



VP-68 Hawk's Nest



Volume No. 45

VP-68 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

June 2013

The Hawk's Nest is the official newsletter of the VP-68 Alumni Association, chartered in 1998 in the state of Maryland for the sole purpose of uniting in a central organization all former "Blackhawks" of Navy Patrol Squadron 68 (VP-68), its parent and supporting Navy squadrons, and those interested in preserving the name and history of VP-68.
Published Quarterly: 15 MAR - 15 JUN - 15 SEP - 15 DEC



Blackhawks pose for 2013 Spring Fling photo

"Spring Fling" – 27 APR 2013

The annual VP-68 Alumni Association "Spring Fling" picnic was held on Saturday, 27 APR 2013 at the Beach House on NAS Patuxent River Beach. This is the longest tenured event for our Association and there is hardly a better place to have a picnic. We have a beautiful view of the Chesapeake Bay, a great facility with both indoor and outdoor areas on the base we spent some great years drilling with VP-68.

We had about 80 Blackhawks and guests attend and the weather was Pax-Perfect!

We began gathering around 1100 and started the picnic lunch which was followed by our business meeting in accordance to our bi-laws. We had representatives of the travel agency and cruise line present with full details about the planned 8-day Bahamas Cruise in March 2014...

This year after the picnic, a bunch of us headed out to a great local restaurant, The [Ruddy Duck](#) in Solomons, for more camaraderie, laughs, fine food, laughs, drinks, laughs, and more laughs and even new sea-stories.

(More photos on page 2)

"Fall Muster" – 12 OCT 2013

The annual VP-68 Alumni Association "Fall Muster" picnic is scheduled for Saturday, 12 OCT 2013. It will be held at the "Club 9" Building located on Navy Recreation Center (NRC) Solomons Island, MD. "Club 9" is on the waterfront and has a large deck overlooking the Patuxent River.

Menu and cost details are being worked on and details will be in the September 2013 Hawk's Nest & on our webpage.

(Continued on page 3)

VP-68 Bahamas Cruise 2014

We have replaced the Fall 2013 Blackhawk Bermuda Cruise with an 8-day Bahamas Cruise aboard Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines from 28 March to 05 April 2014.

Those of us who went on the last cruise had an absolutely phenomenal time (see Vol. 41, June 2012 Hawk's Nest) and so we want to assure another great cruise for the Blackhawks.

On this cruise, we visit Nassau & Cococay Bahamas and also Port Canaveral and Key West, Florida. Plus, tons of fun activities aboard ship at sea.

Questions & comments may be sent to Wyman Bailey:

baileymod@msn.com

(More details on pages 12-14)

Hawk's Nest Co-Editor

(Submitted by Jim Rozycki)

We welcome John Benton to the Alumni Association staff as Co-Editor of the Hawk's Nest. John has stepped up and answered our call for help in publishing the newsletter.

John has provided many of our photos over the years and has graciously offered to help me by taking over the job of composing and publishing the Hawk's Nest.

Please provide John with all of the great articles, jokes and materials like you have sent to me over the years.

Please send all submissions to John at:

john.benton56@verizon.net

Thanks John!

(Continued on page 8)



Photos courtesy of John Benton

2013 "FALL MUSTER" (continued)

12 OCT 2013

Cost: T.B.A.**Menu:** T.B.A.

 SEP 2013 Hawk's Nest &
on webpage www.vp68.org

NRC Solomons is a beautiful facility located about 65 Southeast of Washington D.C. and about 16 miles North of NAS Pax River near the confluence of the Patuxent River and the Chesapeake Bay.

NOTICE: **VP-68 Alumni Association DOES NOT serve or provide any alcoholic beverages at our functions.**

If you desire your favorite "beverage"...

Please **B.Y.O.B.**, coolers and ice.

NRC Billeting is walking distance from the party zone....hence, no driving after partying!!

Available NRC billeting accommodations include:

- Six Classic Cottages
- 7 Contemporary Cottages
- 5 Log Cabin Duplexes
- 4 Cozy Cabins
- 21 Bungalows
- 15 Apartments
- 2 "Yurts"
- 14 group campsites
- 55 primitive campsites
- 146 complete hookup sites
- 158 electric & water only sites

Photos and information are located on the NRC website. Billeting rates are based on rank and since the event is occurring "Off-Season", rates are even more attractive.

Make your lodging reservations to NRC at:

www.cnic.navy.mil/solomons/index.htm

Lodging & Reservations – Bldg. 411
13855 Solomons Island Road
Solomons, MD 20688
800-NAVY230
410-286-7301
410-326-4280 fax

We are encouraging folks to make lodging reservations at the Rec. Center to eliminate driving. There will be plenty of partying and fun the entire weekend...stay for it!

Remember...to get on base, current DOD ID cards are required....men, check your wallets and ladies check your purses.

If you do not have a DOD ID, contact Wyman Bailey **BEFORE** Friday, 04 OCT 2013 to get your name on a list at the base gate.

Contact Wyman at: **baileymod@msn.com**

BE THERE!!!

Spring Fling & Fall Muster Lodging

Now...you know that the Blackhawks do not party for just one day! We start the night before an event, all day and night of the event, then say our goodbyes after breakfast next day.

