



NEW MEMBERS

AO1 (AW) Christopher S. Heinz
 LT Kenneth A. Brandon
 CDR Allen W. Wooten
 Marianne L. Schmid
 LCDR Leon 'Pat' Canaday USN Ret.
 AOCS Claude I. Leasure USN Ret.
 William L. Hudson
 AO3 Christopher P. Pinnick
 AO2 Michael R. Martin
 AO1 Andrew Carnegie IV
 AOAN Troy K. Palmer
 Larry E. Anglin
 AOAA Niesha S. Shuman
 AO2 Arturo L. Colon
 ENS Jason E. Brown
 CPL Samuel J. Spitzmiller
 AO2 Ray D. Perry
 AO2 Casey L. Wheelock
 AOC Jackie H. Gunn USN Ret.
 AO3 Jason G.S. Chang
 AOC Terry J. Van Kampen
 CPL Lacy N. Paulsen
 AO2 Brett L. Thompson
 AO1 Ronda Lucy
 AOAN Ethan J. Calderwood
 AO3 Benjamin J. Llewellyn
 AOC Steven D. Bradley
 AOAN Melissa J. Sweeting
 AO2 Crystal L. Ward
 AOC William A. Hromada

AOC Derrick L. Coach
 AOC Don R. Walker USN Ret.
 AOC(AW/SW) John S. Newman
 AOC Steven D. Gushrowski USN Ret.
 AOC Nestor J. Ortiz
 TM2(SS) Jarrod L. Herdt
 AO2 Krystal R. Van Kirk
 AOCS Matt Thackery
 AO1 Wayne Toth
 AOAN Lawrence M. Levan
 AOC Isaiah Canteen
 AOAA Donald L. Hudson
 AO3 Chad A. Watkins
 AOCM Gregg A. Erwin
 Roger A. Smuda
 AO1 Lawama S. Whiteside
 AO1 Laura A. Colby
 AO1 Luis A. Aponteramos
 AO1(AW/SW) Alberto A. Nixon
 AOC Byron R. Edelstein
 Barry A. Grimm
 LCPL Gregory T. Paulsen
 AO1(AC/AW) Matthew T. Tribou USN Ret.
 AO1 Chris D. Tucker
 AOAN Holly E. Colburn
 AO1 Rafael J. Rivera Ruiz
 AO1 Shane A. Pace
 AO3 Norman K. Newson
 AOC Anthony M. Wesolowski
 ENS Jermaine L. Moore

SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTORS

AOCS John Cataldi Jr. USN Ret.
 AOCSM Larry Adkinson USN Ret.
 AOCSM William & Barbara Foote USN Ret.
 Mike & Elaine Durand
 AOC Joseph & Sylvia Crofton Sr. USN Ret.
 AO1 Harold & Ramona Langford USN Ret.
 AOCS John & Ann Oates USN Ret.
 CWO4 Orin L. 'Lee' Squire USN Ret.
 LCDR Tannis & Jeanne Watson USN Ret.
 AMH1 Pete & Joan Ronbeck USN Ret.
 AOCSM William P. McCracken USN Ret.
 AOC Nash & Marlys Flores USN Ret.
 In Memory Of Emily Deibert
 AOC(AW/SW) Jeffery & Beverly Shaw
 Malcolm & June Hill
 AOCSM Richard & Linda Hastings USN Ret.
 Kristen & Ed Stith

AOC A.N. & Connie Knobloch USN Ret.
 CWO2 Edward & Kristin Stith USMC Ret.
 Marvin & Kiyoko Vickers
 Alan Higgins
 AOCSM Gilbert & Sue Rittner USN Ret.
 CWO2 Carl & Sandy Fargon USN Ret.
 Richard J. Peipert Jr.
 LCDR Santiago & Denise Ortiz Jr. USN
 AO1 Charles & Jane Thomes USN Ret.
 Dennis J. Klaszewski
 LCDR Kenneth & Sandy Porter USN Ret.
 Joanne & David Carney
 AO1 Tracy & Dianna Trussell USN Ret.
 AO2(AW/SW) Heather R. Gross-Payne
 Bruce A. Kaiser
 CWO4 Eduardo & Jessie Pirando Jr.

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

AOC Gregory L. Johnson
 GYSGT Donald E. Kubik USMC Ret.
 CDR Allen W. Wooten
 AOC Jackie H. Gunn USN Ret.
 AOCS Claude I. Leasure USN Ret.
 AO1 Stewart W. Swygert USN Ret.
 CWO2 John E. Printy USN Ret.
 W. Floyd Moore
 AOCS Stephen W. Scarbrough USN Ret.

AO1 (AW) Christopher S. Heinz
 AOC Don R. Walker USN Ret.
 AOCSM Bobby L. Wise USN Ret.
 AOCSM Thomas G. Atwood USN Ret.
 AOC Terry J. Van Kampen
 Barry A. Grimm
 Susan Lepard Moore
 CWO5 Donald S. Edgington

LOCATOR

Can you help?.....Know where any of these members can be located? If so please contact me at aaotreas@cox.net, snail mail or give me a call.

