VW - 1 TRACKER

ISSUE 9 MAY 2002

Pensacola Phenomenon

Webster's dictionary says "phenomenon" is an exceptional person, thing or event". What we just witnessed in Pensacola was truly that – a phenomenon!

Everything went off like clockwork and the group continues to be the easiest group of people to please that ever met under a roof. We have a group that pitches in and helps where help is needed and that is quick to praise and slow to criticize. They reach out to one another and one only has to observe the conversations and the laughter to know that they are enjoying the opportunity to get together and reminisce about their past experiences in VW-1.

The Air Museum was impressive; the ladies enjoyed a tour of historic downtown and drove to the beach while the guys had a tour of the flight line and the restoration building. A suggestion was made at the business meeting that we should have a lap top computer and that the money from the auction should be used to help purchase it. With that in mind the auction netted $ 1,311.00! In addition, there were four $ 100 donations from the floor so the laptop is a reality just as soon as Howard Kemp and Ed Metzger get together and establish the best unit for the job.

Mystery Night took us to the miniature "Viet Nam Wall" in Pensacola and then on to Rosie O'Grady's where we enjoyed the Dueling Piano show. Pie and ice cream rounded off the evening. A morning trip to the USS Alabama and a Friday night dinner at Landry's finished off our activities.

Roy "Mack" Stotts, one of our devout supporters who has attended all three reunions, keeps saying that he is waiting to be disappointed but that each reunion is better than the one before. In discussions with the group, the reason became evident. Each time our membership gets together, they return to a larger group of friends.... a larger group that they now have reconnected with and feel comfortable with .... plus each time there is a new "pool" of first-time reunion attendees to add to the growing number of friends.

Ralph & Jane Link wrote "Pensacola was great – this was truly a gathering of a very special family." And that is very true. We of the VW-1 Association are a family in the best sense of the word. Our members had put their lives on the line day after day in their weather flights and in their barrier flights and they share a common bond that is strong and lasting.

For those of you who have attended any of our reunions – you know what we mean. For those members who have not yet been able to do so, may you find it possible in the future because you will experience that "phenomenon" for yourself!! Consider **RENO** in the late summer/early fall of **2003!!**



SUPPLY AND DEMAND.... The Sea Bean Story. Howard Hamilton is proud of his bag of sea beans. May he never be caught without one.

Now for "the Rest of the Story" .....

It started in San Antonio when John Sill bid $ 35.00 for a sea bean. Now we are in Pensacola and Alan Landon brings a sea bean for the auction – which Howard Kemp managed to buy for $ 30.00. However, there was also a bag of seabeans with several in it from Jim Tandy that then came up for auction. Kemp, figuring he needed to corner the market to keep the value of his sea bean up, bid on it; but Howard Hamilton was persistent and finally won the item for $ 51.00 – only about $ 8.00 a bean. What a steal! Now Frank Mackey arrives on the scene and donates a much larger bag of sea beans to the Association. These are going to be sold through the newsletter at the low, low price of $ 5.00 per bean!! And that amount includes postage. There is a limited supply, so be sure to get your order in early. Call, write or e-mail and we will get your sea bean in the mail to you.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

It occurred to me on the trip home from Pensacola that our dues period was about to come to an end, and having many new members, that they may not be aware of just how the dues period runs. During our first business meeting at the Branson, MO reunion, we voted to have our dues period run from June 1 to May 31st. Anyone joining the Association from June 1 thru December 31, would expire the following May 31st. For those who join after January 1st, their expiration date is the following years May 31st. For example, join April 11, 2002, you would expire on May 31st 2003.

To help everyone remember when their dues expire, your newsletter address label will now show your expiration date. It will be a quick, easy reference, but we will continue to send out dues notices each May as we have done in the past.

I know that I have said this to many of you, but just one more time. Thanks to everyone who attended the reunion in Pensacola for making it such a great success for all.