So, for those of you who want to stay the weekend, here are some more additional Lexington Park and Solomons area accommodations contact information for you:

Navy Lodge Pax

22148 Cuddihy Road
NAS Patuxent River
Patuxent River, MD 20670
1-301-737-2400

Navy Gateway Inn Pax

22013 Mandt Road
NAS Patuxent River
Patuxent River, MD 20670
1-301-342-3601

Days Inn (Old Belvedere)

21847 Three Notch Road
Lexington Park, MD 20653
1-301-863-6666

Hampton Inn (40-yr Reunion)

22211 Three Notch Road
Lexington Park, MD 20653
1-301-863-3200

Super 8 Motel

22801 Three Notch Road
California, MD 20619
1-301-862-9822

Fairfield Inn by Marriott

22119 Three Notch Road
Lexington Park, MD 20653
1-301-863-0203

Holiday Inn Select

155 Holiday Drive
Solomons, MD 20688
1-410-326-6311

Comfort Inn Beacon Marina

255 Lore Road
Solomons, MD 20688
1-410-326-6303

Chesapeake Inn & Suites

23428 Three Notch Road
California, MD 20619
1-301-737-0000

2013-2014 Year of Military Women

From April 2013 to March 2014 the United States Navy Memorial will spotlight "Year of the Military Women," honoring all women who have served, past and present.

Please take a moment to "Like/Share" their **[Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/YearofMilitaryWomen)** page and learn more about military women.

www.facebook.com/YearofMilitaryWomen

Blackhawk People News

Kathy Wright

(Submitted by Jim Rozycki)

Some folks are just tired...others are retired! Officially as of APR 2013 Kathy has joined the ranks of us who don't have to do that s**t anymore! Great to get up each day and figure out...how am I gonna goof-off all day today!

Congratulations Kathy!

VP-68 - From the TAR Perspective

By Fred Haynes, CDR USNR-TAR (RET.)

Life as a TAR was different and uniquely rewarding. To refresh one's memory, "TAR" was an acronym for "Training and Administration of Reservists", and was comprised of Naval Reserve officer and enlisted personnel ordered to indefinite active duty for the specific purpose of training and administering reserve centers and units. Thus, TARS fell somewhere between regular Navy and the Selected Reserve, and possibly not able to be fully accepted by either.

The normal TAR work week was Wednesday through Sunday. More often we also worked on Mondays and Tuesdays too, attending host station meetings, handling aircraft maintenance issues and operational issues coming down from the Reserve Wing.

We flew and maintained currency/readiness qualification levels just like a Regular Navy squadron, but during ACDUTRA periods, TARS pounded the ground to give the SELRES the flight hours and operational experience necessary to maintain their currency and readiness levels. TARS also flew airlifts and were added on to operational flights when SELRES were not available.

Although I was assigned to VP-68 for about 2.5 years (Jan 1980 – Jun 1982); that translates to only about two months of drill/ACDUTRA/STARP days for the average SELRES. Don't forget that there was an "A" Wing and "B" Wing who drilled on different weekends each month that also added an element of confusion.

With some exceptions of unforgettable faces, most of my recollection of people's names comes from maintaining the training records and writing the flight schedule as the TAR Operations/Training Officer. Additionally, the 30 years that has passed since I left VP-68 clouds my memory. Thus, if I don't remember your name or face at one of the musters, please forgive me.

Having served in a few VP Squadrons and with ASWOC staffs in my career, I can state with a high level of confidence that VP-68's success longevity is directly attributable to the dedication and professionalism of both SARs and TARs, coming together to rise to any occasion to achieve mission success.

This symbiotic relationship was never more visible than when the squadron was on ACDUTRA and in "max flap" operations. Many times while in the ASWOC, I received compliments paid to VP-68 flight crews by the ASWOC staff stating that they could not tell whether they were briefing/debriefing a regular Navy crew or a VP-68 reserve crew.

Later, I saw that this recognition of achievement was elevated and communicated by operational commanders in Navy messages recognizing VP-68 crews for their superior professionalism and on station accomplishments. This is truly something special, and I am so fortunate to have been

associated with such professionals and to have played a minor part in VP-68 achieving this success.

My wife Judy and I found the VP-68 Association by accident on a VP website. We joined and attended our first Spring Fling and Fall Muster in 2011, where we met up with many VP-68 alumni and caught up on nearly 28 years of separation. In 2012, we attended the VP-68 Carnival Cruise and reconnected with several more VP-68 alumni and their families. The overwhelming take away for us from that cruise was our deep regrets that we did not have the opportunity to do so 30 years ago.

So, to rectify this, I became a Life Member and got more active in the Association by accepting the board of Treasurer, effective January 1, 2013. I attended the 2013 Spring Fling in PAX, and enjoyed the fun of turning back the clock at the Beach House cookout/meeting and then at the restaurant on Saturday evening.

I am grateful to have reconnected with, and been accepted back into, the VP-68 family. This is truly an honor for an old, retired TAR! Judy and I look forward to attending the Fall Muster. See you there!!!

Fred

VISIT WWW.VPNAVY.ORG!

Our friend Nevins Frankel has done a wonderful job building and maintaining this website, devoted to, well, VP NAVY! for many years. Thank you Nevins!

FACEBOOK GROUPS

Submitted by John Benton

For those of you who enjoy Facebook, there is an increasing number of P-3 and/or VP related groups emerging almost monthly.

You might try these:

[P-3 Orion Veterans](#)

[VP-68, NAS Patuxent River, MD](#)

[VP68](#)

[You know you're from the VP Navy if...](#)

[Maritime Patrol Association](#)

You can also search for any other unit or command you were assigned to and check for results. Many reserve VP's and both former and current Naval Air Stations now boast Facebook Groups which you might be interested in.

