



VPB-111/VP-21 VAGABOND NEWS

www.VP-21.org, and www.VPB-111.org

John G. Esposito, Editor

SPRING 2012 EDITION

A MESSAGE FROM THE LEFT SEAT:

Included with this month's newsletter is a copy of the registration form for the 2013 reunion. Please don't lose it. It's the only one we'll be providing. However, if you do lose it, contact me and I'll get another one to you.

When you call the hotel for reservations, be sure to mention the VPB-111/VP-21 reunion in order to get the special rate. By the way, many of you will remember that we held a reunion at the Sun Spree some years ago and they treated us like royalty.

Bill Kearney has put together what looks to be an outstanding program that certainly has something for everyone. I especially want to attend the Scottish Tattoo, but the museum tour, Nautilus, and the dinner cruise also sound great. But the most important thing, and the real reason for holding these reunions, is to give us the opportunity to periodically get together with our own "Band of Brothers."

I'm looking forward to again seeing those of you who have made it to our past reunions and I hope that those of you who have not previously had the opportunity will be able to attend this one.

Please make certain to inform the Association whenever you change your address (either mail or email). We hate to lose track of you.

Keep safe.

Bill

DONATIONS RECEIVED:

The following persons have made contributions during this quarter:

Paul J. Peterson, Arthur D. Regan, Richard R. Cattrysse, H. Clark Island, Harold J. Vaughn. And finally, a very special note of thanks to Teo Esculano for his very generous donation when he sent a check payment for his Aircrewman Wings Polo Shirt.

Thanks guys for helping to keep our group airborne.

Tiny

PLEASE NOTE: The VPB-111/VP-21 Veterans Association charges no dues. Our operations are totally supported by the generous contributions of our membership, and by the sale of our squadron products. The association comes under section 501(C) 19, of the Internal Revenue Code as a "Not for Profit" organization. As such, contributions are legitimate tax deductions. Please make your contribution checks payable to the "VPB-111/VP-21 Veterans Association" and forward them to the Treasurer, Leland Ledford, at 127 Pete St., Waterloo, SC, 29384-4647.

TAPS:

- Scharpen: LTJG Leroy Scharpen served in VP-21 from 57-59. He passed away in 2011. He graduated from Harvard and held a PHD in Chemistry
- Jim Berchack. Passed away on January 26, 2012 from complications of Alzheimer's disease. Jim served in VP 21 from '52 to '56.
- McLaughlin: LTJG McLaughlin. Served in VP 21 from '56 to '59. No other information is available
- Joseph McHale AT1 49-51 Died 11/15/11. His death was due to a head injury sustained by a fall. Joseph was born on May 18, 1924 in West Pittston, Pa. He is preceded in death by his son Mark, his sister Mary Elizabeth Paye, and his niece, Megan Paye.
- Claude Simpson AE (?). 56-60 Died 7/14/11 Lymphoma after a long illness.

Sick Bay:

Your prayers are continued to be requested for Ed Edens, AM 1, VP 21 from '58 to '61, who continues to remain seriously ill.

A small prayer request and it's just one line.

"Dear God, I pray for a cure for cancer. Amen".

GOD BLESS YOU & GOD BLESS AMERICA

A MESSAGE FROM THE WEBMASTER:

All hands are encouraged to visit the website regularly to stay up to date between Vagabond editions. Our website is at: www.vp-21.org.

*Thanks
Smitty*

WELCOME (BACK) ABOARD:

- George Blue, YN3, '68 to '69. No other information available.
- Warren Schellase, AO3. '52 to '53.

Welcome home, guys.

FROM THE STOREKEEPER:

FLASH! New item added to Small Stores inventory. VPB-111/VP-21 Polo Shirts with Naval Flight Officer and Naval Aircrew Wings embroidered on the shirt are now in stock. Visit the Association Website to view the handsome embroidered wings you will proudly wear. To purchase your embroidered polo shirt make a \$30 check or money order payable to "VPB-111/VP-21 Veterans Association" with your request (wing type and shirt size M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL) and mail to:
CAPT Carter Nute
7605 NW 50th Street
Gainesville, FL 32653
Questions, contact Small Stores Storekeeper, Carter Nute, at ccnute@earthlink.net or (352) 335-1293.

FROM THE ONLINE COORDINATOR:

We continue to lose email members due to their not notifying the Email Coordinator of changes they make to their email address, or a change to a different service provider. Please contact the Email Coordinator with any changes to your address or service provider. Happy note?? We did find two former members of the email roster, one of whom changed his email address four years ago but ""forgot"" to notify us. We can only guess that he finally realized he was not receiving the newsletter :>))))

Although Kestrel Aviation has decided to start up the major part of their operation to build aircraft at Brunswick to Superior Wisconsin, they still maintain that ""some work"" will be performed at the old NAS Brunswick. Happier note?? Maine government officials are in preliminary discussions with Bombardier, the Canadian aircraft manufacturer to locate an aircraft service/overhaul facility at NAS Brunswick, or Brunswick Landing as it is currently called.

Lastly, a Swedish Company, Molyneke Healthcare is in the process of building and perhaps now completing a two story manufacturing building to the Northeast of where the squadron's former Hangar Two was located. They will be manufacturing a line of dressings for surgical wounds using a line of proprietary foam that is already being produced at a plant of theirs up in Wiscasset, Maine. The building will comprise 79,000 square feet and employ about one hundred people.

VPB-111/VP-21 VETERANS ASSOCIATION
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SPRING, 2012

VPB-111/VP-21 VETERANS ASSOCIATION

A non-profit, fraternal, and historical association devoted to the reestablishment of contact with shipmates of the past, to strengthen the camaraderie among its members, to record and preserve the memories and incidents of the Association, to preserve the memory of departed shipmates, and to promote the comfort and welfare of its members and survivors. No dues are assessed!

Directors:

- *Dwyer, Dan, Online Coordinator, Director, #6 Sarah Liberty Lane, Scarborough, ME 04074*
- *Esposito John G., Editor/Director, 862 Central Ave., Southampton, PA 18966*
- *La Fontaine, Edward, Museum Director, 161 Jackson Dr., Frankfort, KY 40601*
- *Locke, William Chairman, 255 Mere Point Rd., Brunswick, ME 04011*
- *Nelson Robert, Special Projects, 49 Woodland Drive, Tequesta FL 33469*
- *Novay , Ron, Director, 7775 Lake Hardeman Rd., Saulsburry, TN 38067*
- *Nute, Carter, Storekeeper/Director, 7605 NW 50th ST., Gainesville, FL 32653-1137*
- *Ledford, Leland, Treasurer/Director, 127 Pete St., Waterloo, SC 29384-4647*
- *Schuster, Fred, Dir/Historian/Director, 2713Cabin Creek Rd., Edwardsville, IL,62025*
- *Schmidt, Herman, Webmaster/Director,3404 Red Tailed Hawk Dr., Port Saint Lucie, FL34952*
- *Webb, Richard, Director, 219 Montoya Dr., Lady Lake, FL 32159-8642*
- *Woods, Dale, Director, 5480 W. Arrowhead Lake Dr. Glendale, AZ 85306*

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