ISSUE 28 VW-1 TRACKER DECEMBER 2006

San Diego Shindig Now History

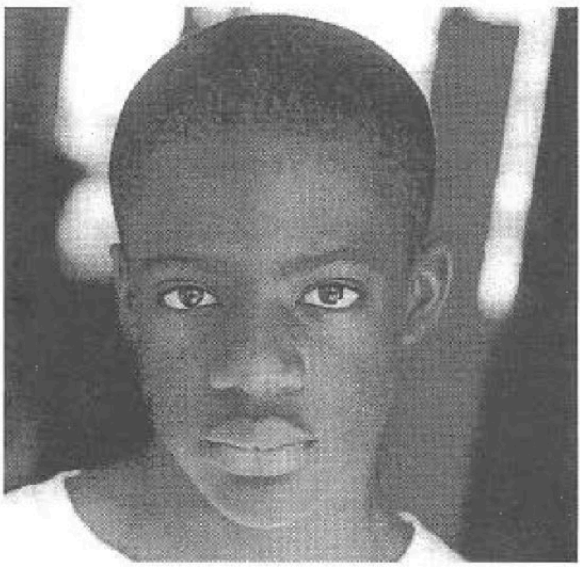
VW-1 All Hands Reunion #6 may be history, but for those of us who attended, it will remain in our memories. We had a great blend of both reunion returnees and those who, although members, had not attended a prior reunion. There were thirteen such shipmates and, along with their guests, they accounted for 23 of the 80 attendees. It is always a special delight to meet newcomers; but we also confess to greatly missing some of our "regulars" who did not make San Diego this year. We especially missed some who had fully intended to attend; had registered, but then had to cancel due to health problems or for personal reasons. These folks include Ray and Sue Keighley, LeRoy White and Ruby Berry, Tom Hull, Helen Ray, Judy Rea, Ruth Tandy and Ed Metzger.

We had a full four days that included tours and lots of good food; but, most importantly, lots of time to visit and reminisce about the good times in VW-1. The buffet on registration day included lumpia, a special treat that quickly disappeared. Fortunately, the caterer managed to find an additional order so no one missed out. Don Ray, a late arrival, was given the remaining lumpia and took it to his room for his late night snack.

On Tuesday we filled the bus to do our San Diego Tour. For those who had been in San Diego many years ago, they found the changes almost incomprehensible. For those of us who were first time visitors, we found a progressive city, very clean and attractive.

Wednesday included both the Midway Carrier Tour and the Old Town Tour. Many attendees opted to take the day off to pursue their own agenda because there is so very much to see in this city. In the evening we had our business meeting (see report on Page 2). We had a special treat since Carl and Velma Bryant brought their grandson to sing for us. This young man has such a wonderful voice that he had some of us in tears with his rendition of "God Bless America" Chauncey Matthews is just 15 years of age and is attending the School of Creative and Performing Arts in San Diego. At the age of 3 he sang his first solo at a local church with an adult choir of thirty people. His next engagement was singing with a Mass Children's Choir of almost 100. He continues singing for different charitable organizations. One of Chauncey's aspirations was to become a "Super Star" and that is what he did. At age 11 he was chosen from thousands of children auditioning for a spot on the Fox Channel TV show to become one of a group of five as the "American Juniors". In 2003, America

(Continued on Page 3)



Chauncey Matthews

VW-1 Reunion #7
Colorado Springs
Spring of 2008

Reunion Financial Report

INCOME:

Full Package	$ 22,410.00
Events Only	1,050.00
San Diego Tour	2,750.00
Midway Tour	575.00
Old Town Tour	1,170.00
Drop In's (M-W-T)	1,055.00
Raffle	328.00
Ship's Store	926.65
Golfers Donation	24.00
Lafayette Refund	161.37
Total Income:	$ 30.450.02

EXPENSES:

Lafayette Inn	$ 13,000.00
Best Bev. Catering	5,000.00
San Diego Tours	10,100.00
Shipping Costs	169.54
Tips	325.00
Cancellations	2,043.00
Snacks	59.07
Cashiers Check Charge	10.00
	$ 30,706.61

Amount taken from general funds: $ 256.59

The difference would have been about $ 1,000 more if the San Diego Tours had charged us what we had been quoted. They took just over $ 700 off their total bill. This was largely due to the fact that the Thursday night entertainment was not what was expected. Also, he Lafayette settled with us for the $ 13,000 already paid, although we owed another $ 300 plus due to the displeasure expressed about the loud music late Thursday evening.

