

December 2021

**Special Points of Interest**

- Sailors will be sailors. By Dave Finley
- Reunion 2022—Pensacola
- College of the Ozarks student thank you's
- Treasurer's Notes
- Chaplain's Corner
- Just for Laughs
- VP Officers and Appointments

**Officers**

**President –**  
Greg Kelley

**1<sup>st</sup> VP –**  
Dino Vlahakis

**2<sup>nd</sup> VP –**  
Bill Klett

**Director –**  
Vic Gulliver

**Director –**  
Nick Niccum

**Director –**  
Floyd Palmer

**Secretary/  
Treasurer**  
Bob Behrend



# VP-2

# THE NEPTUNE

**A Message from the President**

What a six months this has been. At the time of the last newsletter I and probably most of you thought we were over the hump with Covid 19. Then along came Delta and now Omicron. We now have about 800 thousand deaths in the US, many from people within our age group. Sue and I hope all of you who can get one of the three available vaccines and a booster. We got our boosters and the flu shot in October. If any of you have not had the vaccine it is relatively easy with few side effects. It will help us get through this.

I hope you all had a good summer and fall and are able to get with family after the isolation many of us had in 2020. Sue and I were able to have our family members from Houston, Austin and Dallas for Thanksgiving.

.We believe with assistance from Beach Bum Trolley we have a great reunion planned. There is information on registering on page 3. Most of the registration will be electronic. However we have additional information for those who do not have computer access. We encourage you to register early for the reunion so we can plan for the number attending. The hotel will not charge if you have to cancel. The same is true for registration and the tours as long as it is for illness or other reasonable happenings.

Over the past few newsletters, we have had interesting articles by our members on their VP 2 experiences. Following the article by Vic Gulliver in the newsletter, I received an interesting story from Dave Finley about an off base event at Whidbey. It is on page 2. We have another article already for next June but we want more going forward. Please send us your stories. We want to share them.

Sue and I wish you all a wonderful holiday season and throughout the winter and spring. Stay safe.

Greg Kelley, President, Patrol Squadron Two Association.

## Sailors will be Sailors

by Dave Finley

Vic Gulliver's story in the June Newsletter jogged my memory of a great incident at Whidbey that could only happen to sailors. Civilians don't have this kind of fun.

Vic mentioned a drive-in theater. Oh yeah! Here's the setting; the late fifties, I'm fresh in the squadron, AT2, getting to know everyone in the Radio/Radar shop. One evening with a couple of cases of beer in the trunk, a car load of us head out for a movie at the drive-in. Our regular gang included Jim Welch, Mike Ogara, JC Kluth, Jim Gordon, Mike Willmot, Ron Waters, Arley Hamilton, Bob Behan, WD Smith, Neil Kosbab, Joe Ryan, Lloyd Stine and a few others, however at this age I can't recall exactly which six of the group were in the car.

The drive-in is packed. We're not the only ones desperate for some entertainment. Beers are handed around and we're ready for the movie but the screen is blank and boring music is coming over the little speakers that you pulled through the car window off a post.

Impatient beer drinkers, not just our carload, are not quiet for long and a horn is honked. Following that first honk, another car horn responds in Morse Code, "start the movie." Everybody in our car, all AT's, know CW (the Navy term for Morse Code) and we start laughing and almost simultaneously reach for the horn in our car. I think we're in Chuck Reed's Plymouth. Chuck is from Denver and has never joined the Association (he's very shy - only one of the many personality disorders in the Radio/Radar shop)

One of us begins to tap out a response (probably obscene) when a dozen or more other horns in the audience start batting out CW. It's a cacophony and a couple of the horns are really spitting it out. Chuck's Plymouth had a clumsy button horn in the middle of the steering wheel and made for a slow code key, maybe 15-20 words a minute max. Somebody on the other side of the drive-in was pounding away like he had a bug. A bug is an unauthorized civilian code key often used by P2V radio guys that is double fast compared to the Navy issue keys. That guy is sending 50-60 words a minute, and we recognize the hand. The "hand" is slang for the CW style a sender has. There is a rhythm and even lilt to sending code that telegraphers develop over time that makes them identifiable to experienced listeners.

