

#### VPB-111/VP-21 Veterans Association

Our Association is devoted to the reestablishment of contact with shipmates of the past, strengthen the camaraderie among the members, record and preserve the memories and incidents of the Association, preserve the memory of departed shipmates, and promote the comfort and welfare of its members and survivors.

#### **DIRECTORS**

Chairman - Bill Locke
Treasurer - Leland Ledford
Webmaster - Herman Schmidt
Online Coordinator - Dan Dwyer
Newsletter Editor - John Esposito
Back-up Editor - Richard Herbein

Storekeeper - Carter Nute Historian - Fred Schuster Dick Webb - Emeritus Ed LaFontaine - Emeritus Ron Novay - Emeritus









# 2017 REUNION COORDINATORS

Carter Nute Jim Mattson

## 2017 Reunion Group

The reunion group in the hospitality room at the Hilton Garden Inn Orange Park, Jacksonville, Florida.

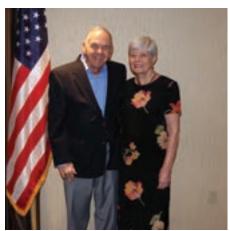




Jan and Phil Byrd



Merrill and Crystal Churchill



Shaun and Bev Cunningham



Bob Herbert and Gene Forgit



Kenneth and Ann Garvin



Bill and Jane Gwin



Dave Hobart (Bones)



Bill Locke and Ed LaFontaine



Jim and Brenda Mattson



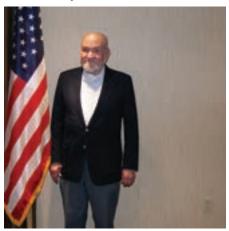
Randy and Dru McLean



Vern and Mary Ellen Neumiller



Carter and Barbara Nute



Bill Reiner



Frank and Kathy Richter



Ron Rocheleau



Mike and Dianne Weatherington

Not shown: Frank Floyd



#### Check-in: Hospitality Suite

The Hilton Garden Inn Orange Park/Jacksonville was an outstanding facility and was surpassed only by the quality of the staff. Barbara Nute and Brenda Mattson provided a warm welcome at check-in, and all of us enjoyed the well appointed hospitality suite.





























# GONZALEZ-ALVAREZ HOUSE (THE OLDEST HOUSE)

For more than three centuries this site has been occupied by St. Augustinians. Beginning about 1650, a succession of thatched wooden structures were their homes. This coquina stone house was built soon after the English burned St. Augustine in 1702, and originally was a one story rectangle with two rooms. As times changed during the Spanish, British and American occupations, a wooden second story, an off street porch, and other features were added. Preserved by St. Augustine Historical Society since 1918, the house became a registered national landmark in 1970.

F-211

SPONSORED BY THE ST. JOHNS COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION IN COOPERATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1986

#### St. Augustine Trip

We visited historic St Augustine and enjoyed seeing sights including the oldest house and tree in the city. A nice lunch at O.C. White's restaurant for some of us was a welcome respite to the bumpy tram ride around the picturesque town.







































#### MPA Heritage Symposium

Our reunion was timed to coincide with the 2017 Maritime Patrol Association (MPA) Symposium. Among the many MPA events, we were offered a current operations overview, P-8 and P-3 Aircraft Tours, P-8 Simulator demonstrations and a tasty lunch. Two of our Association WWII vets were featured speakers.















































VPB-111 WW II vets, LCDR Ed LaFontaine and AMM2 Merrill Churchill shared their experiences flying 14-hour Combat Patrols in PB4Y-1 Liberators and PB4Y-2 Privateers throughout the Philippine Islands, Borneo, Singapore and the Bintan Straits.







W. P. SI GENERAL VI.

1564F AROW E. HARMON EOLUMBIA, MO. ARLES KASKELA PROVIDENCE, RH. VALE E BOLDT PORTLAND, ONE.

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RACE C. SMITH KING N. C.

