

## AO NEWSLETTER

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

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

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

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

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

## PRESIDENT:

Kirk Nelson  
1160 N. Gracia  
Camarillo, CA 93010

## VICE-PRESIDENT:

Gerry Gannon  
Mine Warfare Group  
NS, Charleston, SC

## SECRETARY-TREASURER:

Tom Robins  
729 Buddlawn Way  
Campbell, CA 95008

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Les Ovre  
P O Box 833  
Healdsburg, CA

Jack Hagerup  
1918 Wilton Dr  
Bloomington, Ind 47401

Bob Branum  
80332 Mountain Dr  
Trona, CA

Jim Correll  
1031 Los Robles Blvd  
Sacramento, CA

Bob Brake  
129 W. Third St.  
Waynesboro, PA

Frank Parker  
1229 Las Posas Ct  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

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

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

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

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

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

LET US HEAR FROM YOU SOON!

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCENEN  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION  
(PLANKOMNER)  
Membership \$7.50 Per Year

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SSAN \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE - HOME \_\_\_\_\_ WORK \_\_\_\_\_  
ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ DUTY STATION (ACTIVE) \_\_\_\_\_  
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TYPE MEMBERSHIP DESIRED: MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ ASSOCIATE MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
MEMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ ASSOCIATE MEMBER: (OPTIONAL FOR MEMBER)  
USN \_\_\_\_\_ ACTIVE \_\_\_\_\_ EMPLOYER \_\_\_\_\_  
USNR \_\_\_\_\_ RETIRED \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
USMC \_\_\_\_\_ EX-AO \_\_\_\_\_  
USMCR \_\_\_\_\_ RANK/RATE \_\_\_\_\_ OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_  
DATES SERVED: \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_ POSITION \_\_\_\_\_  
1977 CONVENTION SITE PREFERENCE \_\_\_\_\_

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.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Witness) \_\_\_\_\_ (Signed)

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TEMPORARY RECEIPT

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBER/ASSOCIATE MEMBER  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ \$7.50 Received By: \_\_\_\_\_

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