 AO1 Andrew Carnegie IV  
 AOAN Troy K. Palmer  
 Larry E. Anglin  
 AOAA Niesha S. Shuman  
 AO2 Arturo L. Colon  
 ENS Jason E. Brown  
 CPL Samuel J. Spitzmiller  
 AO2 Ray D. Perry  
 AO2 Casey L. Wheelock  
 AOC Jackie H. Gunn USN Ret.  
 AO3 Jason G.S. Chang  
 AOC Terry J. Van Kampen  
 CPL Lacy N. Paulsen  
 AO2 Brett L. Thompson  
 AO1 Ronda Lucy  
 AOAN Ethan J. Calderwood  
 AO3 Benjamin J. Llewellyn  
 AOC Steven D. Bradley  
 AOAN Melissa J. Sweeting  
 AO2 Crystal L. Ward  
 AOC William A. Hromada

AOC Derrick L. Coach  
 AOC Don R. Walker USN Ret.  
 AOC(AW/SW) John S. Newman  
 AOC Steven D. Gushrowski USN Ret.  
 AOC Nestor J. Ortiz  
 TM2(SS) Jarrod L. Herdt  
 AO2 Krystal R. Van Kirk  
 AOCS Matt Thackery  
 AO1 Wayne Toth  
 AOAN Lawrence M. Levan  
 AOC Isaiah Canteen  
 AOAA Donald L. Hudson  
 AO3 Chad A. Watkins  
 AOCM Gregg A. Erwin  
 Roger A. Smuda  
 AO1 Lawama S. Whiteside  
 AO1 Laura A. Colby  
 AO1 Luis A. Aponteramos  
 AO1(AW/SW) Alberto A. Nixon  
 AOC Byron R. Edelstein  
 Barry A. Grimm  
 LCPL Gregory T. Paulsen  
 AO1(AC/AW) Matthew T. Tribou USN Ret.  
 AO1 Chris D. Tucker  
 AOAN Holly E. Colburn  
 AO1 Rafael J. Rivera Ruiz  
 AO1 Shane A. Pace  
 AO3 Norman K. Newson  
 AOC Anthony M. Wesolowski  
 ENS Jermaine L. Moore

## SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTORS

AOCS John Cataldi Jr. USN Ret.  
 AOCM Larry Adkinson USN Ret.  
 AOCM William & Barbara Foote USN Ret.  
 Mike & Elaine Durand  
 AOC Joseph & Sylvia Crofton Sr. USN Ret.  
 AO1 Harold & Ramona Langford USN Ret.  
 AOCS John & Ann Oates USN Ret.  
 CWO4 Orin L. 'Lee' Squire USN Ret.  
 LCDR Tannis & Jeanne Watson USN Ret.  
 AMH1 Pete & Joan Ronbeck USN Ret.  
 AOCM William P. McCracken USN Ret.  
 AOC Nash & Marlys Flores USN Ret.  
 In Memory Of Emily Deibert  
 AOC(AW/SW) Jeffery & Beverly Shaw  
 Malcolm & June Hill  
 AOCM Richard & Linda Hastings USN Ret.  
 Kristen & Ed Stith

AOC A.N. & Connie Knobloch USN Ret.  
 CWO2 Edward & Kristin Stith USMC Ret.  
 Marvin & Kiyoko Vickers  
 Alan Higgins  
 AOCM Gilbert & Sue Rittner USN Ret.  
 CWO2 Carl & Sandy Fargon USN Ret.  
 Richard J. Peipert Jr.  
 LCDR Santiago & Denise Ortiz Jr. USN  
 AO1 Charles & Jane Thomes USN Ret.  
 Dennis J. Klawnszewski  
 LCDR Kenneth & Sandy Porter USN Ret.  
 Joanne & David Carney  
 AO1 Tracy & Dianna Trussell USN Ret.  
 AO2(AW/SW) Heather R. Gross-Payne  
 Bruce A. Kaiser  
 CWO4 Eduardo & Jessie Pirando Jr.

## NEW LIFE MEMBERS

AOC Gregory L. Johnson  
 GYSGT Donald E. Kubik USMC Ret.  
 CDR Allen W. Wooten  
 AOC Jackie H. Gunn USN Ret.  
 AOCS Claude I. Leasure USN Ret.  
 AO1 Stewart W. Swygert USN Ret.  
 CWO2 John E. Printy USN Ret.  
 W. Floyd Moore  
 AOCS Stephen W. Scarbrough USN Ret.

AO1 (AW) Christopher S. Heinz  
 AOC Don R. Walker USN Ret.  
 AOCM Bobby L. Wise USN Ret.  
 AOCM Thomas G. Atwood USN Ret.  
 AOC Terry J. Van Kampen  
 Barry A. Grimm  
 Susan Lepard Moore  
 CWO5 Donald S. Edgington

## LOCATOR

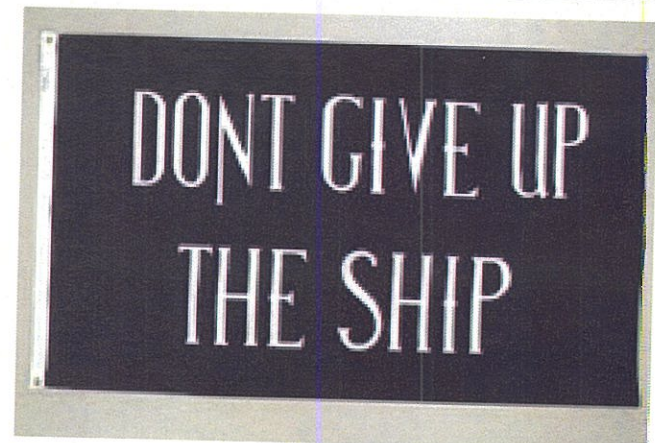
Can you help?.....Know where any of these members can be located? If so please contact me at [aaot-reas@cox.net](mailto:aaot-reas@cox.net), snail mail or give me a call.

