

VP-1 POPs



PATRON ONE P-3 Orion Pioneers

NEWSLETTER #16

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2004

VP-1 Lineage

(per Naval Historical Center)

Established 15 Feb 1943 at NAS Deland, Florida as VB-128 / VB-128, was redesignated as VPB-128 on 1 Oct 1944; VPB-128 was redesignated VP-128 on 15 May 1946; VP-128 was redesignated VP-ML-1 on 15 Nov 1946; VP-ML-1 was redesignated VP-1 on 1 Sep 1948.



"THE FLEET'S FINEST"

ALOHA! The PATROL SQUADRON ONE (VP-1) P-3 Orion Pioneers (POPS) is a group of Navy veterans, and their families, who served aboard VP-1 during and immediately after its transition from the SP-2H Neptune to the P-3B Orion.

Note: As Editor, I have taken license to straighten out the correct numbering of our newsletters. Don

Grove published fourteen (14), but two of those did not have a number; Bill Johnson published one newsletter without a number which brings us to the sixteenth (16th). We will attempt to keep a numerical order in the future. Louie Tafoya

VP-1 POPS HISTORY

(By Don Grove)

The VP-1 P-3 Orion Pioneers (POPS) consists of people who were a part of Patrol Squadron ONE between the beginning of 1969 to the end of 1974. VP-1 transitioned to the P-3B Orion at NAS Whidbey Island in 1969 hence the name "VP-1 P-3 Orion Pioneers", commonly referred to as "VP-1 POPS". The purpose of the VP-1 POPS organization is to maintain contact amongst people who served with the squadron during those times and to facilitate periodic reunions of squadron mates from that era.

The faint beginnings of the VP-1 POPS group arose during the summer of 1996.



Paul 'Shark' Morasch (a VP-1 "AW"), and his wife Carolyn, were visiting with Rich and Ruth Hunt (another VP-1 "AW") at the Hunt

home in Bellingham, WA. They and the Hunts knew that there were many guys residing in the Pacific Northwest area that had been with VP-1 during the 1969 transition to P-3s, and the ensuing early Orion years. After extensive research and many phone calls a bunch of the old crew was gathered together for a Saturday cookout at *Hunt Acres* just outside Bellingham, WA.

At this gathering it was decided to expand the search for VP-1 squadronmates of the 1969 through 1974 era for a bigger get-together the following summer. By the time of the July 1997 reunion at Bellingham over 350 ex-squadronmates (officer and enlisted) had been located.

Carolyn Morasch, "Shark's" wife, located a large portion of these ex-squadronmates by searching on the internet, and utilizing e-mail and the telephone for personal contact.

Over 100 people attended the summer '97 reunion at Hunt's Acres. People came from all over the country. Three of our CO's from those by-gone days attended: 'Tex' Coleman; Bill Johnson; and Russ Fredrick. "Goose" Gesling's widow, Pat, also was there. (Ex-CO's Burt Howard and Cliff Freund sent regards, but were unable to attend).

1974 XO Jim Luper, was located a short time later and promptly joined the organization. All the wise heads at that '97 reunion concurred that we should hold future reunions periodically; at the time every three years sounded right

to all concerned. So, planning for a year 2000 reunion was commenced. The VP-1 POPS group was officially organized in late 1997 after that very successful initial reunion. The first membership dues were collected, which paid for years 1998 and 1999. The second great VP-1 POPS ALL-HANDS gathering was held at Pensacola in May of 2000. Over 150 people attended this Y2K Reunion which was a resounding success. All living VP-1 CO's of the 1969-74 era except one attended this gala. A fine time was had by all, along the shores of Pensacola Bay. Retired AMSC "Willie" Williams, a resident of Pensacola, hosted this reunion. He did a great job!

At the Pensacola gathering it was decided that our next reunion would be held in the late summer of 2003 at Memphis. AMCS Mike "Grumpy" Taylor volunteered for, and was appointed as chairman for this next get-together. The Memphis Muster was held at the Naval Support Activity, Mid-South, in September of 2003. NSA Mid-South is the old NATTC Memphis located at Millington, TN, about 20 miles north of downtown Memphis. This time 180+ from the VP-1 family mustered-up. Four of the squadron's previous Commanding Officers and five of its previous Master Chiefs were there, and not a cane among them. Lots of smiles, hugs, and even some tears were seen. Mike Taylor and his group of VP-1 POPS volunteers were accorded a hearty round of applause for an outstanding job.

At the 2003 business meeting that closed-out the Memphis Muster, the assembled membership voted to hold VP-1 POPS reunions every two years vice three years. And folks chose to have their next VP-1 POPS reunion at Brunswick, ME. Greg Pierce and Quen Henderson volunteered to co-host this Maine Event during the summer of 2005. So, until further notice VP-1 POPS reunions will be held each odd numbered year. Also, a slate of officers was presented to

and approved by the membership: Bill Johnson as President, Louis Tafoya as Vice President, Greg Pierce as Secretary and Quentin Henderson as Treasurer. The President appointed Paul "Shark" Morasch as Newsletter Editor and Ed McLaughlin as Chaplain. K. B. Sherman was subsequently appointed as Membership Chairman and Internet Information Coordinator/Webmaster.

