ISSUE 22 VW-1 TRACKER JULY 2005

From Sea to Shining Sea .....

Myrtle Beach, SC to San Diego, CA

Although the weather could have been a bit more cooperative in Myrtle Beach, we all managed to do all the events planned and didn't get too wet.

The golfers sneaked away at every sunny opportunity to get in their golf time, since it rained on the 5th, the day of the scheduled tournament. On Monday and Wednesday, the golfers played practice rounds and the format was $ 1.00 Nassau. Each player chipped in $ 3.00; $ 1.00 was awarded the player who shot the lowest score for the front 9, back 9 and total score. Ralph Link walked away with five of the possible six winnings. Pete Wasmund won on Wednesday's front 9. Each player donated his winnings to the VW-1 All Hands general fund. The courses played tested the player's skills. Score's ranged from 93 to 127, but we won't embarrass anyone by posting individual scores. Most fell victim to the deep rough, sand traps and, of course, the water. Everyone played the 19th hole very well, however.

As for the fishermen, the weather stayed sunny for them, but the trip was, for the most part, a disappointment. The boat chartered did not live up to expectations and the fish caught were so small that no one was challenged to exhibit much fishing skill. The day ended a bit early when Victor Zarich bent over just as the boat hit a wave and he wound up on the floor with a big lump on his head. Luckily, although bruised, it wasn't too serious and most of the fishermen were ready to call it a day. In this case, we won't embarrass anyone by showing the size of the fish caught!



Victor Zarich

Both the Alabama Show and the Carolina Opry Show were great and the dinner on Thursday evening at Hooks was particularly exceptional. If you should ever pass through Myrtle Beach, take the opportunity to dine at Hooks. It has a seafood buffet that is second to none.

The business meeting was very brief. The minutes were read and accepted, but no treasurers' report was prepared as the books usually close May 1, but with the reunion in progress, it was too difficult to get the job done adequately. The books were closed out as of May 6th and the reports are on Page 7 of this Tracker.

Pete Wasmund gave a report on the web site and requested pictures, articles, sea stories, etc. to be included on it. Helen Ray volunteered to send him Island recipes.

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News from Cyberspace, Etc.

Email Removed VW-1 Web Page: http://vw1assoc.tripod.com/

Charles Goble (Snail Mail - 4/8) "My Dad was in VW-1 in the spring of 1958 to the summer '60. Living in Guam those two years were my best years as a Navy kid. My sister and I went to Mong-Mong school. Our address was 6210-13 H. St., just across the street from the base church. I would go up to the squadron tarmac with some of my friends and wait for our Dad to land. Dad was a flight engineer on TE7. He also did the cooking on the plane and enjoyed it. He was proud of what he did and I was proud of him. We still keep in touch with some friends from Guam and VW-1. Waldo Mathias being one of them. Dad is gone now, passed away in 1991; followed by Mom in 1998. My Dad was Herbert R. Goble, ADR-1, and he retired as CPO in 1965."

Myron Price (4/9) Email Removed "I was going to make the reunion this year, but I have to be in Klamath Falls, OR on May 2 for a few days. We got a place there with some land and a house. The place I moved from two years ago had too much land to take care of. My brothers want me in Wisconsin. I lived there before and I know there are places without snow and temperatures down to 0 or below. We now live in a retired mobil place. Figured it would be OK, but I have tools and stuff that I do not have room for. With this new place I can put all my things where I can find them. Will be in Oregon by the 15th of May and when I get my new email going, will give you a new address. Say Hi for me at the reunion."

Harry & Vicki Gowenlock (4/5) Email Removed "We have moved to Virginia. Our new address is Address Removed Boykins, Address Removed Phone: Phone Removed

Mack & Judy Stotts (4/10 @4:45 a.m.) Email Removed "Just received the April '05 Tracker and Judy and I have come to the conclusion that, without a doubt, the picture shown is none other than Jim Rice. The clencher was the fact that he was nursing a bottle of "San Miguel" beer."

