



# VPB-111/VP-21 VAGABOND NEWS

www.vp-21navy.org

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**James L. Mattson, Editor**

**Fall, 2017 Edition**

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE LEFT SEAT:

I'm not certain exactly when this newsletter will reach you but, since I'm writing this before the holidays, my first order of business is to wish each and every one of you, and your families, a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year. Whatever you do, be safe. Good friends are hard to come by.

The 2018 NASB Reunion will be held on 10-12 August. Since it is my intention to piggy-back our 2020 squadron reunion on the 2020 NASB Reunion, I'm going to closely observe how well their events may work for us and plan accordingly. One event for this coming reunion, the "Shipyards and Lighthouses Cruise" looks promising. Anyone interested in attending the 2018 NASB Reunion can get the full information at <http://nasbreunion.org/>.

As you can see from the attached picture, the Brunswick Naval Museum no longer looks much like the old NASB Chapel with which many of you are familiar. The photo was



taken during a cocktail party the Museum held with the Casco Bay Council of the Navy League in honor of our Navy's 242nd birthday on 13 October.

Sailors from the, soon to be, USS Hudner have been very helpful to us at the Museum. They have cleaned, removed unwanted furniture, gardened, and prepared the Blackjack Ready Room for full use. As soon as the holidays are over, they plan to return and paint the room. As soon as that's accomplished, I'll ensure that squadron artifacts are suitably

displayed (including Irving Glick's picture). I expect that we will be using the room for one or more of our 2020 reunion events.

For more information concerning the Museum, and the Memorial Gardens, go to <http://www.brunswicknavalmuseum.org/>. If you're in the area and want a tour, the Museum currently is open from 1000-1600 on Wednesdays and 1300-1600 on Sundays. You can also try your skill on our simulator. And, if you can't make the regular times, never fear. Contact me and I'll get you a private tour.

For information regarding our squadron, don't forget our very own web site at <http://www.vp-21navy.org/>.

Before I close, I want to once again wish you all the very best during this holiday season.

Fly safely,  
Bill

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

**REMINDER:** They are back! With thanks to a new vendor, the "scrambled egg" design on our handsome and popular P-2 "Two Turning and Two Burning" ball cap is again available for only \$25. Visit our VPB-111/VP-21 Web site at [www.vp-21navy.org](http://www.vp-21navy.org) and click on the Small Stores tool bar to bring up photos and price list of Association memorabilia treasures. Finally, we still have a limited inventory 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](mailto:ccnute@cox.net).

#### **LOST SHEEP FOUND:**

Ron Restieri AX2, VP-21, 61-64

## **DONATIONS RECEIVED:**

The following persons have generously contributed to the Association fund. Their contributions are greatly appreciated.

Richard Boslow, Clarence A Christe, Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Raab, Joseph E Sheehan Sr., and Raymond Wells.

**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:**

It is with deep regret that we inform you of the passing of our following shipmate:

Bill Kearney passed away on May 26, 2017. He served in VP-21 from 1961 to 1964 as an AMS2. He retired as an OTCM after serving for 22 years. Bill hosted our 2013 reunion in Virginia Beach, VA.

**VPB-111/VP-21 VETERANS ASSOCIATION**  
**255 Mere Point Rd.**  
**Brunswick, ME 04011**

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**December 2017**  
**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*
- *La Fontaine, Edward, Museum Director; 161 Jackson Dr., Frankfort, KY 40601*
- *Ledford, Leland, Treasurer/Director; 127 Pete St., Waterloo, SC 29384-4647*
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