

"PEACE THROUGH POWER"



"WE ARE THE ARMS OF THE FLEET"

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT:

Well, the 1986 National Convention/Symposium has come and gone. However, the memories of a great time will last forever. I would like to thank everyone for their attendance and for their outstanding support. Those who didn't make it to Reno for one reason or another missed out! We hope to see you next time - next June 1987 at the Comstock Hotel and Casino in Reno, Nevada for the National Convention.

Our distinguished speaker, Rear Admiral Norman Campbell, gave a very informative speech on today's Navy and some of the problems that the Navy and Military are faced with. We all enjoyed him and his lovely wife, Barbara!

I would especially like to thank Jim Rupert for all of his work arranging the convention. GREAT JOB, JIM! I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of the newly elected officers. I'm sure that they will work hard for the association. Thanks are in order for the outgoing officers for their outstanding work in the association. Now down to some business --!

I have stated in several letters and at the convention business meeting that the chapters have to get busy and support the national association. Most of our fine chapters are! But - we do have a few that are not doing anything! This trend must change and it is up to the members of the association to get their chapters moving again. The elected officers must get involved or move on so someone else can do the job. Another point that must be discussed again, is that you must be a member in good standing with the national association to hold office in local chapters and in the national association. In order for us to grow, or to even continue, we must recruit new members and keep the present members current with the association. If we all stay active, this great organization will be around for a long time.

Closing on an enjoyable note - I would like to congratulate A01 John H. Quick of VFA-132, on his selection as the JOHN W. FINN, Aviation Ordnanceman of the Year for 1986, and to the runner-up, A01 Jackie D. Lister of VA-203. All candidates were highly exemplary and outstanding. You can be proud of your participation.

Very respectfully,

C. R. Onken  
President AAO

REUNION BOOK: Those people at the convention and those not at the convention who did not have their picture taken, but would like their picture in the reunion book, please send your pictures to Beverly Onken, 291 W. Spruce Place, Lemoore, CA 93245. NOTE: Those people desiring a reunion book who were not at the convention, or if you were there and did not get your photo taken, fill out the form in this newsletter and mail it directly to the addressee on the form. Those people that had their photos taken will receive a form in the mail from the Delmar Co.

Acrobat ← NLT 15 September 1986

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING OF THE 1986 CONVENTION:

The meeting was called to order by President Onken. The President made announcements on the agenda, lack of chapter reports, convention reunion book, dues, and the new chapters, Chapter 10 Mt. ETNA and Chapter 39, Camp Pendleton. Minutes and the finance report was read and approved. Membership report was presented by T. C. Moore. Retention of members was pointed out as a problem. The honorable John W. Finn was introduced and received a standing ovation. The association recognized the contributions of the Deval Corp. and the Comstock Hotel and Casino. Chapters 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, and 39 presented reports. Chapters 4, 5, 6, 10, and 65 provided no reports. President Onken read a letter from Admiral Bussey on the status of official recognition of the Association. Reports were given on the newsletter by editor Del Oakes and the scholarship fund by Secretary Gannon. A motion was made and carried to table all proposed changes to the by-laws scheduled for vote because many still needed revision. Request was made by President Onken for all members to sit down and read the by-laws and submit changes to the Secretary/Treasurer so that they may be recorded and forwarded on to the By-laws Committee for action. Reports on ordnance handling safety were given by CDR D. Oakes of the Naval Safety Center, and CDR Warren Seal, COMNAVAIRPAC's Safety Team Leader. A motion was made and carried to form a Standing Safety Committee, with Herman Fleming as chairman. Mr. Bob Barhardt addressed the membership on the subjects - Naval Aviation Museum and use of the word chairperson in the by-laws. He pointed out that the word chairman smacks of a sexist attitude and with added humor stated that maybe the association should be called the Association of Aviation Ordnance Persons. Motion was made and carried to make a donation in the sum of \$1,000.000 to the Naval Aviation Museum. Motion was made and carried to look into getting a plaque for the new AO building at NAS Fallon, Nevada. Jim Rupert was appointed to chair the committee to find a suitable plaque. He was assisted by AO1 Cynthia Mobley. T. C. Moore asked that there be a membership committee made up of the general members and chaired by the Vice President as stated in the by-laws. Offices up for election were Vice President and two memberships on the Board of Directors. Jim Rupert was elected as Vice President and the new members on the Board of Directors are AO1 Mark Sawyer and Wayne Beasley. The convention site for 1987 was chosen with the Comstock Hotel and Casino winning very handily in the voting. The dates chosen for the next convention were 19-21 June 1987, the third weekend.... with June 19th set aside for meetings of chapter presidents or other representative officers, the Board of Directors and Committee Chairman. LCDR Floyd English gave a report on the Scholarship Committee and the lack of sufficient numbers of applications. Ralph "Digger" O'Dell gave a report on the AVORD of the Year selection committee and stated that last year's winner has made Ensign and the 1st runner-up was at the top of the CPO selection list. Chaplain Jim Erving lead the membership in the Navy Prayer and a moment of silence for our departed shipmates. The meeting adjourned. Following the lunch break, Jim Erving and T. C. Moore gave a very interesting presentation on the F-14D aircraft.

