



Jul. 29, 1967 - Fire broke out on the flight deck of *USS Forrestal* (CV 59) as aircraft were being readied for launch over Vietnam. Flames engulfed the fantail and spread below decks touching off bombs and ammunition. The fires burned for eight hours until heroic efforts of crew members brought them under control. Damage to aircraft and the ship was severe. The final casualty count was 132 dead, two missing and presumed dead, and 62 injured.



The Mediterranean Sea, May 16, 2001 — *USS Enterprise* (CVN 65), the world's first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, steams alongside the newest, the French aircraft carrier *Charles de Gaulle* (R 91). *Enterprise* and her battle group are on a scheduled deployment in the Mediterranean Sea. U.S. Navy photo by Photographer's Mate Airman Doug Pearlman. [010516-N-6259P-003] May 16, 2001.



Aug. 10, 1957 - *USS Ranger* (CVA 61) is commissioned at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard, Capt. Charles T. Booth II, in command. The ship was laid down Aug. 2, 1954, at the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Co., and launched Sept. 26, 1956.



AVIATION BOATSWAIN'S MATES ASSOCIATION

31st
Annual Symposium
Professional Working Group
Conference

17-21 July 2001
Pensacola, Florida



AVIATION BOATSWAIN'S MATES ASSOCIATION

PREAMBLE

We unite to form the Aviation Boatswain's Mates Association dedicated:

- To stimulate and perpetuate love of Country, our Flag and our Navy;
- To defend the honor, integrity and supremacy of our National Government and the constitution of the United States;
- To support, develop, encourage, foster and stimulate Naval Aviation Safety in the "aircraft on deck" mode (touchdown to takeoff);
- To aid past and present Aviation Boatswain's Mates of the United States Navy from which our membership is drawn and their dependents and survivors, in every proper and legitimate matter; and
- To present the best interests and rights of Aviation Boatswain's Mates to proper authority when appropriate.



Above: Oct. 20, 1941 - *USS Hornet* (CV 8) was placed in commission in Norfolk, Va., Capt. Marc A. Mitscher in command. The ship was launched 14 Dec. 1940 at the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company.

Cover: 1928—*USS Langley*, a 11,500-ton aircraft carrier, started life in 1912 as the collier (coaling ship) *USS Jupiter*. She was re-commissioned *USS Langley CV-1* in March 1922. *Langley* was the U.S. Navy's first aircraft carrier. The 1930s saw the commissioning of larger, more modern carriers, so *Langley* was converted to a seaplane tender (*AV-3*) in 1937.

NOTES



Apr. 29, 1961 - *USS Kitty Hawk* (CVA 63), equipped with *Terrier* anti-air missiles, and the first of a new class of aircraft carriers, was commissioned at Philadelphia, Capt. William F. Bringle, commanding.



Aug. 23, 1951 - *USS Essex* (CV 9) went into combat in Korea. She was the first carrier to launch F2H *Banshee* twinjet fighters on combat missions. On 16 Sept. 1951 one of these planes, damaged in combat, crashed into aircraft parked on the forward flight deck causing an explosion and fire which killed seven.

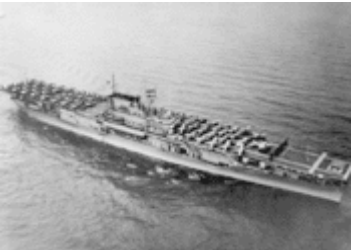
After repairs at Yokosuka, *Essex* returned to frontline action on 3 Oct. to launch strikes up to the Yalu River and provide close air support for U.N. troops.



June 1, 1954 - Operational testing of the C-11 steam catapult begin. *USS Hancock* (CVA 19) had been recommissioned Feb. 15, 1954, Capt. W. S. Butts in command. She was the first carrier of the U.S. Navy with steam catapults capable of launching high performance jets.



Oct. 1, 1955 - *USS Forrestal* (CVA 59), the first of four ships of her class and the Navy's first super-carrier was placed in commission at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, Va., Capt. R. L. Johnson in command. The keel was laid Jul. 14, 1952, at the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company, Newport News, Va.



Oct. 2, 1956 - *USS Enterprise* (CV 6) was ordered stricken from the Navy list and sold for scrap. *Enterprise* was in more action in World War II than any other carrier. She had been decommissioned following the war and laid up at Bayonne, N.J.

Jul. 29, 1948 - President Truman approved construction of a "supercarrier", a 65,000-ton ship subsequently named *United States* (CV 58), for which funds had been provided in the Naval Appropriations Act 1949.