MEMBERSHIP

The VP-1 P-3 Orion Pioneers consists of people who were a part of Patrol Squadron ONE between the beginning of 1969 to the end of 1974. Persons who were attached to the squadron anytime during that period are eligible for membership including widows, ex-spouses, and tech reps. Membership keeps one on the active mailing list. Paid up members of the group receive the VP-1 POPS newsletters.

VP-1 POPS members reside in every part of our vast nation. All living CO's and XO's of the specified time frame are members. We currently have over 500 names and addresses on our VP-1 POPS roster. Sadly, over 70 of the men listed on the roster are deceased, and the number is ever increasing. There are still over 400 VP-1 squadron mates from the 1969 – 1974 era that have yet to be found. If you know the location of someone that was a part of VP-1 during 1969 – 1974 please notify the Membership Chairman or one of the officers.

Collection of a membership fee was begun in early 1998 when the group was formally organized. Many squadron mates also donated money to the organization, over and above their required membership fee, to get the organization started on a solid financial footing. Our association funds are used for publishing and distributing periodic newsletters, payment of routine office and administrative expenses, and to defray costs incurred searching for our many, as yet, unfound squadron

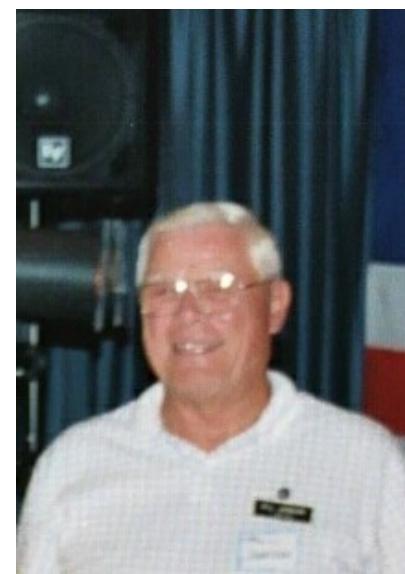
mates. All our association officers and committee persons serve voluntarily. No one is paid for their efforts or time.

HOW TO JOIN

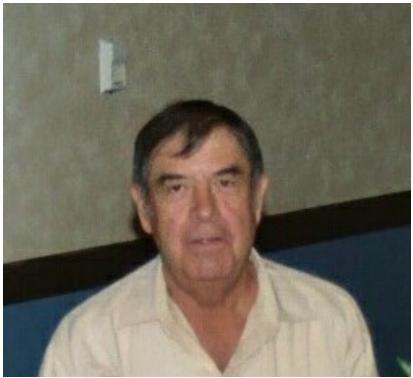
To join the VP-1 POPS, contact the Membership Chairman, the Secretary or the Treasurer. Upon your joining you will be sent a copy of the master roster containing the names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses of all your squadron mates from the 1969 – 1974 era that have been located. This roster also indicates those that are VP-1 POPS members in-in-good-standing, and the names of squadron mates known to have passed away. On the active mailing list you will be sent future newsletters and any other pertinent information concerning the group. Current membership dues are \$15.00 for a two year cycle. Biennial VP-1 POPS dues are assessed at the beginning of each even numbered year. Dues payments are now being accepted by the VP-1 POPS Treasurer for the 2004 – 2005 biennium.

VP-1 POPS OFFICERS & COMMITTEES:

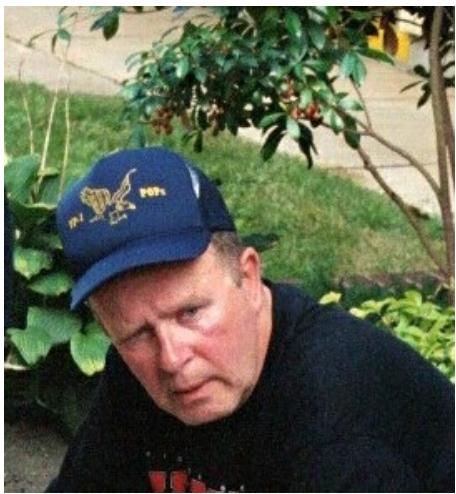
VP-1 POPS Officers



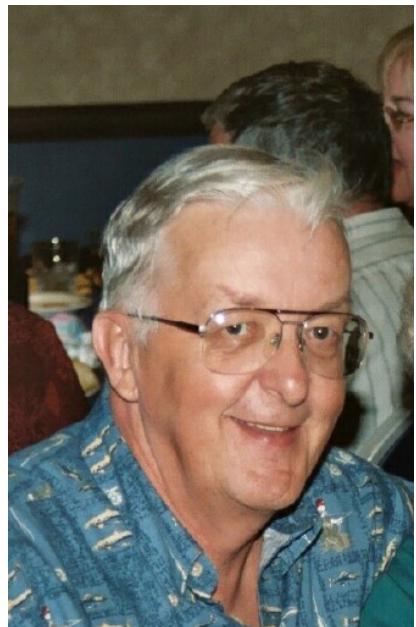
PRESIDENT: Bill Johnson,
2637 Capstone Dr. Montgomery, AL
36106 (334) 272-9009
billpatty@charter.net



