



VP-68 Hawk's Nest



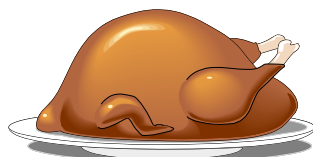
Volume No. 47

VP-68 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

December 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), it's parent and supporting Navy squadrons, and those interested in preserving the name and history of VP-68.

Published Quarterly: 15 MAR - 15 JUL - 15 SEP - 15 DEC



Happy Holidays



SEASON'S GREETINGS

*The Officers and staff of the
VP-68 Alumni Association
wish you and your families
a very safe and
blessed holiday season.*

2013 "Fall Muster"

The annual VP-68 Alumni Association "Fall Muster" event was held on 12 OCT 2013 at "Club 9" located at the Navy Recreation Center (NRC) Solomons Island, MD.

NRC Solomons is a beautiful facility located about 65 miles 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.

The "Club 9" Building is on the waterfront and has a large deck overlooking the Patuxent River, and it is a fantastic setting for our event.

(continued on page 2)

2014 "Spring Fling" – 17 May 2014

The annual VP-68 Alumni Association "Spring Fling" picnic will be held on Saturday, 17 MAY 2014 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.

(continued on page 2)

2013 DUES ALMOST EXPIRED SEND YOUR 2014 DUES NOW

If your post card address label has a "M-13" after your name, (see list on page 3) your Association membership will expire soon and you will no longer be a member of the VP-68 Alumni Association.

See "Treasurer" on page 15 for more details.

Hawk's Nest Editor Still Needed

We are still in urgent need of a Hawk's Nest Editor for the VP-68 Alumni Association and this may be the last issue.

(continued on page 2)

LAST CALL..... VP-68 Bahamas Cruise 2014



(continued on page 2)

VETERANS DAY November 11, 2013

*Thank all of you for your service to
our country. Please pray for the
men & women currently serving in
the U.S. Armed Forces.*

2013 "Fall Muster" (continued)

We started the day off gathering at 1100 followed by a picnic lunch. The "Club 9" building provided a perfect indoor facility for us to sit and fraternize with fellow Blackhawks.

At 1600 we conducted our business meeting then, at 1700 we had the fantastic Grilled Steak Dinner & Fixin's that was served up by the Committee.

After dinner we all hung out for a few hours and as usual sea-stories were shared, much laughter and lots of fellowship and camaraderie was had by all.

Very special thanks go out to the Committee for a fun and successful event. Folks are still raving about the fantastic steaks that Tim Humphreys provided....MMMMM-mmmm!!!!

2014 "Spring Fling" (continued)

Normally about 80 Blackhawks and guests attend and the beautiful Southern Maryland weather is usually Pax-Perfect!

We begin gathering around 1100 and start the picnic lunch which is followed by our business meeting in accordance to our bi-laws.

Every year after the picnic, a bunch of us head out to a great local restaurant for more camaraderie, laughs, fine food, laughs, drinks, laughs and more laughs and even some new sea-stories.

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:

NOTE: Below names are [links](#) to their websites.

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

Hawk's Nest Editor (continued)

Jim Rozycki officially retired as Editor last year and helped us get 2013 issues and this year-end issue out.

If you can use the computer, have a sincere affection for VP-68, like to tell and hear sea-stories, laugh, keep posted on Association activities....then you are qualified. It is not much harder than sending all those emails we see daily.

Please consider helping us keep the Hawk's Nest. If you would like more information contact Jim Rozycki at:

412-487-5854 or rozyckijim@aol.com

LAST CALL.....**2014 Bahamas Cruise (continued)**

28MAR – 05APR 2014

(ref: SEP 2013 Hawk's Nest, Vol 46)

This is Last Call for our Spring 2014 Bahamas Cruise sailing aboard the Royal Caribbean "Grandeur of the Seas".

The cruise departs Baltimore 1600 on Friday 28MAR2014 and returns to Baltimore 0700 on Saturday 05APR2014.

Ports of call include: Port Canaveral, FL - Nassau, Bahamas - Cococay, Bahamas – Key West, FL along with 3 fun-filled days at sea.

We had a block of rooms at a special reduced rate but because we did not use them all, Royal Caribbean has taken the rest back. Tradewind Travel still has some great specials available so please contact them directly.

For additional information and to join the group contact:

TRADEWINDS TRAVEL

12800 Frederick Rd - Suite 203A
P. O. Box 222
West Friendship, MD 21794
Contact: Libby
Call: 1-301-317-4548

email: trwindstvl@aol.com

website: www.tradewindstravelinc.com

For other questions please contact:

WYMAN BAILEY

1-410-465-8884

baileymod@msn.com

See details about this and other cruises at:

www.royalcaribbean.com

Aircrews, remember this....?