San Diego Business Meeting Minutes

The business meeting in San Diego was on October 25 and was presided over by the VW-1 All Hands Vice President, Pete Wasmund.

The minutes were read and accepted. There was no old business to discuss.

New Business:

There was a discussion of how to reach out to find additional members who may not know about VW-1.

Moon Mullen suggested we have a guest membership program. Any VW-1 All Hands member could buy a year's membership for an ex-VW-1'er who does not belong to the group for $ 10.00. When the renewals roll around it is hoped the guest members will opt to renew their membership. The motion passed.

The idea of running ads in some military publications was suggested. It was suggested that we look into what costs might be for such an ad.

Several locations were discussed for the next reunion and it was narrowed down to two – Nashville, TN and Colorado Springs, CO. The Colorado location won by a large majority. Thanks to Lee and Martha Thompson for their extensive research and for doing such a great job in educating the group about that location. The date will be either the last week of May or the first week of June in 2008.

Vaughn Callison won the raffle for the model of the Willie Victor. In packing it up he admitted to having "coveted" it – as many of our group had. The raffle netted the VW-1 treasury $ 328.00.

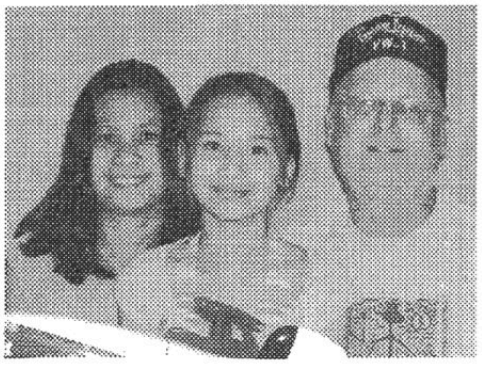
San Diego Shindig (Continued from Page 1)

and he became one of their "American Juniors." Chauncey enjoys school and has a very good grade point average. Our thanks to this delightful young man for sharing his talent with us. Carl and Velma are very proud of this young man.

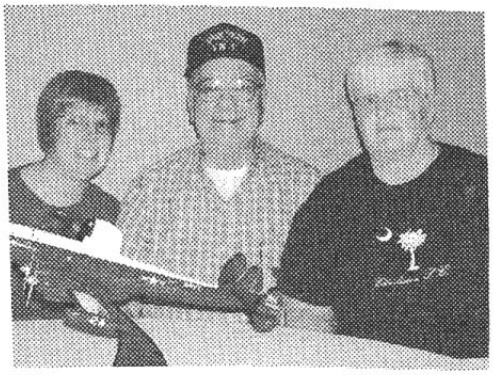
After all the business had been taken care of, we had "storytelling time". The best storyteller award has to go to Tom Hoover, who delivered his stories with such gestures and timing that it kept us all delighted. Thanks go to all those who dared to get up and share their remembrances of VW-1.

Thursday the golfer's hit the links for their tournament, while we non-golfer's took the day to relax or to go back to some of the places we had visited briefly earlier in the week. Thursday evening we went to a dinner at the Bali Hai and then to a play in Old Town. Coffee, tea and beer, plus cookies and cake, awaited us back at the hotel and most folks spent some time there saying their goodbyes for an early departure the following morning. As usual, there were several who were staying over another day or two and Friday morning and evening found us trying to get the last moments of pleasure from our reunion experience.

Two of our members brought additional family along. The Zarich's brought their daughter, Janet. By the way, she told me she fully intends to come to the next reunion. Also, Richard and Lowena Bleakney brought their daughter, Sara. The Bleakney's have just sold their Nevada home and will be moving to the Phillipines the first of the near year. We hope that doesn't mean they won't fly back for our reunions!



