

"ADAMANTE SEMPER PARATO"

VP-2- The Neptune

Volume 1, Issue 17

June 2009

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The VP-2 Association's IRS charter gives us tax-exempt status, but prohibits us from any sort of political activity. I'm going to say something that might be construed as political, but it really isn't and I hope you won't take it that way. Our nation's economy is in a downward spiral. Our President and our Congress are throwing money at the problem, but I don't think they are aiming squarely at what needs to be fixed. Instead of bailing out the banking industry, Wall Street, the auto industry, etc., they need to be bailing out our citizens. Sending stimulus checks to people and corporations is not the way to do that. The way to do that is to make sure that everyone who wants to work in America can find a decent job suitable to their skills.

Millions of Americans are out of work. Get them jobs so they can make their mortgage payments. That alone will heal the banking industry. With work comes a salary that allows people to buy cars and other commodities. That would fix the auto industry's lack of sales and boost our economy back up where it belongs. Our federal government has looked the other way while American corporations outsource work to foreign countries and import labor to replace Americans. In some cases, corporations are actually rewarded for sending work overseas. Our government sponsors unfair competition from abroad so that consumers can pay the lower price of a foreign-made product or service without any regard for the American worker who is replaced in the process. You have to look hard to find a product

made in America any more. We have a responsibility to our own citizens before we help any foreign workers.

It doesn't matter whether you are a Democrat, Republican... liberal or conservative... or something else. We are all in the same boat, so this is not a political issue. I hope you will all contact your senators and representatives and even the President to remind them of your concerns for the future of America, whether those concerns are about Social Security, health care, jobs or whatever. Our Government needs to get back into the business of serving the people, not their own self-interests or those of paid lobbyists. We need better legislation, not handouts from our Congress, to get our country back on course.

Remember that if you give a man a fish, he'll eat that day. If you teach a man to fish, he'll never work again. (I just had to throw that in.)

As you'll read elsewhere in this Newsletter, we've set a date and place for the 2010 reunion in Pensacola. If you have one, mark your 2010 calendar for getting together November 1st to the 5th. We'll have more on the planning for this reunion in the December 2009 Newsletter.

Lois and I send our regards to all. We hope and pray for the safety and well-being of our service men and women on duty around the world who work to keep our nation free.

Floyd D. Palmer
Association President



Officers:

President – Floyd D. Palmer

1st VP – Dino Vlahakis

2nd VP – Al Hall

Director – Vic Gulliver

Director – Milt DeBuhr

Director – Jim Welch

Secretary/Treasurer –

Doug Donohue

Military Officers Association of America Scholarships

The following letter and certificates were received from the president of MOAA in response to the scholarship donations made by the VP-2 Association this year, as voted by our members:



VADM Norbert R. Ryan, Jr., USN (Ret)
President and CEO

March 16, 2009

Patrol Squadron Two Association
c/o CDR Douglas J. Donohue, USN (Ret.)
PO Box 2894
Gardnerville, NV 89410-2894

Dear Members of the Patrol Squadron Two Association,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the Designated Scholar Society of the MOAA Scholarship Fund. We have established the "Whidbey Patrol Squadron Memorial, sponsored by the Patrol Squadron Two Association Designated Scholarship" and the "Patrol Squadron Two Association, Sponsor of the Whidbey Patrol Squadron Memorial Designate Scholarship", as shown on the enclosed certificates.

This fall, and every year in perpetuity, two students will be selected to receive a \$500 grant from your scholarships, in addition to an interest-free loan. You will receive information about your students, and your students will receive your name and address so that they can write a thank you letter. The students' names and your scholarships will be listed each November in our *Military Officer* magazine.

A Designated Scholarship is a wonderful way to help our most deserving students and to leave a legacy of all who faithfully served our nation as members of Naval Air Station Whidbey Island Patrol Squadron community.

Your Association has truly touched the future by helping generations of military children to achieve a college education.

Sincerely, *As all the best!*

Norbert Ryan

Mary Harts!