Research Resources Online

In today's digital world, there are SO many available resources available to dig out historical data, including digital imagery. Here's one example of a repository run by the US Government. *(editor's note: I found quite a few errors in the captions associated with the photos, but I think I corrected them all)*

WWW.DEFENSEIMAGERY.MIL

A search for VP-68 related photos came up with a few very interesting pictures:



Plane captain Airman Christopher Pyles signals to the pilot of a P-3C Orion aircraft of Patrol Squadron 68 (VP-68) to start the number three engine in preparation for departure on a counter-narcotics mission over the Caribbean.

Photographer's Name: PH2 Paul J. Spiotta
Location: NAVAL AIR STATION
Date Shot: 11/8/1995
VIRIN: DN-ST-97-00756



A port side view of a P-3C Update I Orion aircraft of Patrol Squadron 68 (VP-68), the Blackhawks, in flight over the Naval Air Facility, Washington, D.C. The aircraft is returning from a training mission, and in the process is completing the 100,000th mishap free flight hour and is

the first aviation squadron in the Naval Reserve to achieve this significant milestone. This exceptional safety program was compiled over 24 years, one flight at a time, and has been recognized for excellence by the Chief of Naval Operations Safety Award on five occasions during this period.

Photographer's Name: PH2 Bruce Trombecky
Location: ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE
Date Shot: 5/15/1994
VIRIN: DN-SC-95-00668



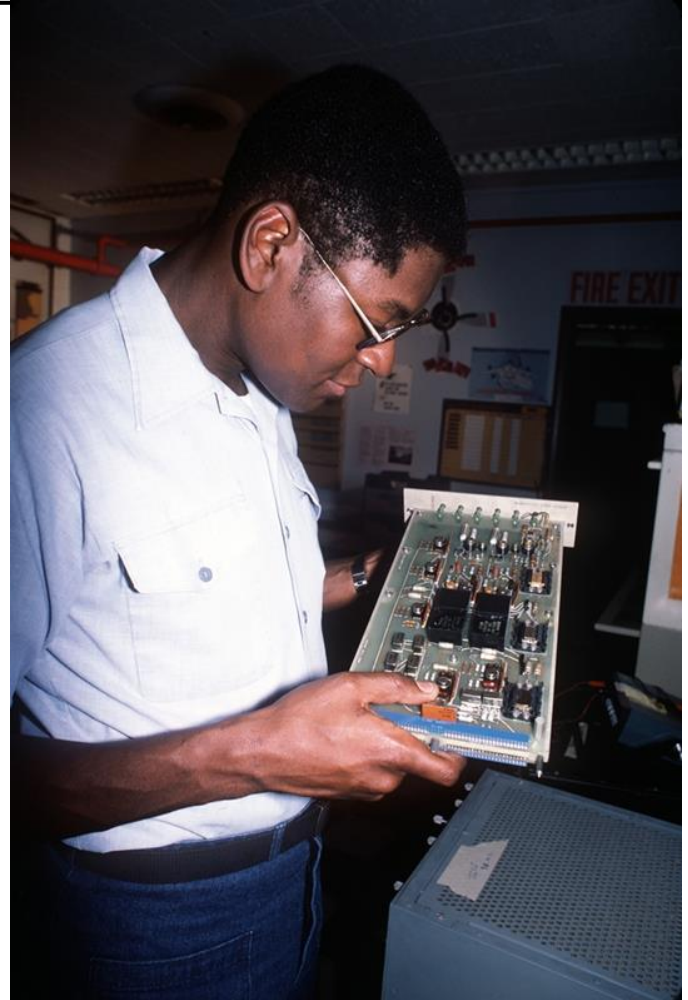
Cdr. E. Byron Fisher, Jr., CO of Patrol Squadron 68 (VP-68), shakes hands with the Honorable Wade R. Sanders, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Reserve Affairs) upon completion of a training flight which marked 100,000 mishap free flight hours flown by air crews of Patrol Squadron 68 (VP-68), the Blackhawks, On Mr. Sanders left is Capt. David C. Hull, CRPWL, and Cdr. Robert A. Sinbaldi, Jr. Secretary Sanders had accompanied the air crew on the historic flight in the P-3C Update I Orion aircraft LW-00 shown in the background.

Photographer's Name: PH2 Bruce Trombecky
Location: NAF WASHINGTON
Date Shot: 5/15/1994
VIRIN: DN-SC-95-00673



Officers of Patrol Squadron 68 (VP-68), the Blackhawks, pose with the Honorable Wade R. Sanders, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Reserve Affairs) upon completion of a historic flight which completed 100,000 mishap free flight hours for the Naval Reserve Squadron in a P-3 C Update I Orion aircraft (in background). The personnel are (L to R) Former VP-68 C.O. Capt. John Walker, CRPWL Capt. David C. Hull, Current VP-68 C.O. Cdr. E. Byron Fisher, Jr., The Honorable Wade R. Sanders, Deputy Asst. SecNav (Reserve Affairs) and Cdr. A. Ray Miller, Jr.

Photographer's Name: PH2 Bruce Trombecky
Location: NAVAL AIR FACILITY, WASHINGTON
Date Shot: 5/15/1994
VIRIN: DN-SC-95-00674



Aviation Electronics Technician 1st Class (AT1) Cornelius Stripling of Patrol Squadron 68 (VP-68) inspects a circuit board from a P-3B Orion aircraft.