Gary & Gay Oulman (4/10@8:27 a.m.) Email Removed "Gary says the picture is of Jim Rice at Gun Beach on Guam. It definitely still looks like him."

(**NOTE:** Mack and Judy won the "Guess Who" in the April Tracker by a nose!! A VW-1 tee shirt went out to them as a reward. We have a great picture of Mack in his shirt, but didn't have room for it in this issue. Look for it next time around.)

Ray & Sue Keighley (4/12) Email Removed "We are writing to let you know we will probably not make the May reunion. Our youngest son is in the army in Iraq at this writing and should be home on leave during that time period. I have to be home when he gets here. In addition, I have been called for Jury duty beginning the 22nd of April and do not know how long it may last. We are pretty well tied up. It is really disappointing that we can not get away at this time. We had planned for a year to take vacation at this time. We had the reunion schedule in our travel plans. If at all possible, we might be able make one of the "drop in" days. If we do not, I will be looking for the write-up in the next TRACKER."

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Myrtle Beach, SC to San Diego, CA (Continued from Page 1)

The elections of officers resulted in the following: Ed Metzger, President; Pete Wasmund, Vice President; Sally Metzger, Secretary/Treasurer; Dick and Gwen Lee, Chaplains; and LeRoy White, Photographer.

Once the possible locations were narrowed down to two, the group was so evenly divided that it took three counts to get the numbers right. The two possibilities were San Diego, CA and Branson, MO. The final vote was 41 to 40, so it was as close to a tie as you can get. The initial plan is to schedule the San Diego reunion sometime between mid September to late October 2006. Information will be published in the Tracker issues as plans are finalized.

A highlight of the business meeting was Velma and Carl Bryant's rendition of the National Anthem. Thanks go to them for this special treat. It is highly likely that we have many talented people in our group. One of our VW-1 members suggested it might be fun to have a "Talent Night" in San Diego in lieu of the traditional auction. We could include "story telling" in the talent category and give the whole group a taste of the best of the sea stories. What do you all think? E-mail or drop us a line to let us know if this idea appeals to you.

As with our reunions in the past, the heart of the reunion was the meeting room at the San Dunes Resort. The sea stories were told at every table, the beer and food was enjoyed and we all had a chance to get a bit better acquainted with our shipmates, both old and new.



Velma and Carl Bryant

New E-Mail Addresses:

David & Nancy Garbani	Email Removed	(that is an I then W, then V)
William MacAdam	Email Removed	
Ernie Clark	Email Removed	
Randy Mosness	Email Removed	
Also new address:	Address Removed	Emigrant, Address Removed
Victor & Charlotte Zarich	Email Removed	or
	Email Removed	
Jim & Mary Fortney	Email Removed	
Carl & Velma Bryant	Email Removed	
Chuck & Mirna Citrano	Email Removed	
Thomas (Andy) Dunn	Email Removed	
Ralph & Jane Link	Email Removed	

News from Cyberspace (Continued from Page 2)

Dick Bleakney (4/12) Email Removed "Sorry I can't make the reunion this year. I know everyone will have a great time. Keep forgetting to tell you we went back to the Philippines last June. It was a really good trip. Hoisted a few San Miguel's and toasted all the VW-1 shipmates."

Tim Ball (4/14) Email Removed "I was in VW-1 starting around September 1968, for 18 months. I recall an aircraft landing with a missing tip tank. I was told the aircraft had been winding it's way into a typhoon and put it's wing tip into a wall cloud. The net result was a scissor-like effect – trimmed the tip tank and part of the wing from the aircraft. The winds in the wall cloud were high velocity and moving in a direction opposite that of the aircrafts flight path. The aircraft and crew landed ok. However, I cannot verify the aircraft described above was the plane depicted on Page 5 of the recent Tracker."

Al & Joanne Madsen (4/17) Email Removed "Sorry we're not coming to the reunion. Just too many things happening around this time. We did make reservations for the reunion in Illinois and hope we can keep them. Made them for Sept. 15th through the 18th. Apologize for us not being in Myrtle Beach. Tell the folks there we will be in Illinois if any of them can make it there."