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION of AMERICA

201 North Washington Street • Alexandria, VA 22314-2539 • (703) 549-2311

The Scholarship Fund
Military Officers Association of America



Has established the
Whidbey Patrol Squadron Memorial
Designated Scholarship
Sponsored by the Patrol Squadron Two Association

DATE 16 MARCH 2009

Touching the Future

Clark Ripper VADM USN (Ret)
PRESIDENT

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Touching the Future

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PRESIDENT



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Have you ever considered the idea that you quite possibly are invisible? I certainly have, and it seems to be truer every day. I think that it probably has to do with graying hair (white, in my case) and lines pressed into our faces by the passage of time. Let me give you an example. Recently my wife and I were exiting a bookstore. Having been raised in a time and place where it was considered proper to hold the door for a lady, I stepped up to the door and opened it so that my wife could go ahead of me. In less time than it takes to read this, three teenagers rushed in through the door - practically knocking the two of us down. The last person of their group stopped, stepped back, grabbed the door himself, and invited us to please come out before he entered. His action was a thoughtful and beautiful act of contrition in response to the actions of his peers.

Many of us VP-2 types have gotten old enough to be experiencing the show of disregard, which seems to be prevalent in the younger generation for those of us in the older generation. Perhaps I am wrong, but it seems to me that much of this is caused by the value that our culture places on "looks." If you don't look good, you can't be worth much! Think of the case of Susan Boyle. She is the Scottish woman who recently appeared on a British talent show and was described in the Los Angeles Times as "an almost-50-year-old virgin, unemployed, with frizzy hair, midriff bulge, and a figure like a spinster teacher from the 1940s," - hardly the bio needed to make much of an impression with the entertainment

industry! But after singing for only 15 seconds she brought the large audience, as well as the judges to their feet in awe. It is a wonderful story, but one that reveals a shameful truth about many of us - we often tend to judge people by their looks.

There is a great story in the Bible about the choosing of David to be the king of Israel. (David was the guy who later killed the Philistine giant Goliath with only a slingshot, a rock, and Goliath's own sword.) A prophet by the name of Samuel was sent by God to point out whom the next king of Israel would be. God sent Samuel to the home of Jesse, the father of eight sons. Samuel looked at seven of the sons and was sure that God would pick the tallest, strongest, and best looking of the sons to be the next king. That would be Eliab, the eldest son. "But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.'" Finally David was sent for. He was the youngest and the least likely choice. In fact, he was out in the pastures tending to the sheep. When Samuel saw David "the Lord said, 'Arise, anoint him; for this is he.'" Looks had been deceiving.

Many years later, when David was king, he fouled up royally. He got himself involved in an adulterous relationship, which resulted in the birth and death of a child; deceit and lying on his part; and ultimately murder. (The whole sordid story can be found in the two Bible books of 1st & 2nd Samuel) Ultimately King David was exposed, broken, and came to a place of true

BY DOUG MILLAR

repentance. Many things changed in his life. In a final summation of David's life, the Bible tells us that God viewed David "as being a man after His (God's) own heart."

What does God see when he looks at my heart, or your heart? Does he see a heart filled with pride, or hatred, or bitterness, or envy, or greed? Just like King David, we too can allow God to give us a "heart transplant." In Psalm chapter 51 we have King David's prayer that he wrote out for God after his illicit affair with Bathsheba. In it David says, "...You would not be pleased with sacrifices, or I would bring them. If I brought you a burnt offering, you would not accept it. The sacrifice You want is a broken spirit. A broken and repentant heart, O God, you will not despise..." This statement is as true today as it was almost 3000 years ago when King David wrote it.

God still desires to give us His forgiveness. He has provided the gift of forgiveness and salvation through the death of His Son, Jesus Christ. If you, like me, need a "heart transplant," all you have to do is ask for it and God will grant it to you.