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VPB-111/V	P-21 Lineage	e
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Established	Bombing Squadron ONE HUNDRED ELEVEN (VB-111)	30 July 1943 in Norfolk, VA
Redesignated	Patrol Bombing Squadron ONE HUNDRED ELEVEN (VPB-111)	1 October 1944
Redesignated	Patrol Squadron ONE HUNDRED ELEVEN (VP-111)	15 May 1946
Redesignated	Heavy Patrol Squadron (Landplane) ELEVEN (VP-HL-11)	15 November 1946
Redesignated	Patrol Squadron TWENTY ONE (VP-21)	1 September 1948
Disestablished		21 November 1969 at NAS Brunswick, ME

PB4Y-1 Liberator



1943

PB4Y-2 Privateer



1945

P4M-1 Mercator



1950

P2V-6 Neptune



1953



#### MPA Heritage Dinner

The MPA Heritage Dinner was held in Ceremonial Hangar 117. We were welcomed with reserved tables displayed with our squadron logo center piece decorations. The pre-dinner reception was a great opportunity for our veterans to meet and share sea stories with MPA members past and present.



























#### **Business Meeting**

Association Chairman Bill Locke gave a slide presentation of the current Brunswick Landing (the former NASB), showing pictures of new buildings and old buildings with new purposes. He also gave an overview of the Brunswick Naval Museum and Memorial Gardens (BNM&MG) which will be featured during our next reunion at Brunswick in 2020.





#### Guest Speaker

CDR Kirt "Whiskers" Wlaschin, O-in-C of the P-8 Quick Reaction Capability Team, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing 11, gave an outstanding presentation highlighting the transition from legacy P3/EP3 into the future force of P8s and Triton, what personnel are facing today, and a sense of technology being considered to increase aircrew mission awareness.