Dick, Lowena and Sara Bleakney



Janet, Charlotte and Victor Zarich

We hope that all those "first-timers" in San Diego will become "regulars" at our next reunion in Colorado Springs, CO and that all our regulars will be able to make the trip in the spring of 2008. Proud is the word that comes to mind when writing and thinking about our VW-1 All Hands Reunions. No matter who attends, everyone is friendly and loving and so very willing to socialize and mix. Whether a first-timer or one of the few who have attended all the reunions, there are no cliques, no rate consciousness ..... nothing but the desire to touch one another and share those VW-1 years.

Oh, by the way, those who have attended ALL the reunions have shrunk to three couples: Ralph and Jane Link; Jim and Maizie Rice, and Victor and Charlotte Zarich.

San Diego Attendees

Special recognition to those who were first-time attendees* at a VW-1 All Hands reunion during out San Diego get-together. It takes a leap of faith to come that first time – not knowing what to expect and not sure how many folks you will know. Hopefully, San Diego will be the first of many for these newcomers and that they will join all our other faithful VW-1 members in Colorado Springs, CO in the spring of 2008.

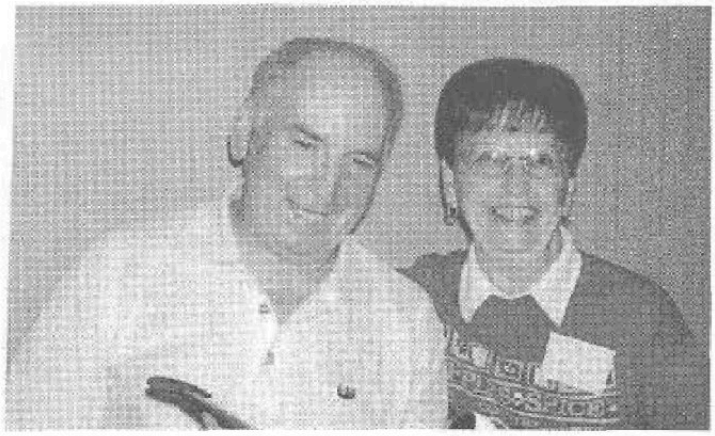
*Ernie Amarino and Beth Rushton
Ron and Carolyn Anderson
Len and Jane Bailey
Fred and Simone Becker
*Steven and Marilyn Birdman
Richard, Lowena and Sara Bleakney
Darold and Mary Borrowman
*John and Mary Boyd
Carl and Velma Bryant
*Vaughn and Suzanne Callison
*LeRoy and Erma DeLancy
Frank and Jackie Doty
*Larry Ellis and Jan
Eldon and Karen Eskew
*Lyle and Sylvia Fisher
Ann Gagnon
*Gary Garretson
Jesse and Betty Garcia
Jack and Sydnie Gergal
Jim and Gerri Goodson
William Green
*Robert and Ginny Johnston
Charles Koeber
Charles and Sandra Lange
Jim and Peggy LaPosta
Ralph and Jane Link
Sally Metzger
Norbert and Linda Monohan
Larry and Sheila Morris
Moon and Nadine Mullen
Doug and Ethel Pendray
Don Ray
Ray Rea
Jim and Maizie Rice
*Everett and Karen Speas
Mack and Judy Stotts
Jim Tandy
Lee and Martha Thompson
*Lloyd Turner
Joe and Mary Ann Vilsack
Pete and Dottie Wasmund
*Tony Watson and Marcella Mendez
Victor, Charlottean and Janet Zarich
*Roy Zimmerman



John and Mary Boyd



Lyle and Sylvia Fisher



Larry Ellis and Jan

Oops! Could This Be A Problem???

When the Colorado Springs location was selected in San Diego, there was one question that was not asked that, maybe, should have been.