Apr. 23, 1949 - Construction of the *United States* was halted by order of the Secretary of Defense.



Welcome to the Cradle of Naval Aviation

As we unite again to work on issues to improve aviation safety and our working environment, let us all reflect on where we have been and look forward to where we are going. The future of Aviation Boatswain's Mates Association depends on the participation of every AB.

While you are in Pensacola, take the opportunity to tour the area and enjoy the "City of Five Flags." There is much to do and see within walking distance. The local ABMA Chapter has put together an event-packed week, so enjoy the camaraderie and give a big thanks to all the local members who worked so diligently to ensure this week's activities are a success.

A special thanks to all our vendors for their continued support and participation in our symposiums. We could not do without them!

The Pensacola Crowne Plaza Grand Hotel is a beautiful hotel and the staff continues to give us the best of southern hospitality. Let each of us return the courtesy by conduct ourselves in a professional and cordial manner. Remember to personally say thanks to the staff throughout the week.

And...safety first in everything—Sailors look out for Sailors!

ABMA Gulf Coast Chapter

PLAN OF THE WEEK

Hosted by:

**ABMA Gulf Coast Chapter
Naval Air Technical Training Center,
Aviation Boatswain's Mates School
NAS Pensacola
and
Pensacola Crowne Plaza Grand Hotel**

UNIFORM OF THE DAY

**OPENING & CLOSING CEREMONIES/
GUEST SPEAKERS:**

**Active Duty: Summer Whites
Retirees/civilians: Appropriate civilian attire**

WORKSHOPS:

Appropriate civilian clothing encouraged for all hands

The statements and views made by all guests, speakers and attendees are the responsibility of the individual. These statements and views are not to be construed as those of the ABMA, nor endorsed by the ABMA or any of its officers.

Evening Prayer

I am convinced Our Father, that your fondest feelings are reserved
for the least pretentious and most genuine of us.
I am sure that Aviation Boatswain's Mates
are some of your favorites.

Certainly Aviation Boatswain's Mates have yet to find the virtues of humility, or soft-spokenness or gentleness...
They do lead with their jaws....
And seem always more ready to fight than to switch.
They can be singled out by their red eyes, and by a grubbiness
which is a mark of their trade.

But their wills match their strong backs...
And their love of each other is a wondrous thing to behold.
They are the salt of the deck...
And their saltiness is honest and open...
And they are uniquely your sons.

We are grateful for them...
As you love them specially, we mark them particularly tonight.
Bless them every one...
And forever keep them from harm and hurt...

In Christ's name,
Amen

— R. W. Bedingfield, Chaplain (USN) —

Secured Flight Quarters

JEANNE E. BULVANOSKI
ABHC JOE L. BROD
AB1 CHARLES D. DETILLA
ABEC WESLEY J. DIBERT
ABHC (RETIRED) BOB DILLON
ABC (RETIRED) RAYMOND "RAY" DOOLEY
ABE2 LeROY DYKES
ABC JACK F. EVANS
ABH1 ROBERT L. FENTRESS
ABFC JOHN A. FREEMAN
CHAPLAIN THOMAS M. GIBNEY
ABHC (RETIRED) BOB HAGGERTY
ABE1 JULIUS J. IRVING
STEVE LANTZ
ABHC HUGH E. LESTER, JR.
ABCM MIKE L. LINDBERGH
ABCS ALFRED C. MACLEAN
ABCM JAMES A. McMULLIN, JR.
ABF1 JOHN R. MENTER
ABE2 MARVIN P. MILLER
CWO J.J. POTHOFF
ABHC (RETIRED) RAYMOND "PETE" PRIDEMORE
LT(LDO) PAUL RANDAL "RANDY" SALYER
ABHC ALRED SANDER
ABH1 RAYMOND C. SILVERS
MRS. MARLYN V. "GG" SNYDER--
WIFE OF ABHC (RETIRED) BUD SNYDER
ABCS HAROLD W. SORRELLS
ABHC (RETIRED) WILLIE STUBBS
ABFC SAMUEL E. THOMAS

"We, who remain to carry on,
should not think of our shipmates as departed from us,
but rather as having been transferred to a celestial ship
or station,

MONDAY, 16 JULY

Day to renew old friendships and make new acquaintances!