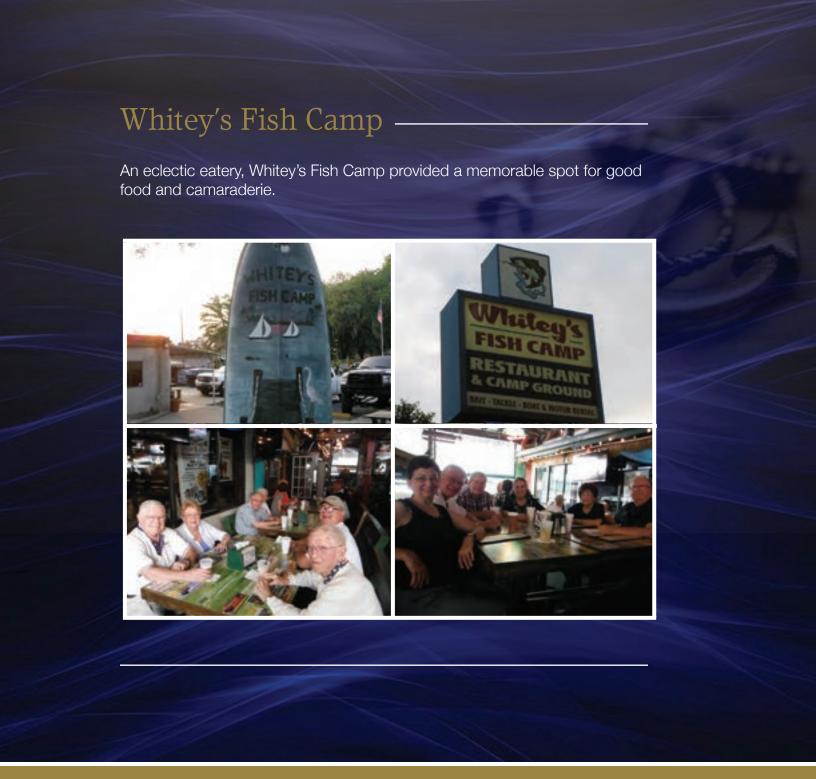






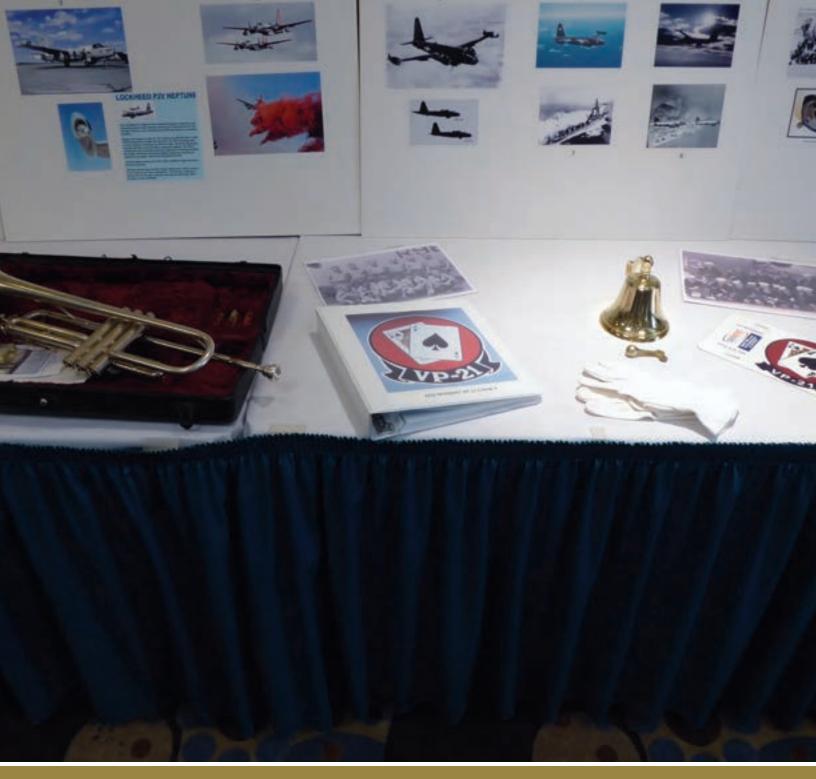












### Two Bell Ceremony -

The Two Bell Ceremony honored the fifty one of our shipmates who have passed since our 2015 reunion in Pensacola, Florida.











#### The Two Bell Ceremony

The toll of the ship's bell reminds us of the reverence we owe to our departed squadron mates.

And to those who guard the honor of our country upon and under the sea, in the air and on foreign soil.

In memory of those who lost their lives while serving with patrol bombing squadron one hundren eleven/patrol squadron twenty one. They will continue to live in our memories and be forever young.

Also in memory of our squadron mates who have left our ranks since we last met in Pensacola, Florida in 2015.

WILLIAM BALLARD
DANNY BINGER
CHARLES BLAIR
RICHARD BROWNING
EDWIN CHAMBERS
JENARO CORCINO
RICHARD DENSLOW
DENNIS DEROSE
GEORGE DOCTEUR
ROBERT DONAHUE
ROBERT DUBLIN
DUANE DUPUIS
TEOFILO ESCULANO

THOMAS FOGARTY
RILEY FOLSOM
PETER GOEBEL
MICHAEL GRENS
ALBERT GUAY
ROBERT HALL
GLENN HARKLEROAD
ALBIN HERMAN
DELNO JENNINGS
FRED JUNKER
CLIFFORD KEVERN
ROBERT LATTA
LEONARD LEGER