Since then the fact that the elevation there is 6,000 feet has come to our attention in two instances. The first instance is that those with respiratory problems might not be able to spend time at that elevation; and secondly, literature from the area about Pikes' Peak and going to the top warned against folks with respiratory and/or heart problems making the trip.

We contacted the Memorial Hospital Healthline in Colorado Springs and they said that those with heart problems lshould be fine as long as they did not attempt to go to the higher elevations. As for respiratory problems, those affected would probably have to use their oxygen more but would be okay as long as they did that. They stressed that anyone with any concerns should check with their doctors.

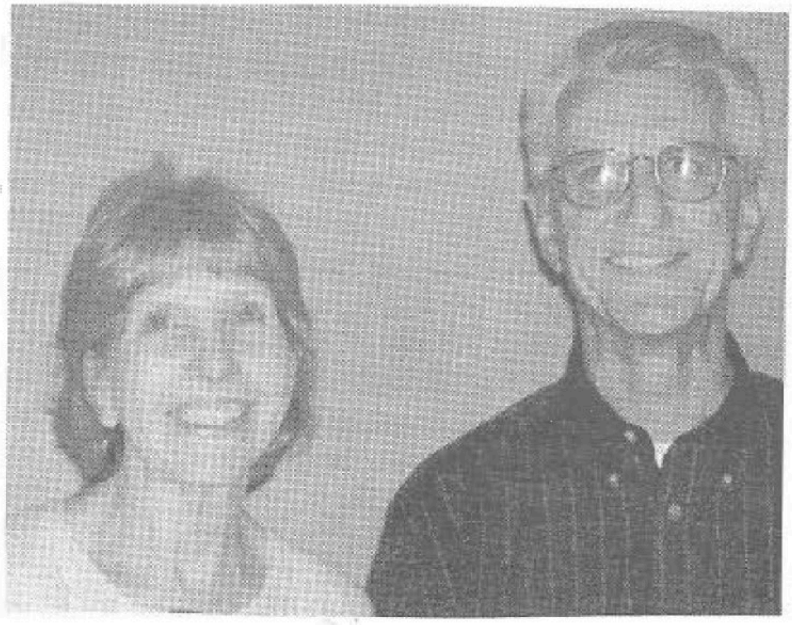
They gave some suggestions to minimize problems.

1. Stay below 7,000 feet the first day.
2. Avoid strenuous exercise the first day.
3. Drink lots of water before and after your arrival
4. Avoid alcohol and tobacco

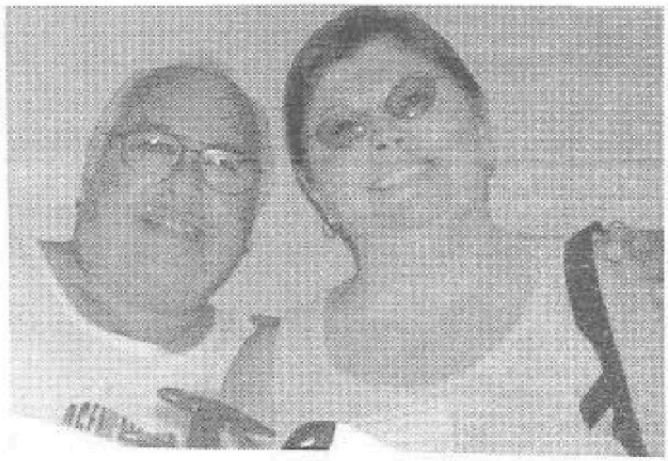
It is possible that anyone not used to the higher elevations may find themselves more fatigued than usual, especially the first day or two.

Please let us know if you would be excluded from the Colorado Springs reunion due to this elevation. Please consult your doctor if you have any question about this. Contact us via phone: Phone Removed
e-mail: Email Removed
or mail: Address Removed
Inverness, Address Removed

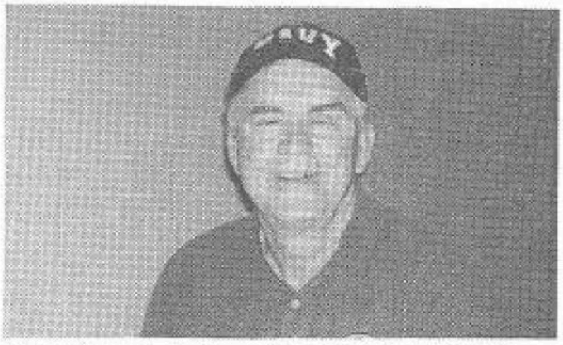
We would appreciate your response by Feb.1 since we need to be negotiating with hotels, etc. as soon as possible.