Alumni Association Members

(as of 01 DEC 2013)

Listed below, from our member registry, are the **178** members of the VP-68 Alumni Association as of 01 DEC 2013

NOTE: If there is an error in your name or membership or if your name is not listed, please contact our Treasurer.

Fred Haynes cruzintoegether@earthlink.net

**If you do not see your Blackhawk friends names...
CALL THEM AND GET THEM TO JOIN!!!**

**If you see their name, but don't see them at our events...
CALL THEM AND GET THEM TO COME!!!**

LIFE MEMBERS: 157

Louis E. Abbott, L-01	David Altdorfer, L-02
Etta Anderson, L-10	Vince Apostolico, L-98
William H. Arnold, L-06	Alfredo Arroyo, L-98
Ronald P. Auth, L-04	Les Auth, L-98
Wyman H. Bailey, L-02	Jack Baker, L-01
James L. Battaglia, L-08	Janice E. Battaglia, L-08
James Beddingfield, L-06	John Benton, L-11
Steven Black, L-01	Caroline Blazek, L-98
Dick Blosser, L-10	John E. Brown, L-12
Joe Brundage, L-00	"Byx" Bullock, L-13
Kevin R. Cahill, L-02	Joseph Callejo, L-01
John P. Cann, L-01	John R. Carlin, L-02
John S. Carr, L-08	James M. Carrico, L-09
Steven P. Cawi, L-98	Stephen F. Cawley, L-98
Wally Chance, L-03	Ronald Cimo, L-07
Sylvia R. Connick, L-98	Ford Cox, L-10
Steve Dansker, L-07	Tom Daugherty, L-10
Robert W. Davis, L-04	Dean DeHotman, L-11
Gene DiGennaro, L-13	Kevin L. Dillon, L-02
Ed Diraimo, L-05	Landon H. Donahey, L-98
Tom Donnelly, L-04	Howard M. Drogin, L-09
William H. Duxbury, L-01	Bill Eaton, L-99
"Sharkey" Estrin, L-04	Garrett A. Fahl, L-00
Frank Ferney, L-06	Richard J. Fickling, L-98
E. Byron Fisher, L-98	Richard S. Fitzgerald, L-06
Howard Flemming, L-06	Robert Fletcher, L-09
Dennis Fogler, L-12	Arthur K. Foskett, L-04
Calvin Foster, L-05	David Foy, L-06
Nevins Frankel, HL-00	Nancy Frey, L-10
Glen Gadberry, L-08	Donald E. Gallagher, L-12
Paul P. Gardner, L-04	Ron Garman, L-02
Mike Gerred, L-02	Anna Gibson, L-11
Timothy J. Gorman, L-98	Kellie Gofus, L-13
David C. Graham, L-98	David P. Gray, L-00
Dale Grimes, L-00	Scott Grzybowski, L-01
James L. Hall, L-09	Doug Hannum, L-06
Raymond Harding, L-09	Frederick Haynes, L-12
Merrill W. Hood, L-01	Arthur T. Humphreys, L-09
Ronald Jacobs, L-06	Lewis W. Johnson, L-98
Brian "Packy" Jones, L-00	Raymond Jones, L-06
Frank Kearney, L-00	Steve Kimberling, L-06
Bradford A. Kirley, L-98	Vic Kraft, L-04
Louis G. Kress, L-09	L. Rex Lake, L-06
Jacque D. LaValle, L-02	Dana K. Law, L-00
Jeffrey A. Lemmons, L-98	John M. LeNard, L-00
William R. Levin, L-02	Debbie Gath Lineberry, HL-05
Lawrence E. Luck, L-99	Charles G. Macgill, L-07
Pamela M. Mann, L-98	"Bunky" Maurer, L-09
Dana Gath McGee, AL-05	A. Ray Miller, L-00