Timothy Kenefick (4/19) Email Removed "I was up on Nimitz Hill when VW-1 was decommissioned in '71. I ended up working for Moon Mullen and Jackie at Point Magu in '72 and '73, plus I went to AG "A" School with Steve Schepper in '69-'70. Possibly I'll drive on up to Myrtle Beach, if a floater would be welcome. Do you also welcome those AG's who were with VW-4? I know some of them.... Brad Braddock, Mike Reader, Al Zaunhle, Tony Derrow ... but cannot say where they all are now."

Jim Shippey (Snailmail – 4/22) "Thank you for your prompt response to my telephone call for information to join the VW-1 Association. I'm looking forward to receiving the roster and the newsletters. Do you or anyone in the group have any photos that I could purchase?"

Tom Hoover (Snailmail – 4/28) "The fates are cruel ... I cannot come to Myrtle Beach – I am heartbroken at missing this VW-1 event. It has occurred to me that I can still send my auction items! The first, of course, is my book, "In the Beginning". Don Ray bought a copy last year and, if he liked it, he might be wheedled into giving a book report. The second is a "How To" book. With the pages you will find a $ 1,000,000.00 bill. It should be worth something!"

David Smith (4/30) Email Removed "My father was stationed with VW-1 in Guam from '67 to '70. He was the Line Chief. His name was CPO Wayne Smith. He also was the manager at the Chief's Club (the Fiddler's Green). What I am looking for is a copy of the picture that hung in the bar at the club, the one where you had to find the dog. If you lost the dog while you were enjoying a few cocktails, you were cut off. I did find out that, at one time, there was a copy of it hanging on the Chief's Club at NAS Meridian, MS. My Dad had a copy made of it, but it was lost in a fire shortly after his death in 1997. I'm looking for a copy of it for myself as it has a lot of very, very sentimental meanings for

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News from Cyberspace (Continued from Page 4)

me and memories of all those Saturday afternoon matinees at the old Chief's Club – the one next to the apron across the field from VW-1's and VAP-61's hangers, and then at the New Club, built on the cliff just down the street from the outdoor movie theater. My address is David Smith, Address Removed Des Moines, Address Removed

Larry & Janet Markowitz (Snailmail – 5/13) "I made my goal with the MS and the team had our best ever. George Dean said he would pass the word. I never thought it would be in the Tracker. And another big thank you for a terrific reunion. It was great seeing all the shipmates. Activities were extra special, too. Janet and I made it home Saturday. We needed two days to rest up so we could resume daily life. Looking forward to San Diego next year."

(NOTE: In the April 05 Tracker, Larry explained he was diagnosed with MS in 1998 and asked for your support of the organization. We are pleased he made his goal. He looked great at the Myrtle Beach reunion and we also hope to see him in San Diego.)

Roy Zimmerman (Snailmail – 5/14) "Guess I must have really been a trouble maker to have my name come up that often at the reunions. Got a note from George Dean and I am looking forward to the next issue of the Tracker. Am sorry to have missed Myrtle Beach, but we have been fighting lung cancer all year. Pat was diagnosed with small cell lung cancer in January, so we have a 120 mile trip daily to Las Vegas for her treatment. All is going very well and we are hoping to have a clean bill of health for her in July. So, God willing, we will see you all in San Diego."

Robert (Charlie) Weaver (5/15) Email Removed "We had every intention of going to Myrtle Beach this year, but those little niggling things kept eating up our savings. San Diego is doable and will be done next year. Our address changed to Address Removed Fallon, Address Removed We moved a block south of where we were living. We are now next door to one of the kids. I don't know if that is good or not. We just came back from Eureka, NV. My sister has a house that was built in the late 1880's. It is impressive. I keep trying to convince the grandkids it is haunted, but they think it is just me making noise on the vent when they are in the attic."