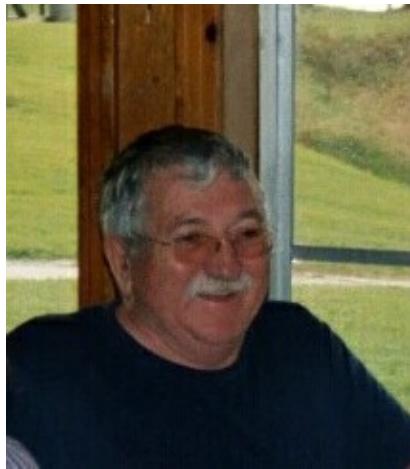
VICE PRESIDENT: Lou Tafoya,
6411 Avalon Rd. NW, Albuquerque,
NM 87105 (505) 836-3189
ljtafoya@msn.com



SECRETARY: Greg Pierce,
4 Maynard Dr., Topsham, ME 04086
(207) 729-8250
piercg@suscom-maine.net



TREASURER: Quent Henderson,
183 Bean Rd., Otisfield, ME 04270
(Cell) (207) 522-9186 E-mail Pending



CHAPLAIN: Ed McLaughlin,
1499 E Silver Lake Rd., Oak Harbor,
WA 98277 (360) 675-6818
edmac-1@msn.com

VP-1 POPS Committees

NEWSLETTER EDITOR/
PUBLISHER: Vacant-Temporarily
filled by Lou Tafoya

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR: Vacant



INTERNET INFORMATION CO-ORDINATOR/WEBMASTER:
KB Sherman, 89 Adams Rd., North
Grafton, MA 01536 (508) 839-5277
asa66@charter.net

VP-1 POPS FUTURE AND PAST EVENTS: **FUTURE**

2005 BRUNSWICK MAINE REUNION CO-CHAIRMEN:
Quent Henderson, Greg Pierce



The next VP-1 POPS Reunion will be near Brunswick, Maine in early September, 2005 after Labor Day and after the tourists leave (and the snow will be melted by then). Quen Henderson and Greg Pierce volunteered to co-host this Maine Event. Particulars for this reunion will be forthcoming later.

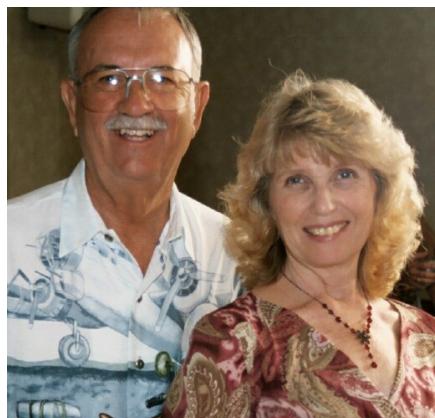
2007 TENTATIVE HAWAII REUNION CHAIRMAN: Louis Tafoya (Mike Taylor & our Hawaii Guys will help)



For long range planning purposes Louis Tafoya is researching the feasibility of having the 2007 Reunion in Hawaii. It's just in the research stage at this point and, when appropriate, will be presented to the membership. Louis Tafoya is planning to go to Oahu sometime the first of 2005 to do some research (case the joint).

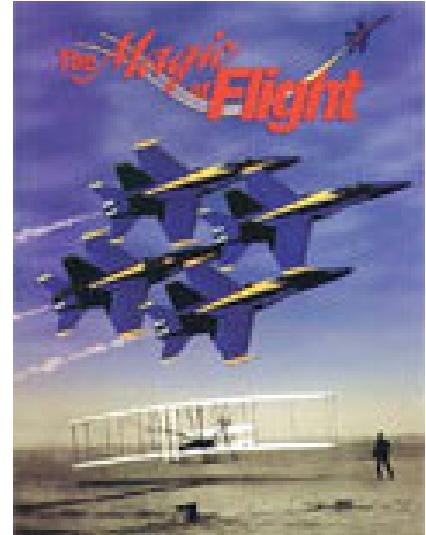
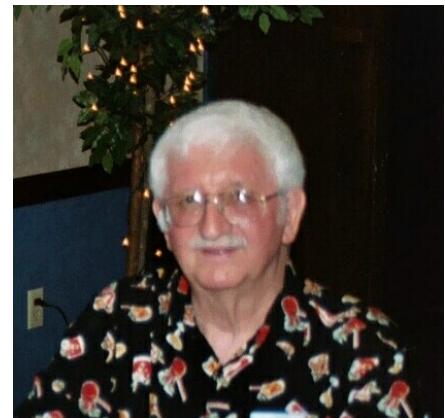
PAST

2003 MEMPHIS REUNION CHAIRMAN: Mike Taylor



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2000 PENSACOLA REUNION CHAIRMAN: Willie Williams



The 2nd great VP-1 POPS gathering was held at Pensacola in May of 2000. Over 150 people attended this Y2K Reunion which was a resounding success. All living VP-1 CO's of the 1969-74 era except one attended this gala. A fine time was had by all, along the shores of Pensacola Bay. Retired AMSC "Willie" Williams, a resident of Pensacola, hosted this reunion. He did a great job!

**1997 BELLINGHAM REUNION
CHAIRMAN/HOST:
Rich & Ruth Hunt**



Over 100 people attended the summer '97 reunion at Hunt's Acres. Three of our CO's from those by-gone days attended: 'Tex' Coleman; Bill Johnson; and Russ Fredrick. "Goose" Gesling's widow, Pat, also was there. (Ex-CO's Burt Howard and Cliff Freund sent regards, but were unable to attend). 1974 X.O. Jim Luper, was located a short time later and promptly joined the organization.