0800 Gulf Coast Chapter Meeting
0800-2200 Vendor Set-up
1200-1700 PRE-REGISTRATION
1700-2300 No-Host Cocktails in Hotel Bar

TUESDAY, 17 JULY

0700 Gulf Coast Chapter Meeting
0730 Registration/Membership/Event Sales
0800 Board of Director's Meeting
0845 All Hands Quarters
0900 Introduction of ABMA President:
CWO4 (RET) Ed Hayes, Gulf Coast President
Welcome Aboard: CDR Mike Weeks
Introduce Board of Directors: CDR Mike Weeks
Introduce ABs of the Year: CDR Mike Weeks
Oldest/Youngest AB Determination: CDR Mike Weeks
Nominations/Elections: LCDR Jimmy McLaughlin
Vendor Recognition/Present Plaques
1100-1230 Lunch
1100 Ladies muster in main lobby for lunch transportation
1115 Transportation departs for Ladies Luncheon
1230 **ALL HANDS FLIGHT QUARTERS**
****UNIFORM OF THE DAY****
1230-1245 Admin remarks/nominations
1230 Muster Side Boys and Honor Guard with Duty AB
1245 President's Call to Order/Parade the Colors/Invocation
1300-1330 Welcome Address: CDR Mike Weeks
1315-1340 Guest Speaker-Captain R. L. Bahr, CO NAS Pensacola
1330-1345 Workshop Procedures: LCDR Jimmy McLaughlin
1400-1600 Workshops Convene
****APPROPRIATE CIVILIAN ATTIRE****
ABE – LT Mitchell/LT Donaldson
ABF – LT Sharpe/ABFCS Bowman
ABH – ABHCS Barnes/ABHCS Carpenter
Training – ABCM Patterson
Retiree – ABCM (RET) Jim Myatt
1400-1600 Board of Directors Meeting
1800-2400 Hospitality Room Open – Last call 2330

WEDNESDAY, 18 JULY

0700	Golf tournament muster in main lobby; bus departs
0700	Gulf Coast Chapter Meeting (Grand Ballroom)
0730	Registration/Membership/Event Sales
0830	All Hands Quarters **UNIFORM OF THE DAY**
0845-0900	President's call to order
0915	Side boys muster with duty AB
0930-1000	Guest Speaker -- VADM John H. Fetterman, President/CEO, Naval Aviation Museum Foundation
1000-1030	Tour Vendor Exhibits
1015	Side boys muster with duty AB
1030-1050	Guest Speaker--The Honorable John Fogg, Mayor of Pensacola
1050-1100	Announcements
1100-1230	Lunch
1230-1600	Reconvene workshops **APPROPRIATE CIVILIAN ATTIRE**
1230-1600	Board of Directors meeting
1600-1800	Vendor/BOD Social
TBD	Muster/Departure for Biloxi Trip in main lobby
1800-2400	Hospitality Room Open – Last call 2330

THURSDAY, 19 JULY

0700	Gulf Coast Chapter Meeting
0830	All Hands Quarters **UNIFORM OF THE DAY**
0845-0900	President's call to order Muster Side boys with duty AB
0900-0930	Guest Speaker – SES-4 George V. DiBiase, Naval Air Systems Command
0930-0940	2002 Symposium Brief – LCDR (RET) Dave Deese
0940-1030	AB CWO/LDO Detailer Briefs
1045	Retirees muster for luncheon in main lobby
1100	Depart for Retiree Luncheon
1100-1230	Lunch
1230-1600	Reconvene workshops **APPROPRIATE CIVILIAN ATTIRE**
1230-1600	Board of Directors Meeting

THE AVIATION BOATSWAIN'S MATE INSIGNIA

By –CWO4 Douglas L. Chaney (AB Bos'n) (Retired)

Our insignia, bearing crossed anchors with wings, has stood for gallantry, productivity and dedication for nearly fifty years. Many excellent AB's have given their limbs and in too many cases their lives, performing the feats of the flight deck. Allow me to break the insignia down and put it into the right perspective for you.

The anchor is a heavy device used to secure a sea-going vessel or boat to a specific spot in a body of water. A single well-trained AB is an anchor. They secure their watch stations, whether it be securing aircraft on deck, fueling and defueling aircraft, directing aircraft around the deck, salvaging damaged aircraft, making aircraft settings on the arresting gear engine or hooking up and launching aircraft off our catapults.

Our insignia has two anchors. This signifies that we can't do our jobs alone. We must rely on each other and combine our knowledge and talents to fulfill our role on every flight and hangar deck. Just like a symphony orchestra in an amphitheater, we perform the marvelous spectacle of carrier air operations. We see each other at our worst and our best and we assist each other through the rough and dangerous times that are always present. We teach each other, we test each other and though it is never stated, we love and respect each other deeply. Like the identical crossed anchors, our souls are bonded in friendship forever.