In Memoriam

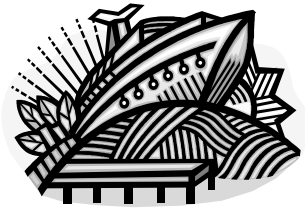
We have learned of the loss of the following squadron mates since the last newsletter:

W.R. "Dick" Seng (squadron 59-62)
Dec 08

Nancy Moran
(husband Thomas J- squadron 56-59) Jan 09



If you know of the passing of any of our former VP-2 Personnel, please advise Doug Donohue by email at nvsoar@charter.net



CRUISE REUNION POLL RESULTS

BY AL HALL

At the San Diego Reunion there was some discussion about having a future reunion on a 4 or 5 day cruise. In the December 2008 Newsletter we asked you to send your thoughts about a cruise-reunion to me via email or snail mail. While waiting for your thoughts to arrive, we did some research into costs, accommodations, schedules, etc.

The responses we got to our request for inputs only represented about 10% of the membership. Of the approximately 40 responses, some two-thirds were positive and the rest either neutral or strongly opposed.

The end result of all of this is that there doesn't seem to be enough interest to make a cruise a strong contender for an upcoming reunion. There does seem to be enough interest among a few members to put together a cruise that would not be a reunion, but instead just a bunch of VP-2ers getting together for some R&R. Since this wouldn't be an Association function, anyone who is so inclined could put it together. We would welcome a volunteer who would like to lead the way in planning a cruise opportunity for those interested.

Thanks to all who took the time to respond. See you in Pensacola.

THE SHIP'S STORE

BY VIC GULLIVER

Activity at the Ship's Store has slowed down as it usually does midway between Association reunions. We continue to have a few odd-size shirts available in the Store. These shirts and the few sizes available can be seen on our website. There is also a mail-order form on the website to download and use for sending in orders and for approximating the mailing costs of your orders. We just received a new shipment of ball caps with our famous embroidered VP-2 logo. These ball caps sell for the low price of \$12 each... two for \$24. We have a few women's golf visors left at \$10... all in navy blue, one size fits all. We also carry coffee mugs for \$10, 3" and 4.5" squadron patches for \$3 and \$4.50, Cloisonné lapel pins and charms (with loops) for \$7, desk clocks/calculators for \$5.30, and VP-2 Zippo lighters for \$18. We have some fabulous CD's that you can show on your computer with photos from the San Diego reunion for \$10 (postage included).

For those who don't use computers and the Internet, you can send your orders to me in the mail with a check. Just tell me what you want and allow a reasonable amount for packing and shipping. Shipping charges vary by weight and distance. Our established shipping charges posted on the website are average costs for the weight involved. You may be charged a little more or a little less than what it actually costs to ship your goods. Our intention is to break even on postage in the long run. Note that postal rates have increased several times since we first started the Ship's Store. With the latest postal increase we have now had to raise our posted shipping charges for the first time.



The Wisdom of Larry the Cable Guy

How much deeper would the ocean be without sponges?

Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines.

What happens if you get scared half to death, twice?

Why do psychics have to ask you for your name?

Just remember – if the world didn't suck, we would all fall off.

Light travels faster than sound. That's why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

Life isn't like a box of chocolates. It's more like a jar of jalapenos. What you do today, might burn your butt tomorrow.



VP-2 MEMBERSHIP BY BOB CHAMPOUX

Welcome aboard to our newest members: #567 Greg and Susan Kelley (64-66) and #568 Calvin and Ann Price (62-64).

Bill Gilliam (53-57) and Ed Philbrook (53-57) recently found us on the internet and have been sent membership application forms.

Membership activity has been slow recently. Please review your cruise books and send in names of folks that you would like us to chase down. Provide as much information about the person as you can, including full name (not nickname).

facebook

If your grandkids have pressured you into checking out Facebook, you should join the Patrol Squadron Two (VP-2) Association page.

Patrol Squadron Now Deployed Here Has Interesting 13 Year Background

When Patrol Squadron TWO returned to Kodiak this month they brought with them not only a new breed of the famous Navy Neptune bomber, but also an interesting record of service.

Commissioning of the squadron took place at DeLand, Florida, on March 1, 1943, under the designation of Patrol Bombing Squadron 130.