BANQUET HIGHLIGHTS: RADM Norman Campbell announced the winners of the Robert L. Crow Scholarship Awards. They were, Christina F. Nykes, daughter of AOCM Ross Nykes, and Alice M. Lemley, daughter of Lieutenant Stanley Lemley. Winner of the John W. Finn Aviation Ordnancemen of the Year Award was identified as AO1 John Quick who is assigned to VFA-132 at NAS Cecil Field, FL. First runner-up was identified as AO1 Jackie D. Lister, USNR-R, (TAR), assigned to VA-203, NAS Cecil Field, FL. Neither recipient was present and the awards were forwarded to their commands for presentation. The honorable John W. Finn was presented with his lifetime membership certificate and card, along with the National Association Plaque and engraved plates. He then addressed the gathering, introducing his friends and shipmates. 205 members and guests enjoyed the dinner.

## FRIDAY EVENING HIGHLIGHTS AT THE CONVENTION:

The Friday evening get together was enjoyed by all. Delightful heavy hors d'oeuvres, cocktails, dancing and greeting of old and new friends was the order of the day. F. M. (MILT) Brandt even entertained a few of the members on the piano while the band was on a break.

## OTHER CONVENTION TIDBITS:

The total of 212 members and guests registered for the convention. It is believed that not all registered. For the ladies, there was coffee on Saturday morning for all who wanted to get acquainted. As the association grows, additional ladies' activities will be planned.

## FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY/TREASURER:

We are getting the membership roster placed on a computer and we are using the Social Security Numbers as I.D. numbers. There are several members that have not provided us with social security numbers. We would appreciate your cooperation by sending in your SSN with your dues. When you sign up a new member, make sure that his/her SSN is on the application along with a complete return address.

## LOCAL CHAPTER REPORTS: Only one chapter provided a report for this issue.....

Chapter One - Lemoore area: Chapter One is back in full swing with renewed interest and a growing membership. Since the appalling membership figures were presented at the convention general business meeting this past June, we have busted a few butts and more or less cleaned up our own house. We enjoyed a very successful annual ordnance picnic at Hickey Park with about 200 in attendance. Pit roasted Pig and tri-tips went over very well along with the liquid refreshments. Special emphasis was placed on family participation at the picnic including games and prizes for the children, spearheaded by Kate Sawyer and a few of the dedicated wives. It proved worthwhile as the turnout indicated. Hats off to John Baugh and the picnic committee! Many more events will come in the near future! With a modest turnout at the Reno Convention in June, Chapter Vice President Mark Sawyer was elected to the Board of Directors, followed in July with the election of A01 Chris Coles from VFA-113 as the new chapter Secretary. General info: On 01 August 1986, John W. Finn, LT., USN RET. was honored at NTC San Diego with the official dedication of JOHN W. FINN Hall, a new training building at NTC. This honor occurred on the 60th anniversary of his boot camp graduation from NTC in 1926. John was the Guest of Honor for Recruit graduation that same day following the dedication ceremonies. Many Association members were present and shared in this most worthy event.

