

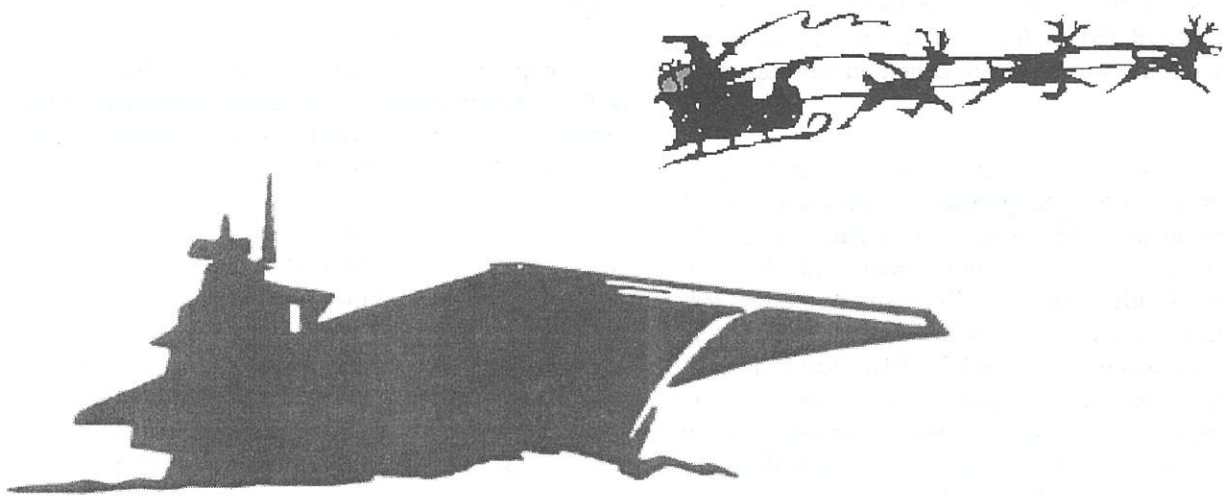
THE ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN

December 2000

Newsletter # 79

# The Red Shirt

## Seasons Greetings



*Peace Through Power - We Are The "Arms" Of The Fleet*

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## President's Message



As you will see in this issue, a lot has been happening around the world with our Association, but before I begin, let me send, on behalf of our association, condolences to the families and crew of the USS Cole. Our prayers are with you all.

Our hard work has finally paid off.

The new By-Laws that were approved at the General business meeting in Las Vegas are now in effect. They allow for a more flexible and efficient organization. The splitting of the office of Secretary/Treasure was a much needed change. Start thinking about who you want to nominate as your new Secretary for the Association. LCDR (RET) Rich Grass has agreed to remain as our Treasure. We are delighted with his decision.

The Fleet has been real busy, as you can imagine. None the less I had the pleasure of escorting VADM Mike Bowman, Commander, Naval Air Forces U.S. Pacific Fleet, to the USS John C. Stennis, for the presentation of this years John W. Finn Aviation Ordnancemen of the Year award. It was a unique visit because we had not only AOC (SEL) Scott F. Kesler, this years selection, but also last years select, AOC John Reed, present. To make things even more special we had John W. Finn on stage with us. VADM Bowman presented both AOC Kesler and AOC Reed with the Navy and Marine Corp Commendation Medals. "Well done" to both Chiefs. John Finn then locked the deck with his tales of WW II, and of his heroic actions at Kaneohe Bay. On a sad note, just a few days latter, onboard the USS Constellation, VADM Bowman surrendered his Command to VADM Nathman. VADM Mike Bowman loved his Ordies! Good luck Mike and Sally.

Now let me say a few words about Membership. In my last message I mentioned that we have a strong and very viable Association. That is because we have a

huge and willing group of members that continues to grow.

I have recently been contacted by a couple of ship's and shore stations that express interest in starting new chapters. Welcome! I do wish you the best.

However there are a couple of Chapters out there, where interest has fallen off. They need and would welcome leadership to step up and take charge to help get them back online. "How To" questions can be answered by Dick Grass (Sect/Treas) who can provide the official help on what needs to be done. Another area where we can help is recruiting new members. Many chapters are coming up with creative and effective ways of recruiting new members. Ask around. Everyones willing to help! It sure makes me proud that I'm one of you.

I hear lots of good things about the 2001 Convention scheduled for October 4-7<sup>th</sup> in San Diego. Chapter Eight has put a huge amount of planning into this convention. It will feature many events. I expect that this will be the "mother" of all conventions, as our Association was born in San Diego (actually Chula Vista).

In closing, Pat and I hope that all of you have a wonderful Holiday Season. We always look forward to hearing from you. Remember our Navy and Marine Corp team is unbeatable. Be safe..... ☺

Dave Lepard  
President

**Red Shirt  
Articles  
are due**

15 JAN 01  
15 APR 01  
15 JUN 01  
30 OCT 01

## Vice President's Message

The first thing I want to do is to take the time to thank Steve Cashat, our Red Shirt editor for an outstanding publication. Steve puts his heart and soul into every single issue. I don't know how he does it, but every issue keeps getting bigger and better. GREAT job, Steve! Thank You!

In my last article, I mentioned that all of our proposed By-Laws changes were approved at this years General Business Meeting. These changes include splitting the office of Secretary/Treasurer into two separate offices and allowing the general membership to vote via absentee ballot. The separation of the Secretary/Treasurer's duties created two new offices with the Secretary being responsible for all administrative matters and for maintaining all Association historical records. The Treasurer is responsible for maintaining all of the Association's funds including membership records and funds associated with membership dues.

The actual split of the Secretary/Treasurer's office will occur at the 2001 General Business Meeting when a new Secretary will be elected for a three year term. Our current Secretary/Treasurer, Rich Grass, has agreed to remain on as Treasurer until that term expires in 2002. This should allow for a smooth transition of duties.

With the approval of absentee voting, and as chairman of the Nominations Committee, I expect my job to get a lot more exciting over this next year. The approval of absentee voting creates a new avenue for nominating and voting for prospective officers and By-Laws changes. Essentially, nominations for officers shall be made to the Nominations Committee Chairman, which is a collateral duty of the Vice President. The consent of each candidate must be obtained prior to the nomination being made and that candidate must be present at the annual convention to ensure an orderly transition of office. Absence of a candidate from the general business meeting requires approval of the Board of Directors for that candidate to be eligible for election. The nomination package shall include a synopsis of the nominee's background and a statement indicating why the nominee should be a candidate for office. After the candidate's membership status has been verified and eligibility to run for office established, his or her name will be included on an absentee ballot which will be published in each

Red Shirt as far I in advance of the annual convention as possible. It is therefore very important to get your nominations in as soon as possible to ensure publication in the Red Shirt. The Board of Directors has set 1 June 2001 as the cut off date for accepting nominations on the absentee ballot for the 2001 convention. Remember, the publication of nominees on an absentee ballot in the Red Shirt does not preclude the acceptance of nominations from the floor during the annual general business meeting. However, you must be present to vote for the nominees accepted from the floor during the general business meeting.

Watch future editions of the red shirt for the absentee ballot and please consider nominating someone or allowing yourself to be nominated for one of the four (4) offices that will be up for election. These offices are Vice President, the newly established position of Secretary, and two (2) seats on the Board of Directors.