When flying we don't use names, we have numerical ID's or the plane's call letters. And even though unauthorized we would occasionally exchange personal comments with a fellow telegrapher and you kind of got to know them even though you'd never met. The guy sending so well at the drive-in was a Tower guy we had all communicated with and we all, sort of, knew him.

As you might guess, the general public at the movie was not appreciating the CW war going on and there were shouts to stop it. So eventually the profane code comments about the late movie died down and we sent a last message to the Tower guy with the bug. Turns out he was in a Bug, a Volkswagen, which has a great circular rim around the horn on which you could position your arm in such a way that you could bat out 50-60 words a minute. We tell him we have beer and will meet him at the snack shop in the middle of the theater. We meet, return to our car, pop the trunk and while getting acquainted, polish off the cases of Oly and in the process miss the first ten minutes of the movie telling stories. We're sailors after all.

Never saw the guy again, but we all remember that night at the Whidbey drive-in movie.



## VP 2 Reunion 2022



# Important Registration Information

The registration form for the reunion is now ready. If you receive the newsletter by email, the form is attached to the email. If you receive by regular mail, it is enclosed with the newsletter. Beach Bum Trolleys has also posted it on their website at [www.beachbumtrolley.com/vp22022/.htm](http://www.beachbumtrolley.com/vp22022/.htm). This has the registration form, the reunion schedule with links to menus. As an added note the banquet entrees are:

Beef—Pepper Coated Strip Loin grilled & served w/ rosemary

Fish -Grouper Margarita-sautéed filet of Gulf grouper w/ a tequila & triple sec sauce

Chicken Feta & Pancetta Stuffed Chicken breadcrumb crusted & sautéed w/ a chicken volute sauce

We have a wonderful reunion planned and hope you can make it.



### Sad News

As we were about to publish, we were notified that Floyd Palmer passed away on December 15. No other details are known at this time. Floyd was the Association President from 1996 until 2014. He was a loyal and valued member of VP 2. It was during his term that we raised funds and installed the Whidbey Patrol Squadron Memorial at Pioneer Park in Oak Harbor.

We will all miss Floyd.



## VP 2 Reunion 2022



As we said previously, we have made arrangements with Beach Bum Trolleys in Pensacola to be our reunion planners for Reunion 2022. Working with them we have selected a hotel experienced in hosting military reunions for groups our size and accommodating our needs, including the Ready Room. We have arranged for many events, some included in the basic reunion and several optional tours and a dinner. The reunion will start on October 31 with check in and welcome reception and end with the banquet on November 3 with checkout on November 4.

### Where will we stay?

We selected Ashton Inn and Suites as the best hotel to accommodate our group. Since then it has become a Rodeway Inn. They are located at 910 North Navy Blvd. They especially host military reunions and understand our needs and wants. For reunions, they offer a hot breakfast in the banquet room. This is included in the room rate. The banquet room is also included in the room rate.



They do not have a restaurant but this is where we will have catered meals. There are other restaurants in the area. The hotel has an indoor and outdoor pool and is convenient to Corry Station for retired members.

They do have a bar, essential to most of our group. Entertainment included most evenings. This will also be open for our catered meals that are described later. This is a great opportunity to reconnect with ship-mates. There is a lounge in front of the bar.



A plus is the Ready Room. It is located in the Phase II Building where we will have 30 rooms. Under Florida law, Hotels with a bar may not allow outside alcohol. But the Ready room is in a separate building so we will be ready for you.



You may book the hotel room immediately. You will not be charged until you arrive and occupy the room. The room is \$95 plus tax per night and may be reserved by calling 850-455-4561 at any time. Tell them you are with the VP2 reunion 2022 group. The rate is good for three days before and after the reunion.

## What will you be able to do?



Beach Bum Trolleys has arranged a number of events for us. Included with your registration is a Welcome event at the hotel with a Fish Fry (includes chicken for those who do not eat fish) on October 31. The registration also includes the banquet on November 3 and, of course, the Ready Room. The registration fee is \$120 until May 1 and then \$130. Both are per person.



Beach Bum has set up several optional events for us. Tour #1 will be on November 1. Those who sign up for this will take a trolley to the Navel Air Station to watch the Blue Angels practice and then continue through the flight line to the Naval Air Museum where we can tour the displays and have lunch at the Cubi Bar and Café. The cost is \$50 per person.