Moon & Nadine Mullen (4/23) Email Removed "Got out of Myrtle Beach ealy am Wednesday and flew to Branson for Naval Weather reunion. Les Brown, Jr. gave us 1/3 off all tickets and seated right alongside us was Bob Hope's pilot (came in a wheelchair) and was introduced by Les. He flew his plane for 14 years. Told him after the show that my family saw Hope on Guam and I saw him in DaNang in 1970 or 71. He asked Nadine and I to come to his Caravelle theatre as his guests. Great place and outstanding reunion there, just like the VW reunion. Quite a few folks asked about Jim Galinski and John Linendoll. We live so close (10-12 miles) but we seldom see each other. So I called John. He is 84 and doesn't skateboard as much anymore, but he and Mrs. L are in good health and said to say hello to all. They're looking forward to San Diego next year. Jim Galinski and Don Kohl attended the VW Officers reunion in Mobile, then visited the casinos in New Orleans and Biloxi and came home $ 12,000 richer. Hadine said she was glad someone was able to get the quilt she made and will probably be making another one for next year. No more trips till August when we play ball in Holland and Belgium."

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News from Cyberspace (Continued from Page 5)

Scott Bates (6/02) Email Removed "An introduction is in order here. I am retired Air Force, but my childhood was all Navy. My father was LCdr. Robert (Bob) Bates, A/C of TE-4 between 1965 and 1967. That was his second tour with VW-1, actually, as he was also assigned to VW-3 from 1960 till it was decommissioned, at which time he began his first tour with VW-1. My father retired in 1969 at NAS Pensacola, Sherman Field, after serving with VT-10. Unfortunately, I lost him in 1974 when he and my older brother were killed in an accident. My mother, Barbara Bates, is still with us, living with my sister and her husband in Reston, VA. I just wanted to say hello and pass along my thanks for a short trip down memory lane. I will visit the site often, and am going to send the site address to my sister, because I think my mother might like to take a look at it also. In my father's memory, I salute you. Thank you."

Cecil Meadow (6/3) Email Removed "My name is Cecil Meadows, AT1 (AC), USN Retired. I was in VW-1 in 69-70 and made a couple of flights to DaNang and ChuLai in Vietnam. I am looking for anybody that was with the outfit during that time that can verify that I did make in-country, so that the VA will believe me. I have diabetes now and believe it is due to being in Vietnam. If you know of anyone that can verify it or at least tell me who to contact, it would be highly appreciated. Address Removed Alea, Address Removed

Ann Gagnon (6/10) Email Removed "You did it again! What a wonderful reunion!!! I sooo enjoyed meeting old and new friends of VW-1. The accommodations with the room to meet, eat and bid was perfect!! I thank you again for welcoming me into the VW-1 group. I feel as if my circle of friends has grown larger – all because of Charlie. Please send me Leroy White's snail mail address. I have a great picture of he and Ruby that I would like to send them."

Shannon Sharpe (6/14) Email Removed "I served in VW-1 from '68-'70 as an aircrew primarily with TE-05. I flew with LCDR Vorhees. I went on to serve in VQ-1 from 1974–1984 and retired as an ATCS. I was recently diagnosed with diabetes and applied to the VA for disability associated with Viet Nam and Agent Orange. The VA recently declared that anyone who had been in country was eligible. I made many trips to Chu Lai and several to DaNang after the move to that location. In researching my archived service records, there is no record of any trips to Nam. Even though there are entries for Air Medals, Service/Campaign ribbons and time served in VW-1, there are no direct entries related to the TDY time. Have you heard from anyone else experiencing this situation and how they handled it?"

Chuck & Mirna Citrano (6/16) snailmail: "Since the next reunion is in San Diego, we will be joining the crew. We are in San Diego, "Rancho Bernardo". Looking forward to it.