At this year's convention, I also held another meeting of the Membership Committee. Several chapter representatives attended the meeting to voice their concerns about our falling membership numbers. Our problem is not only recruiting new members, but also getting those new members to renew their membership after their first year.

So how do we deal with these problems? After kicking around many ideas, the Committee decided the best approach would be to advertise our Association more effectively and to offer membership incentives to our younger Ordies. Over the next year, every single USN and USMC Command/Ordnance shop on the planet will receive at random, at least one issue of the Red Shirt. Pass them around and let the troops look them over. Let them see what we are all about. A special reduced membership option will be available to all first time members. First term re-enlistees will also receive a one-year free membership. We are also developing informative brochures which will be distributed to all the National Officers and Board members as well as Chapter Presidents. These brochures provide a brief history of the Association, identify our objectives, and discuss some of the programs we support such as the John W. Finn AO of the year and the Robert L. Crow Scholarship awards. The brochures are intended to be passed out to prospective members during our travels and at Chapter meetings. We also hope to publish the brochure in a future edition of the Red Shirt so feel free to cut them out and recruit a fellow Ordnanceman.

*(Continued on page 4)*

(Continued from page 3)

I sincerely hope that these initiatives combined with shifting the location of our annual convention sites will improve our member participation and enhance recruitment and retention. But we still need the help of every single member of this Association. Remember, one person can make a difference.

Once again, if anyone has any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me. Also, please send your nominations for Officers and Board Members to either of my e-mail addresses or my home address, which is published in each addition of the Red Shirt.

Until next time, may each of you have a safe and joyous holiday season! ☺

Dave Moore  
Vice President

## Absentee Voting

Nominate or allow yourself to be nominated for one of the four (4) offices that will be up for election.

Vice President  
Secretary

2 seats on the Board of Directors

1 June 2001 is the cut off date for nominations to qualify for the Absentee Ballot.

Procedures for nominations and getting on the ballot will be published in future Red Shirts.

## 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

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION			
www.aardies.org			
MEMBERSHIP DUES:			
FIRST TIME MEMBERS \$15.00 PER YEAR OR \$25.00 FOR TWO YEARS			
PREVIOUS MEMBERS AND ANNUAL RENEWALS \$15.00			
NAME: _____		SPOUSE _____	
LAST	FIRST	MI	
ADDRESS _____			
CITY: _____		STATE: _____	ZIP _____
PHONE: (home) _____		(work) _____	
RATE/RANK: _____	BRANCH OF SERVICE: _____		Active: _____ Retired: _____
DATES SERVED: _____		TO: _____	SSN: _____
Type of membership:	Regular ( )	Associate ( )	
SPONSOR _____			
I ELECT TO RECEIVE MY NEWSLETTER BY DOWN LOADING FROM THE WEBSITE ( )			
Under the freedom of information act: I do / do not authorize release of my name, address and telephone number to other members or prospective members of the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen.			
SIGNATURE: _____		DATE: _____	
MAIL TO:	LCDR Richard J. Grass USN Ret. 613 Tennis Avenue Ardsley, PA 19038-1704		
	SEPT. 2000		

## Secretary/Treasurer's Report

In this issue you will find your official copy of the revised Bylaws. Please remove it and keep it in a safe place so that you will have it to refer to should the need arise. You will also notice there is a new membership application. This application reflects the changes that your Board approved in an effort to enhance membership. The new application is on the website and copies have been mailed to all Chapter Presidents. If you have copies of the old one please destroy them.

The annual renewal card that most of you get has been changed too. It gives you the option of requesting that you receive your newsletter by downloading it from the website only. Once you make this choice you will no longer receive your newsletter via the U.S. Mail. To go back to receiving it via the mail you must notify me in writing. The new membership application also allows for this option. The Board, at the request of many of our members, approved this change. For those of you that would like to select this option now, drop me a line and it will be done.

With the Holiday Season upon us it is once again time for us to remember those shipmates who will be away from their families and love ones. They are out there doing their job so that the rest of us can enjoy the holiday festivities in peace with ours. To those of you making this sacrifice, we say thank you. You can rest assured that we are grateful. ☺

## Chapter Meetings - Places/ Times / Dates

**Chapter 1 - Lemoore, CA**  
President: Robert S. Walecki  
559-924-1989  
NAS Lemoore, Ordie Shack  
3rd Wednesday, 1700

**Chapter 3 - Whidbey Island, WA**  
President: Kenneth A. Hobbs  
360-679-6329  
VFW Post 7392 (Whidbey)  
2nd Wednesday, 1600

**Chapter 4 - Virginia Beach VA**  
President: Bob Borges  
757-486-6789  
VFW Post 392, Bowland Parkway  
3rd Wednesday, 1900

**Chapter 5 - China Lake, CA**  
President: Neely Hall  
760-384-1810  
VFW Post 4048, 117 N. Alvord  
3rd Thursday, 1800

**Chapter 7 - PT. Mugu, CA**  
President: Michael Gramolini  
805-986-1244  
Weapons Dept. Bld 68 Conf Room  
2nd Wednesday, 11:30AM

**Chapter 8 - San Diego, CA**  
President: J.J. LaMaitre  
619-562-8492  
FRA, Chula Vista  
1st Thursday, 1900

**Chapter 9 - Jacksonville,**  
President: Thomas W. Rose  
904-268-7756  
FRA, Collins Road  
3rd Thursday, 1900

**Chapter 11 - Kaneohe Bay, HI**  
President: Thomas O. Rock, III  
808-839-2226  
Call for Meeting Time and Place

**Chapter 21 - Fallon, NV**  
President: Pete Quintana  
775-428-2173  
American Legion Post 16 Fallon, NV.  
1st Wednesday, 1800

**Chapter 22 - Patuxent River**  
President: Lee Clark  
410-394-0036  
Lexington Park FRA  
3rd Wednesday, 1900

**Chapter 63 - USS Kitty Hawk CV 63**  
President: Harold (Mac) Mclean  
Forward Deployed

**Chapter 65 - USS Enterprise CVN 65**  
President: Sheltric Peterson  
On Board

**Chapter 68 - USS Nimitz CVN 68**  
President: Thomas W. Prunick  
On Board

**Chapter 72 - US S Lincoln CVN 72**  
President: Barry W. Ehnerd  
On Board

**Chapter 74 - USS Stennis CVN 74**  
President: Tracey M. Appleby  
On Board

**Chapter 75 - USS Truman CVN 75**  
President: George W. Johnson  
On Board

**Chapter Pensacola - Pensacola, FL**  
President: Joseph A. Elliott  
850-453-0428  
Call for Meeting Time and Place

**Chapter Desert/Southwest - El Centro, CA.**  
 President: Ronald L. Anderson  
 760-339-2265  
 Call for meeting time and place

**Chapter MT ETNA -**  
 NAS Sigonella, Sicily  
 President: Gloria M. Johnson

## ... Support Your Chapter ... Attend Meetings Regularly

### NEW LIFE MEMBERS

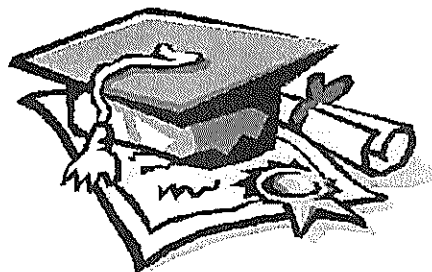
Bernard J. Visser  
 LT Alfted H. White USN Ret.  
 AOC(AW) Tracey M. Appleby  
 LTJG Buddy R. Hembree USN Ret.