Then there are the wings. To put wings on a set of anchors in itself is superfluous. In retrospect, it would take very powerful wings and a strong back to support them in flight. AB's have the strong backs and the determination to get the job done no matter what the sacrifice. Unfortunately, those sacrifices are many and I would hope that they don't go unrewarded.

Remember the old fable about whenever a bell chimes, an angel gets it wings? Well, whenever you hear ship's bell sound, more AB's have sacrificed their time and used their professionalism to earn their wings. Our wings should signify that we have earned and secured our place in heaven.



REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

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FAX: 360-871-9202
E-mail: dsdeese@silverlink.net

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ABCM(RET) Gary Worley
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Poway, VA 92064
619-748-2724

ABCM Randy Weiss
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daddyrandy@aol.com

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ABH1(RET) Willie Harmes
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Whittier, CA 90606
562-693-1536

MID NORTH

ABH1(RET) "Pappy" Martin
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Wellstone, OH 45692

MID SOUTH

CWO4(RET) Edward Hayes
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334-626-7494

SOUTH CENTRAL FLORIDA

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609-227-8674

ABEC(RET) Jerry Diamond
46634 Midway Drive
Lexington Park, MD 20653

FAR EAST

THURSDAY, 19 JULY

continued

1330 Muster for transportation to AB School/Naval Aviation Museum Tours
1400-1600 AB School Tour and Demonstration
1600-1800 Naval Aviation Museum Tour
1800-1900 Cubi Bar No Host
1800-2400 Hospitality Room Open – Last call 2330

FRIDAY, 20 JULY

0700 Gulf Coast Chapter Meeting
0830 All Hands Quarters
****UNIFORM OF THE DAY****
0845 President's call to order
0900-0930 Workshop Outbriefs: Workshop Coordinators
0930-1130 Nominations/Election of 2001-2002 Officers
Recognition Awards
Air Department Battle "E"
ABMA Recruiters of the Year
New President's Acceptance Speech
2001 ABMA Symposium Brief—CDR Mike Weeks
2001 ABMA Treasurer Report
Honor Guard muster with duty AB
1130 Benediction— ABCM (RET) Jim Myatt
Retire Colors
SECURE FROM FLIGHT QUARTERS
1330-1500 Final Board of Directors Meeting



Nov. 3, 1946 - USS Valley Forge (CV 45) commissioned, Capt. John W. Harris, commanding. The ship, laid down Sept. 7, 1944, by the Philadelphia Navy Yard, was built with money raised by the citizens of Philadelphia in a special war bond drive. She was launched Nov. 18, 1944.

AWARDS BANQUET

1700-1800 No Host Cocktails and Cruise Book Portraits
1830 President's Call to Order
Introduce Head Table/2000-2001 Officers
Invocation: ABCM (RET) Jim Myatt

1900-2000 Dinner **BANQUET MENU**
Tournedos Maxine
(2-3 oz twin medallions of beef topped with sautéed shrimp
and sauces béarnaise and bordelaise)
Tossed salad with house dressing
Rice and vegetables medley
Rolls and Butter
Key lime Pie

2000 Guest Speaker: TBD
2020 Introduce Symposium Hosts of the ABMA
- Gulf Coast Chapter
- NATTC
- AB School
- NAS Pensacola
- Pensacola Crowne Plaza Grand Hotel
Past AB's of the Year
2001 AB's of the Year, Atlantic/Pacific Fleet
Scholarship Award
Youngest/Oldest ABMA Member
ABMA Living Legends
2001 Living Legend
Past Presidents
2000/2001 Past President's Reflections
New President Introduction and Remarks
Eternal Flight Quarters and Final Flight Quarters

2100-2400 Entertainment/Dancing

SATURDAY, 21 JULY

0900 Gulf Coast Chapter Meeting
1100-1700 ABMA Picnic, NAS Whiting Field, Recreation Area
Bar-B-Q, Swimming, water sports and Games!
Friends and Family Welcome