Jim Geiger (6/17) Email Removed "Thanks for letting me know of those guys in need of assistance in getting VA benefits. I will contact them and assist in any way I can. Being able to help someone else is the best way I know to say "thank you" to all who helped me. Update on my claim. Have still not received a decision from the VA. However, the local VA office has verbally agreed that it's just a matter of time. Meanwhile, the wait is very stressful. We are still living in our RV full time until the VA benefits are awarded. My health has improved a great deal, but the medical bills are very heavy."

VW-1 All Hands Alumni Association
Financial Report for Period 5/1/04 thru 5/6/05

Beginning Balance on 5/1/04				$ 3,964.22
INCOME:	Annual Dues	$ 2,730.00		
	Shirts	459.75		
	Pins, Patches & Misc. Ships Store	388.00		
	Ship's Store Postage	44.50		
	Donations	93.15		
	Reunion	33,941.16		
				37,656.56
			TOTAL:	$41,620.78
EXPENSES:	Postage	$ 110.80		
	Printing Supplies	160.44		
	Tracker Printing	658.20		
	Tracker Postage	303.40		
	Shirts	909.97		
	Web Site	143.40		
	Golf Balls	175.20		
	Computer Repair	145.00		
	Reunion	34,903.93		
	Reunion Refunds	2,527.79		
	Reunion Tips	275.00		
			TOTAL:	$40,312.93
ENDING BALANCE 5/6/05				$ 1,307.85

MYRTLE BEACH REUNION EXPENSES

Sand Dunes	$ 23,664.40
Lanyard & Name Tags	788.67
Sunway Charters	1,550.00
Carolina Opry	2,040.00
Charleston Tour	1,800.00
Coastal Scuba	550.00
Hooks	1,474.75
Alabama	1,896.00
Patriot's Point	300.00
Snacks & Soft Drinks	330.50
Tips	275.00
Reunion Picture	20.00
Reunion Research	214.61
TOTAL	$ 34,903.93

And then there were four ...

Each time a reunion rolls around we find a few more drop by the wayside as being on our list for having attended ALL the reunions to date. Those four members remaining are::

Hamilton, Howard and Jean
Link, Ralph & Jane
Rice, Jim and Maizie
Zarich, Victor and Charlotte

Hang in there, guys! A "reward" awaits those who persevere!!!

- - - - NEW MEMBERS - - - -

Batson, Gearold **ADR1**
Address Removed 10/69 – 71
Hampstead, Address Removed Phone Removed
Wife: Anita Email Removed

Flew as 1st Flight Engineer w/Crew 4

Johnson, Gary **AMS-2**
Address Removed 4/70 – 4/73
Watertown, Address Removed Phone Removed
Email Removed

Check crew air frame shop. Worked as AP Mechanic at NAS Aero Club

Shippey, James (Jim) **ADCS**
Address Removed **AFCM**
San Diego, Address Removed 7/58 – 7/61
Wife: Lyn Phone Removed

Flight Engineer, Crew 5. Upon advancement to AFCM, assigned to Division Chief of Quality Control.

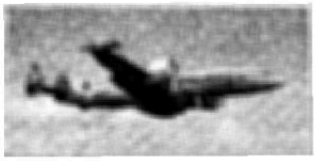
Upton, Al **AGC**
Address Removed 2/69 – 12/71
Statesville, Address Removed Phone Removed
Wife: Ellen Email Removed
Flight Metro

Villers, Roy W. **LTJG**
Address Removed 6/67 – 6/69
Atlanta, GA Phone Removed
Wife: Leslie Email Removed

Served as Barricks Officer; flew with LT CMDR Chenoweth 6/57 – 11/68. Once I Made Plane Commander, I flew with Lt. Cmdr. Fonda. Enjoyed riding motorcycles Around the island and snorkeling.

Watson, Anthony (Tony) **ATN3**
Address Removed
San Clemente, Address Removed 10/64-1/67
Email Removed

Flew as 2nd radioman on TE5; then as 1st on TE8 and TE00



VW-1 Association
c/o Ed & Sally Metzger
Address Removed
Address Removed



Mailing Code Removed