### NEW MEMBERS

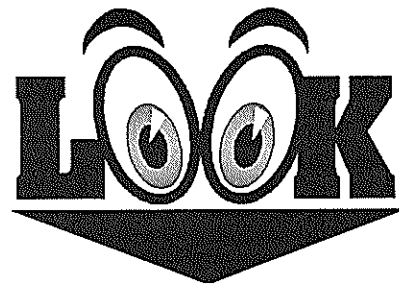
AOCS Kenneth A. Hobbs  
 AOC Dale Carmody USN Ret.  
 AO1 Joseph L. Varca USN Ret.  
 AOC Donald W. Travis USN Ret.  
 LCPL Yi Wah Roberts  
 AO3 David E. Reddick  
 AT1 (AW/NAC) Mark A. Millis  
 William C. Bowen  
 AO1 John Bwfield  
 AO1(AW) Jack L. Hurley  
 AO3 Brad Kutz  
 AOC Jeff Waugh USN Ret.  
 AOCS(AW) Mike Haberman  
 AO1 Tim Kannell  
 John F. Renaud  
 AO1 Gregory D. Jones  
 LCDR Chris M. Latham  
 AOAN Julie M. Maurer  
 AO1 Jay Bauer  
 AOC(AW/SW) David L. Wyatt  
 AOC Ken TeM USN Ret.  
 AOAR Lucas M. Andersen  
 AOAA Jacob T. Darden  
 AO2 Donovan L. Payne  
 AOAN Holli M. Gurl  
 AO2 Michael Gaar  
 AO2 Jeffery B. VanAllen  
 GM2 Mark D. Napoli  
 AO3 Omarr J. Sullivan  
 AOC Robert C. Jones  
 AO1 (AW) Ramon L. Corte's

AO2(AW) Henry West  
 AOAN Jeremy Sartain  
 AO2 Timothy Church  
 AO1 (AW) Jesse F. Hickam III  
 AO1 Peter A. Mack  
 AO2 Rudy Hernandez  
 AO1 Leon C. Kimball USN Ret.  
 AO2 Kevin L. Smith  
 L. J. Kordel  
 AO1 (AW) Curtis E. Henson  
 AOAA Rion T. Parker  
 EW1 (SW) Steven E. Draper  
 CWO2 Mel Fenner  
 AO1 Scott Wiles  
 AOAN William D. O'Connor  
 AOAA Andrew J. Boettcher  
 AOAN Shaun M. Reid  
 LT Steven D. Maxwell  
 AOAA Amanda M. Winger  
 AO1 (AW) Dany T. Choptis  
 AO3 Chris S. Heinz  
 AOAN Christopher E. Stone  
 AO3 David E. Long

### SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTORS



Leroy Field Jr.  
 John & Carol Heath  
 William & Audrey Weidenheitner  
 Thomas & Brenda Richards  
 Ronald & Susan Jerasa  
 George & Lilli Werner  
 John & JoHanna McNamee  
 Alfred & Arlene White  
 Christopher Hathaway  
 Ronald & Lupe Swenson  
 Robert & Eleanor Waldron  
 Don & Leilani Kubik  
 Rick & Pamela Nelson  
 Ryan & Amy Burton  
 Edward & Carole Burwell  
 Donald & Thelma Sanders  
 George & Muriel Lindsay  
 Bennett & Virginia Hill  
 Irvin & Micki Koniak



### LOCATOR

Can you help?.....  
 Know where any of these  
 members can be located?

GYSGT Johnny Rodriguez  
 AOC(AW) Jason B. Parmley  
 AO1 David A. Hubbs  
 AOCS(AW) John A. Desorlneaux  
 AO1 (AW) Eric Williamson  
 CW03 Donald S. Edgington  
 AOC(AW/SW) Douglas R. Olson  
 AO1 (AW) Raymond Parham  
 Robert C. Derbin  
 LT Terry E. Graham  
 AO2 Berlin Gabretti  
 AOC(AW/SW) Aaron A. Shipley  
 AOC(AW) Carleton R. Roe, Jr.  
 AOC Blaine T. Sweazy  
 Lt. William Akins, USN/Ret.

### Moving?



Please submit your change  
 of address !

## Mahalo, Shipmates

*Contributed by AVCM(AW/NAC) Leo Padilla*

"...COMPATRECONFORPAC a.k.a COMPAT-WINGSPAC, relocated upon base closure of NAS Barbers Point, Hawaii to MCAS/NAS Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii. We are located in the new headquarters building named for Medal of Honor recipient, AOC John W. Finn. Presently the bulkheads are bare and Admiral Holmes would like to create a history of Pacific Patrol Aviation throughout the headquarters. We are seeking memorabilia (i.e. plaques, patches, pictures, news clippings, etc.) to be donated for this purpose. A library of squadron cruise books will also be set-up in the Flag conference room. Donations of cruise books are also requested. This is an opportunity to ensure the history of Naval Pacific Patrol Aviation is avail-

able for all hands to enjoy. Stories of great deeds and adventures are slowly slipping away with the passing of time.

Shipmates, let's keep the history alive for those Sailors who follow in our footsteps. As the present Command Master Chief, I am the POC for all donations and queries and can be contacted at the following:

AVCM Leo G. Padilla  
MCBH P.O. Box 64000  
Kanehoe Bay, HI 96863-4000  
808-257-0319  
cmc@cprfp.navy.mil

Mahalo, Shipmates and I hope to have you see the new headquarters in the future..."

## Chaplain's Corner



It is still the same old story down here, hot, dry, and no relief in sight. We know we must be careful in what we pray for, as we could get a flood such as the one we had in October of 1998!

I am still away from my computer for days at a time because of my job, but it seems that lately there has been an increase in members' deaths and serious sicknesses or accidents. We try to include all our friends and associates in our daily prayers for we know that praying is good for the soul and our personal well-being. We should develop a prayer life that will give us the grace to accept things in this life as they are, and the hope of God's mercy toward

us in the next. The Bible, in John 16:24 says, "Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full." Praying for the needs of others (intercession) as well as praying for our own personal desires (petition) is important in our prayer life. Not only does God favor intercessory prayer for friends and loved ones, but it also makes us mindful of the needs of others. Although we may not always be able to understand His decisions and methods, we know our God loves and wants only the best for us. Each day we should thank our Lord for all the days of life he has given our loved ones and us. We should realize that, apart from God, everything else is of little value. If all the suffering and joys of our past draw us closer to our Father in Heaven, they are of immeasurable value.

