



# VPB-111/VP-21 VAGABOND NEWS

[www.vp-21navy.org](http://www.vp-21navy.org)

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**John G. Esposito, Editor**

**SUMMER 2015 Edition**

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE LEFT SEAT:

Back in June when I was putting together my report for the summer issue of our newsletter I anticipated that this fall issue would be dedicated to the progress that had been made in the development of the Brunswick Naval Museum. I still intend to do that. Also, back in June, I anticipated that I would be announcing that the Museum Board had finally gained possession of the former NASB Chapel. I'm afraid that's not yet the case. We fully expected to own the building by the end of August. But then the lawyers got involved. I now anticipate that we will accept ownership of the building by the time I put together my report for the winter newsletter. But there is good news. The Navy and MRRA have both agreed to the sale. It's just a matter of dotting the Is and crossing the Ts.

In the meantime, we've continued to develop our Museum. Last month we opened our first exhibit. Until we acquire the entire building, we're severely restricted for space so such items as a Jezebel unit are not yet on display. Instead, within the restricted space available to us, we've elected to present the history of NASB from its inception in the early 40's when it was used to train British and Canadian pilots to its closure in 2011.

Due to your generosity in electing to provide our collection of Association artifacts to the Museum, our squadron is well represented. Included are several pictures, plaques, and the Battle E and Isbell awards.

The Memorial and Friendship Gardens, although still requiring much work to achieve their former glory, have been cleaned up and have been open all summer.

The Museum and Gardens have been open every Wednesday and Sunday afternoons but may close for the winter. However, if any of you want to visit the Museum at any time, give me a call – I'm in the book. I'll be happy to open it up for a private tour. Many of you have responded to my request for contributions. Although our list of members is growing, the greatest support by far has been from our Association. For those of you who have generously contributed and/or have become members, I wish to again thank you. For those of you who have not yet made the plunge, I ask that you consider supporting this worthy cause. It is the one thing that will keep our squadron alive. And, since we're a 501(3)c organization, you even get a tax break.

Fly safely,  
Bill

## **DONATIONS RECEIVED:**

The following persons made donations to our association:

Charles F. Brinegar,  
Joseph E. Sheehan Jr.,  
William Harris,  
Edward Ouellette,  
Robert E. Nelson,  
Richard Boslow.

## **TAPS:**

It is with deep regret that I inform you of the passing of our following shipmates:

- Frederick James Radebaugh, 85, died April 3, 2015 Class of 1947. He served 4 years in the U.S. Navy (1948-1952).
- Al Ufer, '43-'45, VPB-111, passed away on 27 May 2014. He served in the Navy for 28 years.
- Danny Lee Binger, 69, passed away on Aug. 19, 2014. He retired after 30 years of service with the United States Navy with the rank of Chief Warrant Officer 4. He served in the Tonkin Gulf (1972/3) and the Persian Gulf (1991).
- Frank Wisenbaugh, AO2, '50-'52 passed away in March 2014.
- Michael Grens, '64-'66, AO3, age 67, of Kankakee, Illinois, passed away Friday, June 20, 2014.
- Gilbert Navarro, '50-'52, AM3.

## **A MESSAGE FROM THE STOREKEEPER:**

With the holiday season fast approaching it is time to offer gift ideas to help family members complete their shopping list for you. Visit our VPB-111/VP-21 Web site at [www.vp-21navy.org](http://www.vp-21navy.org) and click onto the Small Stores tool bar to bring up photos and price list of Association memorabilia treasures. NEW ITEMS! We recently added to our

inventory a limited supply of the 2015 Pensacola Reunion Ball Caps that feature the separate and unique VPB-111 and VP-21 units that identify our historic legacy. These treasures can be yours for a modest \$20 cost that includes shipping and handling. Place your order now before we exhaust our supply of this limited edition item. For further information or to place your Small Stores order, contact Storekeeper, Carter Nute, at (352) 335-1293 or by E-mail at ccnute@cox.net.

Carter

### **A MESSAGE FROM THE ONLINE COORDINATOR:**

Will those of you who have signed up to receive this newsletter via Email, please take some time to review the squadron's Internet Roster of those former members whose Email addresses have become lost to us. Typically, those whose email addresses have become lost to us due to their physically having moved, and thus changing their Email service provider and not notifying us of the change, or their internet service provider has been acquired by another provider, and their provider's name has changed. If, perhaps, you have received a new email address for those reported as being lost, please send it to DDwyer1@Maine.RR.Com so we can re-establish contact with the missing member.

Too, remember, it costs us money to send out this newsletter via the mails. We can save money by sending it out via email. PLUS, we can provide those who sign up for Email service with a copy of the other members who have opted for Email delivery. For those of you who would like to initiate Email delivery of the newsletter, and receive a copy of the Internet Roster, drop me a line at the above address.

Dan

**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.

### **A MESSAGE FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR:**

**PLASE NOTE:** There will be no Fall Edition to our next Newsletter. The next edition of our Newsletter will be issued in February, 2016.

John

**VPB-111/VP-21 VETERANS ASSOCIATION**  
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**Summer 2015**

**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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