Wishing you all,
"Fair Winds and Following Seas"

Ed

Reunion Financial Report

Net Attendee Income	$ 14,130.00
Expenses:	
Organization Expenses	$ 131.50
Paper Products/Kitchen	65.79
Printing of Rosters	26.50
Sonny's Bar-B-Q	670.70
Beach Boy Trolleys	1,125.00
Good Time Tours	900.00
Sodas/Snacks/Ice	238.86
Pie & Ice Cream	52.19
Fabric for Centerpiece	3.96
Fruit & Vegetable trays	91.93
Beer Keg	66.58
Meat Trays/Rolls	248.65
Cubi Bar Lunch	642.12
Lucy / Tour & Guide	330.00
IMAX Theater	425.50
Canned Beer	43.62
Alabama Tour Tickets	260.00
Landry's Dinner	1,585.98
Shoney's Inns	7,359.00
Connie Pix	25.74
All Tips	245.00
Total	**$ 14,538.62**

Pensacola 2002 Reunion Attendees

Nineteen states were represented at the recent Pensacola reunion. With Florida being the host state, it is understandable that they led the attendance with 14 VW-1 members. Texas and California both had eight members, with Tennessee following with three. The remaining 15 states had one or two each.

Pete Armstrong	Orange Park, FL
Dick Bleakney	Gardnerville, NV
Dave Brundage	Austin, TX
Carol & Velma Bryant	San Diego, CA
Lowell & Sheila Buswell	Dallas, OR
John & Jerie Chitwood*	Van Buren, AR
Rex & Brenda Dunn	Maryville, TN
Bill & Kathryn Fellers	Joplin, MO
Bob Frazier*	Palm Springs CA
Jesus & Betty Garcia	Lytle, TX
Jack & Sydnie Gergal	Lancaster, PA
Howard & Jean Hamilton*	Palestine, TX
Roy Hermecz	Summerdale, AL
Pete (Taco) & Angelita Hernandez	Big Bear City, CA
John & Kaneko Houdek	Chula Vista, CA
Don Johnson	Springfield, MO
Bill & Lou Jones	Glendale, AZ
Ray & Sue Keighley	Overland Park, KS
Howard Kemp	Fort Worth, TX
Robert Kral	Orange Park, FL
Alan & Joann Landon	Jacksonville, FL
David & Nina Laney	Anniston, AL
Charles & Sandra Lange	Live Oak, FL
Dick & Gwen Lee	Capitan, NM
Ralph & Jane Link*	Bloomington, IL
Frank Mackey	Milton, FL
Al & Joanne Madsen*	Menomonie, WI
Ed & Sally Metzger*	Inverness, FL
Larry & Sheila Morris*	Enid, OK
"Moon" & Nadine Mullen	Thousand Oaks CA
Gary & Gay Oulman	Buchanan, TN
Ron Paul	Pensacola, FL
Mike Quigley	Fort Walton, FL
Don & Helen Ray	The Villages, FL
William Rea	Satelllite Beach, FL
Jim & Dora Reddy	Belleview, FL
Charles & Barbara Rice*	Nederland, TX
Jim & Mazie Rice*	Clovis, CA
Bob Ricksecker	Leesburg, FL
Ken Rowley	Pensacola, FL



LOOK AT THE MONEY!!! Once the VW-1 reunion attendees knew that the auction money was going for a new laptop computer for the Association, they pulled out all the stops when bidding for the item of their choice. Sally Metzger, secretary/ treasurer of the VW-1 Association, looks very pleased with the **$ 1,311.00** from the auction.

John & Carole Sill	Fallbrook, CA
Carl & Colleen Sorem	Livermore, CA
Jim & Nancy Stinson	Bloomington, MN
Roy "Mack" & Judy Stotts*	Groves, TX
Jim & Ruth Tandy	Wolfe City, TX
Phil Toops	Effingham, IL
Pete & Dottie Wasmund	Arlington, TN
John Waterworth	Port Charlotte, FL
George Weeks	Gulfport, MS
LeRoy White	Driftwood, TX
Cary & Pat Williams	Ponchatoula, LA
Victor & Charlotte Zarich*	Columbia Heights, MN

Note the * beside eleven of the names. These folks have had the good fortune to be able to attend all three of our VW-1 reunions. Expect to see the statistics change considerably in Reno as the location will be more convenient for our West Coast members. California leads as the state with the most members at 27; then Florida with 26 and Texas with 19.