AO1(AW) Christopher S. Smith  
 MSGT Steven D. Stockdale  
 CWO3 Stephen C. Berrey USN Ret.  
 John L. Todd  
 AO2 Emnoel L. Agas  
 LCDR Thomas W. Brown USN Ret.  
 AOC Corey W. Grojcan  
 CWO2 Paul D. Smith USN Ret.  
 AO2 Daniel A. Luebbert  
 AOC Jon L. Bujan  
 AOAN Eddie W. Ford  
 AO1 Chad J. Thomas  
 MGYSGT Anthony J. Ramos  
 AOCS John E. Braun Sr. USN Ret.  
 AO2 David V. Yates  
 AO1 Edward Madera

CWO2 Patrick J. Najmowski USMC  
 AO2 Brett J. Payne  
 AOAN Matthew P. Andrews  
 AO2 Travis B. Bohling  
 AOC Richard C. Hinzpeter USN Ret.  
 AOAN Maria Alicia Brewer  
 AO2(AW/SW) Heather R. Grosso-Payne  
 AO2 Christopher D. Deeprai  
 AO3 Houston A. Cradeur  
 AO2 Amanda J. Beaver  
 AO2 Ivory D. Coachman  
 LCDR Lonnie P. Harrison USN Ret.  
 AO3 Sean M. O'Hara  
 AOC David Childs USN Ret.  
 ENS Josh Thompson  
 AOC(AW/SW) Larry D. Hill

**NOTICE:** Looking for any kind of information/pictures on the following Association of Aviation Hall of Fame inductees. CDR Roy Asher, U.S.N., RET., AOCM Frank H. Parker, U.S.N., RET., LCDR Leslie H. Ovre, U.S.N., RET., AOCM Robert Branum, U.S.N., RET., and AOCS Richard A. Smith. Information can be mailed to Charles Onken, 291 W. Spruce Place, Lemoore, CA. 93245-1970 or e-mail to [onkenc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:onkenc@sbcglobal.net). Phone: 559-924-2503

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP ! Chuck Onken





2009 CONVENTION RESERVATION APPLICATION

ADVANCE ORDER FORM

DEADLINE IS 1 AUGUST 2010

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

- 12 Aug (Thu) Board of Directors Meeting
13 Aug (Fri) AO of The Year Committee
13 Aug (Fri) Scholarship Committee
13 Aug (Fri) AAO Hall of Fame Committee
13 Aug (Fri) Membership Committee
13 Aug (Fri) By-Laws Committee
13 Aug (Fri) Nominations Committee
13 Aug (Fri) AAO Social
14 Aug (Sat) General Business Meeting
14 Aug (Sat) Awards Banquet
15 Aug (Sun) Board of Directors Meeting

AUXILIARY OF THE ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN

- 12 Aug (Thu) Board of Directors Meeting
14 Aug (Sat) General Business Meeting
15 Aug (Sun) Board of Directors Meeting

NOTE

Committee Chairmen will require the assistance from the membership for the above listed committees. Please indicate committee or committees that you wish to participate in.

ADVANCED TICKET ORDERING INFORMATION

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

For active duty E-4 and below:

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

ORDERS & MONEY FOR ADVANCE REGISTRATION FEES, AAO SOCIAL AND AWARDS BANQUET TICKETS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY 01 AUGUST 2010. ORDERS & MONEY RECEIVED AFTER THIS DATE WILL BE RETURNED OR MUST HAVE LATE FEE'S INCLUDED.

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

For Registration Fees, AAO Social and/or Awards Banquet send check, money order, or credit card info made payable to and mailed to:

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN
J.J. LaMaitre
9691 Bundy Drive
Santee, CA 92071-2771

Registration Fees (choose appropriate category):

- 1. Member \$20.00 (\$25.00 after 1 Aug 10)
Name of Member (please print) \$
2. Non-Member \$30.00 (\$35.00 after 1 Aug 10) (Not including guest or spouse)
Name of Non-Member (please print) \$
3. Additional Guests (Spouse) 18 and over \$10.00 \$
Names of Guests (Spouse) (please print)

Advance Social & Awards Banquet ticket prices:

- AAO Social \$25.00 each (\$30.00 after 1 Aug 10) \$
Awards Banquet \$35.00 each (\$40.00 after 1 Aug 10) \$
Credit Card Fee \$10.00 (if applicable) Non-Refundable \$
Total amount enclosed \$

Name exactly as it appears on credit card

Signature

Master Card/ Visa # Exp.

Circle One: Hold Tickets Or Mail My Tickets to:

Your name

Address

City State Zip

Area Code/Phone number



## *102-year-old veteran is a proud American*

By **DORIS ELMORE**  
Staff Writer

Whenever Bill Kamm sees the American flag waving in the breeze feelings stir inside at what America means to him. He is proud of his country and was proud to serve in the Navy during WW II.

Bill will celebrate his 102nd birthday on December 11. He was a member of the Atwood American Legion, James Reeder Post 770 for over 65 years. He is the oldest living veteran in the Atwood/Hammond area and most likely Douglas and Piatt Counties.

In 1942 at the age of 35 years old, Bill enlisted in the Navy because he felt it was his duty. He was an apprentice seaman. He went to school for eight weeks to be an Aviation Ordinance man. He finished third in his class of 65 and was chosen as an instructor. He knew machine guns well and could take one apart and put it back together in a short amount of time.

He also joined because he thought he could help his brother Ervin who was a member of the Aviation Air Corps.

Bill was already married to Pearl when he joined the Navy. He had been in ROTC while going to school at the University of Illinois.

He was gone a little less than 3 1/2 years. While he was away Pearl took over his duties as a rural mail carrier.