REUNION CHAIRMEN PRIOR TO ABMA INCORPORATION

1971 ABCM Mike Hickman
1972 ABCM Willie Gann
1973 ABCS V. R. Christofolletti
1974 LT Cliff Forbes

PRESIDENTS

1974-76	CDR Robert F. Gillen	1988-89	CWO4 Bob Henderson
1976-77	CWO4 Robert Archibald	1989-90	CWO4 C.L. "Moose" Moorehead
1977-78	LCDR Dave Deese	1990-92	ABCM Charles J. Ramsey
1978-79	LCDR Thomas Gregory	1992-93	ABCM Raymond Tick
1979-80	ABCM Bert Gorczyca	1993-95	CDR Tony McFarlane
1980-82	LCDR Joseph Breslin	1995-96	LT Brian Gale
1982-83	ABCM James E. Tuck	1996-97	LCDR Steve Ross
1983-84	LCDR Pres Jones	1997-98	LT T.A. "Cracker" Chorlton
1984-85	ABCM Lee Snodgrass	1998-99	ABECS Wally Hamaker
1985-86	CDR Cliff Forbes	1999-2000	ABCM Lanny Vines
1986-88	CDR Robert E. Parsons	2000-01	CDR Mike Weeks

LIVING LEGENDS

1990	ABCM Willie Gann	1996	ABCS Odie Kennedy
1991	CDR Jack E. Carleton	1997	CWO4 Tyrone Roebuck
1992	LCDR Dave Deese	1998	CWO4 Robert J Archibald, III
1993	LCDR Harry Claar	1999	CWO3 Arlie T. Sinks
1994	CDR Bob Gillen	2000	LCDR "Skip" Lopez
1995	CWO4 Ed Hayes		

POSTHUMOUS LEGENDS

1995	CDR Cliff Forbes
1996	Frederick P. Terrazzano
1997	Lawrence "Larry" Wiltzius
1998	CWO4 James D. Maloney
1999	CWO4 Robert V. Langmaid

HONORARY LIVING LEGEND

2000 Mr. Tom M. Gibney

2001 AVIATION BOATSWAIN'S MATES OF THE YEAR

ATLANTIC FLEET

ABE1(AW/SW) JAIME I. ROMAN
USS DWIGHT D EISENHOWER (CVN 69)

PACIFIC FLEET

ABF1(AW/SW) REYNALDO A. STANLEY
USS PELELIU (LHA 5)

PREVIOUS AVIATION BOATSWAIN'S MATES OF THE YEAR

1976	ABE1 Robert Whelan ABH1 R. A. Buscher	1989	ABH1 Paul Foster ABE1(AW) Ronnie G. Pinkston
1977	ABFC Alfred Reynolds ABH1 Alan Lundeen	1990	ABH1 Mark C. Persutti ABH1(SW) Sean T. Whalen
1978	ABCS Lew Simpson ABF1 Charles Bennett	1991	ABH1 Daniel Dray ABE1 Buddy Ward
1979	ABE1 Bert Blyth ABE1 Jake Kollarik	1992	ABH1(AW/SW) Derek Diggs ABE1(AW/SW) R. Donaldson
1980	ABE1 Nelson Tabinga ABEC A.L. Crutchfield	1993	ABF1(AW/SW) Dennis Joyce ABE1(AW) W.D. Cunningham
1981	ABE1 Michael Hoben ABE1 A.A. Annunziata	1994	ABF1(AW) Bradley H. Fudge ABH1(AW) William J. Claye
1982	ABH1 Richard Stump ABF1 Richard Borrego	1995	ABH1(AW) Joseph Howard ABH1(AW) Larry Spradlin
1983	ABH1 M. L. Herman ABE1 Elwood G. Eppard	1996	ABE1(AW) Wilbert M. Wafford ABE1(AW) Tagipo Migao
1984	ABE1 Jeffrey Wisler ABE1 Paul E. Erickson	1997	ABH1 James A. Wiggins ABE1(AW) Steven D. Keizer
1985	ABE1 T.A. Chorlton ABH2 Kevin J. Phillips	1998	ABE1(AW) Anthony Hughes ABH1(AW) Sean Black
1986	ABH1 Willie Lewis ABH1 Norris I. Danzey	1999	ABH1(AW/SW) Thomas Lamb ABF1(AW) Lawrence Warford
1987	ABH2 Scott J. Bailey ABE1 Richard D. Jones	2000	ABH1(AW) Gregory A. Curl ABE1(AW) Dennis M. Prazeau
1988	ABH1 Michael B. Reid ABE1(SW) James D. Surgeon		

The ABMA wishes to extend a special appreciation to the following vendors and supporting organizations for their continued financial support and industrial displays.