Pensacola Business Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. on Thursday May 2 with an Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

The minutes from the San Antonio meeting and the treasurer's report for the period from 10/00 to 4/26/02 were given and accepted as read.

Under old business, the logo for the VW-1 Association has been finalized and is now on shirts that are available for sale. The item will be added to our Ship's Store selection in the Tracker News. The question was asked whether the club officers should pursue getting the logo done as a patch, a decal, or for silkscreening and there was no interest in doing so at this time.

Moon Mullen inquired as to whether the master data base which included every VW-1 member we have ever contacted was included in a mailing prior to the this reunion. They were not, as the reunion information went out only to existing active members. He and Gay Oulman both suggested that such a mailing be done in the future. Moon said he would pick up the cost of doing so. The list currently consists of approximately 550 names.

Howard Kemp volunteered to look into getting a VW-1 web site up and running and will pick up the expenses incurred in doing so. He will contact Earles McCaul to get information on his Willy Victor site to coordinate the two.

The election of officers results were:

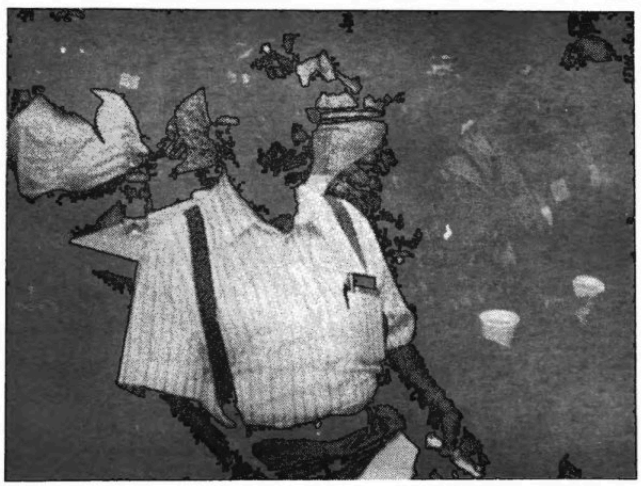
President	Ed Metzger
Vice President	Don Ray
Secretary/Treasurer	Sally Metzger
Photographer	Al Madsen
Chaplain	Dick Lee

New Business: Larry Morris suggested the VW-1 Association needed a laptop computer to allow all information to be brought to the reunions more easily. Bob Frazier suggested that the proceeds from the auction be used toward purchasing it, along with a request for donations. There were immediately four $ 100 donations from the floor to get the fund started. Thanks to Don Ray, John Sill, Ed Metzger and Leroy White. Leroy also has donated a printer to the Association .The motion to buy a laptop was approved. Howard Kemp volunteered to help research what unit to purchase.

(Note: The auction resulted in a net profit of $ 1,311, making the laptop fund $ 1,711, so no further fund raising is required.)

The subject of the time and location of the next reunion was discussed. Four locations were voted upon: Las Vegas; Lake Tahoe; Denver, CO and San Diego, with San Diego and Reno being the top two of the four. In a final vote between those two sites the vote was 37 for Reno and 25 for San Diego. The requested timing was for sometime between late August through September 2003. Dick Bleakney, who lives in the Reno area, volunteered to help the VW-1 officers in organizing the 2003 reunion.

Other new business involved a discussion of the need for a search committee to locate and recruit new members. Howard Kemp volunteered to chair this committee. The committee members are Ralph Link, Pete Wasmund and Ray Keighley. President Metzger will provide a copy of the master data base to them.



LeRoy White represented the oldest VW-1'er in attendance at the reunion. At 78 he still has a twinkle in his eye. Wife June was unable to make the trip, but we were all glad to see LeRoy there. He spent hours of his time taking pictures and our Association scrapbook will be the better for it.

RENO, NEVADA

2003

August or September

Look for the firm date in your August Tracker



Jack and Sydnie Gergal are showing off their clock with the VW-1 logo in the center. The bidding for this item was hot and heavy. Ed Metzger was close to a heart attack when Sally went to $ 150.00; but that amount was peanuts. Al Madsen and Jack kept it up for some time and Jack finally won out with his bid of $ 225.00!! Larry Morris was in shock that his auction contribution brought in so much money. Larry said that if he has suspected that he would have brought more of them!



