ISSUE 23 VW-1 TRACKER SEPTEMBER 2005

SAN DIEGO, HERE WE COME .....

OCTOBER 23 – 27, 2006

Rooms are reserved - once again it will be held Monday through Thursday, with check-out on Friday morning – at the Lafayette Inn & Suites in San Diego, which is located on the corner of Mississippi Street and El Cajon Boulevard.

The Lafayette is a "grand old lady", having opened in the late 40's when it was popular with the Hollywood greats. It's historic charm and interesting history makes it both unique and appealing.

It is not far from downtown and there is a shuttle from the hotel to selected areas; from which the trolleys then go all over the city.



The hotel will offer a nightly rate of $ 88.38 for three days prior to and following the reunion dates for those who might want to extend their stay in San Diego.

Plans for activities will be announced over the coming months, but we will continue to do a variety of optional trips so that you will be able to select activities that are of interest to you. Pete Wasmund will, once again, be recruiting all you golfers to try out some California courses. There are casinos not too far distant for those of you who enjoy a bit of gambling. And, most importantly, there is SAN DIEGO, an area just filled with its own distinctive flavors. We all know the San Diego Zoo is world famous; a jaunt to Mexico might appeal to some; there are wineries and Disneyland and missions, and theaters .... the list goes on and on. If there is some place you would particularly like to see the group visit, drop us a line or an e-mail and offer your suggestions. With so much to choose from, a little help from our friends would be welcomed.

Thursday night will be our big night out together and we are excited about the many possibilities for dining and entertainment in the San Diego area.

So it is that time again ... mark your calendars and start saving your pennies (and nickels and dimes) for another VW-1 get together.

(Special thanks to Joe & MaryAnn Vilsack, Carl & Velma Bryant, and Norbert & Linda Monahan for the time they spent researching properties in San Diego.)

News from Cyberspace, Etc.

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

James Fette (4/27) Email Removed "I was thinking about old times and did a google search on VW-1 and found some interesting history and memories. My name is James Kenneth Fette and I go by Ken; however, I may have been aka Jim. I was an ATN2 when I left VW-1. I flew as 2nd radio to Willie Williamson (AT1) on TE-2. I flew under CDR Hoch from about late 1961 to 1963. I was flying over Guam the day and night that Typhoon Karen visited Guam. I recognized James Dorsey's name and John Rice. I also remember some others but don't believe I saw their names on the website. I wouldn't mind having my name on the website and would be interested in contacting John Rice. When I saw the pictures of the old Willie Victor, it sure brought back fond memories. I also remember Pete Peterson (AE3) back then. Thanks for the website and the memories. Ken Fette in Pflugerville, Address Removed

Larry & Sheila Morris (7/6) Email Removed "You are probably already aware of it, but looks like another one of our VW-1 Association members has passed away. I just received my "Naval Affairs" magazine and while looking though the "Taps" page, was sorry to see the name Kenneth W. Cotton, ADR1."

John Linendoll (7/15) SnailMail "What a nice reminder that dues are due ... just too busy these days to take care of the important stuff. Looking forward to seeing everyone in San Diego, for sure. Looks as though Myrtle Beach was a great success. It is interesting to read some of the remarks made by people who write to you and some of the things they remember. Tim Ball remembers when TE-2 came in with a tip tank missing. I remember that several folks quit flying because of that tip tank. We all have a few tales to tell if we feel like it. Has anyone from around Pensacola heard from Sweede Frojker?"

(NOTE: To everyone out there: Polish up those "TALES" as there will be an opportunity to tell them to the group after the Wednesday night business meeting in San Diego.)

