ISSUE 26 VW-1 TRACKER JUNE 2006

San Diego Registration Time

The official form is on pages 3 and 4

Just rip it out, fill in the blanks, and send it along

We are down to the last few months before the reunion and everything is in place – ready and waiting for our arrival. Everyone is hoping to see their old friends and to be able to make new ones among our VW-1 membership.

Don't forget that if you want to arrive early, or stay late, you must make your own arrangements for the additional days. Just call the Lafayette Inns and Suites at 619-296-2101 and tell them you are with the VW-1 group. The rate they are holding for us for three days both prior and after the reunion is $ 79.99 (plus taxes) per night. There is an additional $ 5 charge per night for a third or fourth person sharing the room. As usual, the registration for the four reunion nights will be made for you once we receive your registration form and payment. You can also be picked up by the Lafayette if you make prior arrangements with them once you have your flight details.

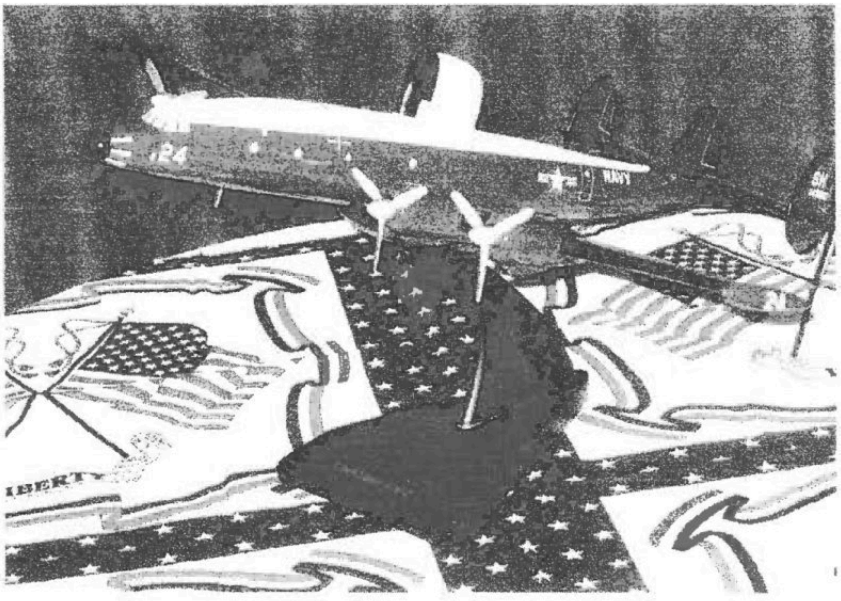
RAFFLE

Someone in the VW-1 Association is going to become the owner of the Willie Victor Model that we have been carrying around to each reunion for the past six years. Since many of you cannot make the reunion, and might want to participate, we will sell raffle tickets – beginning now – to all members. The official drawing will be on Wed, Oct. 25th, after the business meeting, but you do not have to be present to win.

Buy a Chance!!

Tickets are $ 1.00 ea. or six for $ 5.00. If you will not be attending the San Diego reunion, but want to have an opportunity to win this model, just make checks payable to Sally Metzger. Mail to:

Sally Metzger
Address Removed
Inverness, FL
Address Removed



We will put your tickets in the pot. That pot will go along with us to San Diego. The model will be shipped direct from San Diego, CA to the winning VW-1 member.

Sad Times in the VW-1 Family

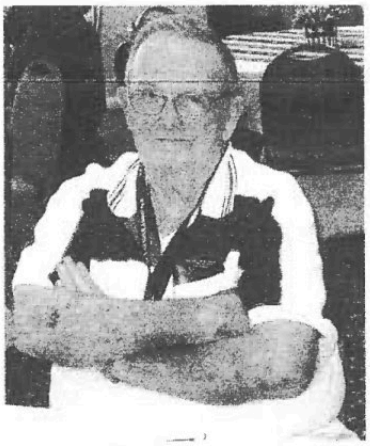
Recently we have lost five of our friends – John Linendoll, Jim Reddy, Kaneko, the wife of John Houdek; Pat, the wife of Roy Zimmerman; and Joan, the wife of Dave Brundage. Our heartfelt condolences go out to their families and friends. They will be missed.