Photographer's Name: PH1 LARRY FRANKLIN, USNR (RET.)
Location: NAVAL AIR FACILITY, ANDREWS AFB
Date Shot: 10/1/1987
VIRIN: DN-ST-88-03170

CIRCLE YOUR CALENDARS

Fall Muster - 12 OCT 2013

Bahamas Cruise - 28 MAR 2014



Senior Chief Aviation Electronics Technician (ATCS) Jerry Mckee operates the AGC-9 teletype at the Flight Communications Operator's station in a Patrol Squadron 68 (VP-68) P-3B Orion aircraft.

Photographer's Name: PH1 LARRY FRANKLIN, USNR (RET.)
Date Shot: 5/1/1987
VIRIN: DN-ST-88-03169

Vice President's Corner Nancy Frey

The March 2013 edition of the Hawks Nest was published and distributed before I had an opportunity to get my two cents added to that edition. I first want to say Thank you fellow Blackhawks for your vote of confidence and allow me the pleasure of serving as your Vice President for the next two years. I have some big shoes to fill after Wyman, Jacque, Joe, Lew and whoever else has served as Vice President in the past. Forgive me if I have inadvertently not given you credit for your service. I trust I have your support and look forward to many exciting Spring and Fall Musters, Cruises, Major Anniversary celebrations and the like.

If you need to contact me:

Email: monroviadame@yahoo.com

Home: (301) 865-4184

Cell: (301) 529-8043

Nancy Frey

President's Corner Wyman Bailey

It seems like only yesterday that I took on the responsibilities of vice-president working with Jacque Lavelle for four years before assuming the position as President of this wonderful organization. The alumni association has allowed me to relive and share so many wonderful memories and experiences. It was tough of when I was told that my service had come to an end. That's when the alumni association came to my rescue. My life as a crewmember ended and my membership as an alumni member began. I still dream on occasions that I'm on a mission or returning from one. In talking with other squadron members at our twice yearly meetings I find that I'm not that unusual. It appears that our experiences still reside in various cubbyholes of our brains to be leached out periodically beyond our control.

This year's Spring Fling was one of the biggest yet and I enjoyed watching everyone reconnecting with each other. We had a presentation from the Royal Caribbean International's agent on the eight day cruise we have booked for **March 28, 2014**. You will find at the end of the Hawks Nest all the information needed for you to sign up for a wonderful cruise with your fellow alumni. And you will also find that **the cruise cost has dropped by \$200.00 per person**.

We only have 16 cabins set aside at this point so you need to contact Libby at her travel agency to get all the information you will need to make your decision. We had a great time on our last cruise because everyone was able to do their own thing and still enjoy various moments with other alumni on the cruise. You will come back with more stories to share with those who were unable to make the cruise.

We will also soon start **planning for the 45th squadron reunion for the fall of 2015**. So you see we are actively working for your enjoyment as an alumnus of one of the best Squadrons ever. We worked hard and we played hard in the squadron so we don't plan on stopping anytime soon.

If you have any ideas or concerns to share please don't hesitate to contact me or one of the officers anytime. This is your organization to make of it what you will with the help of many wonderful people.

God bless all and keep each one of you safe. See you in October.

Sincerely,
Wyman Bailey

A Bible, a silver dollar, a bottle of whiskey & a Playboy magazine

(Submitted by Lew Abbott)

An old Montana preacher had a teenage son, and it was getting time the boy should give some thought to choosing a profession. Like many young men his age, the boy didn't really know what he wanted to do, and he didn't seem too concerned about it.

One day, while the boy was away at school, his father decided to try an experiment. He went into the boy's room and placed on his study table four objects:

1. A Bible.
2. A silver dollar.
3. A bottle of whiskey.
4. A Playboy magazine.

"I'll just hide behind the door," the old preacher said to himself. "When he comes home from school today, I'll see which object he picks up...."

"If it's the Bible, he's going to be a preacher like me, and what a blessing that would be!

"If he picks up the dollar, he's going to be a business man, and that would be okay, too.

"But if he picks up the bottle, he's going to be a no-good drunken bum, and Lord, what a shame that would be.

"And worst of all if he picks up that magazine he's going to be a skirt-chasing womanizer."

The old man waited anxiously, and soon heard his son's foot-steps as he entered the house whistling and heading for his room. The boy tossed his books on the bed, and as he turned to leave the room he spotted the objects on the table and with curiosity in his eye, he walked over to inspect them.

Finally, he picked up the Bible and placed it under his arm, picked up the silver dollar and dropped into his pocket, uncorked the bottle and took a big drink, while he admired the magazine's centerfold.

"Lord have mercy," the old preacher disgustedly whispered....."He's gonna be a Navy pilot."

Smooth Landings...

(Submitted by Brad Kirley)

There are three simple rules for making a smooth landing: Unfortunately, no one knows what they are.


Aviation Humor...

(Submitted by Bruce Blackwelder)

A pilot walks into a bar and requests helicopter flavored potato chips.

The bartender says..."Sorry sir, but we only have plane chips!"