Bill and Kathy Green (7/15) Email Removed "I am sorry we were unable to make the Myrtle Beach reunion. We have just returned home after being gone for several months. My father-in-law had not been doing well for more than six months and things turned more worse for him about three months ago. We went out to be with him. He just passed away two weeks ago. We buried him in the National Cemetery in Phoenix with other members of the family. He was 86 and said he had lived a good full life and was ready to move on. I get the Military News Letter (http.//www.military.com/) which had an interesting article on Guam. Thought you may be interested in it if you have not already seen it. Boy, has Guam changed since I was there in the mid '60's! The link is: http://www.military.com/Travel/Content1/0..TS_121504.00.html?ESRC=navy.ni "

Jim and Carol Robinson (7/16) "I want to thank you for putting me in touch with Floyd Yancy's Early 50's group. That is obviously where I belong, so I won't be renewing my membership with your group. Thanks to you I have been in contact with some of my original VW-1 buddies and Carol and I plan to attend their reunion again this fall where we hope to meet some more of them. Our best to VW-1 folks everywhere."

(Continued to Page 4)

New Ships' Store Items

GOLF BALLS

Not just any golf balls, mind you, but golf balls with a picture of the Connie on them! They are Wilson balls in a sleeve of three. Each ball has a picture of a Connie (about 1" x ¾"). The cost per sleeve is $ 7.00, including packaging and postage. Just drop us an e-mail or a check and we will get as many as you need right out to you. If you want more than one sleeve, just add $ 5.00 for each additional sleeve desired. The postage will remain at $ 2.00.

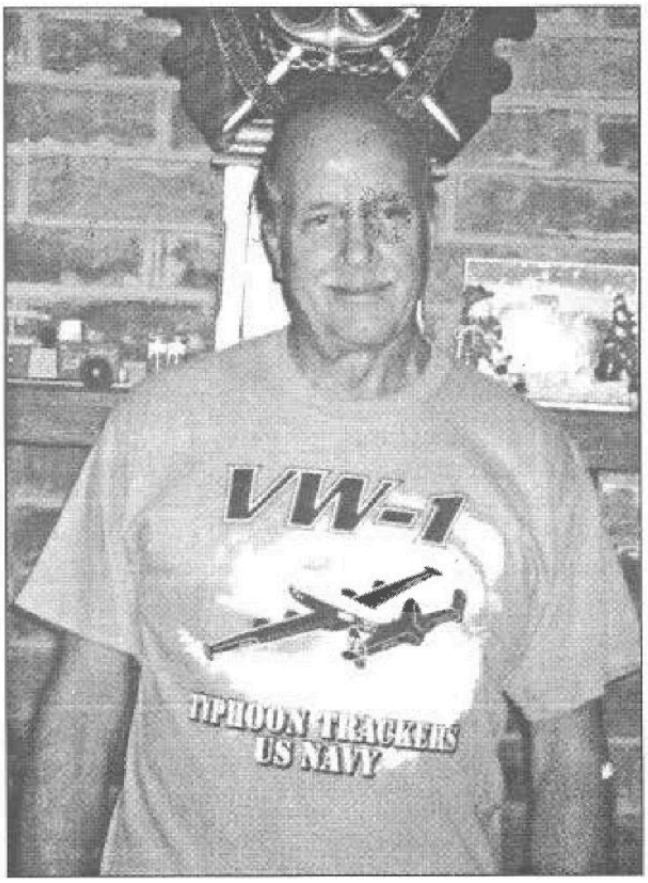
TEE SHIRTS

A new and improved version. You can see the shirt on Mack Stotts in this issue. It defines both the storm and the Connie a lot better than the shirts we had previously. They are $ 15.00 each (blue only) and please in-clued $ 3.85 for postage.



NEW PATCH FOR CONSIDERATION

We have been informed of a new patch that might be of interest to some VW-1'ers. At this point, none have been ordered, but if you would like us to make them available, just say the word. Let us know your thoughts.



Winner Mack Stotts ..... shows off his "prize" shirt for identifying Jim Rice as the "Guess Who" in the April newsletter. These shirts are available in light blue from Ship's Store for $ 15.00 each, plus $ 3.85 postage. Let us know if you would like to order. E-mail Email Removed of call Phone Removed Snail mail address is Address Removed Inverness, Address Removed Indicate size needed.

