



VPB-111/VP-21 VAGABOND NEWS

www.vp-21navy.org

John G. Esposito, Editor

WINTER 2017 Edition

A MESSAGE FROM THE LEFT SEAT:

We're putting out this special edition of the newsletter in order to provide the registration forms we will need for the April reunion – time is of the essence. As you can see, separate forms are required for the squadron activities and the MPA activities (including the dinner).

The MPA Heritage Dinner is the Highlight of the Symposium activities. Join shipmates past and present as we gather in the historic Hangar 117 for drinks, dinner, dancing and words from guest speaker, Vice Admiral Joe Rixey. MPA Community Squadron memorabilia as well as a historic slide show will be presented throughout the hangar for the event. **BUY TICKETS EARLY - THIS EVENT WILL SELL OUT!**

If you have not yet made your hotel reservations, I encourage you to do so ASAP. Carter has gotten us a great price.

Since our last newsletter, we've lost contact with the following members: Donald Griffin, Lambertville NJ; Richard Allyn, St. Paul, MN; Donald Moon, Lisbon Falls, ME; and Albert Schuman, Essex, MD. If any of you know their current location, please let me know.

Fly safely,

Bill

January 2017

VPB-111/VP-21 Veterans,

Our Reunion dates are set – 24 thru 28 April 2017. Plans are complete for our biennial reunion in Jacksonville, FL in conjunction with the Maritime Patrol Association (MPA) Symposium to honor the “Global Maritime Partnership” with our VP Community brethren. This is a first class gathering of Maritime Patrol alumni.

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. For your planning the following is an overview of our Reunion 2017 plans:

- **Monday, 24 April** - Arrive and hotel registration. Hotel Hospitality Suite gatherings. Evening dinner on own.
- **Tuesday, 25 April** - Motor Coach travel and visit to historic St. Augustine, FL. Lunch and evening dinner on own.
- **Wednesday, 26 April:**
 - **Option A - NAS Jax activities:**
 - Motor Coach travel for MPA Symposium activities at NAS Jacksonville.
 - **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 featuring our very own members Merrill Churchill and Ed Lafontaine offering their WWII experiences during their tours with VPB-111.
 - **Tech Expo & Lunch:** Held in VP-30 Hangar – pay on site.
 - **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!
 - **Option B - Shopex:**
 - Motor Coach Travel - for those who prefer shopping, to St. John’s Town Center Shopping Center. Lunch on own.
 - **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. Dress: Sports Coat preferred; ties optional. A cash bar will be provided.
- **Thursday, 27 April:**
 - AM - VPB-111/VP-21 Biennial Business Meeting and Two Bell Ceremony.
 - Afternoon free time.
 - PM - Motor Coach travel for optional dinner at Whitey’s Fish Camp, a local eclectic eatery.
- **Friday, 28 April:**
 - Hotel check-out and Departure.
 - Optional - Stay an extra evening to join MPA Symposium Members at O’Club for a Flight Suit Happy Hour Social. Dress: casual; flight suit optional. Cost includes Buffet Dinner, Beer, Wine, and Cash Liquor Bar.

Good news - Arrangements for motor coach transportation have been made with the NAS Jacksonville Morale Welfare & Recreation Office. Travel on this means of transportation to and from the Naval Air Station eliminates the need for you to submit a personal application to the Base Security Office for base access. The only personal requirement is that each passenger must carry a photo ID (e.g., Driver's License) when we pass through the Main Gate Check Point.

You may want to consider becoming a member of the Maritime Patrol Association (MPA). Membership benefits of this outstanding maritime patrol community organization include discounted cost of fee-based Symposium events for you and your guest (spouse). The discounts should just about offset your NON-Members event costs (e.g., the Heritage Dinner activity) depending on what events you register to attend. For registration and further information about MPA, visit: www.maritimepatrolassociation.org. Enclosed is a Membership Registration Form if you would prefer not to register on-line.