2013 & 2014 Association Officers

President Wyman Bailey
baileymod@msn.com
 Vice-President Nancy Frey
monroviadame@yahoo.com
 Secretary Kathy Wright
kywright32@gmail.com 
 Treasurer Fred Haynes
cruzintogogether@earthlink.net
 Historian Ed Stanfield
edwin.stanfield@gmail.com

From the Secretary

Kathy Wright

If you move and change your mailing address please let me know as that is the only way we can keep track of you. Send your address information to:

Email me at: kywright32@gmail.com 

Call me at: 1-703-867-8604

Mail to me at: VP-68 Alumni Association
 4924 25th Street S
 Arlington, VA 22206

From the Treasurer

Fred Haynes

Members who have not renewed their dues by March of each year will be dropped from our member roster, lose their membership rights and no longer receive Association mailings.

Please consider converting to a Life Membership and never have to write us another check.

Annual Membership = \$10 yearly

Life Membership = \$100 one-time
 (\$25 one-time over age 70)

Make checks payable to:

VP-68 Alumni Association

Mail all dues payments & financial matters to:

VP-68 Alumni Association
80 Falling Leaf Drive
Youngsville, NC 27596

Email me at: cruzintogogether@earthlink.net

Call me at: 1-919-761-8845

Membership Committee

Dick Perkins

The Membership Committee is still searching for former Blackhawks who are not yet members of the VP-68 Alumni Association. If you know of anybody please forward their names and contact info to Dick via e-mail at:

vp68co@gmail.com

Calling ALL Blackhawk Alumni!

When you are calling or sending emails to your Blackhawk friends, ask them if they are members in the VP-68 Alumni Association. If not...please ask them to join!

There are many former Blackhawks out there who still do not know of our Association. Give them our website or bring them to the next function.

Applications may be downloaded from our website:

www.vp68.org

(Or use the one included in this issue)

From the Editor:

John Benton


This is YOUR newsletter and we want to include everybody in it. We are always in need of material so please don't be shy. What are you up to these days? Working? Retired? What is new with your family? Are any of your children or grandchildren in the military?

We want to print Navy and especially Blackhawk news. We need you to send us jokes, photos (especially if you have ones from the "early" years of the squadron), videos, power-points, internet links, etc....anything and everything you can to help us produce this Hawk's Nest newsletter.

Email me at: john.benton56@verizon.net

Call me at: 215-442-0569

Mail to me at: VP-68 Hawk's Nest
 383 Marilyn Road
 Warminster, PA 18974



Hawk's Nests will be published in:
March – June – September – December

Color Copies of Hawk's Nest

Color copies of current and past Hawk's Nest newsletters may be downloaded and printed in pdf format from our website:

Did you know.....?

When you view issues of the Hawk's Nest on our website and you see links to other websites or folks email addresses these are actually hyperlinks and all you have to do is "click" on them and you will go to that site directly rather than have to type it all over yourself...TRY IT!!

www.vp68.org

2013 FALL MUSTER

12 OCT 2013

NRC SOLOMONS

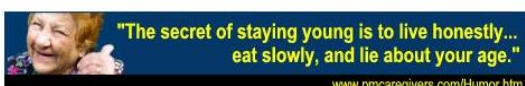
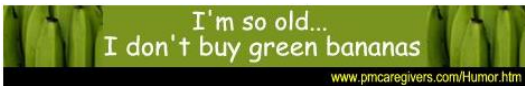
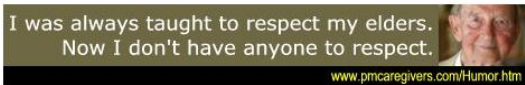
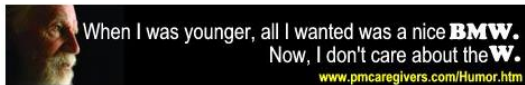
2014 BLACKHAWK CRUISE

28 MAR 2014

8-DAY BAHAMAS

Elderly Bumper Stickers

(Submitted by Jim Rozycki)



The Virtual Wall...

(Submitted by Brad Kirley)

Vietnam Wall



This is really sobering. Click on the link and find the city you went to high school and look at the names. Click on the name and it will give details of the death.

First click on a state. When it opens, scroll down to the city and the names will appear.

Then click on their names. It should show you a picture of the person, or at least their bio and medals.

This really is an amazing web site. Someone spent a lot of time and effort to create it.

I hope that everyone who receives this appreciates what those who served in Vietnam sacrificed for our country.

The link below is a virtual wall of all those lost during the Vietnam War with the names, bio's and other information on our lost heroes. Those who remember that time frame, or perhaps lost friends or family can look them up on this site.

Pass the link on to others, as many knew wonderful people whose names are listed.

<http://www.virtualwall.org/iStates.htm>

Ole Master Chief's cell phone...

(Submitted by Lew Abbott)

Ole Master Chief and his wife had finally learned how to send and receive texts on their new cell phones.

The wife, being a romantic at heart, decided one day that she'd send Ole Master Chief a text while she was out of the house having coffee with a friend.

She texted:

If you are sleeping, send me your dreams.

If you are laughing, send me your smile.

If you are eating, send me a bite.

If you are drinking, send me a sip.

If you are crying, send me your tears.

I love you.

Ole Master Chief, being a no-nonsense sort of guy, texted back: "I'm on the toilet. Please advise."

Blackhawk People News

Debbie Gath Lineberry

(Source: SEP1973 NARTOPIX Newsletter)
(Naval Air Reserve Unit, Washington, DC)

The Naval Air Reserve Unit, Washington, DC September 1973 issue of the NARTOPIX newsletter, Vol. 8, No. 9 featured a two-page article called "VP-68's Month of Achievement" about the squadron's deployment to Rota, Spain.