In Case of Emergency (ICE)

(Charles Lange passed this tidbit of information along for all of us to consider.)

Paramedics will turn to a victim's cell phone for clues to that person's identity. You can make the job easier with a simple idea that they are trying to get everyone to adopt: ICE.

ICE stand for "In Case of Emergency". If you add an entry to the contacts list in your cell phone under ICE, with the name and phone number of the person that the emergency services should call on your behalf, you can save them a lot of time and have your loved ones contacted very quickly. It only takes a few moments of your time to do it.

News from Cyberspace (Continued from Page 2)

George Stewart (7/20) Email Removed "Here is an item you may be interested in: Capt. Fernald P. Anderson (USN Ret.), the first Commanding Officer of VW-1, died on January 2, 2005 in Arlington, VA, at the age of 89."

Don Johnston (7/20) Snail Mail "Glad to hear you had a good time at Myrtle Beach. Wish I could have been there. My business partner and I are opening an addition to our restaurant of 120 seats. It will be awhile before I can go anywhere! Please change my address to: Don Johnston, Address Removed Willard, Address Removed

Frank Doty (8/2) Email Removed "We enjoyed our trip home in spite of a blowout on the left front tire at 70mph! The RV handled well and we got it stopped with no problem. Later the dash AC went out and we had it rebuilt in Houston, while we drove the car on down to visit my oldest brother in Clute, Texas. Also had a broken wire in the power plug which took about ten minutes to fix. When we arrived home, a hydraulic hose broke for the leveling jacks, and the electric door step broke apart. All that is fixed, and we are planning a two week fishing trip to Grand Lake in NE Oklahoma soon."

Howard Kemp (8/15) Snail mail: "As you can probably tell from my extended absence, it's been a rough couple of years. Jobs have been hard to come by and I've really been struggling. Last month I finally gave in and started the retirement process. Wouldn't you know it? Not only am I getting retirement pay, but I also got a job! Things are now looking much better. Thank God I've always been blessed by good health and a strong supportive family. My goal is to be at the San Diego reunion. The last time I was there was the week after the closing of the recruit training center. Looking forward to seeing everyone."

Rod Henderson (8/16) Email Removed "I'm a retired USAF Typhoon Chaser looking to have a model WV-2 built for my brother-in-law who flew on VW-1's TE-7 in the late 60's. His name is Wade Ingle and he served in '67 and '68 and flew with Crew 7. If you have any idea how I can obtain photos of TE-7, particularly the roadrunner nose art, I would appreciate your pointing me in the right direction. My contact information is: Address Removed Lacey's Spring, Address Removed Thanks."

Fred & Simone Becker (8/21) Email Removed "You may know I opened my mouth and ended up with a dog! I have never had one before and I can't understand why I have ventured to do so this late in life. We bought a new mat for his Igloo, but while we were watching TV (about an hour) he destroyed the NON destructible dog proof bed. Guess he never got that bit of information! Simone has the idea to rent him out for a good sum of money as a dog tester. I am inclined to agree with her. If I ever get through this mess .... me or the dog ... I never will own one again!"

(NOTE: Fred sent along a great picture of his black lab with the remains of his bed, but we were unable to get it reduced in size enough to include it in this newsletter. Just give this dog a little more time and he will be your very best friend, Fred. Hang in there!)

Don O'Brien (9/1) Email Removed "My mother worked as a nurse in Argentia, Newfoundland in or around 1965. I was born April 9, 1966. It was working as a nurse that she met Samuel Wah. He was serving under the AEWRON 13 and was stationed in Argentia at the same time. I was told that he was from North Carolina. I have contacted many people from various websites that are related to the AEWRON 13,