AO1(AW) Christopher S. Smith
 MSGT Steven D. Stockdale
 CWO3 Stephen C. Berrey USN Ret.
 John L. Todd
 AO2 Emnoel L. Agas
 LCDR Thomas W. Brown USN Ret.
 AOC Corey W. Grojean
 CWO2 Paul D. Smith USN Ret.
 AO2 Daniel A. Luebbert
 AOC Jon L. Bujan
 AOAN Eddie W. Ford
 AO1 Chad J. Thomas
 MGYSGT Anthony J. Ramos
 AOCS John E. Braun Sr. USN Ret.
 AO2 David V. Yates
 AO1 Edward Madera

CWO2 Patrick J. Najmulski USMC
 AO2 Brett J. Payne
 AOAN Matthew P. Andrews
 AO2 Travis B. Bohling
 AOC Richard C. Hinzpeter USN Ret.
 AOAN Maria Alicia Brewer
 AO2(AW/SW) Heather R. Grosso-Payne
 AO2 Christopher D. Deeprai
 AO3 Houston A. Cradeur
 AO2 Amanda J. Beaver
 AO2 Ivory D. Coachman
 LCDR Lonnie P. Harrison USN Ret.
 AO3 Sean M. O'Hara
 AOC David Childs USN Ret.
 ENS Josh Thompson
 AOC(AW/SW) Larry D. Hill

NOTICE: Looking for any kind of information/pictures on the following Association of Aviation Hall of Fame inductees. CDR Roy Asher, U.S.N., RET., AOCSM Frank H. Parker, U.S.N., RET., LCDR Leslie H. Ovre, U.S.N., RET., AOCSM Robert Branum, U.S.N., RET., and AOCS Richard A. Smith. Information can be mailed to Charles Onken, 291 W. Spruce Place, Lemoore, CA. 93245-1970 or e-mail to onkenc@sbcglobal.net. Phone:559-924-2503

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP ! Chuck Onken





2009 CONVENTION RESERVATION APPLICATION

ADVANCE ORDER FORM

DEADLINE IS 1 AUGUST 2010

**I plan to attend the following activities
(please check appropriate ones):**

- 12 Aug (Thu) Board of Directors Meeting _____
- 13 Aug (Fri) AO of The Year Committee _____
- 13 Aug (Fri) Scholarship Committee _____
- 13 Aug (Fri) AAO Hall of Fame Committee _____
- 13 Aug (Fri) Membership Committee _____
- 13 Aug (Fri) By-Laws Committee _____
- 13 Aug (Fri) Nominations Committee _____
- 13 Aug (Fri) AAO Social _____
- 14 Aug (Sat) General Business Meeting _____
- 14 Aug (Sat) Awards Banquet _____
- 15 Aug (Sun) Board of Directors Meeting _____

**AUXILIARY OF THE ASSOCIATION OF
AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN**

- 12 Aug (Thu) Board of Directors Meeting _____
- 14 Aug (Sat) General Business Meeting _____
- 15 Aug (Sun) Board of Directors Meeting _____

NOTE

Committee Chairmen will require the assistance from the membership for the above listed committees. Please indicate committee or committees that you wish to participate in.

ADVANCED TICKET ORDERING INFORMATION

Payment of the Registration Fee is required to attend any meeting or convention function. Registration Fees must be paid prior to purchasing tickets for the Social and/or Awards Banquet. Registration Fees are not required for dependents 17 and under. However, they must purchase tickets to attend the Social and/or Awards Banquet.

For active duty E-4 and below:

1 year free membership in the Association is included in your registration fee. If you are already a member your membership will be extended one year. To qualify for this special registration package please include a completed application with your registration and or ticket order.

ORDERS & MONEY FOR ADVANCE REGISTRATION FEES, AAO SOCIAL AND AWARDS BANQUET TICKETS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY 01 AUGUST 2010. ORDERS & MONEY RECEIVED AFTER THIS DATE WILL BE RETURNED OR MUST HAVE LATE FEE'S INCLUDED.

Visa/ MasterCard Credit Card Fee's are Non Refundable.

For Registration Fees, AAO Social and/or Awards Banquet send check, money order, or credit card info made payable to and mailed to:

**ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN
J.J. LaMaitre
9691 Bundy Drive
Santee, CA 92071-2771**

Registration Fees (choose appropriate category):

1. Member \$20.00 (\$25.00 after 1 Aug 10)
Name of Member _____ \$ _____
(please print)

2. Non-Member \$30.00 (\$35.00 after 1 Aug 10)
(Not including guest or spouse)
Name of Non-Member _____ \$ _____
(please print)

3. Additional Guests (Spouse) 18 and over \$10.00 \$ _____
Names of Guests _____
(Spouse) (please print)

Advance Social & Awards Banquet ticket prices:

AAO Social \$25.00 each (\$30.00 after 1 Aug 10) \$ _____

Awards Banquet \$35.00 each (\$40.00 after 1 Aug 10) \$ _____

Credit Card Fee \$10.00 (if applicable) Non-Refundable \$ _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Name exactly as it appears on credit card _____

Signature _____

Master Card/ Visa # _____ Exp. _____

Circle One: Hold Tickets Or Mail My Tickets to:

Your name _____

Address _____

City _____, State _____ Zip _____

Area Code/Phone number _____



102 –year-old veteran is a proud American

By **DORIS ELMORE**
Staff Writer

Whenever Bill Kamm sees the American flag waving in the breeze feelings stir inside at what America means to him. He is proud of his country and was proud to serve in the Navy during WW II.

