



VPB-111/VP-21 VAGABOND NEWS

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

John G. Esposito, Editor

WINTER 2012 EDITION

A MESSAGE FROM THE LEFT SEAT:

Included in this issue are the highlights of Bill Kearney's efforts in setting up the April 2013 reunion. As you can see, he's provided us with a really outstanding program. Start making your plans or, at least, make certain your calendar is clear for the reunion dates. I hope that all of you will be able to make it.

In the last issue I mentioned that our squadron mate, Russ Warnberg has written a novel called *Edge of Redemption*. It's a mystery story located in Maine and is now available for purchase by going to russellwarnberg.com or to Tate Publishing. I know we all wish Russ good luck with his new career.

Get through the winter and we'll be back to you in the spring.

Fly safely.

Bill

A REPORT FROM THE RADAR SCREEN: Plans for next year's reunion are well under way, and they are outlined as follows:

Saturday, April 27th - Check-in

Sunday, April 28th 1:30- 5:00PM

Virginia International Tattoo is a ceremonial performance of marching military bands, massed pipes and drums, drill teams, gymnasts, Scottish dancers, choirs and more. It is the largest show of this type in the United States and is second only to the Scottish Tattoo in Edinburg. Transportation is provided. Cost \$85 per person.

Monday, April 29th 9:00AM-3:00PM

Tour of Virginia Beach

Tour will include Cape Henry where the Atlantic meets the Chesapeake Bay, First Landing Cross where the colonist came ashore in 1607, lighthouses, the Tidewater Veterans Memorial, past the Virginia Beach Aquarium. The tour will include a tour of Oceana Naval Air Station, the east coast Master Jet Base. The tour will be conducted by a retired jet pilot. There are 12 aircraft on display. Lunch will be at the Officer's Club at Dam Neck (Seal Team 6 trains there). Afterwards, you will visit the Military Aviation Museum of Virginia. It is the home of one of the largest private collections of WWII and Korean War era fighters, bombers, trainers and seaplanes in the world. Many have been restored to their original condition and used for flight demonstrations, movies and commercials. Gary Powers, Jr. may conduct the tour. Transportation is included. Cost is \$58 per person

Tuesday, April 30th, 2: PM-8:30 PM

Norfolk Tour and cruise

This will be a tour of downtown Norfolk. It will include the Battleship Wisconsin which saw action in WWII, Korea and the Persian Gulf. The tour will also include a visit to Nauticus, The National Maritime Center, a riding tour of Norfolk, including MacArthur Memorial, Freemason District and a stop at Doumars Ice Cream. Abe Doumar created the first ice cream cone at the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904. Doumar also designed the four-iron waffle machine that was launched at the Jamestown Exposition in 1907. Everyone will receive a cone of ice cream. Afterward, you will board the Victory Rover for a cruise of Hampton Roads harbor. You'll view aircraft carriers, submarines and other naval vessels. While on board you will be served a BBQ dinner with all the trimmings. Afterwards, it's back to the hotel. Cost is \$85 per person.

The hotel's rates are \$121.97 (tax included) double room occupancy and \$110.61 (tax included) for a single. Rates include breakfast vouchers. All rooms are oceanfront.

Mark your calendars now, and plan now to attend.

DONATIONS RECEIVED:

Albert D. Acker, Bruce T. Willey, Gerald N. Panches, Judith F. Ramsden in Memory of Russell R. Ramsden, Ray and Jan Fleming, W. Schafer Bean, Allan J. Place, Ronald D. Rocheleau, Raymond H. Gaus.

Thanks 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, and 127 Pete St., Waterloo, SC, 29384-4647.

TAPS:

There were no passings during this quarter.

Sick Bay:

Your thoughts and prayers are requested for Ed Edens, AM1, '58 to '61, who is seriously ill.

A MESSAGE FROM THE WEBMASTER:

WELCOME (BACK) ABOARD:

- Peter Farrell, AE2 '58 to '61
- Richard Olson, AE3 '53 to '55
- Manfred Lenz, AO3 '59 to '63

Welcome back aboard, guys.

FROM THE STOREKEEPER:

“During the Charleston Reunion numerous members requested the Small Stores order VPB-111/VP-21 Polo Shirts with Naval Flight Officer and Naval Flight Air crewman Wings embroidered on the shirt. Unfortunately, our former polo shirt vendor went out of business. The good news is I have subsequently found a new shirt vendor who can meet our supply requirements. To optimize our order with the addition of Naval Flight Officer and Naval Flight Air crewman Wings embroidered shirts we need to determine inventory requirements. Therefore I request all interested Association members who desire to purchase one of these shirts to contact me at ccnute@earthlink.net or (352) 335-1293 with your information (wing type and shirt size S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL). Once inventory requirements are determined we will place an association order to meet member needs. Thank you for helping us improve our service to the Association.”

Carter

FROM THE ONLINE COORDINATOR:

NAS Brunswick Update

Kestrel Aviation which had announced their intention to open a facility at NAS Brunswick to build a single engine turbo prop airplane that would seat six is now but a dream. Turns out that Kestrel wanted a rather large financial aid package from the state of Maine, something the state could apparently not deliver/afford. That being the case, and with the state of Wisconsin offering a financial aid package worth in excess of \$90 million dollars, Kestrel will be building the new aircraft in Superior, Wisconsin. Who said government money can't create jobs????

Email Roster and Snail Mail Rosters

We continue to receive updated email and snail mail addresses well after the changes have taken place. The record for this quarter was of a member who physically moved four years ago and never updated his snail mail address. Thankfully, the email address remained the same so we were still in contact, but if that email address had changed anytime during the past four years??? That member would be lost to us forever. PLEASE, contact any member of the board with any changes to either your snail mail or email address.

VPB-111/VP-21 VETERANS ASSOCIATION
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WINTER, 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!

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