In closing, I want to remind you that even the most simple prayer for our Country, its leaders, our shipmates, friends and family can be of great value to you and those included in your daily prayers. Please remember those that have given their lives so that

we can live free in this great Country. May Peace and Love be with you until we meet again. ☺

Leon Stolz  
Chaplain  
1103 Simpson  
Victoria, Texas 77904  
leonstolz@aol.com  
361-573-1139

# TAPS



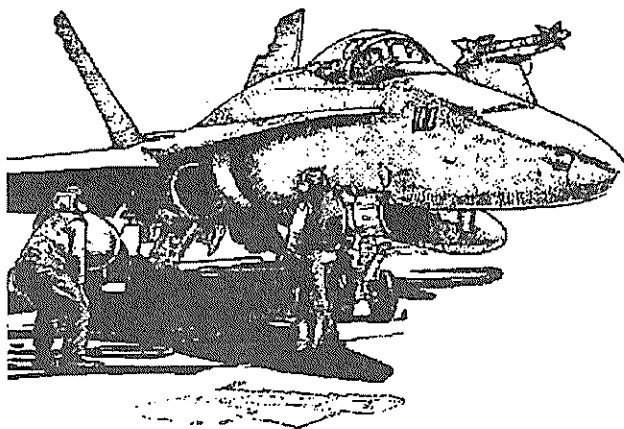
AO1 Walter Cannon, USN/Ret.



# Explosive Safety

## Things that Go "Bang" during Maintenance

By AOCS (AW) D. Swartz



Are we really paying attention to what we are doing, and are we so confident doing maintenance that we don't need to follow written procedures? You be the JUDGE:

Cartridge Actuating Devices (CADS) continue to detonate at an alarming rate. Of the 100 reported by Aviation commands from 1 June 99 to 1 June 00, maintenance personnel fired 73, 12 by pilots, 15 by ordnance personnel. A sampling of mishap narratives follows:

On aircraft start, APU RDY/DISC light was illuminated. Pilot pressed the fire extinguisher ready light, discharging extinguisher into APU bay.

During a 224 day inspection, AME required the assistance of an Aviation Electrician (AE). The AE was assigned, reviewed the Maintenance Requirement card (MRC) deck, misinterpreted his role in the maintenance action and proceeded without coordinating with maintenance control or the AME work-center. Working independently, the AE disconnected the ground vice power wire. When the AE reapplied power, the CAD fired and discharged the APU fire bottle.

While performing fire detection system operational

checkout, the top deck HALON bottle was inadvertently actuated. During investigation it was revealed that electrical connectors were not disconnected. Maintenance personnel did not follow procedures.

While conducting a B161 test (Electrical Functional Check) on the number (1) fire extinguisher normal and number (2) transfer CAD, the number (2) fire extinguisher container was expended by inadvertent actuation of the number (1) transfer CAD.

Battery power was applied to an aircraft and the maintenance man noticed a discharge light illuminated on master arm control panel. Upon pushing both left and right aircraft firelights, CADS on the fire bottle expended and the contents of fire bottle dispersed into engine bay. Procedures in tech manual work package were not adhered to prior to maintenance action.

As ordnance personnel were performing rack and jettison systems release circuit testing, a fuel tank was jettisoned on flight line. Post incident inspection revealed that the cartridges had not been removed from all racks and launchers.

Where's the checklists?

What are we doing here? Are we so busy, so good, or just too lazy that we can't take an extra few minutes to break out the procedures? Do the job right before seriously hurting or killing somebody. These examples may not sound serious, but think about it. What goes through your mind when things just don't go right. Do you get that adrenaline rush and saying to yourself "that was close"? Its all too easy to dismiss safety procedures and checklist when a given task is something we've done numerous times before. We take false confidence in our familiarity with the job, performing in a robotic like way. This is when mistakes happen. No matter how seemingly familiar, stop and break out the appropriate procedures and checklist. Do the job right!

Lets use ORM (OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT) process, and reduce some or all of these mishaps.

Questions: AOCS Swartz is a Weapons Analyst at the Naval Safety Center. Give him a call at (757-444-3520) DSN (564) EXT.7142 for comments or if you up with the 00 "E" him at [dswartz@safetycenter.navy.mil](mailto:dswartz@safetycenter.navy.mil).



## CHAPTER ONE LEMOORE



Greetings from not-so sunny Lemoore! As I write this article, Lemoore has set a new record for rain for this time of the year. We got an inch or so yesterday, but hopefully we will return to our sunny skies before the weekend. As for Chapter news, we have been very busy. Since the last edition of the Redshirt, Chapter One held it's annual August picnic, which was very successful. We had a pretty good turnout at Hickey Park. There was lots of food, beverages, sporting events and of course, camaraderie. At the picnic, we also selected our "2000, George Segars Scholarship" winner. Our winner was Mary Thomas, daughter of AOCS (Ret) Ron Thomas. Mary was awarded \$750.00 and will no doubt use it to further her educational goals. "Congratulations", Mary and keep pressing on.

Once again, the Chapter provided volunteer ushers for the Tulare County Fair. The Fair was a great success featuring outstanding performers such as John Michael Montgomery, Montgomery Gentry, Reba McEntire, Cheap Trick and Jethro Tull. It was lots of fun. Special "thanks" to Rich Grass and his lovely wife for helping out during their visit to Lemoore.

We would like to congratulate all the newly initiated Chief Petty Officers. Keep the faith and remember, now is when you need to put all the training to use and make our Navy even better than what it is.

The annual Christmas party will be the 9<sup>th</sup> of December at the Fleet Reserve Association, Branch 261. Cocktails start at 1800 and dinner at 1930. Joel Cooley is doing a great job of setting up the party. I'm sure there will be a lot of door prizes as well as a wacky "White Elephant" gift. Our Turkey Shoot is back "on" again this year, thanks to the efforts of some key personnel who revived the Trap and Skeet club on base. AOCS Bill O'Connor, AOCS Randy Horner, and AOC Don Phelps were instrumental. This event has always been very popular, and helps us to raise funds, which go directly to youth activities in our area. We are also collecting food items for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. If you are in the Lemoore area during any of these events, please

stop in and participate. We always enjoy seeing ship-mates!

As always, Chapter One has sponsored numerous youth activities, including Little League Baseball, Girls Softball, 2000 Volunteer Program and the 2000 Sober Grad night.

That about covers all the news for this "Red Shirt". Our Chapter still holds it's meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month, 1700 at the Trap and Skeet building, affectionately known as the "Ordie Shack". Stop in if you are in town. ☺

Stay safe out there. IYAOYAS!!

Rob Waleck  
President, Chapter One

P.S. Almost forgot: Welcome to LCDR BJ Schwandt and his wife Gail, returning to Lemoore. He is relieving LT Dave Gomez as NAS Lemoore Weapons Officer. I'm sure we will get him involved with the Chapter very soon.

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### Three Knots

An old retired sailor puts on his old uniform and goes down to the docks once more for old times sake.



He hires a prostitute and takes her up to a room. He's going at it as best as he can for a guy his age.

