

Dear friends,

2017 was a fantastic year for the Brunswick Naval Museum and Memorial Gardens, and we'd like to thank you for your support. Here's a quick recap of our 2017 highlights:

- Designating the "VP-21 Black Jack Ready Room" in recognition of more than \$30,000 of charitable contributions from VP-21 alumni;
- Hosting the VP-92 squadron reunion in conjunction with the Great State of Maine Air Show in August;
- Hosting the Chief Petty Officer pinning ceremony for the crews of the USS MICHAEL MONSOOR (DDG-1001) and USS THOMAS HUDNER (DDG-116);
- Removing the pews to convert the former nave into our main exhibit hall and event space;
- Hosting our first indoor catered event – the 242nd Navy Birthday Celebration – in October;
- Launching our quarterly newsletter – "The Patroller"; and
- Completing the architectural design for our facility renovation; please see the images on pages 3 & 4 of the attached case statement.

We're looking forward to building upon that success in 2018, and would like to call your attention to three major events we have planned thus far:

- Saturday, 23 June: Dedication of a Gold Star Memorial Marker – the first in the state of Maine! The Gold Star Memorial Marker program pays tribute to those servicemen and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of their country. This marker was made possible through the great work of BNMMG Board member Suzanne Bushnell and the Harpswell Garden Club. Following the dedication of the Gold Star Memorial Marker, we will host a 50th anniversary celebration of the Memorial Gardens, followed by a reception in the museum. Senator Angus King has been invited to serve as the guest speaker, and we are looking forward to hosting an enduring tribute to Maine's heroes and the families they left behind.
- 10 – 12 August: 2nd biennial NAS Brunswick Reunion; the reunion will commence with a meet and greet at the Topsham American Legion at 5:00 p.m. on Friday night, followed by a traditional Maine lobster bake dinner and reunion at the museum at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday night. We'll also hold a 50th anniversary commemoration of the two VP-26 combat aircrews that were lost during the Viet Nam War in 1968. More details and ticket purchases are available at www.nasbreunion.org. Please make plans to join us and reunite with friends and shipmates – amidst the natural beauty of August in Maine.
- Friday, 12 October: 243rd Navy Birthday Celebration; we're looking forward to building upon the success of this year's event and are planning a banquet-style dinner and dancing.

Again, thank you for your support – and please consider increasing your support in 2018. If you're not a member of the museum, you can join on-line [here](#). If you haven't made a contribution to our "Wheels Up" capital campaign, you can do so on-line [here](#). You can like our Facebook page [here](#), and please forward this e-mail to your network of shipmates and friends; we'd be happy to add them to our distro list.

Plan to hold your squadron reunion in conjunction with the NASB Reunion in August; we're also open for business as an event space if you are looking to host a large function.

We are on a great vector – and look forward to increasing our rate of climb in 2018.

KNHZ forever, Sean

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