VENDORS

Gammons Technical Products, Inc
American Safety Technologies, Inc
Carter Ground Fueling
Safety Equipment Company
Resources, Inc
Sherwin Williams
Cla-Val
Blackmer
Allied Enterprises
Naval Automation Group
Elsco International/Jato
CCA-Marine
The Fielding Company

HONORABLE MENTION

Surface Technologies, Inc
Defense Supply Center, Philadelphia
ABMA Gulf Coast Chapter

2001 SYMPOSIUM PLANNING STAFF

Executive Steering Committee:

Chairman: CWO4(Ret) Danny Woods
CAPT(Ret) Ron Jaeh
LCDR(Ret) Steve Ross
LCDR Val Cumberbatch

Treasurer: ABCM(Ret) Jim Myatt

Transportation: LT Ray Spradlin

Banquet: CDR Tony McFarlane
Jeri Myatt

Registration: Virgil Culberson

Hospitality: ABHCS Scott Stevens

Publicity: ABHC Ron Crawford

Workshops: CWO4 Al Torrance
ABHCS T.J. Waldo

Retiree's Luncheon: ABCM(Ret) Jim Myatt

Ladies events: Denise Ross
Yoko Jaeh
Molly Woods

Vendors: ABHC Rich Chambers

Cruise Book: LCDR(Ret) Skip Lopez

Picnic: LCDR Rick Contini

Working parties: ABCM Bill Thompson

Security: ABHCS Steve Niemann

Merchandise: CDR(Ret) Jim Neary

Biloxi Trip: ABCM(Ret) Dobbs Dennis
ABHC Michelle Peterson

Golf: ABCM Lanny Vines
LCDR(Ret) Steve Ross

Raffles: Patty Knauber

Tours: LT Paul Bacenet

Lodging: Sarah Moore

RV Parking: ABCM(Ret) Bucky Bates
ABEC(Ret) Jim Dunlavy

2000-2001 ABMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

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2000 AB OF THE YEAR—EAST COAST

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2000 AB OF THE YEAR—WEST COAST

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CAPTAIN RANDAL L. BAHR
COMMANDING OFFICER, NAVAL AIR STATION, PENSACOLA

Captain Bahr, a native of Waterloo, Iowa, graduated from the University of Northern Iowa in December 1976 with a degree in biology. He reported to Aviation Officer Candidate School the following spring and was commissioned through the AVROC program in April 1977.

Following designation as a Naval Flight Officer in the S-3A aircraft, his first assignment was to VS-28, where he made Mediterranean Sea and Indian Ocean deployments aboard USS INDEPENDENCE (CV-62). While in VS-28, he served as Legal Officer, ASW Officer, and NFO NATOPS Officer. In July 1982, Captain Bahr reported to the VS Support Unit, where he served as VS Wing ONE Software Officer, Wing NFO NATOPS Evaluator, Fleet Project Team Officer, and Training Officer. During this tour, he was assigned temporarily to NAVAIR, where he rewrote the S-3A NATOPS Weapon Systems Manual to bring it up to Fleet Issue software standards. In June 1985, Captain Bahr joined Carrier Air Wing THREE as ASW Operations Officer, where he made a Mediterranean Sea deployment aboard USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV-67). In June 1987, Captain Bahr joined the newly formed Strike-Fighter Wings Atlantic Staff and served as VS Readiness and Staff Operations and Plans Officer. In October 1989, he reported to VS-22 and served as Training and Operations Officer and CVW-3 Staff ASUW Coordinator during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm deployments on USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV-67).

Following his Department Head tour, Captain Bahr reported to the Staff of Commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic Fleet in Norfolk, Virginia, where he served as VS Readiness Officer and Flying Hour Program Manager. In May 1993, he reported to VS-32, the "World Famous Maulers," as Executive Officer, assuming command of the squadron on 11 August 1994. Captain Bahr relinquished command 10 October 1995 following his squadron's successful participation in the NATO Air Campaign Deliberate Force. During his XO/CO tour, VS-32 was awarded 1993 and 1995 Battle Efficiency awards and the 1994 Golden Wrench award. Additionally, VS-32 distinguished itself as the only Navy unit to participate in all three global United Nations operations with missions supporting Deny Flight, Sharp Guard, and Deliberate Force operations in Bosnia-Herzegovina, UNISOM-II missions in Somalia, and Support Democracy embargo operations in Haiti. Captain Bahr reported to USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64) in November 1995 for duties as Air Officer. During his tour, USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64) logged 22,375 mishap-free arrested landings. Captain Bahr reported to the U.S. Naval War College in November 1997 and graduated with distinction in November 1998 with a Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies.