IT'S A SAD, SAD STORY .... But we must confess to having lost two of our ladies on the Historic Tour. **GWEN LEE AND DORA REDDY** got interested in the kitchen at one of the homes on our tour of downtown Historic Pensacola. Meanwhile, the guide proceeded out the door with the group and locked it behind her. About half-an-hour later, as we were boarding the bus, we realized we were missing two of our group. Gwen and Dora explored the house and looked for possible escape hatches. There were none. They then resorted to calling out to folks passing by and Dora said if someone hadn't come to release them when they did, that a window would have soon been broken. Not a fun experience at the time, but a memorable one. It was a first for the tour guide and it is a story sure to be told again and again.

---------- TAPS ----------

JIM CARLSTEAD

In VW-1 as an AD from 9/56 to 5/59.

Jim passed on December 15, 2001. His wife, Mary, is residing in a nursing home suffering From Alzheimer's.

BEVERLY SJOLANDER

Donn Sjolander informed Carl Sorem that Bev passed away on March 25, 2002. Donn & Bev came all the way from Minnesota to attend both the Branson (10/99) and San Antonio (10/00) reunions, so we had the pleasure of meeting Bev. Donn had e-mailed us in January that they would not be able to be in Pensacola as Bev had been diagnosed with lung cancer in Dec. of 2000. Our prayers and love go out to Donn during this difficult time..

News from Cyberspace .....

Pete & Dottie Wasmund (5/7/02) "Until I found the VW-1 Association advertisement in the SHIFT COLORS I never dreamed of seeing so many VW-1 sailors again, especially the ones I flew with. My tours in VW-1 will be remembered until the day I die, mostly because of the people I worked with. Some of them were just good people, many were and still are great. I also enjoyed meeting sailors that I did not know on Guam because of assignment dates or deployments. The reunion was GREAT – so were the sea stories."

Carl & Colleen Sorem (5/9/02) "Thanks again for all your work in organizing the great reunion in Pensacola. It was our first and we enjoyed meeting wonderful people from the squadron."

Vaughn Callison (5/10/02 – in an e-mail to Pete Wasmund) "I thank you for the rundown on the Pensacola reunion and I am going to make a COMMITMENT to be at next years reunion. When I read the names and the memories came, I realized how much I really wanted to attend this one!! I have a beautiful wife I would like to have meet all of you guys as well."

Ralph & Jane Link (5/7/02) "....once again want to express our gratitude for all the hard work putting together all the reunions. Pensacola was great; this was truly a family gathering of a very special family."

Frank & Linda Doty (5/6/02) "Linda is having some problems. Mainly, she just overdoes and wears herself down. Finally dropped a couple of activities. On the good side, I have just been elected senior city leader of my business group. Means I've got a lot more problems to field and a lot more responsibilities, and less time to work my own business. Nice of them to vote me in though. Hope to see you at the next reunion. Sure missed being at this one."

George & Christine Dean (2/10/02) "Effective immediately our new e-mail address is Email Removed I'm still here, winning at cribbage, unlike others I could (and have) named."

Jay Hockenberry (2/7/02) "Hard to believe, but I don't have to see the oncologist for two whole months!! I had a few really sick weeks after the chemo and radiation were finished. Now things are looking up. Just wanted to let y'all know what's happening. Thank you for the love, prayers and support during trying times. Drop a line when you can, and thanks again!"

Ron & Carolyn Anderson (1/31/02) "We wish we could attend one of the reunions but, so far, too far away for him to make the trip. We do enjoy reading the news bulletins and want you to know we appreciate all your hard work."

(Note: The next reunion is close to our VW-1 West Coasters !!! It's RENO in late August or early September, 2003. Firm date will be in August newsletter.)

NEW MEMBERS

Archer, Thomas — **AEAN**
Address Removed — ' 70 – ' 72
Glen Mills, Address Removed Phone Removed
Wife: Kathy Email Removed
Served w/Det-C Danang 11/70 – 2/71; then TAD to AIMD NAS Agana. Power Plants. 6/72 – 5/73 served with VA-113 Stingers aboard USS Ranger (CVA-61).