John Linendoll

John reported for duty in VW-1 in Oct. of 1968 as a Flight Officer, CIC Officer and Tactics Officer. He had previously flown as a Flight engineer for six year, prior to making LDO and flew connies for 14,000 hours. He flew as CIC Officer on Crew 10 in VW-1.

John was born in Providence, RI In 1921. After retiring from the Navy as a Lieutenant Commander, he had a successful career in real estate in California. He and his wife, Joetta, of 59 years have two daughters, four grandchildren, and four great grandchildren.

* * * * * *



Jim Reddy

Jim and Dora were both enthusiastic supporters of our VW-1 group and attended most of the reunions.

Jim served as a flight engineer with Crew 8 from March of 1965 through April of 1967.

* * * * *

Kaneko Houdek

Kaneko died on April 9th from pancreatic cancer at the age of 77.

John and Kaneko married in March of



1958. They have attended most of the VW-1 reunions. I'm sure you remember them well as they were always among the first to volunteer to lend a hand and their ready smiles always helped to brighten the proceedings.

John and Kaneko were blessed with two sons and one grandson.

Pat Zimmerman

Pat and Roy met in 1970 in Lexington Park, MD and enjoyed 35 years together. She was a branch manager at Point Mugu Federal Credit Union and had retired in 2003. They had a very close knit family and her daughter wrote of her: " ... know that because of her remarkable soul, we were each made better. She touched so many with her love and kindness, her humor and her generosity; but her greatest gift was how she taught us the value of family and friends."

Joan Brundage

Joan was the mother of three and she and John were married 45 years. She was in Guam with him for 5 years in the early 70's and had many friends from those days.

San Diego Reunion Registration Form

Oct. 23 – 27, 2006

Deadline Sept. 1, 2006

Please note that your registration money is 100% refundable through Oct. 9, 2006. We ask for early registration to facilitate finalizing contracts and arrangements for the proper number of people who plan to attend.

TOTAL PKG: COUPLES: **$ 620.00** SINGLE: **$ 490.00**

Name(s): _____

_____

Included in price above: Four nights at the Lafayette Inns and Suites with Continental breakfast Tuesday through Friday morning. Buffet Monday during Registration (1 to 6 PM). Buffet dinner Wednesday night following business meeting. Thursday evening dinner at Tom Hamm's Lighthouse Restaurant on Harbor Island, followed by preferred seating at a musical comedy show. Meeting room for entire four days w/soft drinks; beer and snacks (limited hours) and all tips and taxes are also included.

EVENTS ONLY (for RV'ers and Locals) **$ 150.00 Per Person**
Includes the **above** TRIPS & MEALS**; DOES NOT INCLUDE** four nights at Hotel & Breakfasts

Name(s): _____

_____

Note: Please indicate your choice of meal for Thursday evening at Tom Hamm's:

Roast Prime Rib _____ Filet of Halibut _____ Sauteed Breast of Chicken _____

OPTIONAL EVENTS: Please note additional cost to above prices for these optional trips)

San Diego Area Guided Tour, Tuesday, Oct. 24th **Cost $ 50.00** per person
Included: Tour of La Jolla, including Mount Soledad, the Veteran's Memorial; Coronado, with a stop at the beachfront; Balboa Park; the Gas Lamp District with its late 1800 buildings; an hour stop at Seaport Village; plus a delicious luncheon at the famous Bali Hai restaurant. Price includes guide, lunch, bus and tips. Moderate to light walking. Depart 9:00 AM, return 4:00 PM.

Name(s) _____

_____

USS Midway, Wednesday, Oct. 25th Cost $ **25.00** per person
Board the Midway at 10 a.m. and enjoy it at your own pace. Bus pickup at hotel at 9:30; return pick up time at 2 p.m. Lunch will be at your own cost and at your convenience.