Also enclosed are two separate registration forms. One form is to register and pay for the MPA Events and the other form is to register and pay for our VPB-111/VP-21 Reunion events. You may note that there are additional MPA Symposium events (e.g., General Members Meeting, Spouse [active duty] Symposium, Major Commanders Brief, Golf Tournament, 5K run, etc.) that are being conducted at times when we have VPB-111/VP-21 specific activities scheduled. You may disregard those MPA events when you complete your MPA Registration Form. Therefore, **we recommend you register for the first five (5) MPA events AND the MPA Heritage Dinner. In any event, please note that the registration forms and payments must be sent separately, one to MPA and the other to our VPB-111/VP-21 Treasurer.**

The Hilton Garden Inn Jacksonville Orange Park is our host hotel. Guests may call the hotel directly at (904) 458-1577 or call central reservations at 1-800-445-8667 (make sure you mention either the 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 in 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).

For those Association Members with Recreational Vehicles, reservations may be made at Whitey's Fish Camp RV Park at (904) 269-4198. Further information is available on their Web Site www.whiteysfishcamp.com.

Any questions, call Carter Nute at (352) 335-1293 or by E-mail at ccnute@cox.net. We look forward to seeing you in Jacksonville.

C. Carter Nute
Captain, USN (Ret)
Reunion Chairman

James L. Mattson
Captain, USN (Ret)
Reunion Co-Chairman

Enclosures



MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM

General Member: 1 Year (\$35) General Member: 3 Years (\$90)

Rank/Rate/Title: _____

First / M.I. / Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Country: _____ Cell Phone #: _____ Home Phone #: _____

Email Address: _____

Military Status: ACTIVE RESERVES RETIRED VETERAN CIVILIAN

Branch of Service: _____

Current Duty Station/Company: _____ Unit/Squadron: _____

Warfare Specialty: PILOT NFO AIRCREW OTHER: _____

Aircraft Flown: _____

Please contact me with information regarding:

MPRF Symposium Events Corporate Sponsorship Opportunities Participating in a Regional Chapter

.....
To pay by credit card:

Credit Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Name as it appears on card: _____ Billing Zip Code: _____
.....

Or, mail this form and a membership fee check made out to **Maritime Patrol Association, Inc.** to:

Maritime Patrol Association
Attn: Membership Dept.
P.O. Box 147
Orange Park, FL 32067



REGISTRATION FORM

* Required.

* First Name

Middle Name

* Last Name

Active Duty Military (circle one)

Yes Yes No

Active Duty Rank

Command

Retired/Former Military (circle one)

Yes No

Retired/Former Military Highest Rank Held

* Civilian (circle one)

Yes No

Company/Position

VPB-111/VP-21 Reunion

Guest(s) Name (If applicable)

* Home Phone

Cell Phone



* Email _____

* Mailing Address _____

Address (cont.) _____

City _____

State/Province _____

Zip/Postal Code _____

Country _____

**CHOOSE YOUR EVENTS ON THE NEXT PAGE.
THEN CALCULATE YOUR TOTAL.
RETURN COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM AND PAYMENT TO MPA.**

Make Check Payable to:
Maritime Patrol Association, Inc.

Mail the completed form with check to:
Maritime Patrol Association, Inc.
Attn: 2017 Symposium
P.O. Box 147
Orange Park, FL 32067

CHOOSE YOUR EVENTS ON THE NEXT PAGE.
If you are a MPA Member, please calculate your ticket prices based on the **GREEN** column.
Calculate your guest's ticket prices based on the **GREEN** column as well.



If you are not a member, please calculate your ticket prices based on the **BLUE** column.
 Calculate your guest's ticket prices based on the **BLUE** column as well.