Bill will celebrate his 102nd birthday on December 11. He was a member of the Atwood American Legion, James Reeder Post 770 for over 65 years> He is the oldest living veteran in the Atwood/Hammond area and most likely Douglas and Piatt Counties.

In 1942 at the age of 35 years old, Bill enlisted in the Navy because he felt it was this duty. He was an apprentice seaman. He went to school for eight weeks to be an Aviation Ordinance man. He finished third in his class of 65 and was chosen as an instructor. He knew machine guns well and could take one apart and put it back together in a short amount of time.

He also joined because he thought he could help his brother Ervin who was a member of the Aviation Air Corps.

Bill was already married to Pearl when he joined the Navy. He had been in ROTC while going to school at the University of Illinois.

He was gone a little less than 3 1/2 years. While he was away Pearl took over his duties as a rural mail carrier.

The Aviation Ordinance School Bill attended was in Chicago and they moved it to Jacksonville, FL. From there he was assigned to Kaneohe Bay Naval Base in Hawaii. He was there until the peace treaty was signed. He took Pearl back to visit the naval base twice after he was out of the service.

Bill was never stationed on a ship. The only time he was on a ship was going back and forth to Hawaii. He was at Camp Shoemaker Naval Base near San Diego for a couple days before going to Hawaii and says it was a nasty place and a long couple of days. The people and the conditions there were terrible.

The trip to Hawaii was crowded. The bunks were five deep which made for unusual sleeping arrangements. It was basically sleeping on top of one another. He did enjoy watching the flying fish.

Bill has no complaints about Navy life. He was never in a

position to be very afraid. He stated, “No one ever shot at me and I never shot at anyone else. I just had target practice.”

Best friends are important in the service and Bills best friend was George McHew. George taught Bill how to play golf and to bowl. Then Bill got to beating him and it wasn’t as much fun for George.

An avid horseshoe pitcher, Bill says the first two medals he won in the Navy were for pitching horseshoes. There were 65 in a tournament and he won first in the singles division.

“I was pretty content in the Navy,” says Bill. He added that a few of the officers were hard to work with, but most of them were great.

He also learned about mines and torpedoes and says that was fascinating.

Regardless of what they were told to do, Bill says they found out you could do most anything you set your mind to. Bill thinks that carries over into everyday life and is as true today as it was back then.

When asked about his feelings about the world today Bill stated, “I am hoping it will get better, but it is rather doubtful. I want our service personnel to come home as much as anybody.” Bill added that it is easy to get into situations, but hard to get out. He thinks that is where we are today. He says people should be friendlier and more considerate of each other.

“Congress says they are working for the people,” states Bill, “but I think the two parties wont admit they are working for the party instead of the people.”

Bill was one of the first residents to move into Eberhardt Village in Arthur when it opened over a year ago. He enjoys living there. He exercises every day by lifting horseshoes with his arms and his legs. Try it sometime; you will be amazed at the difference it makes. He insists on trying to stay as active as possible. Bill and his nieces and nephews purchased a nice big pool table for the facility and he enjoys shooting pool whenever possible.

He is a member of the United Church of Atwood and attends most every Sunday.

When Bill moved to Eberhardt Village he was asked if everything was okay. He only had one question, “Where is the flag pole and American flag?” He was told it was on the list of things to be added. Bill decided to donate a flag pole and flag and it is visible from his window. He starts his morning routine by repeating the Pledge of Allegiance. This pledge is important to Bill. He is a veteran and centurion and one of

(Continued on page 23)



(Continued from page 22)

the most respected men you would ever want to meet. His love of his fellow man and love of his country is unfailing. He is indeed a tribute to Veterans Day and what it stands for.

Bill was never shot at or never shot at anyone else, but was doing his job in the Navy and was proud to serve his country. The freedom we have today is due to people like Bill Kamm and the millions of other veterans who fought for our country and are continuing that battle today.

Keep all those people in your prayers...for those at home...and those who are overseas. Our freedom was and still is in their hands.

Chapter 8



Greetings to all from Chapter 8 San Diego, California. Another busy period here, with the Chapter keeping active and involved with our local community and of course taking care of our Medal Of Honor recipient, Lt John W. Finn. For someone who is 100 years young going on 101, he is doing well considering his age. Following our next Highway walk, which will be held on July, 31st @ 0900, the chapter will head to John's to tend to his needs around the ranch. Until then, the chapter members visit frequently to give John's caregiver (Francis) a hand. Included are some photos from our last Highway walk and visit to John's.