Name(s) _____

(Continued of reverse side)

Old Town Historic State Park Wednesday, Oct. 25th Cost: **$ 39.00** per person
Site of first Catholic Mission. This colorful town is full of history & unique shops. Lunch at Casa Guadalajara, w/complimentary margarita. choice of steak or chicken, Mexican style. Moderate to light walking, your choice. Depart 9:30 a.m.; return 2:30 p.m. All taxes and tips included.

Name(s): _____

_____

Golf Tournament, Thursday, Oct. 26th **Cost:** To be announced

Name(s):_____
Green fees for this event payable at Registration on 10/23 to Pete Wasmund or Joe Vilsack

If you have signed up for the reunion above, you need not look at the information below. It is only for those members unable to participate in the entire reunion, but who wish to spend some time with their shipmates.

* * * * * * * * * * * * *

If your availability is limited, but you would like to visit the VW-1 Reunion, we recommend you visit at one (or more) of the three times listed below, since that is when most attendees should be available.

Drop-In:

Monday, Oct. 23rd – 1 to 11 p.m.: **$ 20.00** per person
(Beer, snacks, sodas, plus Buffet from 1 to 6 p.m. included)

Wed., Oct. 25th - 4 to 11 p.m. **$ 40.00** per person
Business meeting/ Dinner Buffet/Entertainment; plus after dinner beer & sodas included)

Thursday, Oct. 26th - 4 to 11 p.m. **$ 85.00** per person
Tom Hamm's restaurant for dinner; followed by preferred seating at a musical comedy show; then back to the hotel for late evening snacks, beer and fellowship. (Buses provided from hotel)

Name(s): _____

_____

Please circle the dollar values of those things you choose and make a check out for the correct amount payable to Sally Metzger, VW-1 Treasurer and send to:

Sally Metzger, Treasurer, Address Removed **Inverness,** Address Removed

If you have any question, e-mail us – Ed and Sally Metzger –
at Email Removed or phone Phone Removed

News from Cyberspace, Etc.

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

Howard & Jean Hamilton (3/24) Email Removed "Note my new e-mail address. I'm getting great Internet access for a great price. If you're interested in doing the same, you should visit www.peoplepc.com."

Pete Wasmund (3/28) Email Removed "Received the Tracker today and read it through before I got up the driveway. Correction items about "Historian" article. Her name is spelled Riene, her website is http://www.rienelive.com/. Just wanted to let you know in case anyone contacts you about her. Sure hope that the next reunion is closer to the middle of the country. It'll be better access for you guys to get things set up and we'll have better access to the beer! Anxiously looking forward to the reunion."

Lee Thompson (3/29) Email Removed "I've been organizing a 50th reunion for our boot camp company to be held in Denver at the end of April. It was a foolish venture on my part, but I thought it was a good idea at the time. Believe me, I have a new respect for the work you guys do on our behalf. Our winter here in Colorado is a mild one ... our 7th in a row. Now that we're spoiled, if we do get a hard winter, you'll hear us whine all the way to Florida!"

Bill Fellers (4/1) Email Removed "Please change my address to: Address Removed Address Removed Address Removed

Roy Zimmerman (4/2) Email Removed "I got a phone call from Jimmie Johnson's wife, Cathy, a few minutes ago and he is in pretty bad shape. He has been fighting lymphoma for over a year now, and things are not going well. She told me that he now has a tumor in his armpit and size of a grapefruit. It has also spread to his lungs, liver and bones. He is supposed to have the one removed from his armpit and will be undergoing more chemotherapy. Jimmie was in VW-1 69 – 70, and I believe he flew with Neil Tennison. Cathy is wondering if anyone has any pictures of Jimmie when he was in Guam, such as crew pictures, etc. His address is Address Removed Terra Haute, Address Removed Phone Phone Removed (cell) and home is Phone Removed A note, call or pictures would be greatly appreciated."