Clarke, Richard (Rick) — **LTJG**
Address Removed — 7/70 – 12/71
Address Removed Phone Removed
Royal Oak, Address Removed Email Removed
Wife: Carol
Reported to First Fleet as a J.G.; assigned to Crew 12 with LCdr. Ken Clark. Collateral duty was PAO. Served through disestablish-,ment of VW-1 and went into VQ-1.

Garbani, David — **AX**
Address Removed — '65 – '67
Ridgecrest, Address Removed Phone Removed
Wife: Nancy Email Removed
Flew CIC, worked in Operations Office. Flew with all crews.

Hasselbach, John J. — **AMS2**
Address Removed — 3/62 – 9/63
Miami, Address Removed Phone Removed
Wife: Kathleen Email Removed
Aviation structural mechanic. No specific crew. Currently a Northwest Airlines Technician in Atlanta, GA.

Hernandez, Richard (Taco) — **ADR**
Address Removed — '62 – '64
Big Bear City, Address Removed Phone Removed
Wife: Angelita Email Removed
Fight Engineer with Crew #2

Johnston, Don T. — **AE**
Address Removed — 2/67 – 9/68
Springfield, Address Removed Phone Removed
Email Removed
Radar operator, AE striker. Flew on Crew 5 with CDR Brown. Departed 9/68 for USS Enterprise. Also flew EW Ops VQ-1.

Jortner, Marvin W. — **AEC**
Address Removed — '54-'56
Memphis, Address Removed Phone Removed
Wife: Sarah Email Removed
Went to VW-1 Barber's Point from Fasron 117. Stayed with them until they moved to Guam when I was transferred to the Barrier Squadron.

Laney, David P. — **LTJG**
Address Removed — 7/61-11/61
Anniston, Address Removed Phone Removed
Wife: Nina Email Removed
Reported from VW-3. Second pilot in the Connie.

Logdahl, Carl — **AT1**
Address Removed — 5/64-7/67
Manchester, Address Removed Phone Removed
Wife: Nancy Email Removed
Flew with Crew 6 as 1st Radioman. Lived at Address Removed

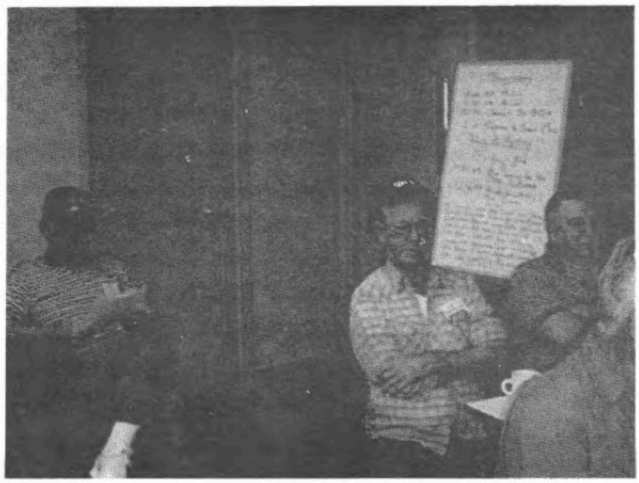
O'Brien, John Adam — **Navigator**
Address Removed — 9/66-7/68
Victor, Address Removed Phone Removed
Email Removed

Paul, Ronald — **CT1**
Address Removed — '53 – 54
Pensacola, Address Removed Phone Removed
Was an operator in the rear end of a P4M-1Q Aircraft. Originally the special projects Division (NCV-38C).

Ricksecker, Robert D. — **ADRC**
Address Removed — 10/63-9/65
Leesburg, Address Removed
Wife: Polly Contact Details Removed
Reported as Power Plant CPO. After re-enlisting in 1964 was the career counselor and worked in operations until 9/65.

Rowley, Kenneth — **ADR1**
Address Removed — '64 – '68
Pensacola, Address Removed Phone Removed
Wife: Grace Email Removed
Flight Engineer on Crew 2 and Crew 7. Instructor at VW-1 Flight Engineer school.

(Continued to Page 8)



DAVE BRUNDAGE dropped by to visit and assured everyone that rumors of his death were greatly exaggerated. Joan Brundage has been receiving letters of condolence since the name Dave Brundage appeared in the Naval Affairs Taps section. Not "our" Dave . . . he is alive and kicking.

