



VPB-111/VP-21 VAGABOND NEWS

www.vp-21navy.org

John G. Esposito, Editor

Summer, 2017 Edition

A MESSAGE FROM THE LEFT SEAT:

Big happenings at the Museum. The Black Jack Ready Room is being rehabbed with the generous help of the crew of the USS Hudner, DDG 116. The old wall paper has been stripped from the walls, patching done where needed, and painting will soon commence. The old florescent lighting will be replaced with new recessed lights and, when the room is completed, appropriate pictures of VPB-111/VP-21 will be hung – including that of LT Irving H. Glick. If you have any squadron artifacts that you believe would be appropriate for our Ready Room, please let me know. Eventually the kitchen will be rebuilt (it suffered from broken water pipes during a deep freeze a couple of years ago) making our Ready Room a fully functioning reception area. Our architect has completed the drawings for the new front approach and entry area and they are spectacular. The simulator now contains over 100 aircraft and 43000 airports (that's not a mistake – 43K). You can even trap an FA-18 on a carrier flight deck. Several items of airborne sensor equipment are on display. If you haven't been to the Museum for a while, I strongly recommend that you pay it a call. The Museum is open from 1000-1600 on Wednesdays and from 1300 to 1600 on Sundays. I'm there every Sunday.

One nice feature of the reconstruction project that will turn the former station chapel into a world class museum will be a wall of honor situated near the new north entryway. For \$150 you can purchase a brick with up to three lines of information. My daughter has bought one for me and I've bought one for my wife Joan. For information, go to <http://brunswicknavalmuseum.org/index.php/latest-news/112-news-7.html>. The sign-up sheet is at the bottom of the page.

As always, we have lost contact with some of our members. If anyone knows the where-about of Clarence Doyle, Ghale Thomas, Nicholas Brborich, James Fouche, Philip B. Rogers, Ken Terp, Samuel Hantgan, or William Whorton, please let me know. My email address is blocke21@comcast.net.

After 19 years of loyal service to our Association, Editor John Esposito is taking a well-earned retirement. This will be his last newsletter. However, he will stay on as a director where his many years of experience will continue to be of great value to the Association. Starting next quarter, this position will be filled by Jim Mattson. Welcome aboard, Jim.

There is no easy way to adequately thank someone for 19 years of outstanding service. The best I can manage is an expression well known by Navy personnel – BZ, John. And fair winds and following seas. Thank you.

Fly safely, everyone,

Bill

A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR:

After nearly twenty years as editor of the VPB111/VP21 Vagabond News, I have decided to resign. It has been a privilege and sometimes a challenge (Computers DO have minds of their own.), but always a pleasure to be your editor. I'd like to express my thanks to all those members who have contributed to this endeavor over the years (especially my wife who has done all my proof reading), and to extend a warm welcome to our new editor, Jim Mattson. I am looking forward to seeing each of you at the 2020 Brunswick, Maine Reunion.

Keep 'em flying,

John

LOST SHEEP FOUND:

Norm Bourque, AWCM/CWO, lives in Nova Scotia and winters in San Diego. His Blackjack days were in the late 60s. He deployed twice to Sig. COs were Goodfellow and Latta.

DONATIONS RECEIVED:

The following persons have generously contributed to our organization's fund. Their contributions are greatly appreciated.

Edward R. Ouellette, Abigail and John S. Neal, Herman Schmidt, William J. Locke, and Wesley S. Bean.

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 I inform you of the passing of our following shipmates:

Richard S. Webb passed away on July 14, 2017. He served in VPB111/VP21 from 1945 to 1948. He served as the Treasurer of this organization for several years.

Michael Henry passed away on July 14, 2016. He was an AMH2 in VP21 from '65-'68.

VPB-111/VP-21 VETERANS ASSOCIATION
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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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