**1996 BELLINGHAM SUMMER
GATHERING HOST:
Rich & Ruth Hunt**

The faint beginnings of the VP-1 P-3 Orion Pioneers group arose during the summer of 1996. Paul 'Shark' Morasch (a VP-1 "AW"), and his wife Carolyn, were visiting with Rich and Ruth Hunt (another VP-1 "AW") at the Hunt home in Bellingham, WA. They and the Hunts knew that there were many guys residing in the Pacific Northwest area that had been with VP-1 during the 1969 transition to P-3s, and the ensuing early Orion years. After extensive research and many phone calls a bunch of the old crew was gathered together for a Saturday cookout at *Hunt Acres* just outside Bellingham, WA.

PRESIDENT'S PODIUM

Capt. Bill Johnson USN (Ret)

I'm so glad to correspond with all of you again; I wish that it could have come sooner. There has been a drop off in communications within the POPS Organization and I have heard some grumbling about not hearing anything from VP-1 POPS. From this end, we have not heard much from the membership either.

Communication is a very important item for an outfit such as ours, where everyone is spread throughout the country. It's the glue that holds everything together. This newsletter is one facet of that communication.

It was easy when Don Grove did everything for us (except for Don) and he was the only one we had to communicate with but we don't have that luxury anymore.

Our Newsletter Editor/Publisher Shark Morasch has suffered some serious long-term health problems that precluded him from doing our newsletter. He's still in bad shape.



Louis Tafoya stepped in and picked up the pieces and will do our newsletter until Shark recovers, or we can find another member who is willing to take on this important task. So, Louis Tafoya and I want to get a newsletter out in as soon as possible. Communication from the membership has been sparse also so we're looking for newsletter material. I would appreciate it if you could provide some news, etc. to Louie so that he can get a newsletter out. It was easy when Don Grove did everything. Louie is: ljtafoya@msn.com.

So, in the interim, please keep those cards, letters and e-mails coming to Louis or me for the next newsletter and post your newsy items on our new website that KB Sherman developed for us.

With Alabama's heat and humidity this summer I'm really looking forward to our next reunion in cool Maine. Fly VP Navy!

Thanks,
Bill Johnson

From: "Greg Pierce"
<piercg@suscom-maine.net>
Subject: VP-1 Newsletter Input

This letter is to solicit your input for our VP-1 POPS Newsletter that we want to publish in November/December 2004 (*dates changed by Lou Tafoya*). To put out a newsletter we need news from the membership; we just cannot put out a meaningful product without hearing from you. We are trying hard to keep this wonderful organization on course.

Louis Tafoya, our Vice President, will fill in the gap in assembling our newsletter and Greg Pierce, our Secretary, will snail-mail the Newsletter to the Membership while KB will put it on our Web Site for those folks with computers. We will take most any information from you; what you have been doing since the Memphis Muster, anecdotes from your years in VP-1, appropriate sea stories (no bad jokes please, we get enough of that over e-mail), news you might have of other members, news of VP operations, etc.

Please make your input to:

Louise Tafoya
6411 Avalon Road NW,
Albuquerque, NM 87105
(505) 836-3189;
ljtafoya@msn.com

Bill Johnson
2637 Capstone Drive
Montgomery, AL 36106
(334) 272-9009;
billpatty@charter.net

Please send in your inputs as you can. Thanks for your help and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Greg

From: "Edward McLaughlin"
edmac-1@msn.com
Subject: RE: VP-1 Newsletter Input

Hi, My only input is that I have been lucky to be able to send Get Well Cards and Cards to family's of those we have lost.

This all depends on Information sent to me by fellow POPS Members, so I would ask that you put my email address in the news letter so they can let me know?

Ed McLaughlin edmac-1@msn.com

Editors Note: Ed, you got it. Appre-

ciate it if you folks out there, include Bill and me when you send Ed anything. That way we can put it in the next Newsletter for all to read!

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From: Don Grove
Subject: COLA

This week, the Bureau of Labor Statistics announced the monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI), which is the metric used to calculate the annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for military retired pay, VA disability compensation, survivor annuities, and Social Security.

After a decline in the CPI during the last few months of 2003, inflation has rebounded as the year has progressed. The June CPI is 0.3 percent above the May tally, and 2.8 percent above last year's COLA baseline.

If the June inflation rate continues for the next three months, we can expect the 2005 COLA to be in the neighborhood of 3.4 percent.

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THE NATIONAL PERSONNEL RECORDS CENTER URL

Here's a good URL address to keep handy. The National Personnel Records Center has provided the following website for veterans to access their DD-214 online:

<http://vetrecs.archives.gov>. They are working to make it easier for veterans with computers and Internet access to obtain copies of their military files. This may be particularly helpful when a veteran needs a copy of his DD-214 for employment purposes. Please see the details below. I've utilized this to find information about a lot of older vets (WWII & Korea) that have passed away. Their next of kin sometimes didn't know what actions they were involved with that earned them their medals.

The point-of-contact is Lyn Krout, e-mail linda.krout@us.army.mil, DSN phone number 458-1755, commercial phone number 410-306-1755.