Ginny and Robert Johnston



Ernie Amarino and Beth Rushton



Garry Garretson

---- New Members to the VW-1 Family ---

Scott Bates, son of
Robert Bates **LCDR**
Address Removed '60-'62
Sheridan, Address Removed &'66-'68
Phone Removed
Email Removed

LCDR Bates came into VW-1 from VW-3, upon its disestablishment in 1960. He retired from active duty in 1970 and passed away in 1974. It was during his second tour that TE4 was named "City of Naminoue", which I have been told was Dad's idea. TE4 was Dad's only assigned aircraft during both his tours.

Gene Bloom **ACW3**
Address Removed 1960
Las Vegas, Address Removed
Wife: Pat Phone Removed

Served in VW-3 in '59 and '60 and was then transferred to VW-1 in '61. Gene also served in AEWBARPAC at Barber's Point.

(Thanks to Dan Thomson for introducing Gene to our Association with this guest membership.

Billy Crowe **AECS**
Address Removed '69-'71
Orange Park, Address Removed
Wife: Kathlyn Phone Removed

Maint./Night Maintenance Chief.

Charles (Chuck) Houston
ATN3/ATN2
Address Removed
Long Beach, Address Removed "67–'69
Wife: Carolyn Phone Removed
Email Removed

Flight Crew Assignment: 2nd Radio/ 1st Radio, Crew 1. During "Crew concept" all duties concerning Crew-1, unforgettable "ramp watches"; after Crew concept, I was assigned to Work Center 210 when not flying.

Gary Garretson **ATN2**
Address Removed '67-'68
Vista, Address Removed Phone Removed
Wi8fe: Julie
Email Removed

Crew 6 as 2nd Radio:
Crew 9 as 1st Radio

Stephen Healy **AC1**
Address Removed '57-59
Armona, Address Removed & '1963
Phone Removed

CIC, Crew 7 & Crew 3

Thomas Donnelly, Jr. **AE2**
Address Removed '56-'58
Glens Falls, Address Removed
Wife: Jean Phone Removed
Email Removed

Engine buildup in Hawaii. 2nd and 1st Electrician on TE7.

Richard (Dick) Lyon **AE1**
Address Removed '58 –'63 & '59-'66
Hastings, Address Removed
Wife: Darlene Phone Removed
Email Removed

In '58-'59 I was in the Electric Shop. in '63-'66, I flew with about every crew and my last was with TE00.

Earl Works, Jr. **AMSAA/AMSAN**
Address Removed 9/59 – 3/61
Clovis, Address Removed Phone Removed

Flight Line Ground Support/Aircraft Sheet Metal Shop. TDY's to Atsugi, Japan, Cubi Point, Philippines and Kadena, Okinawa.

News from Cyberspace, Etc.

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

Floyd (Bob) Orsini Email Removed (9/16) "Sorry to say that I won't be able to get to the reunion this time around. It's a bit far for me. I'm not a big fan of flying anymore and that's a shame since I used to love to fly. Not only did I love flying in VW-1, but I flew for almost 30 years with the New York Army Guard and it was the greatest thrill in the world. Well, almost the greatest thrill. Hope to see you at the next one."

Leo Devine Email Removed (9/19) "I am the first son of Leo Joseph Devine, who was stationed in Hawaii from about 1950 to 1956 and, I believe, was in VW-1. He was an AT first class at that time. We lived in the Ewa Beach area and his wife's name was Mary. They had a second son born at Tripler in 1954. They were friends with Barney and Anne Schwab. My father died in June of 1998. I would be interested in talking with anyone who knew him or my mother at that time."