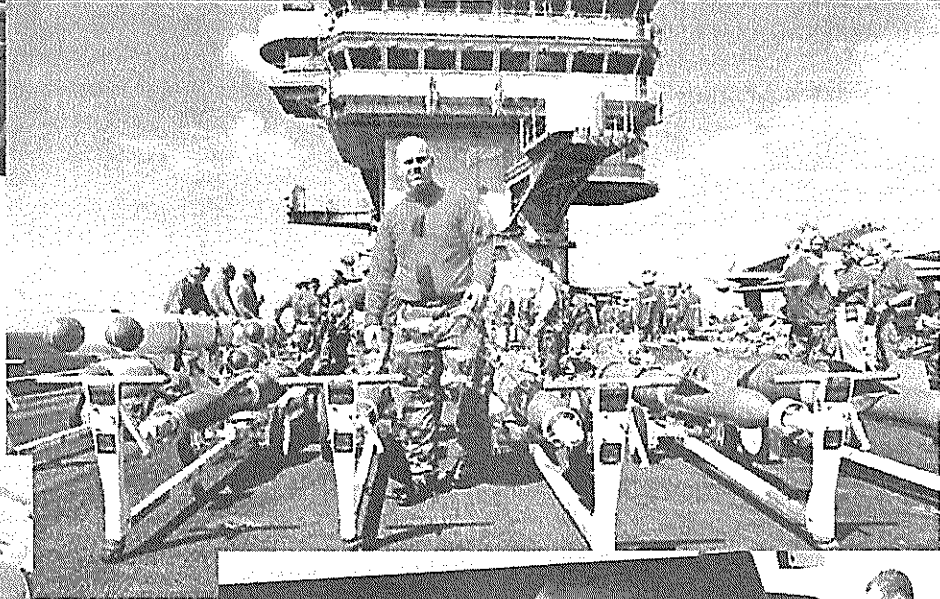
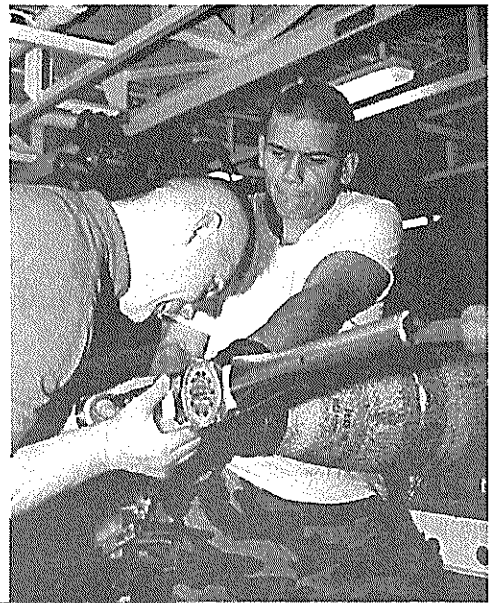
He asks, "How am I doing?"

The prostitute replies, "Well sailor, you're doing about three knots."

"Three knots?" he replies, "What's that supposed to mean?"

She says, "You're knot hard, you're knot in, and you're knot getting your money back"

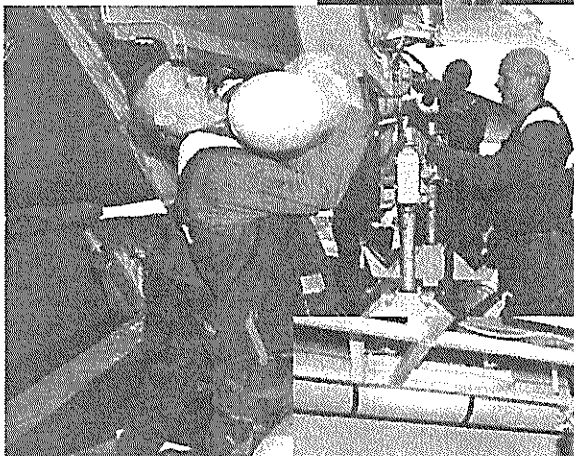
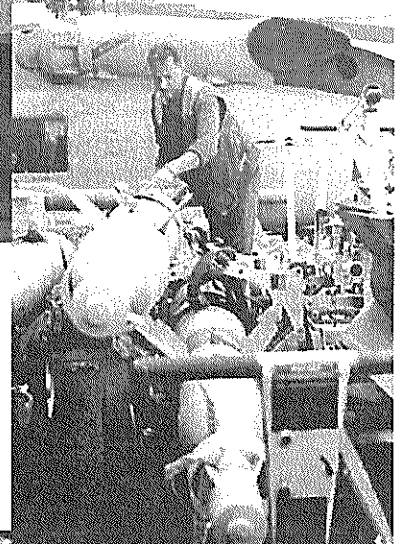
# Aviation Ordnance



\*\*\* Happy Holidays \*\*\*



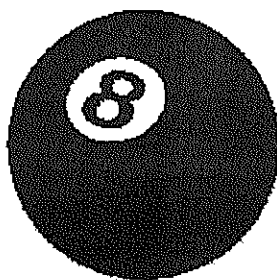
# It's A Wonderful Life



\*\*\* Season's Greetings \*\*\*

## Chapter Eight

### San Diego Chapter



Greetings from Sunny San Diego. This year has been flying by, and we have been very busy. We have A LOT of irons in the fire so let's get right to it.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the new AOC's. Your journey is just beginning.

Had our highway walk on Sat 9 Sept 00. There was a great turn out by the Eight-Ballers and from the Stennis Chapter. We all mustered out at John's after the walk and had our traditional burger burn.

By the time you read this CVN-74 and Chapter 8 will have hosted an AO family party on the 27 Oct 00 on the beach on NASNI to "Welcome Home the Stennis". The Eight-Ballers and Stennis Crew never need much of an excuse to host a day in the sun.

#### HOLIDAY HAND UP

Our Holiday Hands Up Committee will be headed up by Jim Saxton, Ray Ramirez, AOCM Marty Cobb. If there are any Ordies out there in San Diego that need a "Hand Up", let any Chapter member know. And if you can donate, by all means we will take whatever you can give (food donations and/or cash). Checks can be mailed to PO Box 710273, Santee, CA. 92072-0273.

#### CONVENTION 2001 NEWS

We have several committees set up to provide the following: Golf Tournament, Ships tours, Airport shuttles, Dinner cruise, Inert weapon displays, Charger/Padres games (schedules permitting), Casino/ Shopping tour, Deep sea fishing, Wine Tasting, and a trip to Puerto Nuevo for a Lobster Feast. In order to put on successful Convention activities we will need to have **EARLY COMMITMENTS, SIGN UPS, AND PAYMENT IN ADVANCE**. If there is anything else that you would like to see, **NOW** is the time to speak up. Contact us at the above PO Box, or call me at home at 619-562-8492. It is your Association. How can we serve you??? Pre-convention meeting will be held in January 12 - 15 in Laughlin, at the River Palms

Resort. Plan to join us. The final committees will be set then.

#### RECRUITING

The flyers/folders being put out by the National recruiting committee are drawing positive responses from our members. Get out there and recruit an Ordie today.