On November 2, you will have a choice of optional tours. Tour # 2 is the Dolphin Tour. This tour will take you around Pensacola Bay and may allow you to see the Blue Angels practice from over the water. This tour includes lunch. The cost is \$55 per person



Tour #3 is of historic downtown Pensacola. This will take you by many historic sites, including a stop at Veteran's Memorial Park, and ends with lunch at McGuire's Irish Pub. The cost for this tour is \$55 per person.

Tour #4 is an optional activity for a BBQ dinner at the hotel on November 2. This will be a wonderful southern dinner with a cash bar. The cost of the dinner is \$35 per person

More information on these activities may be found on the Beach Bum Trolley website, <https://beachbumtrolley.com>

Thursday will be our business meeting and yet another opportunity to meet with our ship mates.

To get more information on the tours, meals and the hotel, please visit [WWW.beachbumtrolley.com](http://WWW.beachbumtrolley.com).

For those flying to Pensacola there will be more information in the June Newsletter

Your Executive Board believes this will be a wonderful opportunity for us all to get together again and celebrate the brotherhood. Please plan to join us.



## From our College of the Ozarks Scholarship Students



My name is Madison Botta. I am a sophomore and currently working as Office Manager of the Point Newsroom and aspiring to be a Character Camp Mom. I enjoy the campus's beautiful landscape and spending time at the calf barn. I am from Roach, MO where I was homeschooled throughout my education. During that time, I participated in a variety of extracurricular activities including horseback riding, soccer, theater, and creative writing.

I appreciate the College's Christian views. I am studying Psychology. My heart is especially drawn to those with anxiety disorders as I have watched the suffering firsthand. The scholarship is making it possible for me to pursue what God has planned for me without carrying a large financial burden. I plan to use this scholarship in such a way that one day help me bring joy and peace to others. Thank you for this opportunity.

I am Garrott Clarke and am honored to receive the Patrol Squadron Two Association Scholarship. I grew up in a military family in Jackson, MO and was taught to hold a high level of respect for those who have served to protect our freedoms.

When I heard about College of the Ozarks and the opportunity to graduate debt free, I did not hesitate to apply and was accepted for the following spring semester. I am currently a senior accounting major working on attaining my CPA shortly after graduation and starting at a firm in Springfield, MO. During my time here, I have strengthened my values of faith, family, and patriotism, all while working for the school to cover the cost of education.

However, there are other expenses at college that are not covered by the work program, including books and room and board. But thanks to this scholarship, my books will be covered for my final year at college bringing me much closer to graduating with zero debt: a goal many people my age will never be able to reach. Thank you all for serving this great nation and providing me with opportunity.

Editor's note: These have been edited to fit the available space.



## Treasurer's Notes

*By Bob Behrend*

---

A big thanks to all of you that have kept your dues current, or in many cases paid in advance.

If you wish to check your dues status, you can reach me using the contact information below, or log into the Association website at [www.patron2.com](http://www.patron2.com), select roster from the menu and find your name. The due date for dues payment is listed opposite your name. Dues are \$20 and cover a two year period.

**There are a significant number of members who have not kept up with Association dues. As stated above, please check your dues status and start to bring your dues current.**

behrendr001@hawaii.rr.com

VP-2 Association  
98-1820 P Kaahumanu Street  
Pearl City, HI 96782-1882

Dues checks should be made out to VP-2 Association

Please maintain current contact information with the Association. If you have moved or changed some other part of your current contact information, let me know by the email address above, or call 808-455-7670. If you are receiving your newsletter via snail mail and there are two asterisk (\* \*) next to your dues due date, it means we do not have your current email. If you wish to receive the newsletter via email, please notify me with an updated email.

## Chaplain's Corner *by Doug Millar*

Everywhere I go lately I am hearing the same question asked over and over? "What is going on in this country today?" Others ask, "Do you think we are in the end times?" It does seem that almost everyday we hear something in the news that shocks us, or often even seems unbelievable to us. These things are not just happening in our country but seemingly all over the world.

It might be prudent to address this by starting with the question, what are the "end times?" Hollywood has given us several films which show apocalyptic scenes that they think may represent "end times". Many books have addressed the issue. But what can we believe?