Greg Mitchell, L-01	Paul Monaghan, L-02
John "Blackie" Murdoch, L-05	Sidney K. Nichols, L-01
Frank Notarnicola, L-11	Ralph Nupp, L-06
Douglas W. Oard, L-05	Joseph T. Odenthal, L-98
Ralph Oman, L-98	Jeffrey Ostroff, L-10
C. Robert Paty, L-98	Stephen Peel, L-05
Don Peeling, L-99	Granville Pennypacker, L-04
Dick Perkins, L-03	Daryl G. Phillippi, L-11
Robert J. Powell, L-00	Patrick J. Quigley, L-01
Peter J. Richard, L-00	James M. Rozycki, L-98
(*) Harold H. Rymer, L-02 (*)	Nicholas, J. Schaus, L-04
John Schneder, L-03	Bill Schott, L-08
Greg Schultz, L-02	Joseph Schwendeman, L-01
Crystal A. Sharp, L-01	Fred Shenk, L-11
(*) Walt Siemon, L-98 (*)	Charles J. Sitko, L-00
Charles O. Smith, L-01	Daniel Smith, L-05
Harry Lee Smith, L-00	Robert I. Smith, L-00
Edwin Stanfield, L-00	Brenda Stanfield, L-08
Robert Sterrett, L-12	Ronald Stevens, L-08
Cornelius Stripling, L-98	Richard J. Tennies, L-98
Tommy G. Thacker, L-00	Barry W. Thomas, L-05
Paul L. Toutant, L-04	Gretchen C. Trujillo, L-08
Albert G. Tullus, L-01	Fred A. Uille, L-00
Tondelayo Varelli, L-01	Kathleen H. Vasquez, L-98
Ramon Veras, L-02	Kathleen Vigiano, L-03
Gerald Wannan, L-13	Mary Ellen White, L-01
Ronald G. Whittaker, L-98	Morgan Wilbur, HL-00
Clyde Wilcox, L-11	Gary A. Wiser, L-04
Kathleen Wright, L-98	Paul Yaron, L-01
Nancy A. Yohn, L-04	

(*) No current mailing address / contact info on record (*)

REGULAR YEARLY MEMBERS: 21

(if it is BOLD and RED...IT IS DUE)

Nick Cercone, M-13	Theresa Copeland, M-13
Ted Davis, M-15	George W. Durity, M-13
Preston Ephraim, M-13	Kevin Fick, M-13
Terry Gibson, M-14	Bob Grant, M-13
Phil Greubel, M-13	James Guilfooy, M-14
Danny Hartwell, M-13	Al L. Hurst, M-13
Toni King, M-13	Pete Lister, M-13
John M. McDermott, M-13	Sheryl "Pat" Meyer, A-13
Henry Osborne, M-13	Elaine V. Schneider, M-13
Robert Seaver, M-14	Richard J. Stohr, M-14
James Yard, M-13	

DECEASED MEMBERS: 24

Paul Auth	Walter Barbee
David C. Borggren, Sr.	Charles W. Brown
Leo J. Brune	Donald C. Caldwell
Iven M. Cole	Paul H. Costello
Lloyd J. Davis	Harry A. Estes
George Frey	Robert J. Gath
Andrew J. Gerhart	George P. Kurtz
Hugh E. Lee, Jr.	Pete Logan
Joseph G. Maloney	Dennis Manskar
Sidney H. Matthews	Samuel R. Paris
Paul J. Randolph	Bennett S. Sparks
Don A. White	Vernon H. Winfield

Until we meet again shipmates...

...fair winds and following seas!

Blackawk People News....

Rex & Elsie Lake **Congratulations!**



At the Fall Muster, a new ring was noticed on Elsie's finger to which Rex and Elsie announced that they got married in April of this year.

We notified the Guinness Book of World Records about the length of your engagement and they say you are in the running.

Seriously, our very utmost and most sincere best wishes to you kids.



Taps: LCDR Ron Shug

(submitted by Rex Lake)

Rex sent the VP-44 Newsletter-NOV2013-Vol.28-Pelican Poop Sheet listing Taps: Ronald Schug (LT 1961-1964).



Comment by Jim Rozycki who flew with LCDR Ron Schug: Sad news, he was a quality guy and great pilot. Ron was a Blackhawk in the early to mid 70's and was the PPC of the infamous Pittsburgh Crew One (Studebaker, Ebbitt, Gardner, etc.). His

crew were called "Shug's Mugs". I show an old photo of him (above) in the June 2013 Hawk's Nest. Thanks Ron, it was an honor to fly with you.

Fair winds and following seas shipmate!

Holiday Message... **Food for Thought and Action**

(submitted by Fred Haynes, Treasurer)

The world, as we knew it in our days in VP-68, has changed drastically. Most importantly, the family unit and inter-personal dependence has been replaced by a virtual world, internet, and Face Book. Personal value, honor, wealth, and future security, all achieved through work and accomplishment, have been replaced by focusing on objects of pleasure and leisure yielding immediate short-term gratification, eliminating personal value, honor, wealth and future security from our society. In short, mom and dad have been replaced by government programs and daycare. Families are now found solely on Ancestry.com

This holiday season why not take the opportunity to re-connect as a family. Put away the electronic games, tablets, I-pads, and I-phones for one day. Come together as a family and really communicate with each other. Have a sit down meal as a family. If you forgot how, the family Robertsons of "Duck Dynasty" (TV series currently broadcast on the A/E Channel) gives a very good representation of how to do this. Most importantly, the seating should give a visual representation of just where everyone fits in the family. The "position(s) of honor" should go to the senior family member(s). This reinforces the family organization and respect. During dinner discuss things that are going on in each family member's life and the role that each member plays in making the family what it is or what it could be.