Military veterans and the next of kin of deceased former military mem-

bers may use the on-line military personnel records system to request documents. Other individuals with a need for documents will need to complete a Standard Form 180 that can be downloaded from this web site.

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From: James K Lee
Subject: Wood Carved Models

If anyone is interested in wood carved Aircraft, or Ship Models from Olongapo, contact:

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Gregg Woodcraft
James L. Gordon Avenue
Market & Mall
Olongapo City, Philippines 2200
Tel. No. (011.63) 047-222-8589 or
222-4737; e-mail:
<greggwoodcraft@yahoo.com>

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Models available: F-14, F-16, F-18, F-22, F-35, P-2, P-3

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From: Mac McComas
Subject: P-3's

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I don't know if any of you VP men have looked at it or not, but check out website www.motionmodels.com and see the P-3 models under "Modern Navy Aircraft". Interesting, but a little pricey. Maybe they would give a deal if so many VP-1 buyers would order a custom model.

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WHIDBEY PATROL SQUADRON MEMORIAL

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Note: Some of the following details are OBE, but they are included to give you all a flavor of all that has transpired thus far. The next Newsletter will provide an update - Lou Tafoya.



The focal point of the memorial is a life-sized bronze statue of a VP crew member representing all Whidbey airmen. Our "Lone Airman" is attired in flight suit, Mae West, and parachute harness and wearing a ball cap. He's holding a flight helmet in his right hand. The statue stands on a brick patio. A few feet behind the airman, and at the edge of the patio, is a three-paneled granite wall, four feet high and eight feet wide.

On the center panel above the etched words of dedication is an etched depiction of a P2V-7 Neptune. On the two granite panels on either side of the main panel will be placed the names of 85 servicemen who lost their lives in Whidbey P2V operations. The names will be cast on two bronze plaques that will be permanently attached to the outer granite walls.

Two attractive granite benches matching the granite of the memorial walls are located in front of our Lone Airman. Donation bricks surround the patio floor and the walkway leading in from the city sidewalk. This sidewalk runs from downtown Oak Harbor to the yacht club and on to the Seaplane Base. The bricks will be etched with names or dedications generated by donors who purchase the bricks.

We've had two major setbacks in our efforts to get a memorial erected on Whidbey. First, we wanted to get a real P2V as a "gate guard" at the Ault Field main gate as our memorial. But after the 9-11 attack, security regulations at NAS tightened in accordance with the new Homeland Security Regulations. The Navy no longer welcomed our Neptune aboard Ault Field (NAS Whidbey Island). That, coupled with strong guidance from our membership during the 2002 reunion to seek something other than a real aircraft, we switched to a more traditional type memorial to be located off base.

Secondly, we've had to modify our design for the memorial. The original design had two more statues; a woman and a child. We had an esti-

mate of \$150,000 for completion of this project. To get some feel for success before "going public", we asked for pledges from our VP-2 people. We received pledges for \$55,000. As a result, we reduced the funding required to \$105,000 by eliminating the statue of the woman and child. These statues can be added to the memorial at a later date if and when funding becomes available.

We are currently working with the Oak Harbor Parks Board and City Council for favorable endorsement for erecting our memorial in the small Veterans Memorial Park, (the old Catalina Park), between downtown Oak Harbor and the Seaplane Base main gate. We've made our proposal, and we keep our plan on their mind by attending city council and parks board meetings and interacting with their people. We have recently learned that Paul Brewer, a retired Navy Master Chief and friend of our project, and member of the City Council, has been assigned as the city council liaison to the Parks Board. The bureaucratic process is not fast, but our odds are increasing. We have decided that we must get an acceptable site for the memorial in order to go forward. There are many little parks scattered throughout the Oak Harbor area, but basically none that are as acceptable or that catch one's eye like the Veterans Memorial Park. So, where are we today? Pledge money is coming in, and we take every opportunity to make our project known to the city powers-that-be. At a mid-July meeting with city officials, we received the list of elements that we must present to the Parks Board. We will officially present our plan to place our memorial in the Veterans Park to the Parks Board at their August meeting. We are cautiously optimistic that they will forward a favorable recommendation to the City Council. With Council approval, we can go ahead with our plans, and "go public", soliciting funding and support from

other squadron groups, industry, local businesses, veterans and civic groups, and individuals.

BACKGROUND

The Whidbey Patrol Squadron Memorial in the future will honor all patrol squadron personnel, officer and enlisted, aircrew and ground-pounder, of any Navy patrol squadron. It will specifically honor members of VP squadrons that were based at Whidbey anytime between the bases inception in 1942 (PBY's) and the present. VP-1 is one of those squadrons, having been based at NAS Whidbey from 1948 to 1970, and again from 1993 to the present. Currently based at Whidbey are: VP-1; VP-40; VP-46; and VP-69. VQ-1, with their EP-3's, is also here.

The P2V Neptune is representative of the VP community, as it operated from NAS Whidbey for about 25 years (1948 to the mid-1970s). VP-69 was the last P2V squadron at Whidbey to transition to P-3s -- in the mid-1970s.

There is already a P-3 Orion static display aircraft located in the center of NAS Whidbey's Ault Field. There is no P2V Neptune here, though.