Captain Bahr's awards include three Meritorious Service Medals, one Strike/Flight Air Medal, three Navy Commendation Medals, two Navy Achievement Medals, and various unit and sea service related awards.

VADM JOHN H. FETTERMAN, JR., USN (Ret.)
President and Chief Executive Officer
Naval Aviation Museum Foundation

Born in Ashland, Pennsylvania on 4 August 1932, Vice Admiral Fetterman graduated from Albright College in 1954, was commissioned an Ensign in 1955 and was designated a naval aviator in 1956.

Vice Admiral Fetterman's first operational tour was with VA-105 at Cecil Field, Florida. Flying A1H Skyraiders from the deck of USS ESSEX (CVA-9) in the Sixth and Seventh Fleets, he participated in both the Lebanon and Fonnosa crises in 1958. In October 1959, he reported to Fleet Airborne Electronics Training Unit Atlantic and served as Light Attack Nuclear Weapons Training Instructor.

Following this tour, he reported to VA-44 for A-4 Sky Hawk replacement pilot training prior to joining the staff of the CVW-8 aboard USS FORESTAL (CVA-59). Following Naval War College, VADM Fetterman reported to VA-81 aboard USS SHRANGRI-LA (CYS-38) where he served as Maintenance Officer during two Mediterranean deployments. An Ops Officer tour in VA-174 was followed by an XO tour with VA-87.

In March 1972, while on Med cruise aboard USS FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT (CVA-42), VADM Fetterman assumed command of VA-87's "Golden Warriors." He was selected as Team Leader of a joint U.S. Navy and Air Force air-to-ground weapons team that represented the United States in NATO competition in Greece. In March 1973, VADM Fetterman reported to the Office of Legislative Affairs, Washington, D.C. where he served as Asst Director for the Navy Senate Liaison Office followed by command of CAW-8 aboard USS NIMITZ (CVN-68) making deployments to the Caribbean, North Atlantic, and Mediterranean.

In January 1977, VADM Fetterman assumed command of USS LA SALLE (AGF-3) followed by the Office of the CNO where he served as Special Projects Manager of the Royal Saudi Naval Forces Expansion Program. In February 1979, VADM Fetterman assumed command of U.S. Naval Base, Naval Station, and Naval Air Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Selected for Rear Admiral in February 1981, he served as Commander Tactical Wings Atlantic; Commander, TRACOM, USLANTFLT; staff of CINCLANT, USLANTCOM and USLANTFLT as Deputy Chief of Staff for Readiness and Resources. In December 1985, he assumed his duties as Naval Inspector General. On 1 September 1987, he promoted to Vice Admiral and in August assumed the duties as Commander, NAF, U.S. PACFLT. On 1 February 1991, he assumed the duties as Chief of Naval Education and Training. He retired from active duty on 1 March 1993.

Vice Admiral Fetterman accumulated 7,000 hours of flight time in twenty different aircraft and recorded 960 carrier landings. His personal awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (five awards), Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, and the Meritorious Unit Commendation in addition to various campaign and service awards.

In November 1993, Vice Admiral Fetterman assumed his present position as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Naval Aviation Museum Foundation. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Pensacola Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the Escambia-Santa Rosa Regional Workforce Development Board. He is also Chairman of the Pensacola Area Chamber of Commerce, Chairman of the Mayor's Community Core Values Board, Chairman of the IWO JIMA commissioning committee and serves on the Escambia County Police Advisory Board.

He is married to the former Nancy Glenn Austin of San Antonio, Texas. Vice Admiral Fetterman and Mrs. Fetterman have two sons, John and Kevin.

SES-4 GEORGE V. DIBIASE
DIRECTOR, SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND AIRCRAFT LAUNCH &
RECOVERY DEPARTMENT
NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND

Mr. DiBiase was born September 24, 1933 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. His employment with the Naval Air Engineering Center (NAEC) began in 1951 when it was located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Mr. DiBiase held designer and technician positions before graduating from Drexel University, Philadelphia, in 1967 with a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering. He subsequently held the position of Mechanical Engineer in various supervisory capacities until 1978. The Naval Air Engineering Center then relocated to Lakehurst, New Jersey.

In March 1978, he was assigned as the Chief Engineer of the ship and Shore Installations Engineering Department, which he held until November 1986, when he was reassigned as the Technical Director of the Support Equipment Engineering Department.