Along with the article were photos and captions of LCDR R.J. Schug and AMS2 R.A. McNeil. Our VP-68 Alumni Association Honorary Life Member, Debbie Gath Lineberry, the daughter of Master Chief Bob Gath, was shown in the photo & caption.



"YN3 D.L. Gath, a welcome sight in a nearly all male squadron, provides administrative support for 250 officers and enlisted men."



LCDR R.J. Schug checks the plane's position while on ship surveillance patrol over the Atlantic Ocean.

AMS2 R.A. McNeil refuels a P-3A Orion upon return from a 10 hour patrol.



Editor' Note: We're always on the lookout for historical photos and articles related to VP-68. If you have photos or other documents, including newspaper articles like Debbie provided us, please consider sharing. Negatives, Slides, Photographs, and any other type of paper document can be digitized, the original returned to you, and a feature article built around your contribution to "Hawk's Nest". Please contact either [Jim Rozycki](#) or [John Benton](#) for details.

Hawk's Nest Feature

Here's Why...# 9

(Submitted by Ed Stanfield - source: Navy Times)

Ever wonder why the space where officers eat is called the "wardroom"?

Aboard 18th-century ships, a compartment called the wardrobe was used for storing booty taken at sea, according to Naval History and Heritage Command.

The officers' mess and staterooms were situated nearby, so when the wardrobe was empty, they congregated there to take their meals and pass the time.

When the days of swashbuckling and pirating were over, the wardrobe was used exclusively as officers' mess and lounge. Having been elevated from a closet to a room, it was called the wardroom.

Hawk's Nest Feature

Here's Why...# 10

(Submitted by Ed Stanfield - source: Navy Times)

Ever wonder why we use the term "three sheets to the wind" to describe someone who has had too much to drink?

An inebriated shipmate is often bedraggled, with his clothes a mess, perhaps the shirttails out. However, the reference is not to attire, but to a sailing ship in disarray, according to Naval History and Heritage Command.

A sheet is a rope line that controls the tension on the downwind side of a square sail. If, on a three-masted, fully rigged ship, the sheets of the three lower course sails are loose, the sails will flap and flutter and are said to be "in the wind."

A ship in this condition would stagger and wander aimlessly downwind.

**VP-68 Alumni Association
80 Falling Leaf Drive
Youngsville, NC 27596
1-919-761-8845**

2013-2014 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(Please print)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ zip code: _____

Home phone: _____

Cell phone: _____ (optional)

E-mail: _____

When in VP-68? _____

Rank / rate / dept: _____

1) I hereby apply for the following membership (CHECK ONE):

☐ \$100 = Life Membership (one-time fee)

☐ \$25 = Life Membership **70 or older** (one-time fee) **DOB:** _____

☐ \$10 = Regular & Associate Membership (Annually - 01Jan to 31 DEC)

NOTE: Make checks payable to: "VP-68 Alumni Association",
Mail check and completed membership application to above address.

2) I would be interested in serving on the following committee(s):

☐ Membership ☐ Nom. & Elections ☐ Audit / Budget

☐ Fund Raising ☐ Reunions ☐ Newsletter

☐ Constitution & By-Laws

The VP-68 Alumni Association was chartered in 1998 in the state of Maryland for the sole purpose of uniting in a central organization all former members of Navy Patrol Squadron 68 (VP-68), its parent and supporting Navy squadrons, and those interested in preserving the name and history of Navy Patrol Squadron 68 (VP-68).

The Alumni Association shall conduct programs to perpetuate the memory of Navy Patrol Squadron 68 (VP-68) and to provide social and recreational activities for its membership. Life & Regular Membership includes: voting privileges; quarterly "Hawks Nest" newsletter; attendance at annual events; reunions and other functions.

Privacy Statement: The VP-68 Alumni Association holds membership information strictly confidential and does not sell, disburse or distribute this information and uses it solely for Association purposes.

Signed: _____ date: _____

(Continued from page 1)



Once again the Officers and Board members of Patrol Squadron VP68 Alumni Association are preparing a cruise for the beautiful islands of the Bahamas; this time aboard the beautiful, newly enhanced **Grandeur of the Seas**.

We will be departing Baltimore on **Friday, Mar 28, 2014** for eight night fun week and returning **Saturday, Apr 5, 2014**.

This is an opportunity for those of you who couldn't make our 2012 cruise to sign up for this one. Can you think of a better way to spend 8 days? You'll enjoy quality time to relax and reminisce about all the many wonderful squadron cruises we went on with VP-68.

You will dine together in luxurious surroundings, enjoying the finest selection of meals. You will meet many new and wonderful fellow cruisers, try your luck in the casino, and take in spectacular Broadway style shows, specialty acts and comedians. You can participate in or just enjoy others trying karaoke. You can pamper yourself in the spa, explore two wonderful & colorful islands of the Bahamas, two stops in Florida, or just soak up some rays. Do it all or perhaps do nothing at all! Your choice; your vacation! You'll return home with wonderful stories that will generate many new memories.

Your Alumni Officers and Board Members are looking forward to this exciting cruise.

Don't let the ship set sail without you!!!!