After dinner, have everyone help in some way with the cleanup and then spend the afternoon together, as a family unit, learning about what your children and grandchildren are doing in their work, school, extra-curricular activities, and in their circle of friends. Find out what everyone's life aspirations and goals are. If they have none, then make a specific date (time and place) to sit down with them one-on-one to discuss how to develop personal aspirations and goals, at which time you can let them know if/how you can help. The keynote of these future discussions should be that the attainment of these goals must be the result of their work, not yours.

Investing one day in building (or perhaps rebuilding) your family will demonstrate to the entire family, the love and concern that everyone in the family needs to give and receive. Doing so will be the best gift you could ever give to your family, and this just might be the year that your children will most remember as they grow, build and lead their own families. Make this year the year of the family, and next year, do the same and discuss how far the family has come in 12 months. This could be the start of a family tradition. Happy Holidays to All!

R.I.P. Tom Clancey

12 APR 1947 – 01 OCT 2013

THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS, THE U.S. NAVY COULD PROBABLY OPERATE WITHOUT OFFICERS, BUT THERE'S "NO WAY IN HELL" IT COULD OPERATE WITHOUT CHIEFS.

— TOM CLANCY, MAY 1994 —

Wanna buy a P-3????

(submitted by John Benton)

(Source: <http://fireaviation.com> posted 15OCT2013)

United Aeronautical buys Aero Union P-3 air tankers

Fire Aviation has learned that the eight P-3 Orion air tankers formerly owned by Aero Union have been purchased by a company that primarily deals in supplying and overhauling spare parts for aircraft. United Aeronautical Corporation (UAC), headquartered in North Hollywood, California, bought the aircraft from Comerica Bank which acquired Aero Union's assets following the company financial problems. The first attempt to sell Aero Union's assets occurred February 28, 2012, at an auction. While some of the spare parts and other equipment sold, the eight aircraft did not.



It is not clear what UAC is going to do with the P-3s, but being a spare parts and manufacturing facility, it is doubtful they will be operating them as air tankers. UAC owns and operates an active aircraft yard next to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson (at 32.147513° -110.855944°), so the aircraft could be parted out or preserved in long term storage like dozens of S2 aircraft at UAC's facility. CAL FIRE has 23 S2 air tankers in their air tanker fleet. Davis-Monthan is the facility where thousands of military aircraft go to die become mothballed. Or, in the case of the almost new C-27Js that have been flown there recently, they can be stored until they are transferred to another government agency. Referencing the above article, the 8 P3A aircraft sold include the following:

<u>FAA #</u>	<u>Buno</u>
917AU	150510
920AU	150513
925AU	151361
927AU	151369
923AU	151372
921AU	151385
922AU	151387
900AU	151391

Not sure how many of these, if any, were flown by VP-68 or any other reserve VP, you can check your logbooks if you like. If you find any that wore the Blackhawk colors, please let me know.

john.benton56@verizon.net

Exhausted Corpsman

(submitted by Lou Abbott)

A very tired Corpsman walks into a bank, totally exhausted after a 16-hour shift. Preparing to write a check, he pulls a rectal thermometer out of his shirt pocket and tries to write with it. When he realizes his mistake, he looks at the flabbergasted teller, and without missing a beat, he says: 'Well, that's great...that's just great...some a--hole's got my pen!'

Speeding Ticket

(submitted by Packy Jones)



A Speeding ticket near Kingsville, TEXAS. Top This One For A Speeding Ticket. Two Texas Highway Patrol Officers were conducting speeding enforcement on Hwy 77, just south of Kingsville, TX. One of the officers was using a hand held radar device to check speeding vehicles approaching the town of Kingsville. The officers were suddenly surprised when the

radar gun began reading 300 miles per hour and climbing. The officer attempted to reset the radar gun, but it would not reset and then it suddenly turned off. Just then a deafening roar over the Mesquite treetops on Hwy 77 revealed that the radar had in fact locked on to a USMC F/A-18 Hornet which was engaged in a low flying exercise near it's Naval Air home base location in Kingsville, TX.



Back at the Texas Highway Patrol Headquarters in Corpus Christi the Patrol Captain fired off a complaint to the US Naval Base Commander in Kingsville for shutting down his equipment. The reply came back in true USMC style:

'Thank you for your letter...You may be interested to know that the tactical computer in the Hornet had detected the presence of, and subsequently locked on to, your hostile radar equipment and automatically sent a jamming signal back to it, which is why it shut down. Furthermore, an Air-to-Ground missile aboard the fully armed aircraft had also automatically locked on to your equipment's location.

Fortunately, the Marine Pilot flying the Hornet recognized the situation for what it was, quickly responded to the missile system alert status, and was able to override the automated defense system before the missile was launched to destroy the hostile radar position on the side of Hwy 77 South of Kingsville.