The Bible tells us that a real prophet must be accurate 100% of the time – not some of the time, or most of the time, but all of the time. It is full of prophecies that have been made and fulfilled perfectly, as well as other prophecies that are yet to be fulfilled. These are the ones that relate to the "end times." The Bible gives us a vivid picture of what will occur during this time. These things are discussed in the book of Revelation as well as other biblical books and have been looked at and discussed for centuries. There are differing opinions over whether to accept these prophecies as allegorical or as literal depictions of what will occur. The evangelical side of the Christian spectrum tends to accept a literal interpretation, while the more liberal side of the Church seems to lean toward the allegorical interpretation. You will need to decide for yourselves what you believe. Personally I come down on the side of being literal. If the writings make sense literally, then I don't try to assign an allegorical interpretation to them as I don't believe that God is trying to conceal the truth of His Word from any of us, but rather wants it to be available to all who look at it – the uncomplicated thinker as well as the complicated thinker. After all, God made His plan of salvation simple enough that a child can accept it. Jesus said, **"Permit the children to come to Me; do not hinder them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.... whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it at all."** (Mark 10:14-15)

So what does the literal interpretation of the "end

times" look like? My understanding of it is that sometime yet in the future the following events will take place:

The Church (those people who have personally accepted Christ into their lives and accepted His offer of salvation based on His sacrificial death on the cross for the total sin of the world) will be snatched up into the air and transported to Heaven with Christ. Theologians call this event the "Rapture," although the word rapture does not appear in the Bible. This will occur suddenly and unexpectedly.

Following the "Rapture" will come a time when a man (the Anti-Christ) will unite the world into a one world system in which he will be king and everyone who refuses to acknowledge him as such will not be allowed to buy or sell anything. This begins a 7-year period of tribulation, the likes of which man has never seen. The first 3 and half years of this period will be accompanied by terrible happenings on earth with many deaths, calamities, pestilences, etc.

At the end of the first 3 and half years the anti-Christ will declare himself to be deity and will require the whole world to worship him. He will be based in the temple at Jerusalem. Refusal will likely result in death. At the same time God will be pouring out more of His wrath upon the Earth and through natural disasters and supernatural disasters at least half of the world's population will die. The 7-year period will come to a climax with the armies of the world coming together in Israel with the intent of finally wiping the Jews from the face of the earth.

At exactly that time Jesus Christ will suddenly come back to Earth accompanied by all of the Church, which had been "raptured" earlier. He will put an end to the Tribulation and also to the armies at Armageddon - just by the word of His mouth. Christ will be King of the Earth and all of its inhabitants for the next 1000 years – a time of peace and righteousness (which is called the Millennium). Of this period we read of "swords being beat into plowshares" and of the "lion lying down with the lamb." Satan will be confined and not allowed to work any of his evil deeds during the Millennium. After the 1000 years Satan will be released from his confinement and



will bring the world into rebellion against Christ once again.

Then everyone who has ever lived and not accepted God's offer of forgiveness of sins and eternal life will be brought to stand before Christ at the "Great White Throne" for judgment. All will acknowledge Him and bow the knee to Him. Scripture says, **"God highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord."** (Philippians 2:9-11) From this Day of Judgment forward - Satan, demons, fallen angels, and unrepented sinners will be eternally separated from God.

Finally, God will create a New Heaven and a new Earth on which all of His followers will reside forever.

That's what the "end times" look like to those of us who accept the scripture literally. But you may ask, "When will these things happen?" The answer is - no one knows. Jesus disciples asked Him the same question when he talked about the "end time." His answer is recorded in Mark 24:36, **"But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son (Jesus), but the Father alone."** But, Jesus told them that they could watch for the signs of the coming of the end time. Those signs are discussed in the whole chapter of Matthew 24 and are worth your time to consider. As you read them you will find that it does seem pretty descriptive of our present time and situation.

So, if no one knows when this will happen, and none of us can do anything about it - why should we care about it? The reason is that the Bible tells us that if we fail to repent and accept God's way of salvation in our lifetime, or if we fail to do so and are alive at the time of the "Rapture" - then we will have no further chance to repent later, which means that we will stand before Christ at that Great White Throne and be forever cast away from the presence

of God and into an eternal Hell. If you have never repented to God of your sin and asked Him to forgive you and come into your life and be your Lord - please do so today. Today is the day for salvation and an eternal future with God and His people forever. Then you will be prepared to meet the "end times" and all that it portends.