8 NIGHT BAHAMAS ITINERARY

DAY	PORT	ARRIVE	DEPART
FRI	Baltimore		4:00 pm
SAT	at sea cruising		
SUN	Port Canaveral, FL	10:00 am	10:00 pm
MON	Nassau, Bahamas	1:30 pm	midnight
TUE	Cococay, Bahamas	8:00 am	5:00 pm
WED	Key West, FL	9:00 am	5:00 pm
THU	at sea cruising to Baltimore		
FRI	at sea cruising to Baltimore		
SAT	Baltimore	7:00 am	

**ONLY 16 GROUP
ROOMS RESERVED**

DETAILS:

All rates are per person (based on double occupancy) and include (all inclusive of): Accommodations as selected, port charges, govt. tax and security fees, all meals and entertainment onboard. Group amenities (to be determined) and a Private Meet & Greet Coffee/Danish Breakfast Meeting will also be included.

Rates:

Interior Stateroom: \$ 875 \$ 675	= Category M:	Deck 2 mid-ship, Deck 3 mid-ship, Deck 4 forward
Ocean View Stateroom: \$1,050 \$ 770	= Category I:	Deck 2 mid-ship
Large Ocean View Stateroom: \$1,060 \$ 780	= Category H:	Deck 3 mid-ship
Large Ocean View Stateroom: \$1,070 \$ 790	= Category G2:	Deck 4 mid-ship & forward

**Reduced
Rates!**

The above rates are group rates. Please be aware that Royal Caribbean offers a wide range of promotional with varying prices. Promotional rates maybe be lower than group rates, please call to discuss if a lower rate is available at the time of booking.

OPTIONS TO CONSIDER:

- 1) Above are our Group Promotional Categories - Other Categories are available – contact Libby for details.
- 2) You may elect to add Travel Insurance, starting at \$59 per person (based on cabin category selected)
- 3) Pre-Paid Gratuities of \$96 per person includes stateroom steward and dining room wait staff.
- 4) Dining Room Preference: 6:00 PM, 8:00 PM **OR** "My-Time Dining" (*) = \$96/person gratuity automatically added.
- 5) A \$250 per person deposit is required at the time of booking to secure your stateroom
- 6) Final payment will be due on or before January **4, 2014**
- 7) Proof of citizenship will be required for travel. Currently you may cruise with your certified, state issued birth certificate and photo ID; however, a passport is highly recommended.

Check out Royal Caribbean Website at: www.royalcaribbean.com

For additional information and to join the group contact:

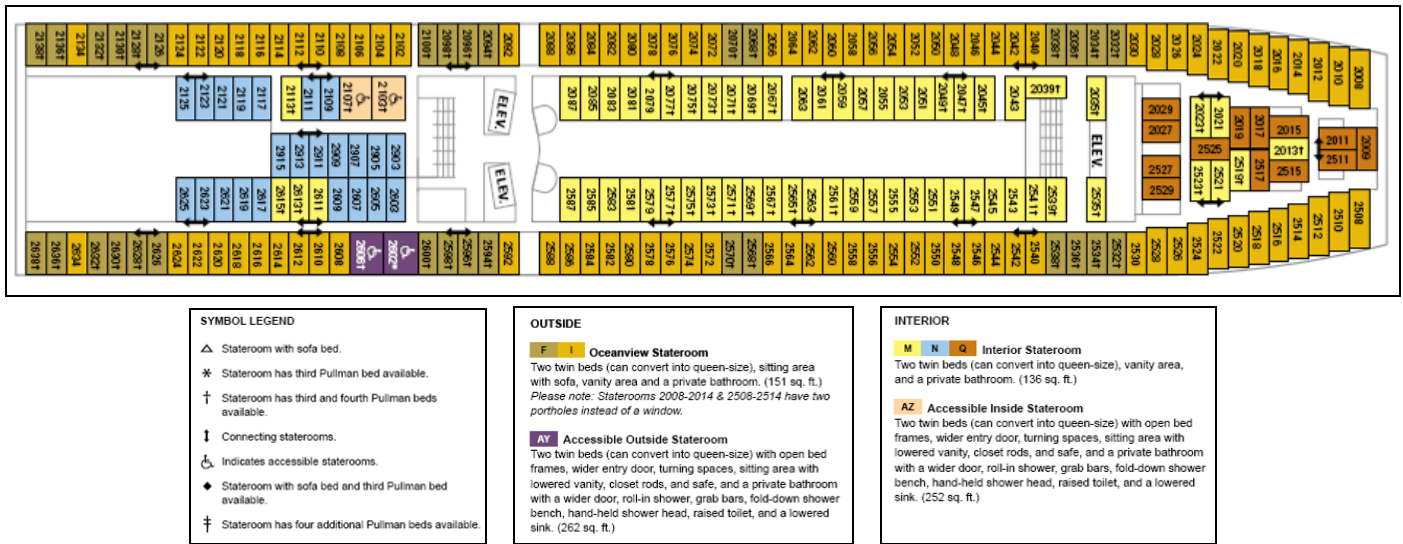
TRADEWINDS TRAVEL 12800 Frederick Rd - Suite 203A
 Libby @ 1-301-317-4548 P. O. Box 222
 Email: trwindstvl@aol.com West Friendship, MD 21794
 Website: www.tradewindstravelinc.com

For other questions please contact:

