



VPB-111/VP-21 VAGABOND NEWS

www.vp-21navy.org

John G. Esposito, Editor

FALL 2016 Edition

A MESSAGE FROM THE LEFT SEAT:

Carter has provided all the information currently available regarding the reunion. We'll let you know as soon as we have more. In the meantime, I urge you to make your hotel reservations.

Does anyone know the current whereabouts of: Kirk Farquharson, Edward Vaughan, John Gillooly, Stewart Kunde, Frank Cutaiar, Harold Clayton or Michael Kelly? If you do, please let me know. They've fallen off the radar.

Fly safely, Bill

A MESSAGE FROM THE REUNION COORDINATOR:

REUNION 2017

Reunion dates are set – 24 thru 28 April 2017. Plans are underway for our biennial reunion in Jacksonville, FL in conjunction with the Maritime Patrol Association (MPA) Symposium dates to “Honor the Past & Forge the Future” with our VP Community brethren. This is a first class gathering of Maritime Patrol alumni. Our host hotel, The Hilton Garden Inn, Jacksonville Orange Park, is ready to accept reservations. Guests can call the hotel directly at [\(904\) 458-1577](tel:9044581577) or call central reservations at [1-800-445-8667](tel:18004458667) (make sure you mention a room block for VPB-111/VP21 Reunion Block or group code VPB). Our group rate for either a Double Queen Standard or a single King Standard is \$99 per night. Breakfast is included into the rate for 2 people per room daily. Rate and Room type will be available 3 days before and 3 days after our scheduled reunion dates. **This special \$99 group rate Cut-Off Date to Release Unassigned rooms is 3 April 2017.** Recommend you reserve a room ASAP before this cut-off date with the option to cancel later if your travel plans change (confirmed reservations have a 24-hour cancellation prior to arrival policy to avoid a No Show Fee).

In addition to having ample free time our VPB-111/VP-21 Reunion activities will center about the 2017 Maritime Patrol Association (MPA) annual symposium on Wednesday, 26 April. MPA anticipates releasing symposium event timeline schedules in January. For your advanced planning the following is an overview of our preliminary Reunion 2017 plans:

- Sunday/Monday, 23/24 April - Arrive and hotel registration. Hotel Hospitality Suite gatherings. Evening dinner(s) on own.
- Tuesday, 25 April - Motor Coach travel and visit to historic St. Augustine, FL. Evening dinner on own.
- Wednesday, 26 April - MPA Symposium activities that include:
 - **Current Operations Brief:** Gather information and insights about current patrol squadron operations from community leaders.

- **VP Heritage Presentations:** Join us for a look at the culture and heritage of our community.
- **P-3/P-8/Hall of Heroes/Simulator Tours:** Check out the P-3 and P-8 aircraft at Hangar 511 and tour the Hall of Heroes and Simulators in the Integrated Training Center!
- **MPA Heritage Dinner:** Veterans and spouses join shipmates past and present as we gather in the historical Hangar 117 for drinks, dinner, dancing and words from a notable guest speaker. The 2017 Hall of Honor inductees and other outstanding awardees will be honored during the evening. A cash bar will be provided.
- Wednesday, 26 April - **Optional Motor Coach:** Travel for spouses to St. John's Town Center Shopping Center. Lunch on own.
- Thursday, 27 April:
 - AM VPB-111/VP-21 Biennial Business Meeting and Two Bell Ceremony.
 - Afternoon free time.
 - PM Optional dinner at Whitey's Fish Camp, a local eclectic eatery.
- Friday, 28 April:
 - Hotel check-out and Departure.
 - Optional - stay extra evening to join MPA Symposium Member Flight Suit Happy Hour Social.

When the MPA Symposium event schedule is released in January 2017 we recommend VPB-111/VP-21 veterans visit the MPA Website at <http://maritimepatrolassociation.org> to registrar and pay for the 26 April MPA events. In the meantime, we strongly encourage you to consider joining MPA to become a member of this outstanding community organization. The following outlines the MPA Mission and membership benefits that include discounted cost of fee based Symposium events.

THE MISSION and BENEFITS

Supporting the growth of a stronger, more cohesive and networked Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Force (MPRF) community, members of MPA enjoy the benefits created by harnessing the influence and support of the membership as a whole, combined with the community's industry partners. Members can receive and recommend recognition through various heritage and scholarship programs. Community symposiums provide additional education and training opportunities, including the chance to interact directly with the highest levels of community leadership. And of course members have the opportunity to network, share sea stories, and reminisce with fellow professionals at social events.

As a non-profit organization, MPA strives to create better programs by communicating with past, present and future MPRF professionals and by targeting today's interests and issues. MPA also works to defray the cost of these programs and the annual symposium for its members in order to make them as accessible as possible.

Specific Membership Benefits

- Exclusive member events
- Member-only discount pricing to annual Symposium and regional chapter events
- Quarterly newsletter: *PLANESIDE*
- Online access to MPA membership directory and forums
- Networking opportunities with MPRF community leaders and corporate sponsors
- Regional chapters
- Scholarship eligibility for dependents
- MPA gear

The next edition of the *VPB-111/VP-21 Vagabond News* will publish final reunion details and a separate VPB-111/VP-21 Registration Form for all other non-MPA activities. We hope you plan to join us in April for the VPB-111/VP-21 2017 Reunion in Jacksonville, FL.

Thank you, Carter

A MESSAGE FROM THE ON-LINE COORDINATOR:

With the transmission of each issue of the squadron newsletter we receive from five to ten return emails that have bounced due to the recipient having changed their email address, or provider without advising us of the change. Unlike physical changes of home address, which can be tracked down on line through any number of search engines, once we lose your email address, you are gone forever. That is, unless some one of you contacts us with a new email address for those listed as ""Bad Email"" on the email roster. Please take the time to review the roster and let us know if you might have a new email address for anyone listed as being ""BAD"".

LOST SHEEP FOUND:

Newly found member..... welcome Robert L. Johnson. Bob lives in Falmouth, ME and was in VP21 from '66-'69.

DONATIONS RECEIVED:

The following person has generously contributed to our organization's fund. Their contribution is greatly appreciated.

Geraldine Rabb in memory of her father Henry H. Hubner.

TAPS:

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

- **Robert Park "Bob" McKeown:** 89, of Hendersonville, North Carolina, died July 14, 2016. He was an AD3 in VP 21 from '48-'49.
- **Franklin D. Roberts:** 81, passed away on 9/23/2016. He was a LTJG in VP-21 from '57 to '60. He lived in Glencoe, MO.
- **Carl William Weisenbeck:** 78, passed away on November 28, 2015. He was an AMS2 in VP 21 from '57-'60. He lived in Brighton, TN.
- **CDR Riley T. Folsom:** passed away peacefully at his home on December 13, 2015. He was in VP 21 from '58-'60.

May they rest in peace.

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

VPB-111/VP-21 VETERANS ASSOCIATION
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FALL, 2016
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*
- *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*

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