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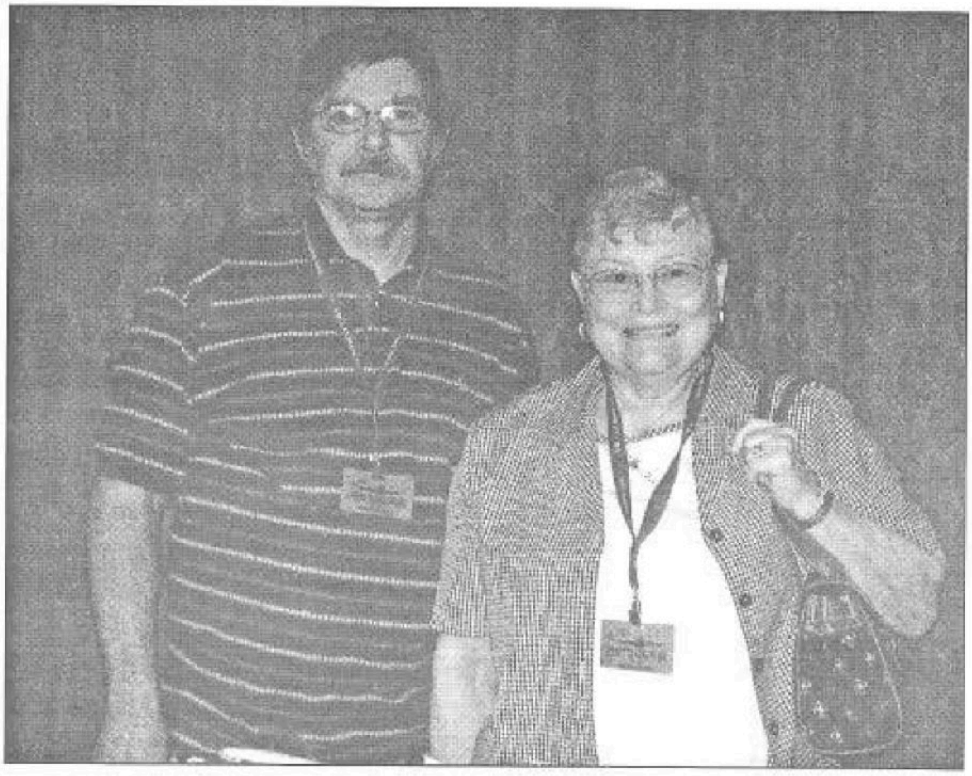
Larry and Janet Markowitz were a welcome sight at the Myrtle Beach reunion.

You may recall that Larry asked the membership to make donations and support him in the Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Walk (4/05 Tracker).

Larry was diagnosed with MS in 1998 and it was a special pleasure to see him looking well and being able to attend and participate.

He thanked all who made it possible for him to meet his goal in the MS Walk.

Keep fighting the good fight, Larry. We hope to see you in San Diego next October.



- - - - NEW MEMBERS - - - -

Abbott, Lewis **ATR3**
Address Removed 6/69 – 2/71
California, Address Removed Phone Removed
Wife: Patricia
Email Removed

Electronic Tech; In-flight Tech (briefly); Detached to Chu Lai and Danang.

Herda, David (Dave) **ADR3**
Address Removed 2/68 – 12/69
Valley Mills, Address Removed Phone Removed
Wife: Joyce
Email Removed

Initial assignment was as Line Crew Section Leader; then to Power Plant Shop. Trained for Flight Mechanic and spent most of tour flying with Crew 1; but also flew with Crews 4 and 8.

Holt, Craig W. **AN**
Address Removed 4/67-10/68
Yucca Valley, CA Phone Removed
Wife: Shirley
Email Removed

Flew CIC, first with Crew 5 and later with Crew 4. Also made one deployment to Vietnam with Crew 8.

Delancy, Leroy **AMS1**
Address Removed 3/64 – 4/67
San Diego, Address Removed Phone Removed
Wife: Juanita

My wife and I arrived on Guam on 3/17/64. I was assigned to Air Frames; completed My tour in Quality Control Division. While there, I was promoted to AMSC.