The Aviation Ordinance School Bill attended was in Chicago and they moved it to Jacksonville, FL. From there he was assigned to Kaneohe Bay Naval Base in Hawaii. He was there until the peace treaty was signed. He took Pearl back to visit the naval base twice after he was out of the service.

Bill was never stationed on a ship. The only time he was on a ship was going back and forth to Hawaii. He was at Camp Shoemaker Naval Base near San Diego for a couple days before going to Hawaii and says it was a nasty place and a long couple of days. The people and the conditions there were terrible.

The trip to Hawaii was crowded. The bunks were five deep which made for unusual sleeping arrangements. It was basically sleeping on top of one another. He did enjoy watching the flying fish.

Bill has no complaints about Navy life. He was never in a

position to be very afraid. He stated, "No one ever shot at me and I never shot at anyone else. I just had target practice."

Best friends are important in the service and Bill's best friend was George McHew. George taught Bill how to play golf and to bowl. Then Bill got to beating him and it wasn't as much fun for George.

An avid horseshoe pitcher, Bill says the first two medals he won in the Navy were for pitching horseshoes. There were 65 in a tournament and he won first in the singles division.

"I was pretty content in the Navy," says Bill. He added that a few of the officers were hard to work with, but most of them were great.

He also learned about mines and torpedoes and says that was fascinating.

Regardless of what they were told to do, Bill says they found out you could do most anything you set your mind to. Bill thinks that carries over into everyday life and is as true today as it was back then.

When asked about his feelings about the world today Bill stated, "I am hoping it will get better, but it is rather doubtful. I want our service personnel to come home as much as anybody." Bill added that it is easy to get into situations, but hard to get out. He thinks that is where we are today. He says people should be friendlier and more considerate of each other.

"Congress says they are working for the people," states Bill. "but I think the two parties won't admit they are working for the party instead of the people."

Bill was one of the first residents to move into Eberhardt Village in Arthur when it opened over a year ago. He enjoys living there. He exercises every day by lifting horseshoes with his arms and his legs. Try it sometime; you will be amazed at the difference it makes. He insists on trying to stay as active as possible. Bill and his nieces and nephews purchased a nice big pool table for the facility and he enjoys shooting pool whenever possible.

He is a member of the United Church of Atwood and attends most every Sunday.

When Bill moved to Eberhardt Village he was asked if everything was okay. He only had one question, "Where is the flag pole and American flag?" He was told it was on the list of things to be added. Bill decided to donate a flag pole and flag and it is visible from his window. He starts his morning routine by repeating the Pledge of Allegiance. This pledge is important to Bill. He is a veteran and centurion and one of

*(Continued on page 23)*



(Continued from page 22)

the most respected men you would ever want to meet. His love of his fellow man and love of his country is unfailing. He is indeed a tribute to Veterans Day and what it stands for.

Bill was never shot at or never shot at anyone else, but was doing his job in the Navy and was proud to serve his country. The freedom we have today is due to people like Bill Kamm and the millions of other veterans who fought for our country and are continuing that battle today.

Keep all those people in your prayers...for those at home...and those who are overseas. Our freedom was and still is in their hands.

## Chapter 8



Greetings to all from Chapter 8 San Diego, California. Another busy period here, with the Chapter keeping active and involved with our local community and of course taking care of our Medal Of Honor recipient, Lt John W. Finn. For someone who is 100 years young going on 101, he is doing well considering his age. Following our next Highway walk, which will be held on July, 31<sup>st</sup> @ 0900, the chapter will head to John's to tend to his needs around the ranch. Until then, the chapter members visit frequently to give John's caregiver (Francis) a hand. Included are some photos from our last Highway walk and visit to John's.

Since the arrival of the newly home ported USS Carl Vinson and the return of the USS Nimitz, the Chapter's Annual Picnic attendance increased substantially. The regular out of towners from Chapter One attended along with new members from NAS El Centro. Let's not forget the USS Makin Island and the USS Ronald Reagan. It was nice to see old friends and meet new ones too. Everyone had a great time with family and friends, meeting new Gun Boss' and OHO's and I gotta tell you all, that their is no camaraderie like AO camaraderie (Special shout out the Marines at MCAS Miramar, MGySgt Senecal, GySgt Dunn and the troops at MALS-11 for all their help) Thank you all for your support and for making this a great family event I.Y.A.O.Y.A.S.!

As August is approaching fast, it seems like there is too much to do with such little time before our National Symposium and Convention. Our last report in May is summarized in this report. This year, Chapter 8 supported many charities through clothes drives, donations and volunteering. Whether it's collecting blankets for the Veterans Village of San Diego or holding a holiday food drive for the San Diego Food Bank or maybe supporting our own troops during the holidays, Chapter 8 is always ready and willing. Also included are photos from the recent Beach Clean up in Coronado, held March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

Before I say farewell for now, we, the members of chapter 8 would like to introduce our most current elected officials: AO1 Nanise Schroeder(President), CWO (SEL) Frank Marano (Vice President), Al Ten Eyck (Treasurer/Secretary), Kirk Brado (Board of Directors), Bob Jackson (Board of Directors) and AOC Lester Gipson (Board of Directors)

Nanise M. Schroeder  
President, Chapter Eight, San Diego, CA

To All Aviation Ordnancemen,

It is with great sadness to inform you that the oldest Medal of Honor Recipient, Lt. John W. Finn has passed away in his sleep this morning at 0545, here in San Diego. Let's remember he had a great run (over 100 yrs), especially with the AO's and the wonderful organization that we have. I have been around John for over 10 years and trust me, there was nothing he was more proud of than being an AO! To all of you that have met John over the years (and many have), keep the tradition of professionalism that John practiced and always be proud say Aviation Ordnance/Navy is not just a job it is a way of life. Please keep his family in your prayers and as soon as I hear more, I will keep everyone posted.