That is all for this time. Have a Great and Safe Holiday Season. **IYAOYAS** ☺

JJ LaMaitre  
Eight-Baller President

## 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN

WILL BE HELD AT THE  
QUALITY RESORTS HOTEL  
in San Diego CA  
4-7 OCT 2001

MANY NEW AND EXCITING ACTIVITIES ARE PLANNED PRIOR TO 4 OCT. PLAN TO GET HERE EARLY. THINGS PLANNED ARE GOLF TOURNAMENT, SHIPS TOURS, WINERY TOUR, & TRIP TO VIEJAS CASINO GREAT SHOPPING CENTER

## THE KEY IS TO PRE-REGISTER

# 25th ANNIVERSARY

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The Big  
CELEBRATION!*

WINE  
TASTING

OCTOBER 4-7, 2001

In Beautiful

*San Diego*

at the

DINNER  
CRUISES

QUALITY RESORT

SHIP  
TOURS

Mission Valley

*Don't miss the exciting events planned for your  
enjoyment by Chapter 8!*

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ACTION

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## OLD SOLDIERS

### The Emergency Room

*Written By*

*CPT. Stephen R. Ellison, M.D.*

I am a doctor specializing in Emergency Medicine in the Emergency Departments of the only two military Level One-Trauma centers. They are both in San Antonio, TX and they care for civilian emergencies as well as military personnel.

San Antonio has the largest military retiree population in the world living here because of the location of these two large military medical centers.

As a military doctor in training for my specialty, I work long hours and the pay is less than glamorous. One tends to become jaded by the long hours, lack of sleep, food, family contact and the endless parade of human suffering passing before you. The arrival of another ambulance does not mean more pay, only more work. Most often it is a victim from a motor vehicle crash. Often it is a person of dubious character who has been shot or stabbed. With our large military retiree population it is often a nursing home patient. Even with my enlisted service and minimal combat experience in Panama prior to medical school, I have caught myself groaning when the ambulance brought in yet another sick, elderly person from one of the local retirement centers that cater to military retirees. I had not stopped to think of what citizens of this age group represented. I saw "Saving Private Ryan." I was touched deeply, not so much by the carnage in the first 30 minutes but by the sacrifices of so many. I was touched most by the scene of the elderly survivor at the graveside asking his wife if he'd been a good man. I realized that I had seen these same men and women coming through my Emergency Dept. and had not realized what magnificent sacrifices they had made. The things they did for me and everyone else that has lived on this planet since the end of that conflict are priceless.

Situation permitting, I now try to ask my patients about their experiences. They would never bring up the subject without the inquiry. I have been privileged to an amazing array of experiences recounted in the brief minutes allowed in an Emergency Dept. encounter. These experiences have revealed the incredible individuals I have had the honor of serving in a medical capacity, many on their last admission to the hospital. There was frail, elderly woman who reassured my young enlisted medic trying to start an IV line in her

arm. She remained calm and poised despite her illness and the multiple needle sticks into her fragile veins. She was what we call a "hard stick." As the medic made another attempt I noticed a number tattooed across her forearm. I touched it with one finger and looked into her eyes. She simply said "Auschwitz." Many of later generations would have loudly and openly berated the young medic in his many attempts. How different was the response from this person who'd seen unspeakable suffering.

A long retired Colonel, who as a young officer, had parachuted from his burning plane over a Pacific Island held by the Japanese. Now an octogenarian, his head cut in a fall at home where he lived alone. His CT scan and suturing had been delayed until after midnight by the usual parade of high priority ambulance patients. Still spry for his age, he asked to use the phone to call a taxi to take him home then realized his ambulance had brought him without his wallet. He asked if he could use the phone to make a long distance call to his daughter who lived 7 miles away. With a great pride we told him that he could not as he'd done enough for his country and the least we could do was get him a taxi home, even if we had to pay for it ourselves. My only regret was that my shift wouldn't end for several hours and I couldn't drive him myself.

I was there the night MSgt. Roy Benavidez came through the Emergency Dept. for the last time. He was very sick. I was not the doctor taking care of him but I walked to his bedside and took his hand. I said nothing. He was so sick he didn't know I was there. I'd read his Congressional Medal of Honor citation and wanted to shake his hand. He died a few days later.

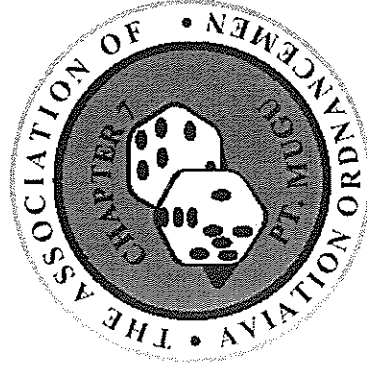
The gentleman who served with Merrill's Marauders; the survivor of the Baatan Death March; the survivor of Omaha Beach; the 101 year old World War I veteran; the former POW held in frozen North Korea; the former Special Forces medic now with non operable liver cancer; the former Vietnam Corps Commander. I remember these citizens. I may still groan when yet another ambulance comes in but now I am much more aware of what an honor it is to serve these particular men and women. I am angered at the cut backs, implemented and proposed, that will continue to decay their meager retirement benefits.

I see the President and Congress who would turn their back on these individuals who've sacrificed so much to protect our liberty. I see later generations that seem to be totally engrossed in abusing these same liberties

*(Continued on page 15)*

*(Continued from page 14)*  
 won with such sacrifice. It has become my personal endeavor to make the nurses and young enlisted medics aware of these amazing individuals when I encounter them in our Emergency Dept. Their response to these particular citizens has made me think that perhaps all is not lost in the next generation. My experiences have solidified my belief that we are losing an incredible generation and this nation knows not what it is losing. Our un-caring government and ungrateful civilian populace should all take note.

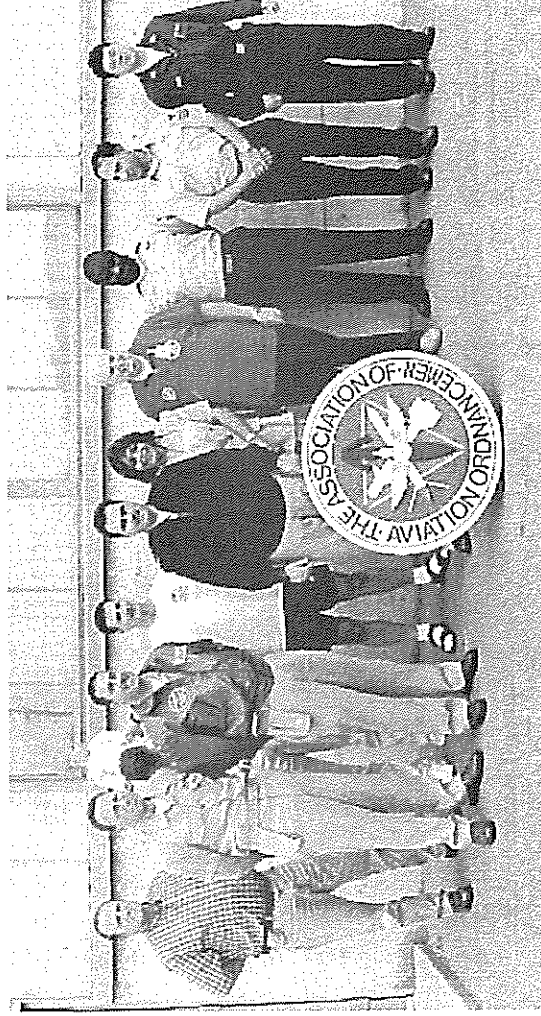
We should all remember that we must "Earn this."