The pilot suggests you cover your mouths when cussing at them, since the video systems on these jets are very high tech.

Sergeant Johnson, the officer holding the radar gun, should get his dentist to check his left rear molar. It appears that the filling is missing.

Also, the snap is broken on his holster.....Semper Fi.

Co-Pilot Checklist....



48 Plane Fly-Over

(submitted by Brad Kirley)

Recently at Arrowhead Stadium: As you know, the budget cuts have eliminated the military flyovers at large events.

Well, there's a group of guys in Kansas City who do some formation flying in their own planes and that decided that they would volunteer to pick up the slack. They invited a couple of other groups to join them and before they knew it they had 48 guys with their homemade RV airplanes signing up to join in.

If they had more time, they probably would have gotten an even larger group as people kept joining and a 49th was added near the event. One additional feature of the flyover was the use of pink smoke for cancer awareness.

The folks from the Guinness Book where there and are expected to confirm it as the largest formation flight ever. And to top it off the crowd later set the record for the loudest gathering at a football stadium.

Hope you enjoy this short video as much as I did.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VImNBuJW3sQ>

Bet you didn't know...

(submitted by Brad Kirley)

Early aircraft's throttles had a ball on the end of it. In order to go full throttle, the pilot had to push the throttle all the way forward into the wall of the instrument panel. Hence, "balls to the wall" for going very fast. And now you know the rest of the story.

(Note: I was told that balls to the wall referred to a device called a governor that was used to prevent machines from over speeding. It consisted of arms with ball on their ends that swing out as the speed increased. So the term balls to the wall if you were running at max speed.)

During WWII , U.S. airplanes were armed with belts of bullets which they would shoot during dogfights and on strafing runs. These belts were folded into the wing compartments that fed their machine guns. These belts measured 27 feet and contained hundreds of rounds of bullets. Often times, the pilots would return from their missions having expended all of their bullets on various targets. They would say, "I gave them the whole nine yards," meaning they used up all of their ammunition.

In George Washington's days, there were no cameras. One's image was either sculpted or painted. Some paintings of George Washington showed him standing behind a desk with one arm behind his back, while others showed both legs and both arms. Prices charged by painters were not based on how many people were to be painted, but by how many limbs were to be painted. Arms and legs are 'limbs,' therefore painting them would cost the buyer more. Hence the expression, 'Okay, but it'll cost you an arm and a leg.' (Artists know hands and arms are more difficult to paint.)

As incredible as it sounds, men and women took baths only twice a year (May and October). Women kept their hair covered, while men shaved their heads (because of lice and bugs) and wore wigs. Wealthy men could afford good wigs made from wool. They couldn't wash the wigs, so to clean them they would carve out a loaf of bread, put the wig in the shell, and bake it for 30 minutes. The heat would make the wig big and fluffy, hence the term 'big wig'. Today we often use the term

'He's a the Big Wig' because someone appears to be or is powerful and wealthy.

In the late 1700's, many houses consisted of a large room with only one chair. Commonly, a long, wide board folded down from the wall and was used for dining. The 'head of the household' always sat in the chair while everyone else ate sitting on the floor. Occasionally a guest, who was usually a man, would be invited to sit in this chair during a meal. To sit in the chair meant you were important and in charge. They called the person sitting in the chair the 'chair man.' Today in business, we use the expression or title 'Chairman' or 'Chairman of the Board.'

Ladies wore corsets, which would lace up in the front. A proper and dignified woman, as in 'straight laced' wore a tightly tied lace.

Common entertainment included playing cards. However, there was a tax levied when purchasing playing cards but only applicable to the 'Ace of Spades.' To avoid paying the tax, people would purchase 51 cards instead. Yet, since most games require 52 cards, these people were thought to be stupid or dumb because they weren't 'playing with a full deck.'

Early politicians required feedback from the public to determine what the people considered important. Since there were no telephones, TV's or radios, the politicians sent their assistants to local taverns, pubs, and bars. They were told to go sip some ale and listen to people's conversations and political concerns. Many assistants were dispatched at different times. 'You go sip here' and 'You go sip there.' The two words 'go sip' were eventually combined when referring to the local opinion and, thus we have the term 'gossip.'

At local taverns, pubs, and bars, people drank from pint and quart-sized containers. A bar maid's job was to keep an eye on the customers and keep the drinks coming. She had to pay close attention and remember who was drinking in 'pints' and who was drinking in 'quarts,' hence the phrase 'minding your 'P's and Q's'.