Very Respectfully,  
AO1(AW/SW) Nanise Malia Schroeder  
CNATTU North Island, BLDG 461  
AO Learning Site LPO  
MWR Vice President  
AAO Chapter 8 President





# Nomination Letters



## Vice President

TO: AAO Vice- President/ Nomination Chairman, Larry "Joe" Manley

FROM: Charles R Onken, AAO Life Member 0473

SUBJ: NOMINATION OF CAPT. MICHAEL K. PRICE FOR NATIONAL AAO VICE PRESIDENT

I am nominating CAPT Michael K. Price, USN, LDO, Life Member 7851 for the National Association of Aviation Ordnancemen, Vice President. He has agreed to accept the nomination and abide by the requirements set forth in the Association By-Laws.

CAPT. Price came into the U.S. Navy in 1977 as enlisted and has advanced through the rates/ranks, to his present rank of CAPT, U.S.N., LDO, Aviation Ordnance Officer. He is presently assigned as Commanding Officer of Naval Air Technical Training Center (NATTC) Pensacola, Florida. During his career he has served in VA, VF, VS and VC squadrons, MMMU-One, Shore Stations, (both over seas and CONUS,) Air Wing Staff, numerous aircraft carriers, Type Wing Staff, CNAL Staff, Commanding Officer CNATTU. CAPT Price has numerous individual medals, unit awards and campaign medals.

CAPT. Price has been a member of the Association for a number of years and is Life Member 7851. Since becoming a member, he has worked at the Chapter level at various activities. He is very interested in working on committees at the National level and since becoming a National Board of Director member, he has worked on the following committees, AO of the Year, educational Foundation and AO Hall of Fame. CAPT Price is devoted to the Aviation Ordnance field and the association.

I have known CAPT Price for 30 plus years and he is a very hard working individual, who wants nothing but the best for the Aviation Ordnance field and the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen. CAPT Price would continue to be a great credit to the Association as the National Vice President.

Respectfully,  
Charles R. Onken  
LIFE MEMBER 0473

## Secretary

I wish to re-nominate Dennis Costa for the office of Secretary of the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen. He has served honorably for the past nine years as Secretary and has brought the office into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. He retired from the Navy in 2000 after 26 years of honorable service as a Master Chief. Additionally he was selected as the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen 'AO of the Year' in 1988, and selected for the AO Hall Of Fame in 2008. He

continues to serve the Navy as an Ammunition Logistics Manager at 'AMMOPAC' and has been a life member since 1998.

Dennis is willing to do the job and has showed he is more than capable to perform at a high level to get the job done. He will continue to serve the association with distinction.

R,

John J LaMaitre

## Board of Directors

I wish to nominate CDR Bill Bindel for the Board of Directors of the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen. He has served honorably for the past two years as a Board Member for Chapter 22 at Patuxent River, Maryland. CDR Bindel has served the Navy with distinction for nearly thirty years. He is currently assigned to Commander, Naval Air Systems Command as the Senior Fleet Weapons Liaison Officer (Gun Boss) at Patuxent River. Commander Bindel has been a member of the following AO Chapter's: 4, 8, Pensacola, 65, 75 and 22.

CDR Bindel is willing to do the job and has showed he is more than capable to perform at a high level to get the job done. His devotion to the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen will surely be welcomed.

R,

AO1 (AW) Mark Walk

President Chapter 22

TO: AAO NOMINATION CHAIRMAN

FROM: L. JOE MANLEY VICE PRESIDENT, AAO LIFE MEMBER 0450

SUBJ: NOMINATION OF CHARLES R ONKEN FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

I am nominating Charles R. Onken USN, LDO, Life Member 0473 for the National Association of Aviation Ordnancemen Board of Directors. He has agreed to accept the nomination and abide by the requirements set forth in the Association By-Laws.

Chuck enlisted in the Navy in March 1960 and progressed through the rates/ranks to LCDR before retiring in February





1991. During his career he has served with distinction in various squadrons, staffs, and instructor assignments. He has received numerous awards for devotion to duty, heroism, and sustained superior performance. Upon retirement from active duty, he took employment as a NAWC contractor representative where he still has continued to further enhance Ordnance safety and provide the fleet sailor training in ordnance and ordnance systems.

Chuck joined the association in May 1981 and became a Life Member in April 1986. Since becoming a member he has served the association as National President, Vice President and Board of Directors. He is the Chairman of the Hall of Fame committee, and served on all the committee's at both national and local chapter. His love of the association is readily apparent.

Chuck and I became friends after we both joined the association and later working together on the Weapons Safety Team at Commander Naval Air Force Pacific (CNAP) I have not met a single individual who is more dedicated to the Ordnance community in general. He has been instrumental in making the association the great body that it is today, causing the association to be recognized by Navy, other organizations that associated with the military community and the civilian community.

His devotion to the association and the ordnance community make him an outstanding person to serve as a member of the Board of Directors.

Respectfully,  
L. Joe Manley  
LIFE MEMBER 0450

---

**From:** Robert S. Walecki, AAO Life Member #0948  
**To:** National Vice-President/Nomination Chairman,  
Association of Aviation Ordnancemen

**SUBJ:** NOMINATION FOR ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN  
NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS, BILLY B. EARL, CWO4 (RET)  
LIFETIME MEMBER #0288

I, Robert S. Walecki, am nominating Billy B. Earl CWO4 (RET), Lifetime Member #0288, for the office of National Board of Director, Association of Aviation Ordnancemen. He has agreed to accept the nomination and abide by the requirements set forth in the Association By-Laws.

Billy came into the U.S. Navy as an enlisted sailor in July of 1964 and advanced through the ranks, retiring as a Chief

Warrant Officer 4 ("Gunner"). During his career, he has served with distinction in various platforms and billets, both air wing and ship's company, forward deployed, Instructor Duty, AIMD Division Officer, Naval Air Station Weapons Departments, and AIRPAC Weapons Safety Assist Team Detachment R.P.