This memorial project was initiated by the VP-2 Association, (ex-VP-2 people now mostly in their 60's, 70's, and 80's), but is all-inclusive for all VP people.

"(Don Hanson)-At the onset of looking for a P2, we should have formed an "Association" of all VP people. But to keep it the simplest, we (probably I) decided to keep everything to VP-2...planning to spread out to everybody when we hit a \$ milestone (for confidence) and an acceptable site. It is a Whidbey Patrol Squadron Memorial. As soon as we get the site approved, our fundraiser, Al Hall (needs help), says that we can get the rest of the \$110K...(an early and probably now low estimate.) from the other sources.... including VP-1 POPs."

Early on our memorial commit-

tee decided to make a pitch for funds to the VP-2 Association only, in order to see if there was enough support for the project. We decided not to solicit funds from outside of the VP-2 Association until we knew that the project was viable money-wise, and that we had approval to place the memorial in the Oak Harbor Veterans Park. We are now closing-in on both of those fronts -- keep you fingers crossed.

=====

LT JEFFERSON DAVIS STINSON
1921—2004



----- Original Message -----

From: "Mac McComas"
<avcmret@surffirst.net>
To: <Undisclosed-Recipient:;>
Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2004 9:27 AM
Subject: Fw: Jeff Stinson

More from Jeff's sister. I assume I am right, since she is his only survivor, that she can take his place in VP-1 POPs. Right or wrong? Please pass it on, especially to the president and secretary.

Thanks.

Mac

----- Original Message -----

From: "Mary Claunch Lane"
<marylane@1starnet.com>
To: "Mac McComas"
<avcmret@surffirst.net>
Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2004 10:19 AM
Subject: Jeff Stinson

Hi Mac

Thank you so much for the donation to the Navy Relief Society. Jeff thought highly of that organization. In fact, when I get things settled and paid for I intend to make a donation to them myself. He had in his will that if neither I nor his daughter were surviving him, his money was to go to the Navy Relief Society. So that is where I will also make a donation in his name.

He was under the assumption that he had ALL of his funeral arrangements paid for in Calif., but I am having trouble with them; they are saying he didn't, so I have the funeral home here arguing with the Funeral Home and Cemetery in Calif. for me. The cemetery is claiming he didn't, but he told me in 1995 when his wife passed away that he had paid for his ashes to be buried on top of his wife, Roxie. So far, I haven't found the papers, but I am looking.

We are having a Memorial Service at the Clyde Cosper Texas State Veteran's home in Bonham for him, since he hadn't been here long enough to know very many people outside of the Veteran's Home. I am still waiting to hear from the Chaplain of the time and date, so I can put it in his obituary and I will put it in the Fresno Bee, because he had many friends in that area. He loved California so much that he stayed there when he retired from the Navy.

Thank you for letting me know that I can remain a member of VP-1 POPs. I think I would like that. My son, Bobby has already told me he would really like to go again. I enjoy reading Jeff's newsletters that he has been getting and it has given me the information that I needed to get things settled with the Navy in regards to his disabled daughter.

Thanks again for always being available. Jeff talked about you and Wolfe more than anybody. He always got a twinkle in his eyes when he would talk

about the things you two did together, not only as Navy members, but as friends.

TTYL

Mary Stinson Claunch- Lane
<http://www2.1starnet.com/marylane>

Never take love for granted. Remember to say "I love you" to those you love. You may not have another chance.

----- Original Message -----

From: "Mac McComas"
<avcmret@surffirst.net>
To: "Mary Claunch Lane"
<marylane@1starnet.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2004 6:28 AM
Subject: Re: Jess passed away

Yes, Mary, I received it and passed it on. I'm not in contact with everyone in the squadron (VP-1), but I told the ones that I was in contact with to pass it on to the ones that they were in contact with. I'm so sorry, but I guess it's inevitable when you get the age and mileage that Jeff had.

If you like, you can choose to remain a member of VP-1 POPs as Jeff's survivor. We have several widows that continue their membership.

I will keep in touch from time to time. Since the distance is so great and flowers were out of the question, I have made a donation to Navy Relief in Jeff's name as a living memorial.

Regards,
Mac McComas

----- Original Message -----

From: "Mary Claunch Lane"
<marylane@1starnet.com>
To: "Mac McComas"
<avcmret@surffirst.net>
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2004 9:57 PM
Subject: Jess passed away

Hi Mac

I sent a message to a number of friends and family about Jeff, but several have said they didn't receive it, so I am checking with you to see if you received it. Jeff passed away Saturday morning -18 September- about 1:45 a.m. by my watch, but it took the nurse longer to check him out. He had been in the hospital for 2 weeks, and then he went back to the nursing home. I sat with

him almost around the clock in the hospital, and then every other day at the nursing home until Friday when the Dr. called me Friday morning and was crying and told me he wasn't going to make it this time. I stayed all day Friday and all night and he passed at about 1:45 a.m. (the 18th) I saw him draw his last breath and told the nurse he was gone. She said no, he was just breathing shallow, but got her stethoscope, and was surprised that I was right just by looking at him.

His Doctor told me that he was taught in medical school to not get attached to his patients, but he just couldn't help it with Jeff. He never complained about pain until about 2 weeks ago and was always so kind and considerate.