In the heyday of sailing ships, all war ships and many freighters carried iron cannons. Those cannons fired round iron cannon balls. It was necessary to keep a good supply near the cannon. However, how to prevent them from rolling about the deck? The best storage method devised was a square-based pyramid with one ball on top, resting on four resting on nine, which rested on sixteen. Thus, a supply of 30 cannon balls could be stacked in a small area right next to the cannon. There was only one problem....how to prevent the bottom layer from sliding or rolling from under the others. The solution was a metal plate called a 'Monkey' with 16 round indentations. However, if this plate were made of iron, the iron balls would quickly rust to it. The solution to the rusting problem was to make 'Brass Monkeys.' Few landlubbers realize that brass contracts much more and much faster than iron when chilled. Consequently, when the temperature dropped too far, the brass indentations would shrink so much that the iron cannonballs would come right off the monkey. Thus, it was quite literally, 'Cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey.' (All this time, you thought that was an improper expression, didn't you.)

Helmets

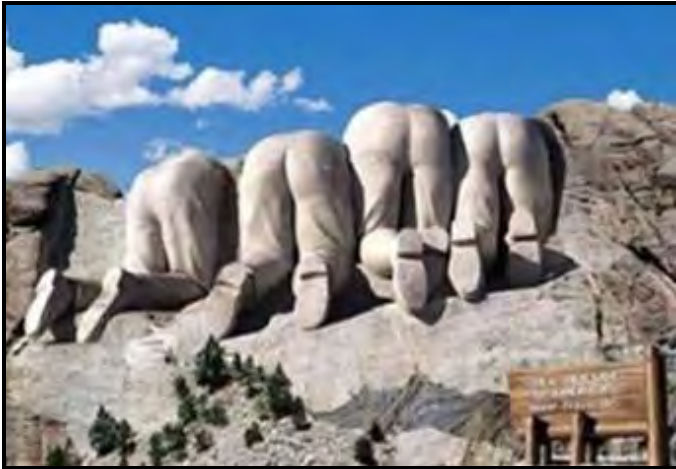
(submitted by Brad Kirley)

The first testicular guard, the "Cup," was used in Hockey in 1874 and the first helmet was used in 1974.

That means it only took 100 years for men to realize that their brain is also important.

Government Shut-down...

Due to the recent government shut-down, Mt. Rushmore National Park could only be seen from the Canadian side as shown by the below photo!!



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](#) page and learn more about military women.

www.facebook.com/YearofMilitaryWomen

Airport Signs...



Makes you want to go out and learn to fly here....right!



So....don't stand behind jet aircraft!



Finally....don't park your car on runways!

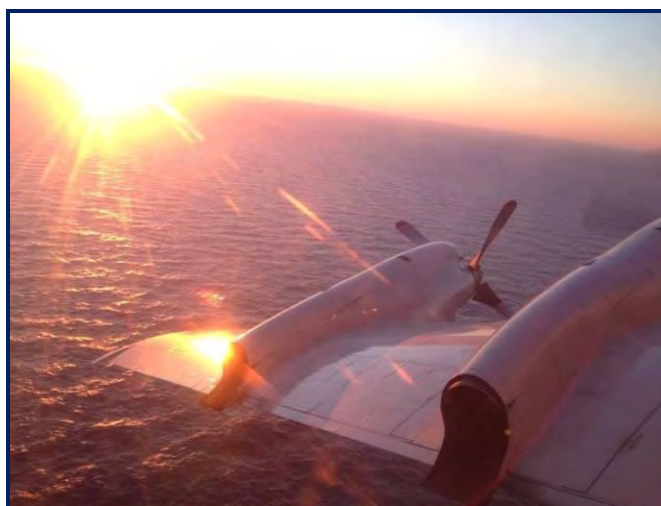
VP Photos

(submitted by Jim Rozycki)

As part of retiring as Hawk's Nest Editor, I gave President Wyman Bailey the Hawk's Nest paper files, photos and other documents that I had amassed to pass on to the new Editor.

Then I realized just how much info was on my computer(s) and started purging my computer files and found some great VP photos, paintings and diagrams that I would like to share with you all. Sources have been from the Internet, Facebook, VP-Navy, and photos. Here they are.....enjoy!!

It has been great being the Editor of the Hawk's Nest but it's time to turn the plane over to a younger pilot. Thanks!