EVENT TICKET PRICES	MPA Members	NON-Members	QTY	SUBTOTAL
Current Operations Brief (unclassified)	\$0.00	\$0.00	X	= 0.00
Heritage Presentations	\$0.00	\$0.00	X	= 0.00
Tech Expo & Lunch (headcount only) - <i>Wednesday</i>	TBD	TBD	X	= PAY ON SITE
Ongoing P-8/P-3 Aircraft Tours	\$0.00	\$0.00	X	= 0.00
Ongoing ITC/Hall of Heroes/Simulator Tours	\$0.00	\$0.00	X	= 0.00
Triton Training Building Dedication	\$0.00	\$0.00	X	= 0.00
MPA General Members Meeting	\$0.00	\$0.00	X	= 0.00
MPA Heritage Dinner: VPB-111/VP-21 Reunion Attendees	\$50.00	\$60.00	X	=
Spouse Symposium	\$5.00	\$5.00	X	=
Retired Major Commanders Brief - <i>Retired Major Commanders only</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00	X	= 0.00
MPA Scholarship Golf Tournament (includes social)	\$70.00	\$85.00	X	=
MPA 5K	\$5.00	\$5.00	X	=
MPA Golf/5K Social (add-on for runners and golfer guests)	\$15.00	\$20.00	X	=
Lunch (headcount only) - <i>Friday</i>	TBD	TBD	X	= PAY ON SITE
MPA Flight Suit Social	\$30.00	\$45.00	X	=
(Payment information on previous page.)			TOTAL =	

VPB-111/VP-21 Reunion Registration Form, 24-28 April 2017

Name(s):

Address:

E-Mail:

Best Phone#:

Preferred name(s), Squadron, Dates on Name Tags (e.g., Jim Mattson, Brenda Mattson, VP-21, '65-'68):

Registration Fee - if made by 31 March 2017 Number of reservations @\$35.00=
Note: Late fee for Registration after March 31, please add \$20 per person

Day 1: Monday, 24 April 2017: Hotel Check-in; Hospitality Suite open (Dinner on own)

Day 2: Tuesday, 25 April 2017: Number of reservations @\$35.00=
• Includes Round Trip motor coach transportation to Historic St. Augustine, FL and an Old Town Trolley Tours Pass for on and off re-boarding. **Note:** Lunch on own in St. Augustine.

Day 3: Wednesday, 26 April 2017: Total number of reservations (Opt A+B): @\$30.00=
NOTE: Selection of either Option A or B also includes Round Trip motor coach to the MPA Heritage Dinner.
• **Option A:** Round Trip motor coach to MPA Symposium. Number attending:
• **Option B:** Round Trip motor coach to St. John's Town Shopping Center (Lunch on own). Number attending:
• **Veteran & Spouse/Guest** – Round trip motor coach to MPA Heritage Dinner. **(NOTE: MPA Symposium and Heritage Dinner Reservations must be made directly with MPA by separately mailing the attached MPA Symposium Form. Anyone wishing a vegetarian meal must specify this request).**

Day 4: Thursday, 27 April 2017: Number of reservations @\$15.00=
• Round trip motor coach to Whitey's Fish Camp, a local eclectic eatery (Cash bar and Dinner on own off the restaurant menu).

Day 5: Friday, 28 April 2017: Number of reservations @\$00.00=
• Free time, optional hotel check-out and departure.
• **Optional event for VPB-111/VP-21 guests staying extra night - NAS JAX O'Club MPA Flight Suit Social.** Food, beer & wine. Cash bar available. POV transport provided by retired VPB-111/VP-21 members.

TOTAL PRICE

\$50.00 DEPOSIT PER PERSON REQUIRED FOR REGISTRATION DEPOSIT

BALANCE DUE BY 31 MARCH 2017

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: "VPB-111/VP-21 VETERANS ASSOCIATION"

**Mail THIS form and payment to:
VPB-111/VP-21 Treasurer
C/o Leland "Tiny" Ledford
127 Pete Street
Waterloo, SC 29384-4647**

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

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #61
Southampton, PA

Return Service Requested

FEBRUARY 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*
- *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*

The 'Vagabond News' is the official publication of the Association, and is circulated quarterly in the Winter (January/March), Spring (April/June), Summer (July/September), and Fall (October/December), as a third class bulk-rate mail from Southampton, PA, Post Office (Permit #61). All costs of the publication are supported by voluntary contribution only. To ensure that materials of interest are promptly published, members should submit same prior to the publishing quarter to John G. Esposito, 862 Central Ave., Southampton, PA 18966. All inputs will be published in a timely manner.