## OTHER FEEDBACK:

Honored member John Buckley writes - I forward this letter as a result of a promise that I made to a wonderful shipmate and friend, CDR BOB CROW, USN, RET. (DECEASED). I have worked four and one half years toward achieving a PH.D. in Public-Administration. Last year because of a change in jobs and other inhibitors, I missed the graduation requirements. This year I completed the PH.D. program requirements and was recommended and accepted by the graduation committee. I am now a graduate. In keeping my promise to BOB CROW, I report to you all that I have completed all requirements thereto and have acquired the degree of PH.D. In reporting to you - I have reported to him. Remember, anyone who wants to obtain a higher education can do it in this day and age. You can go for a degree mostly in your spare time. If anyone would like information or suggestions, please do not hesitate to write. To: Dr. John Thomas Buckley, 3704 Tortosa Court, San Ramon, CA 94583. NOTE: Congratulations! You are believed to be the first Aviation Ordnanceman to ever achieve a PH.D. V/R EDITOR....

SAFETY REPORT: The following statistics represent the first six months of 1986. From January 1 to July 1 there were a total 1171 explosive mishaps reported. Of this total, 790 were attributed to the Aviation Community, 192 to the Surface Community (including CV/CVNs), 13 were attributed to the Submarine Community and 192 were reported by Shore Commands. There were 166 actual detonations reported. The cause of the detonations were broken down as follows - 132 attributed to personnel errors, 33 to material failures, and 1 to design problems. Explosives/devices that were involved with the detonations were, Cartridges/CADS totaled 128, Gun Systems/ammunition (all) 16, Pyrotechnics 5, Bombs and components 6 and miscellaneous 11...The types of explosive mishaps were 296 malfunctions, 91 failed tests, 395 observed defects, and 223 in the other category. Causes (other than detonations) were 286 personnel errors, 698 material failures and 21 design deficiencies. A total of 21 injuries were reported. Crushed fingers, hands and amputated fingers from accidental detonations are examples...There were 4 deaths reported as a result of explosive mishaps. Details not releasable due to JAG requirements. Significant Trends: Far too many personnel errors. Translates to people with a careless attitude toward rules, procedures and ordnance handling safety in general. To stop the trend of carelessness - everyone's assistance is requested... Note: The majority of the incidents were caused by non-aviation ordnance personnel.

HOME SAFETY AND YOU: Recently, two cases of youngsters seriously injured by mishandling fireworks was brought to our attention. Although the children were not actual dependents of our members, the kids were well known and their parents as well by members. Both received bad burns to over 50% of their bodies. Both accidents could have been prevented by close parental supervision and education of the kids about the dangers of handling fireworks and other explosives. Do not let it happen to you. Educate your kids and use sound judgement when using fireworks in your family arena.

Two people were reported injured by errant explosives in very unusual circumstances. One young man lost part of his tongue, mouth and teeth when he bit into a blasting cap at a party. Another, young man was jubiantly transporting fireworks from the store back to his home for a Fourth of July celebration. The fireworks were in his lap while he rode as middle passenger in a friend's car. He lit a cigarette, the hot ashes fell into his lap, a single firecracker ignited, launching the burning, spewing firecracker into his mouth. He required hospitalization! KAPISH,...

Your Safety Committee is headed by Mr. Herman T. Fleming! Items of concern may be forwarded to Mr. Fleming at ~~316 County Lane, Encinitas, CA 92024~~ →

NOTES OF INTEREST: Several of the addresses in the general membership roster are protected at the request of the members. All special requests for names, addresses etc. must be channeled through the National Association Secretary/Treasurer. Changes of address or information involving membership should also be referred to the Secretary. GERALD F. GANNON, SECRETARY/TREASURER, 1245 CUNNINGHAM AVENUE, ST. CHARLES, MO 63301. Items concerning the newsletter with the exception of changes of address, should be sent to CDR Del Oakes, 500 Massachusetts Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23508 or you may call (804) 622-9262.