Jim Geiger (4/2) Email Removed "I have been having my share of problems again, but every time I start to feel sorry for myself, I hear about other shipmates with problems worse than mine. Thank you for sending me the information about Jimmie Johnson. I did not know Jimmie, as I transferred from Guam by August 1968. However I will be contacting him just to talk or listen. I have become so angry with the VA over all the reluctance to assist these VW-1'ers that have suffered the cancers, diabetes and other problems due to our exposure to Agent Orange. Of course, one of the biggest problems is getting the VA to recognize that we were even "in country" at all! We hope to see everyone at the San Diego reunion.

Rick Clarke (4/2) Email Removed "I've gone through my slides and do not have any

(Continued to Page 6)

News from Cyberspace, Etc. (Continued from Page 5)

of Jimmy, but I sure recall him. We did fly together and he was a fine part of an outstanding group of folk. My best to him through the hard times now and "fair winds and following seas" in the future."

Gary & Gay Oulman (4/29) Email Removed "I don't think we will be going to San Diego, much as we would like to. We've just had too much going on this year. We had to buy tractor/equipment this year, and now a storm cellar to keep from having to kiss our a----. goodbye. What a year! We don't have the cellar in yet, but hope we won't have anymore tornadoes through here before we do. If we happen to hit the lotto before the reunion, we will be there. Gary has been working some; but has promised that next year he will not work. The money is great, but it is time for him to slow down. We have done very little fishing this year. Hopefully, next year. Gary is having some trouble with one knee and goes to see the bone doc in a couple of weeks. Hopefully, no surgery will be necessary. It is bothering him a great deal. We met with the Lange's and Wasmund's again recently for lunch. It is such a pleasure to talk to people with similar back-grounds.... and they are all such nice folks ... double treat."

Bill & Flo O'Reilly (5/9) Note: Sorry we won't be able to make the reunion in San Diego. It is a bit too far for us. Hopefully, the next one will be in the central U.S. Have a wonderful time!"

Dave Brundage (5/9) Note: "Sorry to tell you that my wife. Joan, passed away on December 23 of last year. It was just 18 days short of 45 years of wedded bliss."

Lyle Fisher (5/8) Email Removed "I happened to stumble into your web site a while back and want to pass some information to you. I was assigned to VW-1 from Oct. 5 1961 to Oct. 1963. I flew my whole tour with Crew 2 on TE-2. I was an AT-2 at the time and first radar tech. The first item I wanted to share is that the WV-2 that was received by VW-1 on 17 Dec. 1954 and assigned tail number of TE-6 (buno 135749) is the same aircraft that was later modified by the Martin Company and assigned to VQ-1 as PR-21. (I also did two tours in VQ-1). This is the same aircraft that was shot down by the North Koreans on 15 April, 1969. I saw PR-21's departure that April morning. I had never known that 135749 was a previous VW-1 aircraft!

The second item is the color radar picture in the Typhoon Karen part of the JTWC reports. The picture is, in fact, Typhoon Karen that I took with a hand held Petri 7 camera from the radar position IP203/APS-20 scope). It is a time exposure. I slewed the origin of the sweep just off the scope and when the sweep came on the scope I opened the shutter and closed it when the sweep left the scope at the bottom. Crew 2 on TE-2 flew out of Sangley Point on the night that Karen hit Guam and made one fix and returned to Sangley. We were about 90 miles out of Guam when the picture was taken. The front-end crew was able to raise NAS Ground Control who reported winds of 100 knots at that time. It was obvious from the radar picture that the worst was yet to come. The southern end of Guam is clearly visible just outside of the biggest feeder band and the Island of Rota is clearly visible to the north). After I got these pictures developed I made copies for anyone that wanted one. Thanks for the time and thanks for the great web site."

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News from Cyberspace, Etc. (Continued from Page 6)

Ernie Clark (5/12) Note: "I have added another feather to my flight training cap. I have become a CFI with light sport rating. I love these new types of planes. We have cruise speeds up to 120 knots!"

Frank West (5/12) Note: "Due to my health and the distance, I will not be able to be at the reunion. Keep up the good work."