We are planning to have a memorial service at the Clyde Cosper Texas State Veteran's Home, but I haven't heard from the Chaplain yet on the time or day.

I am waiting to put the obituary in the paper until I have all the information. It will be in the paper here in Paris, and in the Fresno Bee, so that his old friends will know about it. He wanted to be cremated and taken back to Bakersfield, Calif. to be buried on top of his wife, and I intend to see that it is done. I think my surviving son and I are going to take him out there personally. He would have done that for me. The last conversation that I was able to have with him, he was worried about ME instead of himself. He was such an amazing man.

Take care and let me hear from you please.

Mary (Stinson) Claunch-Lane
1810 Harrison St.
Paris, TX 75460

Please visit my home page:

<http://www.2.1starnet.com/marylane/>
GENEALOGY IS A LABOR OF LOVE

From: <pmorasch@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, November 05, 2004
5:07 PM
Subject: Moving

Hi Everyone,

We want to thank you for all your support during Shark's illness. The Doctor diagnosis is Weber-Christian with Pancreatic Panniculitis and Osteonecrosis. They still do not have a cure and are still hoping that it is under control. Monday we go to the

Va for pain management. After that we do not have any appointments with Doctors here. We felt that was a good sign to move on now.

On September (November?) 29, Shark is going to fly back to KC. On December 4, I will move with all our household and animals. We need to be with family for many reasons. We ran away 34 years ago. Time to go home. It has been very difficult to go through everything the last five months by ourselves. We need the emotional support of being home. Thank you again and please keep in touch with us. I will try to continue keeping you posted and pictures. We love to hear from you all.

Our temporary address is:

Care of
James Morasch
10270 Edgehill
Edwardsville, KS 66111

We will still have both of our cell phones.

Mine (812) 219-4224
Shark (816) 786-7302

We will no longer have the Comcast e-mail address. We WILL still have the hotmail addresses:

<cmorasch@hotmail.com>
<pmorasch@hotmail.com>

Thanks
Carolyn & Shark

From: pmorasch@comcast.net

Sent: Thursday, July 22, 2004 4:31 PM
Subject: Shark Update

Good News---I brought Shark home from the hospital at 2:30pm. He is still very weak and still a great deal of pain. He will be on the antibiotic Cyclosporin 150mg for the next year or two and under constant doctors care.

The other name for this rare disease is Systemic Panniculitis or Weber-Christian Disease. It is very rare in men or children. The research does not say much about a cure but they

do say some go into remission. Let's pray he is one who goes into remission.

Thank you so much for the prayers and words of encouragement. We know it is a long road of recovery but we are so happy he is home to do it.

Thanks
Carolyn

=====

From: Waxer65@aol.com
Subject: VP-1 Air Stories

One day in 1970 I was conducting a P-3 training flight out of Cam Ranh Bay. We had junior Flight Engineer, ADR2 Connor, in the middle seat and salty old veteran Chief, ADJC McGough, as a Flight Engineer giving instructions from behind the middle seat.

The Chief and I had it worked out that the Chief would turn off the fuel to the #3 engine and call out "Flame-out #4!" The purpose of this little scheme was to teach the junior engineer to look before he leaped. The proper response would have been to scan the engine gauges, observe that it was really #3 that was flamed-out, and then pull the #3 emergency handle to feather the engine.

On my cue, the old Chief turned off #3 and called out "Flame-out #4!" Well, the junior Flight Engineer did not look, he just reacted. Before anyone could even react, the junior engineer had the #4 emergency handle pulled out to the stop and #4, just as it should, feathered. There we were, at 5,000 feet, right over Cam Ranh Bay, with two turning, one wind-milling, and one feathered.

There I sat with more egg on my face than a day-old griddle at the enlisted mess. The one and only time I had two out on the same side. Luckily, the weather was perfectly clear and we had a light training load of fuel. All I had to do was add a little power to #2, crank in some rudder trim, and have #3 feathered. From there we went through the shutdown checklist twice and the airborne start checklist twice and we were

back to normal business. An uneventful landing followed.

Submitted by Don Hallwachs
(LT, USN, PPC at that time)

AH YES, A TOAST FROM
THE AIO! (Air Intelligence
Officer)

(Sent during the VP-1 POPS
2003 Memphis Muster)

For the assembled 'VP-1 POPS
crowd, a toast is proposed to
THE VICTORS!!!

"RECENT PUBLISHED RE-
PORTS OF SINKING DISAS-
TERS OF FORMER SOVIET
UNION SUBMARINES HAVE
REVEALED THAT OF AP-
PROXIMATELY 189 NU-
CLEAR POWERED SUBMA-
RINES DECOMMISSIONED
THERE IN THE LAST 15
YEARS, 126 ARE STILL
TIED UP AT DOCKS!

THIS IS BECAUSE THEY
HAVE BEEN DRIVEN FROM
THE SEVEN SEAS BY THE
UNRELENTING EFFORTS
OVER MANY YEARS BY
THE 'SCREAMING EA-
GLES'!!! HERE'S A TOAST
TO THE VICTORS!"

CHARLIE BUDENZ

From: georgehunter.Hunter
Subject: newsletter

Hi Ya Louie..