## Chapter Seven

Naval Base Ventura County

Hello fellow ORDIES and Shipmates, from the best kept secret in the navy. We have changed our name again. We are now Chapter Seven at Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC).



This quarter, the Chapter held it's annual elections. The following new Officers and Board Members will carry us through the next year:

President:	Lt. Michael Gramolini
Vice-President:	AO1 James Wilcox
Secretary:	Larry Cowell (AO1 RET. USN)
Treasurer:	AO1 Eddie Henley
Board member:	CWO4 Robert Gracie (USMC)
Board Member:	GYSGT Dwayne Fochler
Board Member:	Ms. Donna Villeda
Board Member:	AOC James Richardson
Board Member:	AO1 Robert Brown
Board Member:	AO1 Michael Perrone

The Chapter has also changed the dates and place of our meetings as follows:

**Board of Directors Meeting:** First Wednesday of each month, 11:30 Am, at the Weapons Department Conference room Bldg. 68, NBVC.

**General Business Meeting:** Second Wednesday of each month, 11:30 AM, at the Weapons Department Conference room Bldg. 68, NBVC.

As you can see by the roster of newly elected officers, the tide is turning. We are getting more active duty personnel involved in the Chapter. I expect great things for this chapter in the next few years. We are looking forward to celebrating another Ordie Birthday next year and, hopefully having a good showing at the Convention in San Diego in October.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome aboard the NBVC and to the Association, CWO2 Melvin Fenner. Gunner Fenner reported aboard as the Ordnance Division Officer of the Weapons Test

Squadron, and immediately got involved with the Chapter. Welcome aboard, Gunner.

Finally, I would like to thank last years officers and administration for all their hard work, especially the outgoing President, AOC Richardson. We look forward to the continued building up of Chapter Seven. Again, thank you for electing me President.

Mike Gramolini



## Tidewater Chapter

### Chapter IV News

Greetings to all Ordies!

All summer long, the chapter has been involved with our "FOD walk downs", as we refer to our "Adopt-a-Highway" program.

We had to cancel our fall "Red Shirt Ranch" this year as many members were unable to attend.

We are currently in the final planning stage of two upcoming events. First, is our annual Thanksgiving food drive, with all donations going to the Oceana chaplain's office. Second is our forth-annual Christmas party, scheduled for December 9, 2000, to be held at the VFW Post 392, in Virginia Beach. As in the past, we are expecting a great turnout. Tickets go on sale on or about November 1, 2000, and they can be obtained from any chapter officer, board of director member, or from the VFW canteen.

Chapter IV meets every third Wednesday evening at 1900 hours at the VFW Post 392 on Bowland Parkway in Virginia Beach. When in the area, stop by. We'd love to have you attend. Remember, you do not have to be a member to attend.

In closing, take a moment to remember our departed and wounded shipmates on the USS Cole, as well as their families. There have been numerous outpourings of condolences and charitable actions from our surrounding communities. One particularly outstanding effort involved all Burger King restaurants in the cities of Virginia Beach, Norfolk, Chesapeake, Portsmouth, Hampton, and Newport News. They donated every cent of profit taken in for one whole day's business and donated the proceeds to the families of the USS Cole. This is only one of the extremely generous business contributions. Here in Hampton Roads, we take the death of one military member personally. We have all been in harm's way at one time or another. It can happen to any of us at any time.

Until next time, take care, and be safe! ☺

IYAOYAS!

Bob Borges, AOCM Ret.  
President, Chapter IV



## Chapter 21

### Fallon, NV

Hello fellow Ordies.

It's been awhile since the last article was submitted so we'll get you all caught up with past

and present happenings at ORDNANCETOWN USA.

Lt. Joe Nash retired as the Assistant Weapons Officer at Fallon Weapons Department in the month of August. "Good Luck", Joe. Welcome aboard to CWO3 Larry Hurlbut who relieved Joe as Assistant Weapons Officer.

We have had super turnouts for our last two road clean up days which concluded with a family picnic at Sorenson Park on base.

The chapter held a charity car wash with the proceeds going AOC Bill Wright from Chapter One who recently lost his house due to a fire.

The monthly meetings were moved from the NASF CPO club to the American Legion in town.

Congratulations are in order for Ensign select Curtis Haug and (3) new CPO's stationed here at Fallon: AOC(AW) James Grassman, AOC(AW) Dave Presswood and AOC(AW) Eric Selby. They survived the big day.

Our annual Christmas Party is set up for the first weekend in December at the Bird Farm. If you're in town stop by and enjoy the festivities.

We would like to thank AOCS Jeff Vochatzer for all his help for our chapter and wish him well on his next tour of duty to VFA-82.

If you're ever in Fallon stop out and see us. That's all for now. "Keep them Bombs on Target on Time."  
IYAOYAS !!! ☺

Pete F. Quintana  
AAO Chapter 21 President

## 2000 Memorabilia

### Association of Aviation Ordnancemen Memorabilia Order Form

ITEM	PRICE	QUANTITY	SPECIFY
Decals (Outside) 3"	\$1.00		
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Decals (Inside) 5"	\$1.00		
Patches 4"	\$4.00		
Hat (White w/Embroidred Logo)	\$10.00		Color
Hats (Black w/Embroidred Logo)(NEW 1999)	\$10.00		Color
Hats (Red w/Embroidred Logo)(NEW 1999)	\$10.00		Color
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Hat Pin (AO Wings Enlisted Pewter)	\$3.00		
Hat Pin (AO Wings Officer Gold)	\$4.50		
Charms	\$3.00		
Earrings	\$6.50		
Key Rings (Gold w/Logo)	\$4.00		
AO WINGS UNIFORM Belt Buckle (indicate silver or gold and male or fe-	\$12.00		
PI AOA Belt Buckle (not a uniform belt)	\$15.00		
PI USN Belt Buckle (not a uniform buckle)	\$15.00		
PI USMC Belt Buckle (not a uniform buckle)	\$15.00		
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AAO Logo Coin	\$4.00		
AAO COLOR Logo Coin (NEW 2000 item)	\$6.00		
AAO Ink Pens (Fancy Fuscia or Peacock Blue) (limited supply--Discontinued Item)	\$10.00		Color
Association Laser Plaques	\$20.00		AAO Symbol Only
Association PI Plaques (in color)	\$15.00		
PI AAO Wings Wall Plaque (31 inch)	\$35.00		
PI AAO Wings Wall Plaque (15 inch) (NEW 2000)	\$20.00		
AAO Wall Clocks (Walnut or Oak)	\$25.00		Walnut Oak
Bottle Huggers (Red w/Color AAO Logo and zipper)	\$7.00		
Can Huggers (Red w/Color AAO Logo)	\$4.00		