New Members (Continued from Page 7)

Quigley, Michael E. **ADR-2**
Address Removed 5/64 – 9/65
Fort Walton Beach, Address Removed Phone Removed
Wife: Joyce Email Removed
Worked in Power Plants and as member of the Fly-away engine crew. Changed engine on "00" on the flight line in Hong Kong. Also was TAD To Cubi Point and Sangley Point. Worked as Part of Crew 2 in the nose docks.

Waterworth, Jack **AX2**
Address Removed 11/65-6/67
Port Charlotte, Address Removed Phone Removed
Wife: Cindi Email Removed
Worked in Communications Office on Guam; flew mostly on Crew 3 & Crew 4; but also on Crews 5, 7 and 8.

Weaver, Robert (Charley) **AT2**
Address Removed 4/63-7/64
Hawthorne, Address Removed Phone Removed
Wife: Robie Email Removed
Worked in the Avionics Shop; spent three Months as permanent Shore Patrol; 3 months as Barracks Master-at-Arms and five months in the tool room. Did some flying, but not on a crew.

A Special Thanks

A reunion cannot be as successful as our VW-1 reunions are without the help of many members. At the risk of forgetting someone, we would like to give a special thanks to some individuals who accepted the responsibility for specific jobs and made the reunion run more smoothly.

Thanks to ……..

Jim and Dora Reddy – Ship's Store

Gay Oulman – the Food Table (with the help of **Sheila Morris, Angelita Hernandez** and **Dora Reddy**

Roy "Mack" & Judy Stotts – the drinks, ice and store runs

Sheila Buswell - Auction Cashier
Lowell Buswell – Auction Recorder

Howard Kemp – general errands and "go-fer"… and to the many who were quick to help load, unload, take trips to the stores and markets.

Y'ALL
make this VW-1 Association successful !



BLUE AND GOLD SHIRT WITH VW-1 LOGO now available in our Ship's Store. Order form on Page 9. Fill in all the blanks and return to us to order your shirt; along with a check made out to Sally Metzger, treasurer. Shipping time may be as much as six weeks.

VW-1 Typhoon Trackers
Shirt Order Form

Name:_____

Ship to:_____

_____

_____

_____

Quantity:_____Size:_____Logo Only:_____Logo & Name_____
(Indicate selection by "X")

If you order a Shirt with Logo and Name please indicate below how you would like your name to show on right breast.

Name:_____ Sample: Rick Connie
Dates:_____ '65 to '67
(Print Clearly)

Prices: Shirts,with Logo only. S, M, Lrg, XLrg = $24.75
XXLrg = $26.25

Shirts w/Logo & Name. S, M, Lrg, XLrg = $27.75
XXLrg = $29.25

Please add $3.75 postage for each Shirt ordered.

Make Checks payable to: Sally Metzger, Treasurer

Allow up to six weeks for delivery.



BALL CAPS

Navy Blue
Mesh or Solid Back
(Specify Style)
Embroidered in Gold

$ 7.00 Each or
$ 9.00 Each with
Scrambled Eggs
(Add $ 3.50 for Postage)

1 SHIP'S STORE



NEW!! VW-1 LOGO SHIRTS

See Page 9 for Pricing, Sizing and ordering instructions.

SEA BEANS $ 5.00 Each
(Postage Included)
WHILE THEY LAST
(Courtesy of Frank Mackey)

----- SQUADRON PATCHES -----

1948 – 1952 Duck with Lightning & 1953 – 1971 Winged Horse w/Warrior
(Specify which Patch) (Add $ .50 for Postage)





LAPEL / HAT PINS / B-17 & CONNIE PINS

AIR CREW WINGS & U.S. NAVY RETIRED PINS
$ 3.00 Each (Add $ .50 for Postage)

Order through Email Removed or call Phone Removed or send order to our mailing address. If you are ordering a hat, please disregard the postage requirement on any patches and pins you order as they can be put in the same box.

VW-1 Association
C/O Ed & Sally Metzger
Address Removed
Inverness, Address Removed



Mailing Code Removed