Since the arrival of the newly home ported USS Carl Vinson and the return of the USS Nimitz, the Chapter's Annual Picnic attendance increased substantially. The regular out of towners from Chapter One attended along with new members from NAS El Centro. Let's not forget the USS Makin Island and the USS Ronald Reagan. It was nice to see old friends and meet new ones too. Everyone had a great time with family and friends, meeting new Gun Boss' and OHO's and I gotta tell you all, that there is no camaraderie like AO camaraderie (Special shout out the Marines at MCAS Miramar, MGySgt Senecal, GySgt Dunn and the troops at MALS-11 for all their help) Thank you all for your support and for making this a great family event I.Y.A.O.Y.A.S.!

As August is approaching fast, it seems like there is too much to do with such little time before our National Symposium and Convention. Our last report in May is summarized in this report. This year, Chapter 8 supported many charities through clothes drives, donations and volunteering. Whether it's collecting blankets for the Veterans Village of San Diego or holding a holiday food drive for the San Diego Food Bank or maybe supporting our own troops during the holidays, Chapter 8 is always ready and willing. Also included are photos from the recent Beach Clean up in Coronado, held March 19th, 2010.

Before I say farewell for now, we, the members of chapter 8 would like to introduce our most current elected officials: AO1 Nanise Schroeder(President), CWO (SEL) Frank Marano (Vice President), Al Ten Eyck (Treasurer/Secretary), Kirk Brado (Board of Directors), Bob Jackson (Board of Directors) and AOC Lester Gipson (Board of Directors)

Nanise M. Schroeder
President, Chapter Eight, San Diego, CA

To All Aviation Ordnancemen,

It is with great sadness to inform you that the oldest Medal of Honor Recipient, Lt. John W. Finn has passed away in his sleep this morning at 0545, here in San Diego. Let's remember he had a great run (over 100 yrs), especially with the AO's and the wonderful organization that we have. I have been around John for over 10 years and trust me, there was nothing he was more proud of than being an AO! To all of you that have met John over the years (and many have), keep the tradition of professionalism that John practiced and always be proud say Aviation Ordnance/Navy is not just a job it is a way of life. Please keep his family in your prayers and as soon as I hear more, I will keep everyone posted.

Very Respectfully,
AO1(AW/SW) Nanise Malia Schroeder
CNATTU North Island, BLDG 461
AO Learning Site LPO
MWR Vice President
AAO Chapter 8 President





Nomination Letters

Vice President

TO: AAO Vice- President/ Nomination Chairman, Larry "Joe" Manley

FROM: Charles R Onken, AAO Life Member 0473

SUBJ: NOMINATION OF CAPT. MICHAEL K. PRICE FOR NATIONAL AAO VICE PRESIDENT

I am nominating CAPT Michael K. Price, USN, LDO, Life Member 7851 for the National Association of Aviation Ordnancemen, Vice President. He has agreed to accept the nomination and abide by the requirements set forth in the Association By-Laws.

CAPT. Price came into the U.S. Navy in 1977 as enlisted and has advanced through the rates/ranks, to his present rank of CAPT, U.S.N., LDO, Aviation Ordnance Officer. He is presently assigned as Commanding Officer of Naval Air Technical Training Center (NATTC) Pensacola, Florida. During his career he has served in VA, VF, VS and VC squadrons, MMMU-One, Shore Stations, (both over seas and CONUS,) Air Wing Staff, numerous aircraft carriers, Type Wing Staff, CNAL Staff, Commanding Officer CNATTU. CAPT Price has numerous individual medals, unit awards and campaign medals.

CAPT. Price has been a member of the Association for a number of years and is Life Member 7851. Since becoming a member, he has worked at the Chapter level at various activities. He is very interested in working on committees at the National level and since becoming a National Board of Director member, he has worked on the following committees, AO of the Year, educational Foundation and AO Hall of Fame. CAPT Price is devoted to the Aviation Ordnance field and the association.

I have known CAPT Price for 30 plus years and he is a very hard working individual, who wants nothing but the best for the Aviation Ordnance field and the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen. CAPT Price would continue to be a great credit to the Association as the National Vice President.

Respectfully,
Charles R. Onken
LIFE MEMBER 0473

Secretary

I wish to re-nominate Dennis Costa for the office of Secretary of the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen. He has served honorably for the past nine years as Secretary and has brought the office into the 21st Century. He retired from the Navy in 2000 after 26 years of honorable service as a Master Chief. Additionally he was selected as the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen 'AO of the Year' in 1988, and selected for the AO Hall Of Fame in 2008. He

continues to serve the Navy as an Ammunition Logistics Manager at 'AMMOPAC' and has been a life member since 1998.

Dennis is willing to do the job and has showed he is more than capable to perform at a high level to get the job done. He will continue to serve the association with distinction.

R,

John J LaMaitre

Board of Directors

I wish to nominate CDR Bill Bindel for the Board of Directors of the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen. He has served honorably for the past two years as a Board Member for Chapter 22 at Patuxent River, Maryland. CDR Bindel has served the Navy with distinction for nearly thirty years. He is currently assigned to Commander, Naval Air Systems Command as the Senior Fleet Weapons Liaison Officer (Gun Boss) at Patuxent River. Commander Bindel has been a member of the following AO Chapter's: 4, 8, Pensacola, 65, 75 and 22.