Billy has been a member of the Association for over 30 years and became a Life Member in 1990. Since becoming an Association member, he has served at the Chapter Level with Chapter 3, Whidbey Island WA., Chapter 9, Jacksonville FL, Chapter 12, NAS Cubi Pt R.P., and Chapter 41, USS Midway (CV-41). He has held various offices within those Chapters from Board of Directors to Secretary/Treasurer. At the National Level, he has served as the Association's National Secretary/Treasurer (1993-96), where he did an outstanding job bringing the association into the computer age, and National Board of Directors (1998-2001). Billy is also a member of the Association Hall of Fame, Class of 1997. Billy is highly motivated to return to a very active part of our Association and is looking forward to serving our members. Billy's dedication to the Association and the Aviation Ordnance community is well documented and he will be a welcomed addition to our National Board of Director's.

Respectfully,

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

---

**To:** Larry "Joe" Manley, Association of Aviation Ordnancemen Nomination Committee, Chairman

**From:** Edward C. Scott, AAO Life Member 2039  
Larry Hardin, AAO Life Member 1941

**Subject:** Nomination for Association of Aviation Ordnancemen Board of Directors CDR  
Michael P. Gramolini, USN, Life Member 4097

1. We are proud on behalf of our Chapter 9 membership to nominate CDR Michael P. Gramolini, USN, and Life Member 4097, for the Office of Board of Directors, Association of Aviation Ordnancemen for 2010. He has agreed to accept the nomination and abide by the requirements as set forth in the Associations By-Laws of 22 January 2009 or subsequent revisions. Chapter 9 highly endorses Mike for this position which will benefit the Association.

2. CDR Gramolini entered the Navy in 1980 and advanced through the enlisted ranks to AOC on September 16, 1991 and commissioned through the Limited Duty Officer Program (LDO) to Ensign in January 1994 as Aviation Ordnance Officer (6360). From the beginning of his career, CDR Gramolini has been a staunch supporter and aggressive



sive member of the Association. While a Life member of the National Association, he also has been an active member to the local chapters where he was stationed; serving as Board of Directors, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice and President and is currently serving as Vice President to the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen Educational Foundation and Chapter 9 Board of Directors. Mike has his degree in Business Administration and is currently working towards his Masters Degree.

3. CDR Gramolini has served on both coasts; detached duties with USSTRATCOM and COMUSNCENT, East and West in Squadrons, on Carriers, Carrier Air Wing Staff, and Weapons/Site Manager of Ventura County, CA and is currently serving as XO/CO to CNATTU Jacksonville, FL.

4. CDR Gramolini is married to Annette; 12/87, and have one son; Michael P. Gramolini, Jr. who is currently a junior at Nebraska State specializing towards his degree in Medical Equipment.

5. Mike has been a true and valuable asset to Chapter 9 and the Association in membership growth and we both have experienced this since his current assignment at Jacksonville. He truly is one of the most dedicated Aviation Ordnancemen we have in our community today. He will dedicate his efforts to continue to keep the Association Strong for years to come.

Respectfully,

Edward C. Scott, CWO4 (Ret) Life Member 2039  
Larry Hardin, LCDR (Ret) Life Member 1941  
AAO Chapter 9

## *AD-4N Skyraider*

The AD-4N Skyraider Project came to a close this past Saturday, 20 March. The project was started in July of 2005. The aircraft was initially located in Hartford CT, and was relocated to NAWCWD, China Lake through the support of many volunteers. The aircraft is show-cased as one of the China Lake Museum displays, positioned directly in front of the US Naval Museum of Armament and Technology.

The Skyraider was loaded with (10) 5.0" HVAR Rockets and (2) WWII AN-M 64 Fat Boy Style Bombs. The fact that the aircraft project was finally completed was not the only significant accomplishment on Saturday, but it also marked the complete evolution of Mr. William McCracken's naval career. Bill started out as an AOAM in 1966 assigned to VA-176 with A-1H Skyraiders for a nine month Vietnam

Cruise and a nine month Mediterranean Cruise during the 1967 Israeli 7-day war and the attack on the USS Liberty. He finished his career assigned to NAWS China Lake's Ordnance Division as the AOAM in charge of F/A-18's, EA-6B's and Cobra Helicopters.

Bill was asked to help with the Skyraider Project, in particular to help with the installation of the Bomb Racks. Bill jumped at the chance to help, and brought a level of expertise rarely found, especially since few people are knowledgeable in this area, due to the fact of the Skyraider age. Bill rebuilt each bomb rack completely, and guided the installation to ensure they were properly mounted, and ready to receive inert ordnance.

This project demonstrated the NAVAIR team work philosophy, and brought together folks from many fields and backgrounds. VX-9 provided the majority of personnel to assist in the Ordnance Loading Evolution. Special thanks to all who provided support and direction.



Here are the folks that helped load the Skyraider with Bombs and Rockets. Attached is what I sent to the PA Office.

From left to right

BACK ROW:

Dr. Don Goodson, Tom Loftus SES (RET), AMEAN Edward Cremeans, IS3 Lonny Davis, AM1 John Giboney, Anthony Pate, Bill McCracken USN (RET), AMCS Jacklyn Smith, ATC John Adams USN (RET), AEC Lee Volkman, AO1 David Connolly, AZ1 Timothy Nelson, John Talley, Seaman Stephan Williams, Ronald Pruitt, Captain Rich Burr USN, Kelly Pate

FRONT ROW:

AMEAN David Burdett, Jimmy Price USMC (RET), AMEC Jon English, AME2 Bruce Manglona, AD1 Felix Mendez, YN2 Tim Vaughn, AOC Bobby Vergara



---

## *Local athlete chosen to lead the First All Navy Wounded Warrior Team*

Retired Navy Master Chief Will Wilson, a below the knee amputee, has been selected as the first Team Captain representing the United States Navy for the Inaugural Wounded Warrior Paralympic Games. Wilson, now a full time Management Analyst for the Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training (CNATT) says he is both deeply honored and humbled by his selection to the team and appointment as Team Captain. "This is an opportunity for wounded soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines to get together on the field of competition and do their very best to represent their individual service and country. These men and women are the same steadfast patriots they were before life altering injuries changed their lives forever. This is an opportunity for them to re-engage in sport at an Olympic level and help to re-define who they are."