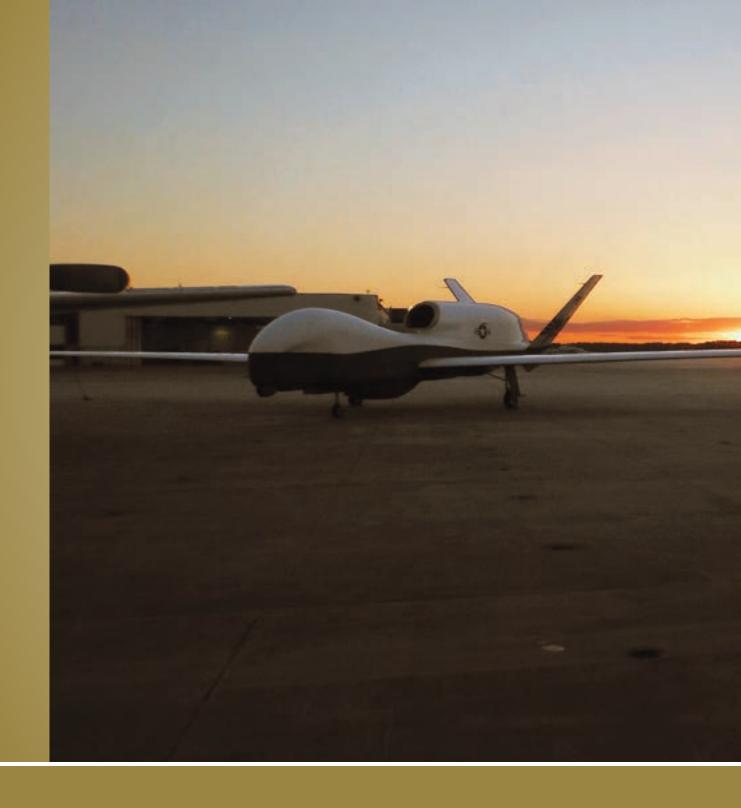
WALTER MARTELL
BOB MCKEOWN
RALPH MCROBERTS
MERLYN MUNTZ
GILBERT NAVARRO
ROBERT NELSON
RICHARD NILSON
VERNON NOYES
EDWARD PARSONS
NORMAN PEMBER
ENGELBERT PEZZEI
FRED RADEBAUGH
ALEXANDER RADSKY

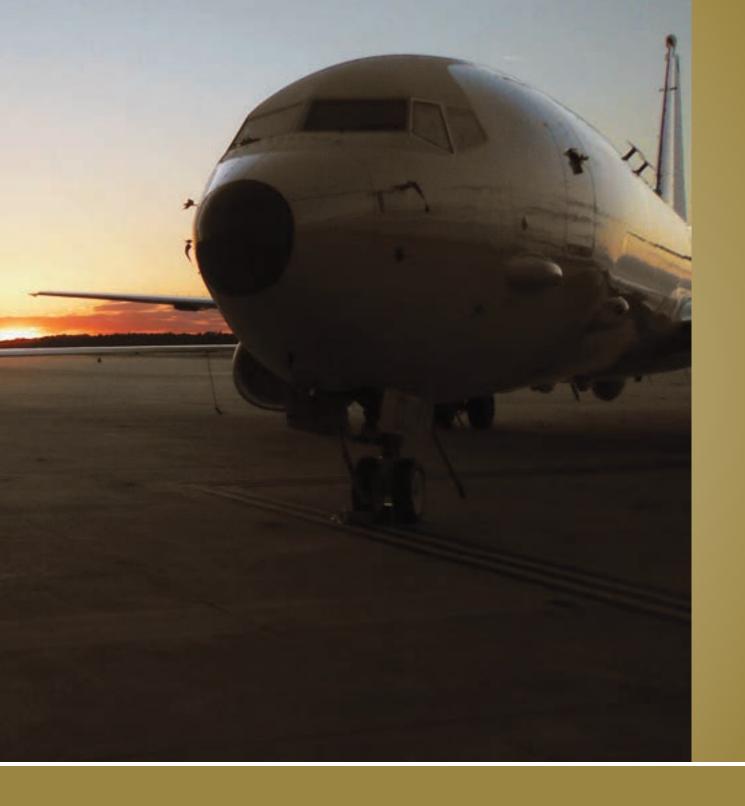
RICHARD RINESTINE
FRANKLIN ROBERTS
JAMES SAMUEL
THOMAS SPAGNOLA
CLAYTON STOKES
DAVID STOTLER
ALBIN UFER
ROBERT WALDRON
CARL WEISENBECK
KARL WIEGAND
FRANK WISENBAUGH
DALE WOODS

Let this be a reminder of the friendship they provided to us.

Let us raise our glasses to all the men who had the honor and privilege of serving our squadron. Fair winds and following seas.









When the going is fast and rough, I will not falter. I will be uncompromising in every blow I strike. I will be humble in victory.

I am a United States Navy flyer. I have dedicated myself to my country, with its many millions of all races, colors, and creeds. They and their way of life are worthy of my greatest protective effort.

I ask the help of God in making that effort great enough.