PATRON 130, flying the famous Lockheed PV-2, had an adventurous career in World War II, both in the Atlantic and Pacific areas. Operational duties took the squadron to Puerto Rico, Trinidad, Brazil, Hawaii, the Admiralty, Schouten and Philippine Islands and Moretai in the Netherlands East Indies.

During the period of August 1944 through April 1945 the squadron flew 7000 hours to complete 709 operational missions. These missions ac-

is an able and thoroughly "professional professional." This is a first-class show, and it is expected the support will also be first-class.

counted for 94 enemy ships, seven planes, and many ground targets damaged and destroyed. Also it is interesting to note, as far as can be determined, PATRON 130 was the first squadron of land based bombers to operate from the Philippines in the liberation campaign, arriving 15 days after the initial landings on Leyte.

After the war, in November 1946, the designation of the squadron was changed to Medium Patrol Squadron TWO and then later to its present designation of Patrol Squadron TWO.

For the most part, since World War II, VP-2 has called Ault Field, Whidbey Island, Washington their home port. Deployments have been made, by the squadron, to Kawajalien, Okinawa, Kodiak, and Japan.

A complement of 50 officers and nearly 300 enlisted men man and maintain that twelve Lockheed P2V-7 "Neptunes" that comprise the squadron.

Patrol Squadron TWO is justifiably proud of its past record, and faces the future with a determination to continue it's performance in the best traditions of Naval Service.

Commander Robert B. Minton, of Ontario, California, is commanding officer of the squadron and Commander Allen W. Lamarre, of Ashland, Oregon, is the executive officer.



CDR R. B. MINTON
Commanding Officer, VP-2



CDR A. W. LA MARRE
Executive Officer, VP-2

Bruce Walker sent this article from The December 7, 1956 issue of the Naval Station Kodiak Bear base newspaper for inclusion in the newsletter:

INTERNET HOAXES



Those of us who use the Internet know about the viruses that can infect and do serious damage to our computers. There are also a wide variety of spy bots that are silently embedded in our computers and are transmitted through email message attachments. Spy bots monitor our computer use and report our activities back to whoever planted them. No, this is not some science fiction story. Spy bots exist. If you don't believe it, install some spy ware removal software and see what is already embedded in your computer. You'll be amazed.

There are two main ways to spread viruses and spy bots from computer to computer. One of those ways is so easy to halt. We all get those emails from friends and family with dozens of beautiful pictures that we just have to share with others. We get jokes, cartoons, unusual photographs, religious sayings and prayers, even political information that just begs to be passed on to a wider audience. We receive messages with information so outrageous that it can't possibly be true. Spy bots and viruses can be spread by worms that are unleashed on us by computer terrorists, but the most common source of spy bots and viruses is the attachments that are passed on to us by our friends and families in emails. To slow the spread of viruses and spy bots, we should be more selective of what we pass along to our friends.

Here are some thoughts about passing emails to others:

- Your computer will not be affected simply by reading an email. The problems are spread by opening the e-mail's attachments.
- If you don't know and trust the sender, DO NOT open any of the e-mail's attachments, and do not forward the email to anyone. Delete the email.
- If the email concludes with "now send this to 10 other people," or "send this to everyone you know," don't send it. Delete it.
- If the email asks you to sign the petition and pass it on, don't do it. Delete it. The originator of the petition would love to add your email address to his SPAM list.
- If the information or photo seems unreal, it probably is. Check the source before you pass it on. The most outrageous hoaxes can easily be checked on snopes.com or other hoax-buster websites.
- When you send emails to large groups, use the Bcc address category so that all the email addresses can't be gathered by any one recipient (or spy).
- If a Nigerian sends you an email, delete it before reading it!
- Mrs. Fields, Bill Gates and a bunch of other people WILL NOT make a contribution to some charity just because you forwarded an email. Don't do it.
- Most (but not all) of those "photos" by the astronauts from space are phony. Those showing the lights of cities from space are all phony. Most of the videos of "night ops in Iraq" are taken from video games, not from any military sources.
- Many of the emailed editorials supposedly from Andy Rooney, Paul Harvey and a host of others famous people are fictitious. Before you pass one on, verify the publication it supposedly came from. When you do pass one on, show the source and date it was published.