The inaugural Warrior Games, a cooperative effort by the Pentagon and the U.S. Olympic Committee, will be held May 10-15 and hosted by the committee's Paralympic Military Program at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo. Military and civilian partner groups are launching a new Olympics-style competition for wounded, ill and injured service members in an effort to promote the importance of athletic training in the mental and physical recovery process for those who are able to take part.

Events will include shooting, swimming, archery, sitting volleyball, cycling, track, wheelchair basketball, discus and shot put, as well as an Ultimate Warrior pentathlon competition.

Only about 200, drawn proportionately from the services, will end up competing in the games. The Army will be represented by 100 soldiers chosen out of a pool of almost 9,000 wounded warriors. The Marine Corps will send 50 competitors, the Air Force will send 25, and the Coast Guard and Navy will combine to send 25 more.

"Whatever their individual circumstance, our nations wounded should be afforded every opportunity to regain their individual dignity and position in our communities our workforce and our military."

Wilson, who since the loss of his right leg, has completed several races including the 2009 Florida Ironman Triathlon says that the recovery effort of our nations injured service men and women have been significantly impacted by the

enormous heart felt generosity of countless American citizens and numerous non-profit organizations specifically designed with them in mind. Wilson who is sponsored by the Challenged Athletes Foundation, Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund, Segs4Vets and the Independence Fund states that through hard work, dedication and the technological advancements in science, medicine and state of the art advanced prosthetics, today's Wounded Warriors stand a far better chance to successfully reintegrate into all facets of civilian life or even retain positions in the military, some even returning to combat roles.

*Picture on page 31*

---

*(Continued from page 29)*

Students may be able to take out additional Stafford Loans in the form of an unsubsidized loan. Unsubsidized loans are not awarded on the basis of need and students will be charged interest from the time the loan is disbursed until it's paid in full. Borrowers also have the option to add the interest to the principal amount of the loan until graduation. However additional interest will be based on the higher amount.

Other loan options that provide **money for college** students include Perkins Loans which are designated for students that meet low income criteria. The availability of Perkins loans are usually limited because each school participating in the Federal Perkins Loan program is given a maximum amount of Perkins Loan funds each year.

PLUS loans are available for parents to borrow **money for college** for their children. These loans are awarded regardless of financial need and allow parents to borrow up to the full cost of the child's education. To qualify for a PLUS loan the student must be classified as dependent.

Knowing your loan options is important but students should not ignore scholarship programs that give away free **money for college**. Many students think that scholarships are only available for straight A students, but this is not the case! There are many **college** scholarship programs based on a variety of criteria including essay contests, volunteer work or area of study.

Scholarship **money for college** can be found by inquiring at your **college** scholarship office, searching online and using scholarship directories.

By exploring all of the options available students and their families can successfully find **money for college**.

Michael Carter is a contributor at **College Financial Aid Guide**, an online informational resource for educational funding, scholarships and student loans. Find out how to

Article Source: [http://EzineArticles.com/?expert=Michael\\_Carter](http://EzineArticles.com/?expert=Michael_Carter)



## *Auxiliary To The Association Of Aviation Ord-*



### See You In Reno!

It's almost time to get out those suitcases, dust them off, make decisions on what to wear, have that "What am I forgetting" discussion and prepare to meet those wonderful friends you may have not seen for a year. We hope you are all planning on meeting us in Reno in August for

the AO annual symposium and convention. This upcoming convention will be another fun time bringing in scholarship funds. We will be back at the Silver Legacy in Reno to experience their first-class service to our organization. Please plan to attend. Bring along a guest or two so they can discover the purpose, fun and enjoyment of our organization.

The Auxiliary is happy to welcome new General Members: **Betsey Cremin, Linda Cole, Lynn Ickes, Carolyn Chirco, Kathryn Weaver, Sherry Lewis and J. Christine Harvey.** Welcome to our family! New Lifetime Members: **Catherine Hall and Deborah Holcomb.** Thank you ladies for your dedication to our Auxiliary.

Thank You to our Scholarship donors: **Sylvia Ashlock, Betty Clark, Dee Dee Harmon, Rosemary Laur, Deborah Leach, Linda Robinson, Tom and Janet Sawyer, Elaine Southerland and Patsy Stokes.**

Kudos to our Taste of Home donors: **Sylvia Ashlock, Betty Clark, Julie Clayton, Deborah Leach, Ann Robins, Tom and Janet Sawyer, Elaine Southerland, Patsy Stokes, Chapter 21 NAS Fallon and chairperson Ashley Crews.** Ashley has picked up the reins of our Taste of Home project this year and done a great job. Ashley may be contacted at [ashleycrews1@yahoo.com](mailto:ashleycrews1@yahoo.com).

As a tentative agenda, the Auxiliary Board of Directors meeting will be on Thursday at 1 p.m. We will have a larger room this year, so there will be more space to accommodate all who wish to attend. Everyone is welcome to the Board of Directors meeting. Our General Membership meeting will begin at 9 a.m. on Saturday. The post convention Board of Directors meeting will be Sunday at 9 a.m.

We have four offices open this year. Positions to be filled are for outgoing Board of Directors **Marleen Grass** and **Cyndy Sassone**; Sally Vance is our outgoing Parliamentarian; Newsletter creator and Treasurer **Carolyn Thomas**

has elected to retire, so we will need to have someone try to fill her shoes. If you wish to be an officer, or know someone who wishes to fill one of the open positions, please contact **Teresa Zimmer**, our Nominating Chairperson, at [usnordy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:usnordy@sbcglobal.net).