CDR Bindel is willing to do the job and has showed he is more than capable to perform at a high level to get the job done. His devotion to the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen will surely be welcomed.

R,

AO1 (AW) Mark Walk

President Chapter 22

TO: AAO NOMINATION CHAIRMAN

FROM: L. JOE MANLEY VICE PRESIDENT, AAO LIFE MEMBER 0450

SUBJ: NOMINATION OF CHARLES R ONKEN FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

I am nominating Charles R. Onken USN, LDO, Life Member 0473 for the National Association of Aviation Ordnancemen Board of Directors. He has agreed to accept the nomination and abide by the requirements set forth in the Association By-Laws.

Chuck enlisted in the Navy in March 1960 and progressed through the rates/ranks to LCDR before retiring in February



1991. During his career he has served with distinction in various squadrons, staffs, and instructor assignments. He has received numerous awards for devotion to duty, heroism, and sustained superior performance. Upon retirement from active duty, he took employment as a NAWC contractor representative where he still has continued to further enhance Ordnance safety and provide the fleet sailor training in ordnance and ordnance systems.

Chuck joined the association in May 1981 and became a Life Member in April 1986. Since becoming a member he has served the association as National President, Vice President and Board of Directors. He is the Chairman of the Hall of Fame committee, and served on all the committee's at both national and local chapter. His love of the association is readily apparent.

Chuck and I became friends after we both joined the association and later working together on the Weapons Safety Team at Commander Naval Air Force Pacific (CNAP) I have not met a single individual who is more dedicated to the Ordnance community in general. He has been instrumental in making the association the great body that it is today, causing the association to be recognized by Navy, other organizations that associated with the military community and the civilian community.

His devotion to the association and the ordnance community make him an outstanding person to serve as a member of the Board of Directors.

Respectfully,
L. Joe Manley
LIFE MEMBER 0450

From: Robert S. Walecki, AAO Life Member #0948
To: National Vice-President/Nomination Chairman, Association of Aviation Ordnancemen

SUBJ: NOMINATION FOR ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN
NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS, BILLY B. EARL, CWO4 (RET)
LIFETIME MEMBER #0288

I, Robert S. Walecki, am nominating Billy B. Earl CWO4 (RET), Lifetime Member #0288, for the office of National Board of Director, Association of Aviation Ordnancemen. He has agreed to accept the nomination and abide by the requirements set forth in the Association By-Laws.

Billy came into the U.S. Navy as an enlisted sailor in July of 1964 and advanced through the ranks, retiring as a Chief

Warrant Officer 4 ("Gunner"). During his career, he has served with distinction in various platforms and billets, both air wing and ship's company, forward deployed, Instructor Duty, AIMD Division Officer, Naval Air Station Weapons Departments, and AIRPAC Weapons Safety Assist Team Detachment R.P.

Billy has been a member of the Association for over 30 years and became a Life Member in 1990. Since becoming an Association member, he has served at the Chapter Level with Chapter 3, Whidbey Island WA., Chapter 9, Jacksonville FL, Chapter 12, NAS Cubi Pt R.P., and Chapter 41, USS Midway (CV-41). He has held various offices within those Chapters from Board of Directors to Secretary/Treasurer. At the National Level, he has served as the Association's National Secretary/Treasurer (1993-96), where he did an outstanding job bringing the association into the computer age, and National Board of Directors (1998-2001). Billy is also a member of the Association Hall of Fame, Class of 1997. Billy is highly motivated to return to a very active part of our Association and is looking forward to serving our members. Billy's dedication to the Association and the Aviation Ordnance community is well documented and he will be a welcomed addition to our National Board of Director's.

Respectfully,

Robert S. Walecki, CWO4 (RET)
Life Member #0948

To: Larry "Joe" Manley, Association of Aviation Ordnancemen Nomination Committee, Chairman

From: Edward C. Scott, AAO Life Member 2039
Larry Hardin, AAO Life Member 1941

Subject: Nomination for Association of Aviation Ordnancemen Board of Directors CDR
Michael P. Gramolini, USN, Life Member 4097

1. We are proud on behalf of our Chapter 9 membership to nominate CDR Michael P. Gramolini, USN, and Life Member 4097, for the Office of Board of Directors, Association of Aviation Ordnancemen for 2010. He has agreed to accept the nomination and abide by the requirements as set forth in the Association's By-Laws of 22 January 2009 or subsequent revisions. Chapter 9 highly endorses Mike for this position which will benefit the Association.

2. CDR Gramolini entered the Navy in 1980 and advanced through the enlisted ranks to AOC on September 16, 1991 and commissioned through the Limited Duty Officer Program (LDO) to Ensign in January 1994 as Aviation Ordnance Officer (6360). From the beginning of his career, CDR Gramolini has been a staunch supporter and aggressive



sive member of the Association. While a Life member of the National Association, he also has been an active member to the local chapters where he was stationed; serving as Board of Directors, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice and President and is currently serving as Vice President to the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen Educational Foundation and Chapter 9 Board of Directors. Mike has his degree in Business Administration and is currently working towards his Masters Degree.