If you pass along information without proof of the source, then you are just gossiping.

Let's try to be selective on the stuff we send over the Internet. Jokes and cartoons are one thing, but unfounded rumors and suspicious data have no place in our lives.



TREASURER'S NOTES

BY DOUG DONOHUE

Thanks to all those who continue to support the association through their dues and in-kind donations. Association cash expenses are very low, and in-kind donations pick up what would otherwise be significant drains on the treasury.

The perpetual scholarship donations have been made. Certificates and a letter from the president of the Military Officers' Association of America are shown elsewhere in this Newsletter. Scholarship selections are now in process and two students will begin to receive their stipends for the 2009-10 school year. The association can expect to hear from them this fall.

Please remember to keep your contact information current.

All the best from Nevada, Doug

VP-2 REUNION 2010: WHERE IS IT? WHEN IS IT?

BY JIM SUMMITT



The plans for the VP-2 2010 reunion in Pensacola are starting to fall into place. We have a committee of five co-chaired by myself and Harry Herman plus Bob Casey, Dave Hartsaw and Russell Walsh. All who dare to do so can join us for four nights of remembering how it was in the good ole days.

We have selected the Pensacola Beach Gulf Front Hilton, an outstanding resort facility on the Gulf of Mexico with a beautiful beach, easy access to good restaurants and activities in the Pensacola area. Look it up on the internet.

You will be impressed. The date we have selected is November 1-5, 2010 which allows us to anticipate reasonably good weather and some of the Blue Angel home coming events.

The reunion agenda has not been determined but will certainly include a welcome reception, a luncheon and a sit-down banquet dinner. We will also plan convenient transportation to Blue Angel activities and the Naval Aviation Museum. Other activities will be identified and communicated at a later date.

Put it on your calendar NOW and watch for more details in the December newsletter.

We want biographies from everyone who served in VP-2! Submit your biography today!

Harold Picard, PRCM, USN (Ret)

Patrol Squadron Two 1959-1962

Naval Career:

Sep 1948 - Boot Camp, Great Lakes IL; NATTC, Corpus Christi TX; Airman P School, Memphis TN;

Parachute A School, Lakehurst NJ

Nov 1949 - Patron One; NAS Whidbey Island, WA

1952 - VR7, VR8; Hickam Field HI

1955 - VF152; NAS Moffett Field CA

1956 - Parachute Experimental Unit, El Centro CA; Participated in 440 test parachute jumps.

1959 - Patron Two, NAS Whidbey Island, WA

1962 - US Navy Parachute Demonstration Team; "The Chuting Stars", with 524 parachute jumps making a total of 964 military jumps.

1966 - Patron One Nine, NAS Moffett Field, CA; designated Aircrew

1969 - Navy Parachute Test Facility, El Centro CA; assigned as Jump Master; advanced to E9; departed with a total of 2247 military parachute jumps!

1978 - 30 years naval service; assigned as Command Master Chief of VA196 at NAS Whidbey Island WA.

1981 - Command Chief, NAS Whidbey Island WA

1985 - Retired after 37 years of service in the United States Navy

Post Navy retirement -

Attended Skagit Valley College acquiring Associate of Arts and Marine Technology degrees.

Volunteer (past 16 years) at the Whidbey Retired Activities Office acting as Casualty Assistance

Officer for the military retired community.

Fishing with AFCM Maurice Lund and ADC Vic Vaccaro.

Radio Controlled Model Aircraft

Enjoying every fine retired Navy day!

Have been married to my bride Patricia for 57 years, the result of which, inter alia, is 3 daughters, 10 grandchildren, and 15 great-grandchildren.