Besides our business meetings, Friday night social and Saturday Awards banquet, there will be a Poker Walk with the AO's and our Auxiliary luncheon. Be ready to win a few prizes in our raffle and help us raise scholarship funds at our auction. Remember, this is the big drive to collect funds for the scholarship, so create your strategy for getting that much prized item at the auction and give generously for more chances to win at the raffle. Bring your pennies for the Taste of Home Copper / Silver Challenge. The Ordies have won the Challenge two years in a row, so we ladies need to get those pennies in the Auxiliary jar and quarters in the AO jar. If you have items to donate to the raffle or auction, please send them to **Delores Manley**, our raffle/auction chairperson, at **2099 Thomas Court, Fallon, NV 89409** and she will make sure they get to Reno. Her email address is [damanley@charter.net](mailto:damanley@charter.net). Remember this is where we obtain our scholarship money which is so very important to so many well deserving students.

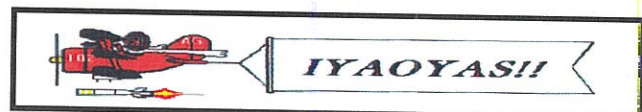
**Paulette Grune** was our luncheon guest in 2008 and presented us with a look at the past in the guise of a Victorian Lady. It was so very interesting, we asked her back. Her presentation this year will be "Reflections of the Past....A Walk Through Time". She will have approximately 8-9 costumes reflecting those worn from 1865 - 1920. Along with her assistant, Barbara, Paulette brings to light all the things women went through in the past to be presentable. You need not be a member of the Auxiliary to attend. We welcome all to be a part of a fun luncheon. So come join us!

You may send monetary donations for scholarships or Taste of Home to: **Carolyn Thomas, AAAO Treasurer, 1394 Lilac Ave., Chula Vista, CA 91911.** Remember, Scholarship checks should be made payable to the AAOF. Taste of Home donations should be made payable to the AAAO.

Until next time, **Remember....We Do Make A Difference!!**

**See You In Reno!**

**WE SUPPORT THE ARMS OF THE FLEET!**  
Janice Clasen - AAAO President





## *Association Of Aviation Ordnancemen Educational Foundation*



### **Need Money for College?**

Finding **money for college** can be a challenge for many students and their families. While saving in advance is the best choice, many times saving **money for college** is not easy for families. Even for those who do save, many find that the savings are not enough to cover the full cost of a

**college education.**

So what should students and parents do to find **money for college**? There are many programs available to help students get **money for college** including scholarships, grants and several types of loans.

There is one form the student needs to fill out each year which will determine his or her eligibility for need based programs including loans, grants and work-study called the FAFSA, found online at [fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov).

After submitting the FAFSA students will be notified by mail which programs they qualify for. Priority deadlines for most colleges are late spring to early summer. However students can continue to apply until the end of the school year.

If you have gotten your FAFSA results and didn't get as much **money for college** as you need, the first thing you should do is visit the financial aid office at your school. It is possible that there may be other sources of aid available. Some colleges participate in state funded financial aid programs and special need based programs that you may qualify for.

Secondly you can request that the financial aid office review your application and family contribution analysis. Perhaps there are circumstances such as a job loss, unexpected family expense or another factor that will reduce the amount of **money** the family is expected to contribute. This could possibly help you get more **money for college** in the form of loans and grants.

Most students qualify for Federal Student Loans (Stafford Loans) and the FAFSA results will reveal the amount students will be able to borrow. If this loan amount is not enough, students can inquire with the financial aid office about other loans.

*(Continued on page 27)*

**Note:**

*The following information is provided for Official Use Only within the Foundation and NOT to be released without prior individual approval.*

### ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION INITIAL OFFICERS



*President (2005-2011)*

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

*Vice President (2007-2010)*

- o CDR Mike Gramolini  
CNATTU JAX XO BOX 60  
NAS Jacksonville, FL 32212-0060  
(904) 542-5361 Ext 362  
[Michael.gramolini@navy.mil](mailto:Michael.gramolini@navy.mil)

*Secretary (2007-2010)*

- o Dennis Costa  
722 E. Avenue  
Coronado, CA 92118  
(619) 540-9768  
[AOCM@aol.com](mailto:AOCM@aol.com)  
[Dennis.Costa@Navy.mil](mailto:Dennis.Costa@Navy.mil)

*Treasurer (2005-2011)*

- o Richard Grass  
613 Tennis Avenue  
Ardsley, PA 19038-1704  
(215) 887-5009  
[ORD-LDO-RET@comcast.net](mailto:ORD-LDO-RET@comcast.net)

*Board of Director (2009-2012)*

- o AOC James L Irwin  
940 Bunch Lane  
Oak Harbor, WA 98277  
(360) 675-3536 Cell (360) 631-7608  
[ea6bao@verizon.net](mailto:ea6bao@verizon.net) / [james.l.irwin@navy.mil](mailto:james.l.irwin@navy.mil)

*Board of Director (2005-2010)*

- o Shannon N. Williams- Auxiliary  
11620 Amos St  
Eads, TN 38028  
(252) 557-1732 (Cell)  
[shannonwilliams5767@hotmail.com](mailto:shannonwilliams5767@hotmail.com)

*Board of Director (2005-2010)*

- o Larry Cowell  
77 Shenandoah Drive  
Davisville, W. V. 26142  
(304) 485-1558  
[l.cowell@verizon.net](mailto:l.cowell@verizon.net)

*Board of Director (2005-2008)*

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

*Foundation CFC Chairman*

- o Larry "Joe" Manley  
2099 Thomas Court  
Fallon, NV 89406-8703  
(775) 423-9205  
[AAOVP@aaoweb.org](mailto:AAOVP@aaoweb.org)  
[ljmanley@charter.net](mailto:ljmanley@charter.net)