FROM THE EDITOR: It is extremely difficult to put out a newsletter or any news periodical or paper without reporters in the field to send back newsworthy information. Every member is a reporter as far as I am concerned! The chapters are depended upon to send news about their respective chapters and functions. Newsworthy bits will be accepted from anyone who sends them if the news benefits the readers of the Association newsletter. Deadlines for submission of news for the newsletters is as follows: 1 DECEMBER, 1 MARCH, 1 JUNE and 1 SEPTEMBER. These dates will remain constant. My address is 500 Massachusetts Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23508. Telephone (804) 622-9262. For

official business my number is (804) 444-3343 or A/V 564-3342 or 3343. The 1986 convention was great overall - but, the highlight for me was meeting and talking to our guest of honor, Mr. John W. Finn! What a delightful person.

A Special Tribute to Ordnance Handling Officers (OHOs)  
By CDR Del Oakes

"BRAVO ZULU" is in order for all CV/CVN Ordnance Handling Officers. These tough as nails professionals are major contributors to the success of the Navy's overall explosives and weapons system safety program. They march diligently to be beat of the fast paced tempo of operations of carrier life, handling more munitions in a few hours than most of us see in a normal year. They make the system work, meeting commitments repeatedly, and they do it safely.

For the second consecutive year, explosive mishaps reported by the CV/CVN community has declined significantly. The teamwork of everyone embarked, from the Commanding Officer to the most junior enlisted, is duly recognized and commendable. However, special recognition of a special cadre of real professionals, the Ordnance Handling Officers, is long overdue. LET IT BE KNOWN THAT SEVERAL OF OUR ORDNANCE HANDLERS HAVE GONE ON TO BE WEAPONS OFFICERS ON CV/CVNs AND HAVE PAVED THE WAY FOR OTHERS THROUGH EXEMPLARY WORK AND PROFESSIONALISM.

WELL DONE OHOs!

HERMAN FLEMING  
1252 AMADOR AVE.  
VISTA, CA 92083

TAPS: May all of us pause for a moment of silence in tribute to departed shipmates. Known and respected by all who knew them, loved by many. Missed by all! To them I dedicate this poem:

I might be satisfied to be  
a Yeoman, Pork Chop or Salty BT  
Had neer I seen  
Red amid yellow, purple, brown, white and green  
Colors of flight decks "Mighty Ike" and the like  
FDR, Coral Boat, Connie and Bonnie  
Split, Catania, and Shanghi tonight  
Subic, Av South and sounds of the night  
Lexington, Phil Sea, Boxer and Essex  
Gitmo, Garcia thrown in like a READEX  
Shang, "O" Boat, Yorktown and Leyte  
Rota, Hong Kong and New York's confetti  
Kearsarge, Antietam, Ranger and Sara  
Hotel Street, North Shore and Broadway's sweet sights  
Forrestal, Kennedy, Nimitz and Indy  
Mombasa, Manila and old Cebu City  
America's namesake, Theo and Vinnie  
Palma God help us, Nippon presented  
The future lists Lincoln and Washington to be  
Others so famous I speak of with glee  
A proud Ship's Company, Airwing and Me  
Sailors, Marines and Admirals to be  
All made into a first class team  
Had I neer felt the wind across her proud deck  
Slept on the sponson, Semper Fi from on high  
Loaded that plane for a launch in the night  
Spilled a skid down the deck, stack gas in mine eyes  
Bullets! LAND HO! Rockets and Flares?? MarDet GungHOs  
And "Soon we'll be theres"  
The quest is there for those who care  
To bear the heavy load  
Had I not seen with my own eyes  
Or heard the ghosts of great peers in the night  
I might be satisfied to be  
A Yeoman, Pork Chop or Salty BT  
An AO I am, An AO I'll be  
God bless those who love it. Like me!

Composed by CDR Del Oakes, Jr., on his 31st anniversary of being an Aviation Ordnanceman and Navy Career Person.