Floyd, VP-2 had a great reunion here in SD in 2008. Hope you can join VP-1 shipmates this year!
Jim Mc

February 24, 2009

VP-1 POPS Members:

This is your 2009 San Diego Reunion Chairman, Jim McAllister, writing those VP-1er's not on e-mail. Our Fall 09 reunion is rapidly creeping up on us and we need to hear from you if planning on attending this coming October. For those who have not yet paid their 2008-2009 dues please do so by sending \$15.00 to our Secretary, Reisse Parin, at 7721 Settlers Avenue, Boise, ID 83704 (check made out to "VP-1 POPS"). The reunion will be held here in San Diego in Hotel Circle, Mission Valley at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Your reunion committee is composed of myself, Pete Drees, and Charlie Budenz. We are planning a gala old time from Thursday, October 8th thru Sunday October 11th. Here is a brief schedule of events:

OCTOBER 8, 2009 THRU OCTOBER 11, 2009

Thursday 8 Oct Check-in/register 1000 hrs. Get re-acquainted in hospitality suite or on your own site seeing in SD. An evening Pizza party is planned in our hospitality suite at 1800 hrs.

Friday 9 Oct. Golf/Picnic cookout at Admiral Baker MWR Center 0800(golf)/1300hrs cookout till 1700hrs. Evening activities: (On your own) Gaslamp/Seaport village/harbor cruises, Fleet Week activities, theater, shows, etc.

Saturday 10 Oct. (On your own)USS Midway (CV41) tour/Harbor cruises, San Diego trolley tours to Old Town, Balboa Park, SD Zoo, Wild Animal Park, Wine tasting, etc. Evening Dinner Dance at Admiral Kidd Club on San Diego Bay.

Sunday 11 Oct. Sunday Brunch in our hospitality suite at 1000 hrs followed by VP-1 POPS Business meeting and election of officers. Adjourn/Closing after election of new Officers. An additional 2 days stay over available at reunion room price.

This is an abbreviated schedule and when you register I will provide you with an information packet this summer. The hotel is accepting room reservations now. You may call for a reservation at 1-888 233 9527. Our registration code is "VPR". 75 rooms have been reserved for our reunion. This hotel is one of the most used facilities in San Diego for Navy reunions. Room rates are \$115 per night plus taxes with a 3 night minimum. Please call to confirm your intent to attend to me @ 760 489-5632, Pete Drees @ 619 286-7729 or Charlie Budenz @ 760 747 5725. More information will be in the Spring Newsletter so pay your dues (\$15.00) and one will be mailed to you.

ALOHA SHIPMATES

Jim (Silky) McAllister



VP-2 Association Officers and Appointments



President	Floyd D. Palmer 213 Woodhill Court, Mankato, MN 56001 800-903-9958, 507-388-2059 (Fax) FloydP@PalmerBusService.com
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Director	Milt DeBuhr 171 Humbug Road, Yreka, CA 96097 530-841-0805 miltdebuhr@snowcrest.com
Director	Jim Welch 8601 Terrell Drive, North Richland Hills, TX 76180 817-788-2204 japwelch@sbcglobal.net
Association Chaplain	Doug Millar, 12515 Maple Street, Leavenworth, WA 98826 509-548-3154 dna@dnamillar.com
Association Historian	Skip Forseth, 2319 Brewster, Redwood City, CA 94062 650-365-2806 p2flyer@pacbell.net
Association Parliamentarian	Bob Bender, 197 Mill Pond Drive, Middleville, MI 49333 616-450-6790 bobender@yahoo.com
Membership Chairman	Bob Champoux, 286 145 th Place SE, Bellevue, WA 98007 425-502-9883 rchampoux@comcast.net
2010 Reunion Committee	Harry Herman, 3365 Marcus Pointe Blvd., Pensacola, FL 32505-1898 850-857-4353 harry_herman@bellsouth.net
	James Summitt, P.O. Box 250, Niceville, FL 32588 850-729-6945 summittk@cox.net
Website Director www.patron2.com	Douglas Donohue PO Box 2894, Gardnerville, NV 89410-2894 775-265-3861 nvsoar@charter.net



Looking to Share Information
in the
VP 2 Neptune Newsletter?

If any of our members
would like to contribute
news, thoughts,
experiences, etc.,
please email:
Floyd D. Palmer at:

Floyddp@palmerbusservice.com

Patrol Squadron Two Association
PO Box 2894
Gardnerville, NV 89410



June 2009 VP-2 Newsletter