*Scholarship Committee Chairman*

- o CDR Rick Garza  
P.O. Box 338  
Patuxent River, MD 20670  
(301) 757-5289 (Office)  
[rick.garza@navy.mil](mailto:rick.garza@navy.mil)

*Foundation Bylaws Committee Chairman*

- o Kirk Brado  
478 Allview Ct  
Chula Vista, CA 91910  
(619) 656-1268  
[Kirk.brado@navy.mil](mailto:Kirk.brado@navy.mil)



**DON'T MISS THE SATURDAY LUNCHEON!**

*EVERYONE WELCOME!*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14<sup>TH</sup>  
11:30 a.m. — SILVER BARON B

MENU: *Chicken Caesar Salad*

PAULETTE GRUNE

**"REFLECTIONS OF THE PAST.....A WALK THROUGH TIME"**

If you missed Paulette's presentation in 2008, you have a second chance to enjoy the humor, talent and knowledge that Paulette brings to her audience. Her program is very entertaining as well as educational. This year, she will be showcasing 8 or 9 costumes worn by ladies from 1865—1920.



**Advanced Luncheon Reservations Requested**

Auxiliary Members—\$13    Guests—\$16

Make check payable to **AAAO** and mail to:

*Carolyn Thomas, AAAO Treasurer, 1394 Lilac Ave., Chula Vista, CA 91911*

Auxiliary Member

Guest

Amt. of Check: \$

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

<http://www.aoweb.org/AAO/>

MEMBERSHIP DUES:

FIRST TIME MEMBERS \$20.00 PER YEAR OR \$30.00 FOR TWO YEARS  
PREVIOUS MEMBERS AND ANNUAL RENEWALS \$20.00 PER YEAR

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE: \_\_\_\_\_  
          LAST            FIRST            MI

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

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: home: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ work: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

RATE/RANK: \_\_\_\_\_ BRANCH OF SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_ Active ( ) Retired ( )

DATES SERVED: \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_ Last SSN: - \_\_\_\_\_

Marine Corp MOS: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of membership: Regular ( ) Associate ( )

SPONSOR: \_\_\_\_\_

I elect to receive my Red Shirt by downloading it from the Website only. ( ) Please Initial.

I do / do not authorize release of my name, address and telephone number to other members or prospective members of the Association of

Aviation Ordnancemen.

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

MAIL TO: AOCM J.J. LaMaitre USN Ret.  
9691 Bundy Drive  
Santee, CA 92071-2771

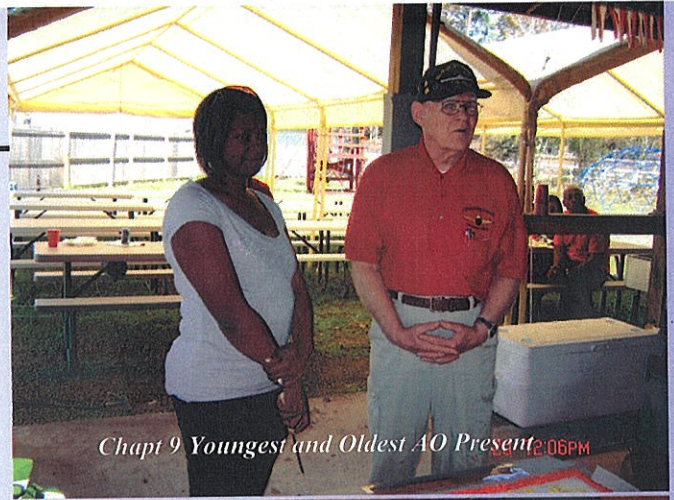
March 2008

**GIVE THIS FORM TO A FELLOW ORDNANCEMAN**

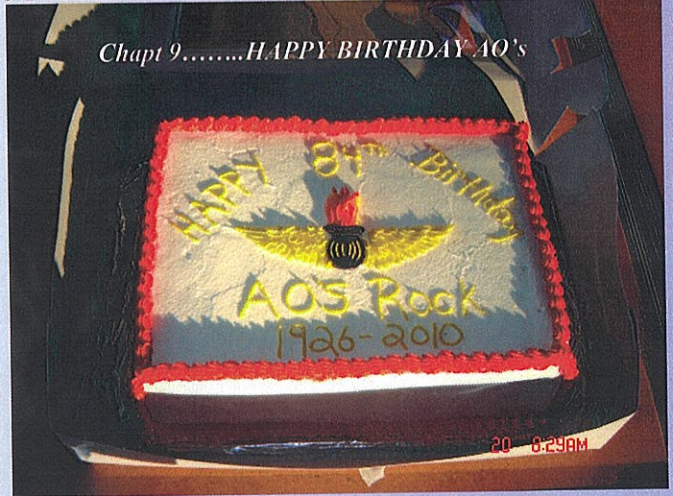
**SPECIAL !!!!!!!!!!!!!**

FIRST TIME RE-ENLISTEES SUBMIT THIS APPLICATION  
ALONG WITH A SIGNED COPY OF YOUR RE-ENLISTMENT  
CONTRACT FOR A ONE YEAR FREE MEMBERSHIP.

IF YOU ARE ALREADY A MEMBER YOUR EXPIRATION DATE WILL BE EXTENDED ONE YEAR.



Chapt 9 Youngest and Oldest AO Present 2:06PM



Chapt 9.....HAPPY BIRTHDAY AO's

20 8:29AM



# *The Red Shirt*

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN  
9691 BUNDY DRIVE  
SANTEE, CA 92071-2771

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



---

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
ANDREWS BROS.  
PRINTING  
PERMIT NO. 38

---



*This picture was taken on the USS Carl Vinson for the 50th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor. The People in the picture are John W. Finn, AOCM Perez, CDR Luan, Ensign Gramolini, and LTJG Teller.*