VP-68 static display at NAF Washington, DC



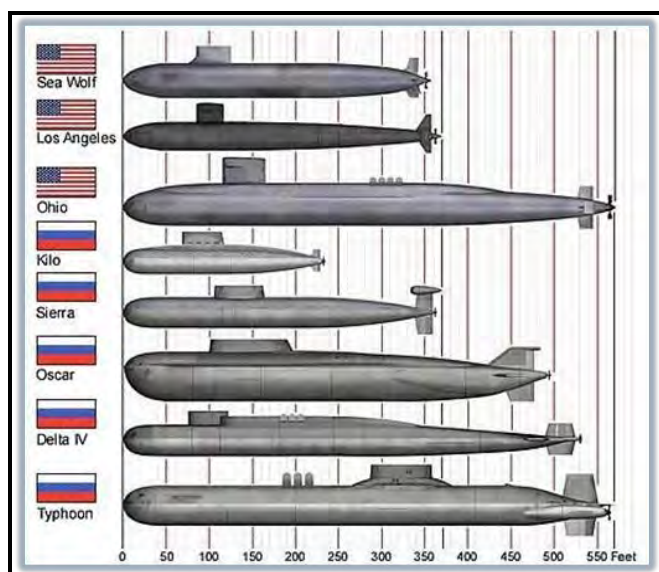
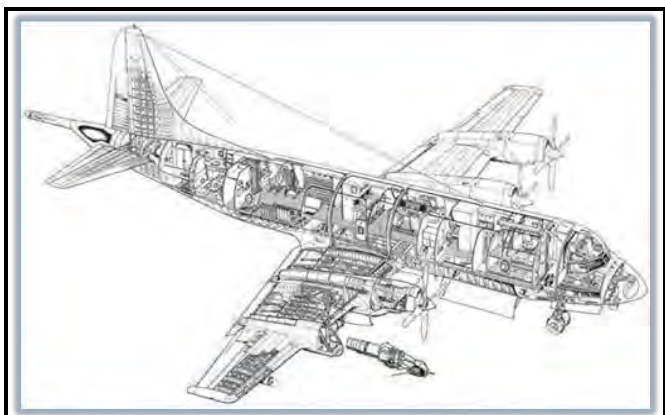
P-3 flown at Pax by Blackhawk Pete Green



Painting of VP-68 aircraft by Morgan Wilbur
PB-5A Catalina, PV-2 Harpoon, P-2V-7 Neptune, P-3C Orion
(Lithograph available thru Ship's Store)



Painting "Ruler of the Sea" by Don Feight



Painting by Morgan Wilbur





Painting by Morgan Wilbur



Painting of VP-9 aircraft...artist unknown

Morgan Wilbur donated the painting on the left for our 35-year Reunion in 2005. Paul Monaghan won it and re-donated it to be raffled off for the Harry Estes Memorial Fund and now hangs in Bill Schott's gameroom.

Finally to close off the collection, are the three photos below of the VP-68 P-3 model (yes, that is a model) that member Dan Smith made and donated for our 35-year Reunion in 2005.

We had a raffle for it and "Mr. Lucky" Nick Schaus won it.



VP Navy website

www.vpnavy.org

(Jim Rozycki)

If you would like to know something...anything...about a former squadron, former crewman or a particular aircraft you flew on then you need only go to one site. This site is absolutely amazing and mind-boggling. I absolutely admire Nevins Frankel for his dedication and devotion to Navy VP squadrons and their predecessors. You won't believe this incredible site.

When you first enter the site you get the homepage and hit the ENTER which take you to the Summary Page.

VPNAVY.ORG is dedicated to the men and women of the United States Navy flying "ASW" (VP/VPB) Patrol Aircraft (past and present).

VPNAVY has attempted to collect every available piece of information via the InterNet. Everything (and anything) relating to U. S. Navy "ASW" Patrol Squadrons is posted (with permission) on pages "dedicated" to each respective squadron. Currently, over 200 squadrons are represented.

Thanks to EVERYONE's contributions - VPNAVY received 1,315,429 "page views" during November 2013!

Thanks and Good Hunting! VPNAVY

Point of Contact: VPNAVY Webmaster
Established: 01 DEC 1996
URL: <http://www.vpnavy.org>
Important: [Privacy, Disclaimers and Legal Information](#)

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Here, latest notices are posted plus running vertically along the left side, listed alphabetically, are the site topics.

VPNAVY

Notice
Summary Page

REQUEST AND/OR NOTICE	ORIGINAL POSTING	POSTING UPDATE
VPNAVY Forum Online!	06NOV2011	01DEC2013
Shipsmate Information Request 524	20FEB2013	27JUN2015
Assignment of P-3 for Naval Air Museum Barber's Point	04NOV2011	21APR2013
Barnes (P-3) Request	04MAR2013	04MAR2013
Shipsmate Information Request 521	04FEB2013	04FEB2013
Lockheed P-3 Program Extension - We Need Your Help!	13JUN2011	02MAY2012
Patrol Squadrons Trip Association - Resident Time Sponsorship Committee!	10MAY2011	26FEB2012
VP Related Employment Opportunities!	04SEP2008	31DEC2009
VP-68 Reunion!	07SEP2009	02SEP2009

VPNAVY Forum Online!

Posted: November 4th, 2011
Updated: December 2nd, 2013

I put up a VPNAVY FORUM a few years ago. It was well received but the Spammers were going nuts leaving stuff. Fortunately, Forum Software has improved over the past few years and are able to block Spammers with better success. So, I brought VPNAVY Forum back online with new and improved software.