3. CDR Gramolini has served on both coasts; detached duties with USSTRATCOM and COMUSNCENT, East and West in Squadrons, on Carriers, Carrier Air Wing Staff, and Weapons/Site Manager of Ventura County, CA and is currently serving as XO/CO to CNATTU Jacksonville, FL.

4. CDR Gramolini is married to Annette; 12/87, and have one son; Michael P. Gramolini, Jr. who is currently a junior at Nebraska State specializing towards his degree in Medical Equipment.

5. Mike has been a true and valuable asset to Chapter 9 and the Association in membership growth and we both have experienced this since his current assignment at Jacksonville. He truly is one of the most dedicated Aviation Ordnanceman we have in our community today. He will dedicate his efforts to continue to keep the Association Strong for years to come.

Respectfully,

Edward C. Scott, CWO4 (Ret) Life Member 2039
Larry Hardin, LCDR (Ret) Life Member 1941
AAO Chapter 9

AD-4N Skyraider

The AD-4N Skyraider Project came to a close this past Saturday, 20 March. The project was started in July of 2005. The aircraft was initially located in Hartford CT, and was relocated to NAWCWD, China Lake through the support of many volunteers. The aircraft is show-cased as one of the China Lake Museum displays, positioned directly in front of the US Naval Museum of Armament and Technology.

The Skyraider was loaded with (10) 5.0" HVAR Rockets and (2) WWII AN-M 64 Fat Boy Style Bombs. The fact that the aircraft project was finally completed was not the only significant accomplishment on Saturday, but it also marked the complete evolution of Mr. William McCracken's naval career. Bill started out as an AOAN in 1966 assigned to VA-176 with A-1H Skyraiders for a nine month Vietnam

Cruise and a nine month Mediterranean Cruise during the 1967 Israeli 7-day war and the attack on the USS Liberty. He finished his career assigned to NAWS China Lake's Ordnance Division as the AOCM in charge of F/A-18's, EA-6B's and Cobra Helicopters.

Bill was asked to help with the Skyraider Project, in particular to help with the installation of the Bomb Racks. Bill jumped at the chance to help, and brought a level of expertise rarely found, especially since few people are knowledgeable in this area, due to the fact of the Skyraider age. Bill rebuilt each bomb rack completely, and guided the installation to ensure they were properly mounted, and ready to receive inert ordnance.

This project demonstrated the NAVAIR team work philosophy, and brought together folks from many fields and backgrounds. VX-9 provided the majority of personnel to assist in the Ordnance Loading Evolution. Special thanks to all who provided support and direction.



Here are the folks that helped load the Skyraider with Bombs and Rockets. Attached is what I sent to the PA Office.

From left to right

BACK ROW:

Dr. Don Goodson, Tom Loftus SES (RET), AMEAN Edward Cremeans, IS3 Lonny Davis, AM1 John Giboney, Anthony Pate, Bill McCracken USN (RET), AMCS Jacklyn Smith, ATC John Adams USN (RET), AEC Lee Volkman, AO1 David Connolly, AZ1 Timothy Nelson, John Talley, Seaman Stephan Williams, Ronald Pruitt, Captain Rich Burr USN, Kelly Pate

FRONT ROW:

AMEAN David Burdett, Jimmy Price USMC (RET), AMEC Jon English, AME2 Bruce Manglona, AD1 Felix Mendez, YN2 Tim Vaughn, AOC Bobby Vergara



Local athlete chosen to lead the First All Navy Wounded Warrior Team

Retired Navy Master Chief Will Wilson, a below the knee amputee, has been selected as the first Team Captain representing the United States Navy for the Inaugural Wounded Warrior Paralympic Games. Wilson, now a full time Management Analyst for the Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training (CNATT) says he is both deeply honored and humbled by his selection to the team and appointment as Team Captain. "This is an opportunity for wounded soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines to get together on the field of competition and do their very best to represent their individual service and country. These men and women are the same steadfast patriots they were before life altering injuries changed their lives forever. This is an opportunity for them to re-engage in sport at an Olympic level and help to re-define who they are."

The inaugural Warrior Games, a cooperative effort by the Pentagon and the U.S. Olympic Committee, will be held May 10-15 and hosted by the committee's Paralympic Military Program at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo. Military and civilian partner groups are launching a new Olympics-style competition for wounded, ill and injured service members in an effort to promote the importance of athletic training in the mental and physical recovery process for those who are able to take part.

Events will include shooting, swimming, archery, sitting volleyball, cycling, track, wheelchair basketball, discus and shot put, as well as an Ultimate Warrior pentathlon competition.

Only about 200, drawn proportionately from the services, will end up competing in the games. The Army will be represented by 100 soldiers chosen out of a pool of almost 9,000 wounded warriors. The Marine Corps will send 50 competitors, the Air Force will send 25, and the Coast Guard and Navy will combine to send 25 more.

"Whatever their individual circumstance, our nations wounded should be afforded every opportunity to regain their individual dignity and position in our communities our workforce and our military."