You may remember me, I was the Division Chief from Sept 74 to Sept 75, when I retired. You were the Ord Shop Chief, and Jerry Rauscher had the tweets. (Don't remember who was the Electric shop Chief at the time)

At any rate, for what it's worth, I retired in 75, having been recently divorced, and started my 2nd. career in the Silicon Valley electronics industry as a field service and applications engineer covering the US in the semiconductor capital equipment industry. I moved into the sales arena, and became the territory sales manager, covering the Northwest, and a couple of major accounts in Sunnyvale CA. From there, remarried, and went down with the big industry downturn of the early 80's. In one afternoon meeting, I went from being the top sales guy in the nation, to unemployed (along with all of the rest of the companies west coast staff.) (That's even worse than catching the duty maintenance chief watch your last month in the Navy.. Thanks, SCPO Anderson.)

At that point, I wound up starting an independent manufacturers rep. company with an acquaintance. It worked out well until the 2nd. Divorce. At that time I sold my half to my partner, and moved here to the beautiful Pacific Northwest, and back to the town I was born in. Started another rep. firm covering the Northwest, did pretty well with it, then shut it down and retired for the 2nd. time three years ago at age 62. I am still not married, (by choice so far) and spend most of my time going to college, riding the Harley, messing with computers and spending time with my kids and grandkids, and with my Lady. I do recall some good times while with VP-1 such as the gathering with the Japanese

CPO's, Somebody's beat up old car in Naha.. (The AKC's?) Cross countries to the mainland. (Had a girl friend at Moffett) and the pleasure of running on the beach at Barbers Point, and spending some weekends at the old billets at Ft. Derussy and wandering Waikiki.

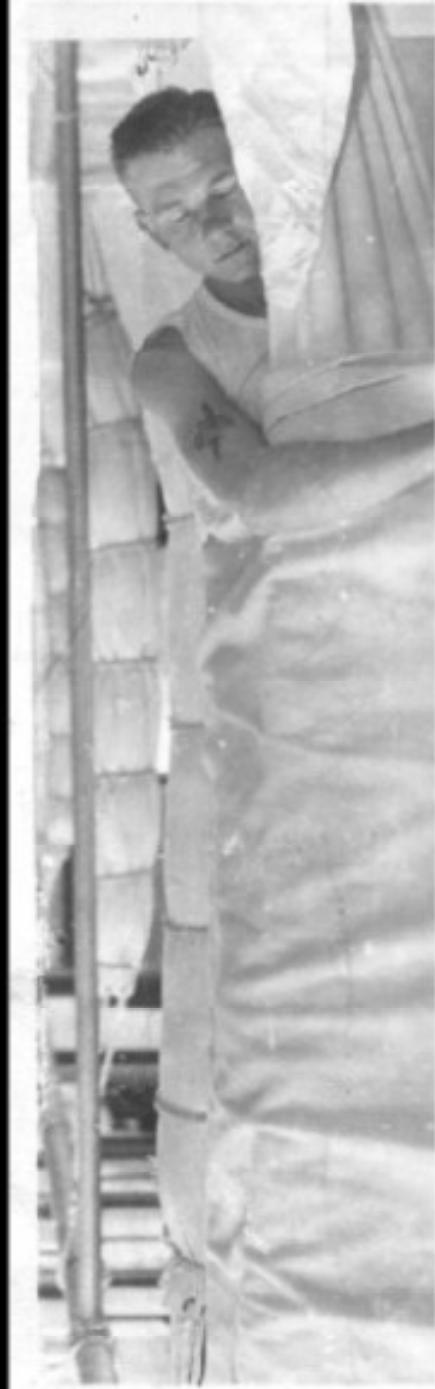
Well, Louie, I don't know what you may have wanted to know, if anything, but here it is.. I hope all is going well for you and yours. Take good care, shipmate.

George Hunter
AXCS USN (ret)

END

I HOPE YOU ENJOY THIS
NEWSLETTER-IT'S THE
FIRST ONE THAT I HAVE
PUT TOGETHER.
WE NEED NEWS FROM
YOU ALL, SO PLEASE SEND
SOMETHING AND WE WILL
INCLUDE IT IN OUR NEXT
NEWSLETTER.
TAKE CARE AND MAY GOD
BLESS US ALL.

LOUIE TAFOYA



- - - A Sailors Prayer - - -

Now I lay me down to sleep
I pray the Lord my sole to keep
Grant no other Sailor take
My shoes and socks before I wake
Lord guard me in my slumber
And keep my hammock on its number
May no clues nor lashings break
And let me down before I wake
Keep me safely in the sight
And grant no fire drill tonight
And in the morning let me wake
Breathing scents of sirloin steak
God protect me in my dreams
And make this better than it seems

Grant the time may swiftly fly
When myself shall rest on high
In a snowy feather bed
Where I long to rest my head
Far away from all these scenes
And the smell of halidone beans
Take me back into the land
Where they don't scrub down with sand
Where no demon typhoon blows
Where the women wash the clothes
God thou knowest all my woes
Feed me in my dying thoes
Take me back I'll promise then
Never to leave home again

Four Years Later

* * * * *
Our Father who art in Washington
Please dear father let me stay
Do not drive me now away
Wipe away my scalding tears
And let me stay for Thirty Years
Please forgive me all my past
And things that happened
at the mast
Do not my request refuse
And let me stay another cruise
* * * * *

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