Speas, Everett **ACW2**
Address Removed 9/57 – 3/59
Waco, Address Removed Phone Removed
Wife: Karen Email Removed

CIC / Navigation Office. Flew primarily with Crew 8.



REMEMBER WHEN?? VW-1 EM Wives Install Officers .... Old and new officers are congratulated by CDR Gibbs, Commanding Officer of VW-1, who recently conducted installation ceremonies. From l to r: Mirna Citrano, treasurer; Bonnie McMullen, secretary; Pat McGraw, vice-president; Emmie Lucas, president; CDR Gibbs; Bea Wimberly, past president; Jackie Clossen, past vp; and Carol Rice, past treasurer. (Picture courtesy of Chuck and Mirna Citrano)

A Trip Down Memory Lane

By Chuck Citrano

I was in the Navy for eight years, joining when I was 17, right out of high school in 1959. I left the Navy in 1968, after my I tour with VW-1. That was nearly 40 years ago, but as with most of the VW-1 gang, the memories of what was the most exciting part of my life remain.

I considered it a privilege to fly with the Crew of TE-6. Like most flight crews, we thought we were the best! To the best of myknowledge, we never aborted a mission during the 1966-1967 period. In fact, I think it was in DaNang that we flew back to back missions when our relief aircraft was down for maintenance in the Philippines, and our local alternate aircraft in Da Nang was also down. When we took over TE-00 during the time that TE-67 went back to the state for overhaul, we repaired a chronic APS-42 radar problem. Although several crews had TE-00 before us, the radar never worked.

Mirna remembers the warmth and friendliness of the VW-1 wives and the shared experiences at NAS Agana. We look forward to seeing everyone in San Diego next year.

It's True – It's True

Pete Wasmund announced to one and all on the website that I, Sally Metzger, had a heart attack on July 27th. For those of you who are not "surfers" on the web, thought it only fair to fill you in also.

The bottom line is that two heart caths and three stints later, I am perfectly fine. Things around here are back to normal. The biggest problem was recovering from the shock and surprise that it had happened at all, since I had been feeling great and had no indication via my blood pressure or chloresterol. So, go figure!!

For those of you that did hear, I want to thank you for your concern and your cards. It is just great to know that we have such a wonderful support system with our great VW-1'ers.

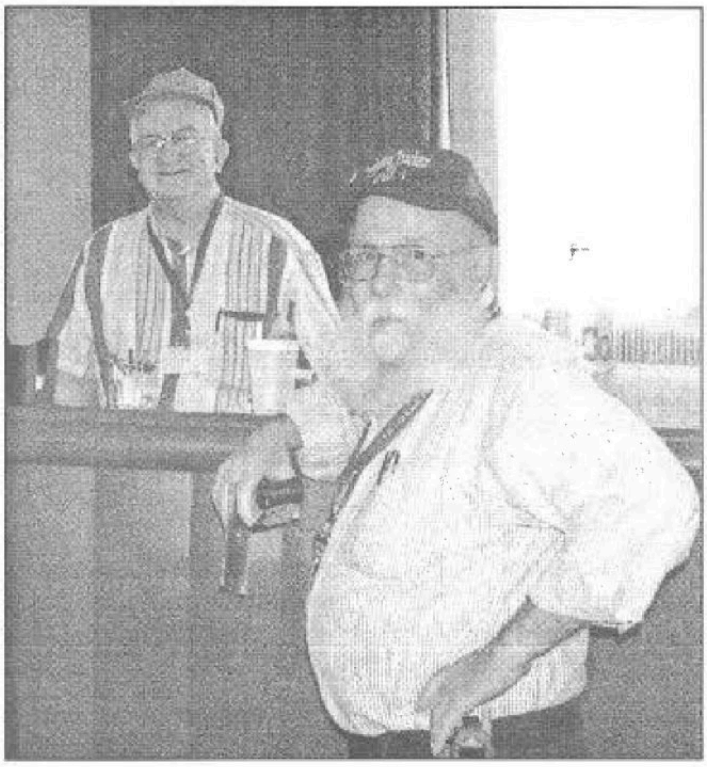
Personally, since Dottie Wasmund also had a heart attack just before the Myrtle Beach reunion, I can only assume that these VW-1 Association officers are really tough on their women!! It is not easy keeping up with these "A" type personalities.