Thanks and Good Hunting!

UPDATE - 241st Shipsmate Registered!... [02DEC2013]

[Return to TOP of page!](#)

Scroll up and down vertically to see all of the categories.

Click on any subject and you are directed further into detail about them. Shown below is the VP-68 page. In the center of the page is a directory of topics about the squadron.

VP-68 Alumni Association Website

<http://www.vp68.org/> [Updated 13JUL2013]

Related Link Summary Page

Notice Summary Page

Patron Summary Page

Aircraft Summary Page

Shipsmate Summary Page

History Summary Page

Mishap Summary Page

Crew Summary Page

Reunion Summary Page

Books, Etc. Summary Page

Guestbook

Forum

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You can find your squadron and previous ones and view and enter posts about it, find former crews, even locate former crewmen. I found posts from Lew Johnson on the VP-661 site about the predecessor crew of the now infamous Crew 4.

The first few times I viewed this amazing site I made a drink or two. Now, I brew a pot of coffee because I know an all-nighter when I see one. This site is just like a great book that you start reading and just can't put down. Enjoy!!

Awesome job Nevins

.....THANK YOU!

VP-68 website

www.vp68.org

(Jim Rozycki)

The very same Nevins Frankel is the webmaster for our VP-68 website. Click ENTER on the homepage and you go to

VP-68 Alumni Association

VP-68 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

ENTER

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All Rights Reserved
Site Updated: 06NOV2013

our welcome page. Down the left side you will find the subject topics. For our site, Nevins depends on us to keep him current on information of events and unfortunately, we are a bit behind.

In this enlarged view of the subject topics, we draw your attention to three subjects.

First is the Membership: click on this to get a current membership application.

Second is the Membership E-Mail Addresses: after clicking on that, each member must go to the below site on that page to sign up:

VP-68 Alumni Association Yahoo Group

After you sign up and submit your email address, once approved you will be added to the list of Blackhawks shown and can send and receive Blackhawk messages on the VP-68 Yahoo site. It is on YOU to keep your email address current so please check your address.

Third is Newsletters: all of the Hawk's Nest newsletters published are here in pdf (read-only) format and may be opened and printed.

When we have a special event or announcement in between quarterly newsletters, we post it on our website. Check it occasionally to see if anything new has been added.

Aviation Far Side

(by Jim Rozycki)

Here is another aviation-related The Far Side by Gary Larsen.....my "favoritist" cartoonist.....enjoy!!



What was THAT??

President's Corner

Wyman Bailey

What a great time was had by all who attended the Fall Social this year. The weather was miserable, but the camaraderie was wonderful. I couldn't believe the attendance level. It just goes to show how an organization like VP-68 generates such great friendships with the desire to relive the wonderful past that all of us cherish in the stories we bring to the table. It's a thrill for me to see and hear the lively exchanges and the bantering with one another. It was like "can you top this".

On another note, our alumni officers and some of the early arrivals were a great help in making Club 9 ready and set up for the evenings social and when it was all over everyone put the place back to its designated lay out. Thanks to all of you for your help. All of that reminded me of how we did things back in the squadron.

Another issue looming before our organization is that of finding an editor for the Hawks Nest. We can never thank Jim Rozycki enough for the fantastic job he has done for us all these years. Even now he is putting out a monumental effort to get our alumni the fall copy. This is because we haven't found someone to replace him as yet. I can't, and we can't, thank him enough for the dedication and the professionalism he has shown in generating our Hawks Nest. If you would be interested in working with Jim on the Hawks Nest, please contact me or Jim Rozycki directly.

Regarding the Royal Caribbean cruise planned for March 28, 2014, it appears that there hasn't been a strong a response as there was for the last one. The discount given by RCI is still available for us at the present. If you are possibly interested in this cruise you can contact Libby. Her number is available in this newsletter. We'd love to have you with us.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you. We look forward to our Spring Fling with you in May.

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
cruzintogther@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 yearly 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: cruzintogther@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

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. Please give them our website or better yet....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:

(**CURRENTLY VACANT**)

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, but especially, Blackhawk news. We need **you** to send us stories, 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 to produce **YOUR** Hawk's Nest newsletter.

Email me at: _____

Call me at: _____

Mail to me at: VP-68 Hawk's Nest

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 web-site:

Did you know.....?

When you view issues of the Hawk's Nest on our website and 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

**SEE YOU AT THE
 2014 SPRING FLING**

17 MAY 2014

**NAS PATUXENT RIVER
 LEXINGTON PARK, MD**

**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):

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Nom. & Elections | <input type="checkbox"/> Audit / Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising | <input type="checkbox"/> Reunions | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 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), it's 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: _____