Coffee Cups <i>(Ceramic new cup coming July/Aug 2000)</i>	\$5.00	_____	
Black Travel Mug <i>(w/Thumb Slide &amp; White AAO Emblem)</i>	\$3.00	_____	
Steel Travel Mug (limited supply--Discontinued Item) <i>(w/Lid Black AAO Emblem -- when out of stock orders filled with new travel</i>	\$12.00	_____	
NEW RED or Black Travel Mug (w/Lid COLOR AAO Decal) (NEW 2000)	\$12.00	_____	RED or BLACK
Polo Shirts <i>(White w/Embroidered AAO)</i>	\$25.00	_____	M LG XLG XXLG
Polo Shirts <i>(Red w/Embroidered AAO)</i>	\$25.00	_____	M LG XLG XXLG
T-Shirts <i>(White w/AAO in Color (limited supply--Discontinued Item)</i>	\$10.00	_____	S M LG XLG XXLG
T-Shirts <i>(Ash w/Pocket)</i>	\$12.00	_____	M LG XLG XXLG
T-Shirts <i>(Red w/Pocket)</i>	\$12.00	_____	M LG XLG XXLG
Sweat Shirts <i>(Specify Red or White)</i>	\$15.00	_____	By Request
Jackets <i>(Specify Black, Red or White)</i>	\$55.00	_____	By Request
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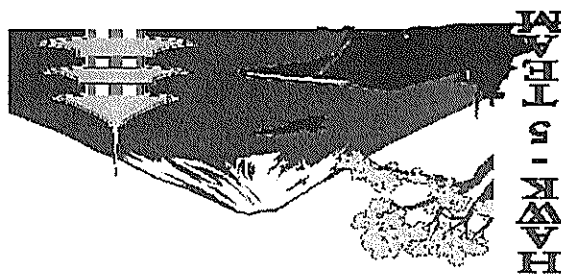
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*Please Allow 6 to 8 Weeks for Delivery*

Sizes shown are what we normally stock. On t-shirts we don't normally order smalls because the demand is low. On sweat shirts we can get any size not listed but we don't get them until we need them. Please make checks payable to the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen, Chapter ONE. Please NO Cash or CODs! Orders not including shipping/handling charges will be returned!

*All prices good for 6 months from 1 Feb 2000 while supplies last.*

## FROM THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN



"KONNICHI WA"

Firstly, we would like to say that we were deeply saddened by the loss of our fellow shipmates on the USS Cole. Our hearts and thoughts go out to the families of those killed in Aden and to the "COLE HEROS" who are still at this very moment fighting to save their ship. We are, always, one NAVY family.

Another year is almost ready to be added to the expenditure report. The year 2000 has been a great one for us on the "HAWK". The only forward deployed red-shirts who actually deploy, have done the full range of ordie stuff. We have built bombs, broke out missiles, had some great DET's, numerous on/off loads and even got to wine and dine in some of the best liberty ports available. The first part of 2000 had us visiting Guam (a special thanks to AOC(AW) Jack Knapp who showed us a great time), Singapore, Thailand and Hong Kong . . . and oh, by the way did I mention Thailand. We had our annual "ORDIE" social on "soi 8", which AOC(AW/SW) Mark Stevenson ("soi 8" storm trooper) was kind enough to volunteer to fly in three days early to set it up. One lesson learned (and worthy of passing on) is that it is illegal to "sleep" on the beach after sunset in Pattaya. We spent our summer in a much-needed SRA where we fine-tuned our home and work place. During the summer we had a large turnover in personnel. We had to say "HELLO" and "GOOD BYE" to some good Ordnancemen who are corner stones of Chapter 63. We have a new OHO on-board, LCDR Chris Latham. He is so new that we're still trying to teach him how to eat noodle soup with chop sticks, but he seems to be a quick learner and a great OHO to boot. We had to say good bye to AOC(SW/AW/SW) Aaron Shipley and AOC(AW/SW) Dave Fowler, who both transferred to the land of the big K-Mart. Chief Fowler left mumbling something about being an Ensign, but we never really listened to him anyway. Congratulations Ensign Fowler. As al-

ways our down time was short lived. We packed the family (CAW-5) on-board and left Yokosuka Japan, our homeport, on the 26th August. We spent the next couple of weeks putting bombs on target and missiles in the air off the coast of Okinawa. Even got to drop a few of the big puppies (GBU-10). We spent three days in Otaru Japan, showing the flag and shaking hands. While in Otaru we had an open house for our Japanese host, and of course the big attraction was the Weapons static display. We took this grand opportunity to get rid of some of our Chapter 63 goodies. Currently we are waist deep in another annual Foal Eagle exercise, which has been outstanding thus far. We are preparing to storm the beaches in Pusan in a few days. Can you say "ham, egg and cheese sandwiches"? After we leave Pusan we have our last "at sea" period of the year (knock on wood) with annual EX before we stand down for the holidays and a brand new year.

As I said earlier, the year 2000 has been a great year. It was highlighted with five Chapter 63 sailors being selected to become our newest leaders. Congratulations to AOC(AW/SW) Shannon Chandler, AOC(AW/SW) Robert Fredericks, TMC(SW/AW) Wanda Hardeman, AOC(AW/SW) Erik Rhodes, and our adopted black shoe, EMC(SW/AW) Rubin Dionisio. AOC(AW/SW) Rhodes was also selected as the West Coast AM-RAAM Supervisor of the year. He got to spend 6 days in-country touring the AMRAAM facilities and shop-ping at Wal-Mart.

In closing, the redshirts that make the tip of the spear so sharp would just like to send a warm and hearty Seasons Greetings to all of our Ordie friends and families around the world. We hope that the upcoming year brings you many blessings and good cheer. Kan-pai! . . . and always remember to keep your head on a swivel and watch each others backs. ☺

5 September 2000  
Dear Association of Aviation Ordnancemen  
Scholarship Committee,  
Thank you for the very generous  
scholarship and commemorative certificate.  
I greatly appreciate your support for  
my endeavor of gaining useful knowledge  
and experiences.  
Thanks again.

Sincerely,  
Emily M. Robins

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**PRESIDENT**

CDR David H. Lepard  
2450 Golfcrest Loop  
Chula Vista, CA 91915  
(H) 619-482-0203  
(Cell) 619-252-9834  
(W) 619-545-2807  
(W) Lepard.David@cnap.navy.mil  
(H) LDOORD@aol.com  
Fax (619)-545-2774

**VICE PRESIDENT**

David W. Moore  
525 Ash Street  
Lemoore, CA 93245  
(H) 559-924-3307  
(W) 559-998-3567  
Fax 559-998-3563  
(H) moored@inreach.com  
(W) MooreDW2@navair.navy.mil

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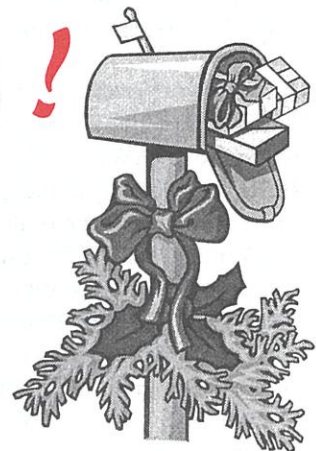
LCDR Richard J. Grass, USN/Ret  
613 Tennis Avenue  
Ardsley, PA 19038-1704  
(H) 215-887-5009  
(AAO) 215-887-5876  
Fax 215-887-5876

**EDITOR**

LCDR H. Steve Cashat, USN/Ret  
3505 Petunia Crescent  
Virginia Beach, VA 23456-2205  
(H) 757-468-6047  
Fax On-Demand  
stevecashat@home.com



*Have a Safe  
and Joyous  
Holiday !*



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