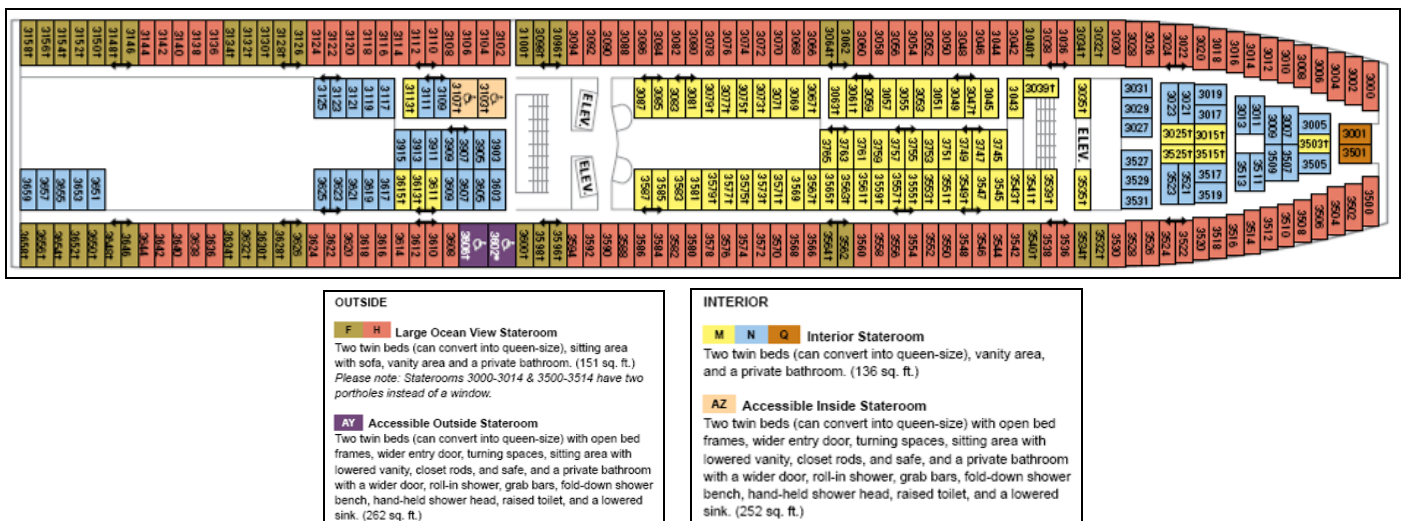
WYMAN BAILEY
 1-410-465-8884
baileymod@msn.com

Royal Caribbean - "Grandeur of the Seas"

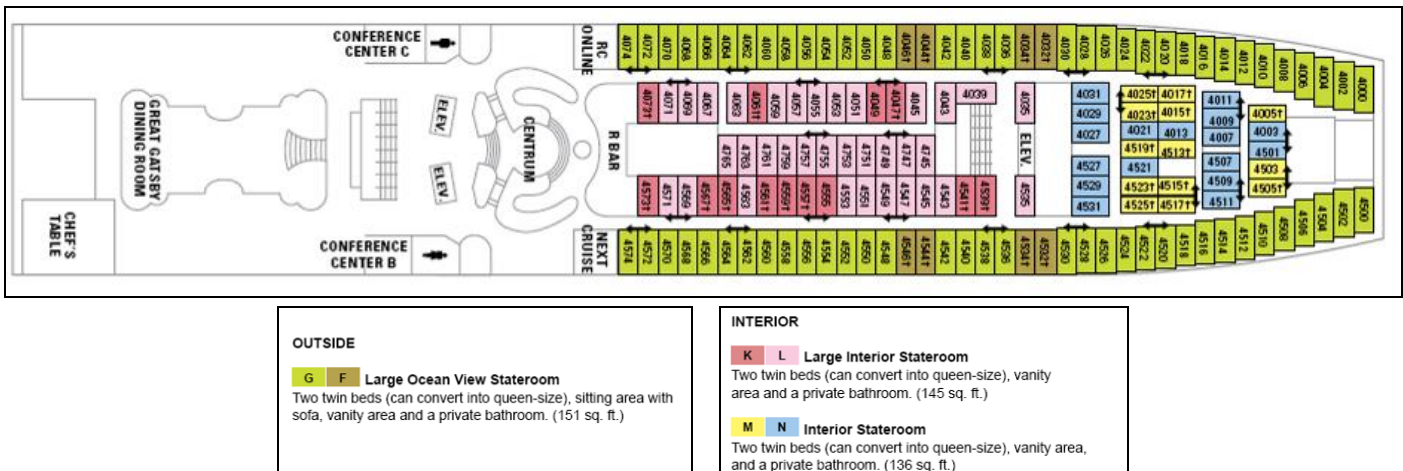
DECK 2 – Category M & I



DECK 3 – Category M & H



DECK 4 – Category M & G2



VP68 GROUP BOOKING FORM**Sailing: 3/28/14****GROUP BOOKING #: 3345439****Royal Caribbean Grandeur of the Seas**

Booking Date: _____ CF # _____

Category: _____ Cabin: _____

Dining Preference: 6:00 PM _____ 8:00 PM _____ OR My-Time (*): _____ (*) = **auto \$96 gratuity added/person**

Guest(s): _____ DOB: _____

Guest(s): or Sharing with: _____ DOB: _____

Guests(s) or Sharing with: _____ DOB: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: w / h / c _____

Email: _____

Credit Card # _____ Ext: _____ Sec # _____

THIS SECTION FOR AGENCY USE ONLY:

Cost (per person/per cabin): Base \$ _____ Tax: \$ _____ Total = \$ _____

Insurance: No _____ Yes _____ = \$ _____ Pre Paid Gratuities at \$96 / person x _____ persons = \$ _____

Payments: Total Booking (per person/per cabin) = \$ _____

Date Received / Date Deposited (Cu / mo. / cash / cc)	FOP	Amount	Balance:
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Comments: _____