From January to July 1988, Mr. DiBiase was detailed as Deputy Director for Navy Ranges and Field Activity Resources at the Naval Air Systems Command Headquarters. Upon returning to NAEC, he was promoted to the Senior Executive Service as Chief Engineer of the Engineering and Product Support Directorate.

In 1994, he was reassigned as the Director, Support Equipment and Aircraft Launch and Recovery Equipment Department. In this position he has the rank of SES-04 and currently manages 1400 civilian and military professionals located at six different sites.

Mr. DiBiase is recognized as an expert on aircraft launch, recovery, landing aids, and support equipment for the Navy and Marine Corps ashore and afloat. He is the engineer responsible for the invention and development of the low-pressure steam catapult used to launch aircraft from carriers. He also played a leading role in the development of catapults and arresting gear for the new French nuclear aircraft carrier, *Porte-Avions Nucleaire Charles de Gaulle*, and is recognized internationally as the expert on steam catapults.

Mr. DiBiase is a member in the Senior Executive Association and Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in the states of Pennsylvania and New Jersey and also certified as a Civilian Material Professional. His professional associations include participating in the Center for Naval Analysis Studies and advisor to the National Science Board, Foreign Governments, and the Naval Intelligence Activities (NTIC and CIA).

He has been awarded the Meritorious Civilian Service Award in 1978 Excellence Award in 1983, Superior Civilian Award in 1986, the Officer De l'Ordre National Du Merite from the President of France in 1991, and received the Presidential Rank Award in 2000.

Married to the former Josephine Postorivo, the DiBiases' have five children.

CAPTAIN CRAIG F. WEIDEMAN, USN
Commanding Officer, Naval Aviation Schools Command

A native of Grinnel, Iowa, Captain Weideman attended Truman University and graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration. He received his commission through the Aviation Officer Candidate Program in February 1973 and earned his Naval Aviator Wings in the spring of 1974.

Following A-7E Corsair replacement pilot training, Captain Weideman joined the Dambusters of VA-195 and embarked in CVW-11 and USS KITTY HAWK between 1974 and 1977. After A4 Skyhawk refresher training, he became a "plank owner" of the newly transitioned Fleet Adversary Squadron, the VA-127 Cyclones. In January 1980, he reported aboard USS CONSTELLATION as Assistant Air Operations Officer and completed two extended Western Pacific/Indian Ocean deployments, following the takeover of the U.S. Embassy and hostage crisis in Iran. Captain Weideman maintained his A-7E qualifications, flying with VA-146 during his tour, and departed for FRS Instructor Duty with the VA-122 Flying Eagles in May 1982. He served as Safety, Weapons and Maintenance Officer and dual-hatted as Executive Officer, Light Attack Weapons School, Pacific.

Captain Weideman reported to VA-94 as a department head in 1984, and completed two WESTPAC cruises with CVW-11 aboard USS ENTERPRISE. His tour with the Mighty Shrikes included an unprecedented "clean sweep" of Naval Aviation Awards during the 1984/85 competitive cycle and a Suez Canal transit into the Mediterranean for Operations in conjunction with the Libyan strikes in 1986. In the fall of 1987, Captain Weideman reported to Commander, Naval Air Force, U. S. Pacific Fleet as Light Attack/Strike Fighter Training and Readiness Officer. Following command selection, he returned to NAS Lemoore, California, for F/A-18 training with VFA-125.

Captain Weideman joined VA-147 as Executive Officer in March 1989 which subsequently redesignated to STRKFITRON 147 for initial fleet introduction of the F/A-18C Night Attack Hornet. He assumed command in September 1990, and led the Argonaut team through workups and a successful deployment to the Arabian Gulf following Desert Storm cease-fire operations with Iraq. Captain Weideman reported to the Naval War College in November 1991 and received a Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies. In November 1992, he reported to the Director, Air Warfare (N88), as the F/A-18 Requirements Officer. Captain Weideman commanded the Vampires of VX-9, Air Test and Evaluation Squadron, between April 1995 and May 1997, following the consolidation of VX-4 and VX-5 at NAWC China Lake, CA.

Spanning a 27-year career, Captain Weideman has accumulated over 6000 tactical jet flight hours, flown 24 different models of military aircraft, and logged over 800 arrested landings on 13 aircraft carriers. He has been awarded the Legion of Merit (two awards), Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), Navy Achievement Medal, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Navy Expeditionary Medal (two awards), Southeast Asia Service Medal with Bronze Star, National Defense Service Medal, and Sea Service Ribbon (six awards).