Chuck & Mirna Citrano Email Removed (9/20) "I was ECC on Crew 6 during the years 1966-1967. I remember the first deployments to Chu Lai where we stayed with the Marines of MAG-13 and lived in tents. TE-6's Plane Commander was LCDR Bruen. My first Tech was AT2 Cook, the Radioman was McMullin, and one of the Flight Engineers was a funny guy named Dave Stegman. I left VW-1 on Feb. 1968 and did not get to buy a Cruise Book. We are looking forwad to San Diego."

Victor Zarich Email Removed (10/06) "Our WV-2, EC-121-K, returned from tracking Typhoon Lucy near the Phillipines in Dec. of 1962. I believe December 1962 was my last month of flight pay, as I checkout of VW-1 on 2/6/63 and someone else took over as flight electrician in January 1963. The flight engineer remarked that we were lucky because another airplane had crashed just before we got back to Guam. I perceive that it was a R7, but I do not recall if it was at NAS or Anderson AFB. My next duty was with HS-2 at NAAS Imperial Beach or aboard the USS Hornet. This was more sea duty, but was preferred sea duty until I was discharged from my 2nd enlistment in July of 1965. Later, after keeping busy with Electric Machinery in production control, I enlisted USNR-R and retired as an AZ1."

Chuck Houston Email Removed (10/9) "I was in VW-1 from '67-'69 (close enuf) and was a member of Crew 1. I was originally assigned as 2nd Radio under "Wild Bill" Foster. I did a cross-deck between other crews a few times, especially "in country". I am hoping to show up and renew old friendships at the upcoming muster in San Diego. As I am still a full time working stiff, Safety Manager for Southern California Edison (special Projects), I will not be able to participate fully. I will not know if I can attend until the last moment and my planning must consider the round trip drive from Long Beach."

Ray & Sue Keighley Email Removed (10/16) "Sue is quite ill. She has heart problems, neurological problems and is grouchy as an old bear. Of course, we are getting older. Seriously, the heart problems are very severe. She has a very proficient heart specialist, but may need a pacemaker and/or open heart surgery. We were really planning on the trip to San Diego, as our 50th wedding anniversary is Nov. 17 this year. This was to be our trip celebrating 50 years of wedded bliss, but it is not to be."

(Continued on Page 8)

News From Cyberspace (Continued from Page 2)

Thomas Donnelly Email Removed (10/18) "I am looking for documentation that would show that VW-1 was assigned to patrol the Taiwan Straits with the Seventh fleet. In August of 1958, we landed in Formosa after patrolling the Straits. Any information where I can find documents showing that we were there would be appreciated. My address is Address Removed Glen Falls, Address Removed Phone: Phone Removed

LeRoy White Email Removed (11/11) "No further health prolems for me at this time. I have lost 12 lbs. since getting home and being put on Ruby's no-fat diet. She jumps on me anytime I think about biting something that's got too much good taste. I also had a new visual field at my eye doctors. The report was no changes that indicated any effects from the stroke. Finger tip numbness is gone, too. Ralph and Jane Link sent a photo CD of his and Pete's reunion camera work. Nice pics. I don't see very many that I know though. Received a nice card from Gary and Gay Oulman. My Nikon CoolPix 8800 has been down for awhile, so I couldn't have used it at San Diego anyway. Finally got it fixed. I need to study the book much more for its operation to be ready for Colorado Springs. Ruby and I will be at the next reunion if at all possible."

Richard Lyon Email Removed (11/20) Just a note to let you know my new e-mail address. Keep up the good work. It is great to hear from my shipmates."

Ron Qualls Email Removed 11/23 "Just found your site. Love it. Great aircraft. I am looking at several on my wall right now. I was there from early 1960 to mid-1962. VW-3 for a short while; then moved up the ramp to VW-1. Was AE-3 in the electronic shop; then Crew 6 toward the end of my tour."

Frank Doty Email Removed (12/01) Note new e-mail address.



Address Removed

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





Mailing Code Removed