Lee & Martha Thompson (5/15) Email Removed "We just had our boot camp reunion (50th Anniversary) and it proceeded flawlessly. When I first started contacting the members, the common lament was "I won't know any of the guys." Before the show was over, the common comment was "Remember the time ...?" It was a great sport and a whale of a lot of work! I have a new perspective (and respect!) for what it takes to put a reunion together."

Ray Fonda (5/25) Email Removed "John Linendoll and I were stationed together in Willie Victors three times – AEWBARONPAC, VW-1 and Pt. Mugu (where he worked in the Range Ops Radar Center) He was qualified at one time as Flight Engineer in the Connies, just to prove he could do it! He also recommended my looking at Camarillo for a home upon my assignment to Pt. Mugu, calling it a nice quiet little community – which it was in 1970 – and still is. Good advice! He was quite a remarkable individual!"

Gary & Gay Oulman (5/31) Email Removed "So sorry to hear about Jim Reddy. I wish we cold be there for the service, but just too far away. He and Dora were good friends and neighbors to us on Guam. I know his life has been difficult since she died. None of us are complete without our "other half"."

Jim Harvey (5/31) Email Removed "Please express my sincere condolences to Jim's family. Things have been okay for us here in Honk Kong. I have been busy during the past 7 – 8 months setting up a new company in Macau to target the new international gaming investors that are establishing casinos and resorts in Macau. It has kept me pretty busy – which for an "old" man is a good thing."

Roy Zimmerman (5/8) Email Removed "Pat passed away May 8th at home in Pahrump of lung cancer. Her lungs were clear, but the cancer had moved to her liver. She was the strongest person I've ever met. Don't know if I could have done it myself. She really fought, even up to the day she died. Sorry for the delay in sending in my dues, but I have been very busy. See you in October."

Helen Ray (6/9) Email Removed "Don was just diagnosed with kidney cancer a few days ago, but the good news is that it was caught early. Normally, he would just have the tumor and part of his kidney removed; but because of his artificial heart valve and blood thinners, they will probably have to take the entire kidney. It is a balancing act, probable stroke versus living with one kidney, so that is a no brainer. He is scheduled for surgery on June 26 and has about a two month recovery time, so we are hoping that we will be able to make San Diego. Our granddaughter's husband is a marine, currently in Fallujah, due back to Pendelton in August, so we were hoping that we could bring him to a couple of the activities."

(Continued to Page 8)

News from Cyberspace, Etc. (Continued from Page 7)

Lowell & Sheila Buswell (6/9) Email Removed "Sorry to hear about Jim Reddy's passing. We all seem to be having little problems. I get to have a triple fusion on my lower back in a couple of weeks. San Diego is one of my favorite places on earth. It is a great choice for a reunion; however, for us the timing is really crumby. I will be in mid harvest of about 400,000 pounds of hazelnuts. I know you'll all have a great time there though. We will miss you all."

NEW E-MAIL ADDRESSES:

Bill Dutra (5/9) Email Removed
Vaughn Callison (5/11) Email Removed
William Burke (5/13) Email Removed
John Kreutzer (5/13) Email Removed
LeRoy White Email Removed
Lee Thompson (5/15) Email Removed
John Castle (5/15) Email Removed
Art Phillips (5/17) Email Removed
Roy Zimmerman (5/23) Email Removed
Don & Helen Reddy (6/9) Email Removed

-- New Members --

Hanberg, Eric **AMS3**
Address Removed 11/68 – 1/70
Orange, Address Removed Phone Removed
Wife: Sherry Lynn
Air Frames, TAD

Turner, Lloyd J. Jr. **ATW3**
3/65 – 6/66
Address Removed
Kingston, Address Removed Phone Removed
Wife: Barbara
CIC Office; Scope dope on Crew 5

- - Come Join the Fun in San Diego - -



Address Removed

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

GAINESVILLE/GNV
FL 326 3 T
17 JUN 2006 PM



Mailing Code Removed