Wilson, who since the loss of his right leg, has completed several races including the 2009 Florida Ironman Triathlon says that the recovery effort of our nations injured service men and women have been significantly impacted by the

enormous heart felt generosity of countless American citizens and numerous non-profit organizations specifically designed with them in mind. Wilson who is sponsored by the Challenged Athletes Foundation, Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund, Segs4Vets and the Independence Fund states that through hard work, dedication and the technological advancements in science, medicine and state of the art advanced prosthetics, today's Wounded Warriors stand a far better chance to successfully reintegrate into all facets of civilian life or even retain positions in the military, some even returning to combat roles.

Picture on page 31

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Students may be able to take out additional Stafford Loans in the form of an unsubsidized loan. Unsubsidized loans are not awarded on the basis of need and students will be charged interest from the time the loan is disbursed until it's paid in full. Borrowers also have the option to add the interest to the principal amount of the loan until graduation. However additional interest will be based on the higher amount.

Other loan options that provide **money** for **college** students include Perkins Loans which are designated for students that meet low income criteria. The availability of Perkins loans are usually limited because each school participating in the Federal Perkins Loan program is given a maximum amount of Perkins Loan funds each year.

PLUS loans are available for parents to borrow **money** for **college** for their children. These loans are awarded regardless of financial need and allow parents to borrow up to the full cost of the child's education. To qualify for a PLUS loan the student must be classified as dependent.

Knowing your loan options is important but students should not ignore scholarship programs that give away free **money** for **college**. Many students think that scholarships are only available for straight A students, but this is not the case! There are many **college** scholarship programs based on a variety of criteria including essay contests, volunteer work or area of study.

Scholarship **money** for **college** can be found by inquiring at your **college** scholarship office, searching online and using scholarship directories.

By exploring all of the options available students and their families can successfully find **money** for **college**.

Michael Carter is a contributor at **College** Financial Aid Guide, an online informational resource for educational funding, scholarships and student loans. Find out how to

Article Source: http://EzineArticles.com/?expert=Michael_Carter



Auxiliary To The Association Of Aviation Ordn-



See You In Reno!

It's almost time to get out those suitcases, dust them off, make decisions on what to wear, have that "What am I forgetting" discussion and prepare to meet those wonderful friends you may have not seen for a year. We hope you are all planning on meeting us in Reno in August for

the AO annual symposium and convention. This upcoming convention will be another fun time bringing in scholarship funds. We will be back at the Silver Legacy in Reno to experience their first-class service to our organization. Please plan to attend. Bring along a guest or two so they can discover the purpose, fun and enjoyment of our organization.

The Auxiliary is happy to welcome new General Members: **Betsey Cremin, Linda Cole, Lynn Ickes, Carolyn Chirco, Kathryn Weaver, Sherry Lewis and J. Christine Harvey.** Welcome to our family! New Lifetime Members: **Catherine Hall and Deborah Holcomb.** Thank you ladies for your dedication to our Auxiliary.

Thank You to our Scholarship donors: **Sylvia Ashlock, Betty Clark, Dee Dee Harmon, Rosemary Laur, Deborah Leach, Linda Robinson, Tom and Janet Sawyer, Elaine Southerland and Patsy Stokes.**

Kudos to our Taste of Home donors: **Sylvia Ashlock, Betty Clark, Julie Clayton, Deborah Leach, Ann Robins, Tom and Janet Sawyer, Elaine Southerland, Patsy Stokes, Chapter 21 NAS Fallon** and chairperson **Ashley Crews.** Ashley has picked up the reins of our Taste of Home project this year and done a great job. Ashley may be contacted at ashleycrews1@yahoo.com.

As a tentative agenda, the Auxiliary Board of Directors meeting will be on Thursday at 1 p.m. We will have a larger room this year, so there will be more space to accommodate all who wish to attend. Everyone is welcome to the Board of Directors meeting. Our General Membership meeting will begin at 9 a.m. on Saturday. The post convention Board of Directors meeting will be Sunday at 9 a.m.

We have four offices open this year. Positions to be filled are for outgoing Board of Directors **Marleen Grass** and **Cyndy Sassone**; **Sally Vance** is our outgoing Parliamentarian; Newsletter creator and Treasurer **Carolyn Thomas**

has elected to retire, so we will need to have someone try to fill her shoes. If you wish to be an officer, or know someone who wishes to fill one of the open positions, please contact **Teresa Zimmer**, our Nominating Chairperson, at usnordy@sbcglobal.net.

Besides our business meetings, Friday night social and Saturday Awards banquet, there will be a Poker Walk with the AO's and our Auxiliary luncheon. Be ready to win a few prizes in our raffle and help us raise scholarship funds at our auction. Remember, this is the big drive to collect funds for the scholarship, so create your strategy for getting that much prized item at the auction and give generously for more chances to win at the raffle. Bring your pennies for the Taste of Home Copper / Silver Challenge. The Ordies have won the Challenge two years in a row, so we ladies need to get those pennies in the Auxiliary jar and quarters in the AO jar. If you have items to donate to the raffle or auction, please send them to **Delores Manley**, our raffle/auction chairperson, at **2099 Thomas Court, Fallon, NV 89409** and she will make sure they get to Reno. Her email address is damanley@charter.net. Remember this is where we obtain our scholarship money which is so very important to so many well deserving students.