Merry Christmas to you all.



## In Memoriam

We have learned of the loss of the following Association members and non-members since our last newsletter

Melvin Fadness (Feb 21)

Anthony Mills (May 21)

David Krogh (May 21)

John Martin Leis (May 21)

William Eason (Jul 21)

George Jenista (Dec 21)

Floyd Palmer (Dec 21)

If you know of the passing of any of our former VP -2 personnel please advise by email Bob Behrend at [behrendr001@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:behrendr001@hawaii.rr.com) or Doug Donohue at [nvsoar@charter.net](mailto:nvsoar@charter.net)



# Just for laughs



## Quotes by Phyllis Diller

"The reason women don't play football is because 11 of them would never wear the same outfit in public."

"Maybe it's true that life begins at fifty. But everything else starts to wear out, fall out, or spread out."

"Best way to get rid of kitchen odors: Eat out."

"I want my children to have all the things I couldn't afford. Then I want to move in with them."

"Cleaning your house while your kids are still growing up is like shoveling the walk before it stops snowing."

"I'm the only woman who can walk in Central Park at night... and reduce the crime rate."

"Always be nice to your children because they are the ones who will choose your rest home."

"We spend the first twelve months of our children's lives teaching them to walk and talk and the next twelve telling them to sit down and shut up."

"What I don't like about office Christmas parties is looking for a job the next day."

"Housework can't kill you, but why take a chance?"

"The reason the golf pro tells you keep your head down is so you can't see him laughing."

"I never made 'Who's Who,' but I'm featured in 'What's That?'"

## VP-2 Association Officers & Appointments

<b>President</b>	Greg Kelley 274 Plantation Rd. Houston, TX 77024 713-419-5799 gregnsue@sbcglobal.net
<b>1st Vice President</b>	Dino Vlahakis 54 Westview Lane, Lebanon, NH 03766 603-448-3729 cg601@comcast.net
<b>2nd Vice President</b>	Bill Klett 9905 Hidden Trail Ct. Fairfax Station, VA 22039 703-569-2715 flyboynmate1960@verizon.net
<b>Secretary/Treasurer</b>	Robert Behrend 98-1820 Kaahumanu St. Apt P, Pearl City, HI 96782 808-455-7670 behrendr001@hawaii.rr.com
<b>Director</b>	Vic Gulliver 1900 Franklin Drive, Glenview, IL 60026 847-296-6907 vicgulliver@comcast.net
<b>Director</b>	Nick Niccum 18821 185th Ave. NE, Woodinville, WA 98077 425-788-9834 nicknaccum@hotmail.com
<b>Director</b>	Floyd D. Palmer 213 Woodhill Ct., Mankato, MN 56001 507-327-6761 floydp@palmerbusservice.com
<b>Website Coordinator</b>	Doug Donohue PO Box 2894, Gardnerville, NV 89410 775-781-3737 nvsoar@charter.net
<b>Association Chaplain</b>	Doug Millar 12515 Maple Street, Leavenworth, WA 98826 509-888-1910 dna@dnamillar.com
<b>Association Historian</b>	Skip Forseth 2319 Brewster, Redwood City, CA 94062 650-365-2806 p2flyer@pacbell.net
<b>Association Parliamentarian</b>	Bob Bender 197 Mill Pond Drive, Middleville, MI 49333 616-450-6790 bobender@yahoo.com
<b>Membership Chairman</b>	Bob Champoux 286 145 <sup>th</sup> Place SE, Bellevue, WA 98007 425-502-9883 rchampoux@comcast.net

**LOOKING TO SHARE  
INFORMATION  
IN THE  
VP 2 NEPTUNE  
NEWSLETTER?**



If any of our members would  
like to contribute news,  
thoughts,  
experiences, etc.,

Email:  
Greg Kelley  
[gregnsue@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gregnsue@sbcglobal.net)



**Stay Safe**

**Patrol Squadron Two Association**  
98-1820 Kaahumanu St Apt P  
Pearl City HI 96782-1882



We're on the Web

<http://www.patron2.com/>