In Memory of: AOC F. P. Wartelle  
AOC Marion Pasquan  
AO1 Hilbert O. Dupechain  
AO1 M. A. Jones  
CWO Johnny Swindle  
LCDR Danny E. Spruill

On the Binnacle List: LCDR Billy Joe Hildreth  
CWO USN (RET) Chuck Bolin  
(may God speed your complete recovery)

ORNDORF WARDEN  
JVA 800 01 0051  
E8006 AD 1A18V

ANYONE KNOW THE WHERE ABOUTS OF THESE SHIPMATES:

Bailey, Jim	AN
Cardwell, Paul W.	A02
Cooper, Robert G.	A02
Cribb, John L.	A01
Dantone, Joseph J.	Assoc. Capt/USN
Dunn, William P.	A0C
Esters, Richard M	A02
Ferdon, J. E.	A02
Forbes, Kevin	A03
Hawkins, Billy R.	CWO-4
Heinz, Thomas C.	A02
Huff, Jeffrey W.	A02
Huffman, Jimmy D.	A03
Huntsberry, Henry E.	Assoc./TMSN
Jones, Michael A.	Assoc./AME1
Kirby, David M.	A0
Lane, Harvey E.	AOAN
Leland, Donald G.	A0
Matheny, Jerry A.	A01
Panarello, Anthony J.	A0
Patterson, Dale J.	AOAN
Richardson, James M	A03
Santana, Lucy	AOAN
Santiago, David M.	A0
Santiago, Michael	AOAN
Sawdy, Robert C.	A03
Selby, William N.	A02/USNR
Seybold, Albert H.	A02
Stewart, Donald W.	A0
Thurber, Michael J.	A0C
Van Fossen, Jon M.	A0
Vaughan, John G.	A03
Zeh, Robert K.	A01

IF ANYONE KNOWS THEIR WHERE ABOUTS PLEASE CONTACT THE SEC/TRES.

Gerald F. Gannon  
1245 Cunningham Ave.  
St. Charles, MO. 63301

Aviation Ordnance Trivia: Which AO held the title of " World Champion, Victor, Arm of Iron?

Answer: Master Chief Aviation Ordnanceman William Overby. He claimed the title with a victory over Robert Eason, a four time world champion . AOCM Overby, 45 years of age, is assigned to Carrier Air Wing 11 aboard the carrier Enterprise. The event took place as part of the Grand Prix du Camion, just an hour from where the carrier was anchored. ( reprint of a newspaper article )

True or false? The first Bureau of Ordnance Safety Precautions were approved by the acting secretary of the Navy, Mr. M.E. Andrews, on 3 November 1948.

Answer: True. These safety precautions superceded Article 972, U.S. Navy Regulations ( 1920 ) which were revoked!

Who designed the " Pipe Organ " and what was this Aviation Ordnance Item?

Answer: None other than our own Don Baumer. He built and perfected the Pipe Organ which was the beginning of our multi-tubed rocket launchers (LAUs).

Who designed the Sidewinder Missile?

Answer: Legend has it that a former Boatswains Mate came up with the idea/design and engineers at the Naval Ordnance Test Station where he worked (now known as Naval Weapons Center, NWC, China Lake, California) built it. Few know that even though NOTS built it, the first working Sidewinder was transported to NAF El Centro where it was handled and loaded on an aircraft by - once again - our own Don Baumer and crew. Don also set up one of the first (if not the first) test facilities for Sidewinder. The test equipment was large and cumbersome, but Don's persistence and talents enabled him to set up a shop that drew praise from all levels - especially from the engineering community. LONG LIVE FAGUPAC!

REUNION BOOK ORDER FORM

\* MAIL TO: REUNIONS WITH CLASS 3300 MONROE ROAD, CHARLOTTE, N.C. 28222

DEAR REUNIONS WITH CLASS: PLEASE RESERVE \_\_\_\_\_ REUNION BOOKS FOR ME. I UNDERSTAND THAT EACH BOOK COSTS \$10.00 EACH AND ENCLOSED IS A CHECK OR MONEY ORDER ( EITHER ONE IS OK...DO NOT SEND CASH THROUGH THE MAIL ) FOR THE QUANTITY ORDERED.