Haircut, Anyone?

OUR BARBERS .... George Dean and Ben Steers hung out around the beer keg in Myrtle Beach. They didn't whip out their clippers and offer up any free trims, although they are both now barbers – in Georgia and Maine, respectively. They didn't only drink beer, however.

George challenged many to a game of cribbage – a game in which he is a self-proclaimed expert.

Ben sailed on the ill-fated fishing trip that Resulted in few fish and a lump on the head for Victor Zarich!



News from Cyberspace (Continued from Page 4

and as of now, haven't received any information. Any help would be greatly appreciated.
Address Removed Address Removed Phone Removed

Buster and Cathy Tipton (9/6) "Cathy and I are doing just fine. We were fortunate to weather Katrina with no damage to our home or camp. We did not lose our electricity throughout the storm. We spent today delivering food, water and ice to those less fortunate than us in Mississippi. We have so many emergency personnel staging in and around New Orleans area that we were unable to get into that area so we decided to help the victims in MS. My son and his friends have been cooking and feeding an average of 1,500 displaced each day in different shelter through the area."

(NOTE: The VW-1 Association has four members in the area affected by Katrina – Patric Bearrs, Tiptons, Langes, and Williams. In addition to Tipton's, we heard from Charles and Sandra Lange, and they are okay. No word is available on either the Bearrs or Cary and Pat Williams. If anyone knows how they fared, please let us know.")

New E-mail addresses:

Bill Chitty Email Removed

Don Martin Email Removed

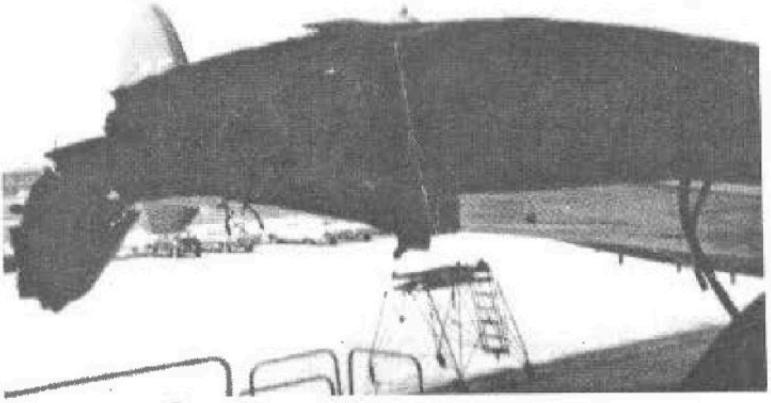
John Sill Email Removed

New Addresses:

John & Karen Castle Address Removed Mesa, Address Removed
John & Carole Sill Address Removed Minden, Address Removed

More on the Famous

Tip Tank Incident



Bill Dutra (2nd Engineer on TE2) provided this picture showing the tip tank damage, along with his recollections of the incident.

Bill will be retiring in a couple of years from Continental Airlines, where he Is an A & P mechanic.

As I recall, the pilot was Lt. Thompson. I was on the panel. We had made our low level penetration and we were going up inside the eye to go out. All of a sudden there was this terrible jolt and the tip tank and part of the wing was gone. The AC called for max power. I shoved every- thing to the wall and we started cross feeding fuel out of the other tip tank because it was still full.

After we figured out what happened and we made the decision we were airworthy, we headed for Guam. We were very lucky because a few more inches and the aileron would have been damaged As it was the aft corner was bent up about ½ inch. I found this old picture I took after we got back that shows a little more of the damage.

LeRoy White should be able to fill you in on more details as he was the 1st Engineer on that flight. He was right behind me after the jolt.



Address Removed

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





Mailing Code Removed