Paulette Grune was our luncheon guest in 2008 and presented us with a look at the past in the guise of a Victorian Lady. It was so very interesting, we asked her back. Her presentation this year will be "Reflections of the Past...A Walk Through Time". She will have approximately 8-9 costumes reflecting those worn from 1865 - 1920. Along with her assistant, Barbara, Paulette brings to light all the things women went through in the past to be presentable. You need not be a member of the Auxiliary to attend. We welcome all to be a part of a fun luncheon. So come join us!

You may send monetary donations for scholarships or Taste of Home to: **Carolyn Thomas, AAAO Treasurer, 1394 Lilac Ave., Chula Vista, CA 91911.** Remember, Scholarship checks should be made payable to the AAOEF. Taste of Home donations should be made payable to the AAAO.

Until next time, **Remember.....We Do Make A Difference!!**

See You In Reno!

WE SUPPORT THE ARMS OF THE FLEET!

Janice Clasen - AAAO President





Association Of Aviation Ordnancemen Educational Foundation



Need Money for College?

Finding **money** for **college** can be a challenge for many students and their families. While saving in advance is the best choice, many times saving **money** for **college** is not easy for families. Even for those who do save, many find that the savings are not enough to cover the full cost of a

college education.

So what should students and parents do to find **money** for **college**? There are many programs available to help students get **money** for **college** including scholarships, grants and several types of loans.

There is one form the student needs to fill out each year which will determine his or her eligibility for need based programs including loans, grants and work-study called the FAFSA, found online at fafsa.ed.gov.

After submitting the FAFSA students will be notified by mail which programs they qualify for. Priority deadlines for most colleges are late spring to early summer. However students can continue to apply until the end of the school year.

If you have gotten your FAFSA results and didn't get as much **money** for **college** as you need, the first thing you should do is visit the financial aid office at your school. It is possible that there may be other sources of aid available. Some colleges participate in state funded financial aid programs and special need based programs that you may qualify for.

Secondly you can request that the financial aid office review your application and family contribution analysis. Perhaps there are circumstances such as a job loss, unexpected family expense or another factor that will reduce the amount of **money** the family is expected to contribute. This could possibly help you get more **money** for **college** in the form of loans and grants.

Most students qualify for Federal Student Loans (Stafford Loans) and the FAFSA results will reveal the amount students will be able to borrow. If this loan amount is not enough, students can inquire with the financial aid office about other loans.

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Note:

The following information is provided for Official Use Only within the Foundation and NOT to be released without prior individual approval.

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DON'T MISS THE SATURDAY LUNCHEON!

EVERYONE WELCOME!

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 14TH
11:30 a.m. — SILVER BARON B**

MENU: *Chicken Caesar Salad*

PAULETTE GRUNE

“REFLECTIONS OF THE PAST.....A WALK THROUGH TIME”

If you missed Paulette’s presentation in 2008, you have a second chance to enjoy the humor, talent and knowledge that Paulette brings to her audience Her program is very entertaining as well as educational. This year, she will be showcasing 8 or 9 costumes worn by ladies from 1865—1920.



Advanced Luncheon Reservations Requested

Auxiliary Members— \$13 Guests—\$16

Make check payable to **AAAO** and mail to:

Carolyn Thomas, AAAO Treasurer, 1394 Lilac Ave., Chula Vista, CA 91911

Auxiliary Member

Guest

Amt. of Check: \$

Name(s): _____

ASSOCIATION OF AVIATION ORDNANCEMEN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

<http://www.aoweb.org/AAO/>

MEMBERSHIP DUES:

FIRST TIME MEMBERS \$20.00 PER YEAR OR \$30.00 FOR TWO YEARS

PREVIOUS MEMBERS AND ANNUAL RENEWALS \$20.00 PER YEAR

NAME: _____ SPOUSE: _____

LAST FIRST MI

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ - _____

PHONE: home: () _____ - _____ work: () _____ - _____

RATE/RANK: _____ BRANCH OF SERVICE _____ Active () Retired ()

DATES SERVED: _____ TO _____ Last SSN: - _____

Marine Corp MOS: _____

Type of membership: Regular () Associate ()

SPONSOR: _____

I elect to receive my Red Shirt by downloading it from the Website only. () Please Initial.

I do / do not authorize release of my name, address and telephone number to other members or prospective members of the Association of Aviation Ordnancemen.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

MAIL TO: AOCM J.J. LaMaitre USN Ret.
9691 Bundy Drive
Santee, CA 92071-2771

March 2008

**GIVE THIS FORM TO A FELLOW ORDNANCEMAN
SPECIAL !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

**FIRST TIME RE-ENLISTEES SUBMIT THIS APPLICATION
ALONG WITH A SIGNED COPY OF YOUR RE-ENLISTMENT
CONTRACT FOR A ONE YEAR FREE MEMBERSHIP.**

IF YOU ARE ALREADY A MEMBER YOUR EXPIRATION DATE WILL BE EXTENDED ONE YEAR.