



VPB-111/VP-21 VAGABOND NEWS

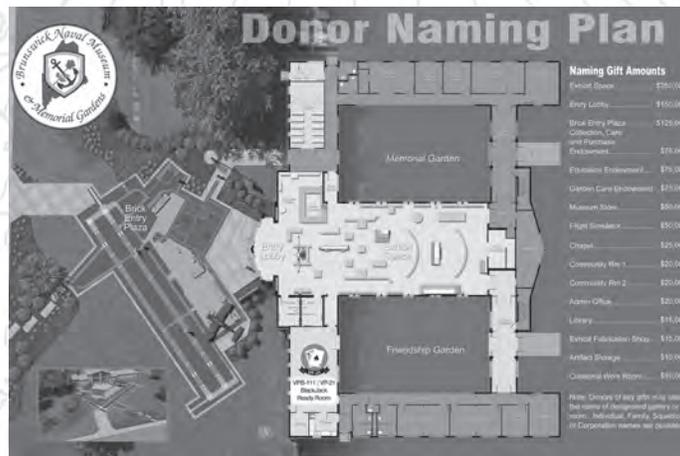
www.vp-21navy.org

James L. Mattson, Editor

Winter 2018 Edition

A MESSAGE FROM THE LEFT SEAT:

In our last issue, I implied that titivation of the Blackjack Ready Room would probably be complete in time for me to provide pictures of the decorated room for this issue. Sorry. It didn't work out that way. The Hudner crew did come back (twice) and did a great job, but since the Navy did absolutely NO maintenance to the NASB buildings following the 2005 closure announcement, more work than originally expected was required. The room does look a lot better but it's not yet complete. Even after three coats of paint. By the way, the young sailors from the Hudner are outstanding. You'd be proud to have them as shipmates. The room will definitely be completed in time for our next issue.



In place of pictures of the Ready Room, we've provided our architect's rendition of the planned entry to the Museum. Remember that the new entry will be at the former altar end of the building.



By the way, if you would like to see the preceding Museum images in full color and with more detail please access our Association website - <http://vp-21navy.org/> - and then just below the VPB-111 patch click on “BNMMG Mission Statement.” Scroll to the bottom to find the images. To learn even more about the Museum you can click on the convenient link to their full website that’s also just below the VPB-111 patch on our Association website homepage.

I recently received an email from Ms. Jessica Fisher, Outreach Coordinator for the Mesothelioma Lawyer Resource for Veterans organizations. Herm has included that worthy outfit in the “link” section of our web site and, in recognition, Ms. Fisher stated that they wished to make a contribution to our Association. If you’re looking for a lawyer for a mesothelioma problem, this is a good place to start.

As always, we’ve lost track of some of our members. If any of you know the current whereabouts of: Harrell Pace of Daleville, MS; Donald Cullop of Ketchikan, AK; David Fenker of Churbusco; IN, Kenneth Bruns of Grey, ME; William Bizzell of Cleveland, MS; Norman Hoberg of Toms River, NJ; Lawson Grindstaff of Warsaw, VA; Caroline Johnson of Middletown, RI; George Fogg of Portland, OR; Ken Wilson of Fortuna, CA; or Robert Tunney of Hayward, CA; please let me know.

Mike Hackenbuch has recommended “The Taking of K-129” by Josh Dean as a good read for us former sub chasers.

This year’s NASB Reunion will be held on 10-12 August. As I said in our last issue, I will be attending in order to ascertain how well piggy-backing with them for our 2020 reunion will benefit us. I hope to see some of you here this year. For additional information, and/or to sign up, go to <http://nasbreunion.org/>.

As always, Fly Safely,
Bill

A MESSAGE FROM THE STOREKEEPER:

Last call - We have a limited inventory (four) of the 2015 Pensacola Reunion Ball Caps that feature the separate and unique VPB-111 squadron that identify our historic legacy. This treasure 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. We invite you to visit our VPB-111/VP-21 Web site at www.vp-21navy.org and click unto the Small Stores tool bar to bring up photos and price list of other Association memorabilia treasures. 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.

DONATIONS RECEIVED:

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

- W. Schafer Bean
- Raymond Gaus
- Robert W. Liehr
- Arthur G. Polstein
- Barry A. Post
- Ronald D. Rocheleau
- Mesothelioma Lawyer Center (Richmond Marketing).

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 shipmates:

- Grady E. Barnett. Lived in Talladega, AL. Passed away on 20 March 2015. He was an ADRC in VP-21 from 1961 to 1962.
- Roger Williams Brown. From Terre Haute, IN. Passed away 28 January 2018. He was an AMH3 in VP-21 from 1959 to 1961.
- Willet Damrow. From Kinde, MI. Passed away on 10 May 2015.
- Walter (“Sonny”) Dough. Lived in New Port Richey, FL. Passed away on 22 September 2017. He was an AX1 in VP-21 from 1962 to 1964.
- H Wayne Jamison. From Clarksburg, WV. Passed away on 23 February 2018. He was an AD3 in VP-21 from 1952 to 1955.
- James Bond (“JB”) Suiter. From Billings, MT. Passed away on 9 January 2018. He was a LTJG in VP-21 from 1966 to 1969.

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

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MARCH, 2018
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*
- *Locke, William, Chairman, 255 Mere Point Rd., Brunswick, ME 04011*
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- *Novay, Ron, Director, 7775 Lake Hardeman Rd., Saulsburry, TN 38067*
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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 end of the publishing quarter to James L. Mattson, 12427 Wendell Holmes Rd., Herndon, VA 20171. All inputs will be published in a timely manner.