UNIT: THE ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN 1986

MY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MY SPOUSE'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

MY TELEPHONE NUMBER: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

\*\* BE SURE TO ENCLOSE A COMPLETE RETURN ADDRESS WITH EACH APPLICATION:

PLEASE SUBMIT APPLICATION BY 15 ~~SEPTEMBER~~ <sup>October</sup> 1986 IF POSSIBLE.....

\*\* IF NOT POSSIBLE - SUBMIT IT ANYWAY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE! \*\*



AO ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION  
(ENCLOSE \$10.00 CHECK OR MONEY ORDER)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ SSAN \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE #: HOME \_\_\_\_\_ WORK \_\_\_\_\_

DUTY STATION: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE MEMBERSHIP: : REGULAR MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP \_\_\_\_\_

MY RANK/RATE IS: \_\_\_\_\_ I AM A MEMBER OF: USN \_\_\_\_\_ USNR \_\_\_\_\_ USMC \_\_\_\_\_

USMCR \_\_\_\_\_ . I AM ACTIVE \_\_\_\_\_ RETIRED \_\_\_\_\_ FORMER AO \_\_\_\_\_

I SERVED AS AN AO FROM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_ (GIVE DATES)

LIST EMPLOYER IF ASSOCIATE MEMBER: (OPTIONAL FOR MEMBER) \_\_\_\_\_

INCLUDE ADDRESS, OCCUPATION AND POSITION PLEASE: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Under the Freedom of Information Act I do/do not  
(select one) authorize release of my name , phone  
number and address to other members or prospective  
members of the AO Association. \_\_\_\_\_

Witnessed by: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO: GERRY GANNON ASSOC.SEC./TREASURER REPEAT YOUR SSAN: \_\_\_\_\_  
1245 CUNNINGHAM AVE. ST CHARLES, MO 63301

PRICE LIST & ORDER BLANK FOR AO PARAPHERNALIA (INCLUDE YOUR COMPLETE RETURN ADDRESS)

TEE SHIRTS: \$8.00 (SPECIFY SMALL MED LG XLG)

HATS: \$6.00

TIE TACS: \$3.00

COFFEE MUGS: \$6.00

AO PATCHES: \$3.00

BEER MUGS: \$7.00

JACKETS: \$35.00 (SPECIFY SMALL MED LG XLG)

KEY HOLDERS: \$3.00

DECALS: \$1.00

PEN/PENCIL SETS: \$13.00

KOOL KUPS: \$ 3.25

\*MAIL TO: JOHN BAUGH 11135 FLINT AVE.  
HANFORD, CA 93230 (NO CASH PLEASE)

\* BE SURE AND WRITE IN THE QUANTITY, MARK THE APPROPRIATE SIZES FOR APPLICABLE ITEMS &  
MAKE SURE YOU SEND THE CORRECT AMOUNT OF MONEY VIA MONEY ORDER OR CHECK. ENSURE  
YOU INCLUDE A CORRECT RETURN ADDRESS: ALLOW A MINIMUM OF THREE WEEKS FOR ORDERS TO  
REACH YOU. THANKS FOR SUPPORTING YOUR AO ASSOCIATION! A LETTER IN LIEU OF THIS FORM  
IS ACCEPTABLE IF YOU SO DESIRE:

\*\* FOLKS -- THINK ABOUT GIVING THAT SPECIAL FRIEND OF YOURS A LIFETIME GIFT OF  
MEMBERSHIP IN THE ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN. A SHOP COULD  
CHIP IN AND PRESENT THAT SPECIAL CHIEF OR GUNNER WITH THIS WONDERFUL  
LASTING GIFT FOR ONLY A FEW DOLLARS FROM EACH PERSON. BUY HIM AN AO  
ASSOCIATION JACKET (JOHN BAUGH CAN HAVE IT MONOGRAMMED WITH ANY PHRASE  
THAT YOU DESIRE) AND AN AO ASSOCIATION HAT & OTHER PARAPHERNALIA TO GO  
ALONG WITH THE LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP. WHAT A GREAT WAY TO LET HIM OR HER  
KNOW THAT YOU APPRECIATE HIS/HER DEEDS. THINK ABOUT IT!