



"THE FLEET'S FINEST"



NEWSLETTER #23

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2007

ALOHA! The Patrol Squadron ONE (VP-1) P-3 Orion Pioneers (POPS) is a group of Navy veterans, and their Families, who served in VP-1 during & immediately after its transition from the SP-2H Neptune to the P-3B Orion between the years 1969 to 1974.

Current Officers:

President Louis Tafoya, 6411 Avalon Road NW, Albuquerque, NM 87105 (505) 836-3189 ljtafoya@msn.com

Vice President Deceased-Robert Giddings, 1453 Emerald Court, Oak Harbor, WA 98277

Secretary Kenneth (KB) Sherman, 89 Adams Road, North Grafton, MA 01536 (508) 839-5277 asa66@charter.net

Treasurer Richard Haglund, 3570 Deerfield Drive, South Salem, OR 97302 (503) 378-7621 ralh503@yahoo.com

Chaplain Carson Hunt, 376 County Road #1, South Point, OH 45680 (740) 646-3158 ccae@zoominternet.net

Internet Information Coordinator/Webmaster Kenneth (KB) Sherman

FAREWELL TO OUR SHIPMATE

I'm sure by now all you VP-1 POPs are aware that we have lost our friend and shipmate, Bob Giddings on 26 April 2007. Our Prayers and Best Wishes go to his wife, Jan, and his family. He will surely be missed.

As Bob's Plane Commander in 1970 I had the privilege of having him as my Flight Engineer. Bob's Expertise and Leadership were consistently Outstanding and he was "Highly Respected" by the Officers and Men he served with. As I look back to those days with Bob, I will never forget how Professional and Dedicated he was with his Flight Crew. He was always the first to arrive for Pre-flight and he was the last to leave after Post-flight. Perhaps sometimes we Pilots forget just how fortunate we were to have people like Bob and his Crewmembers to allow us to get the Aircraft in the air on schedule and complete our many diversified missions.

As my "Sea Daddy" and True Friend, I shall always remember Bob and I Bid him a Fond Farwell as he is returned to the Sea.

Sincerely,
M. J. Pete Dree's

Editor's Note: The "Farwell" is in this Newsletter per request of M.J. Pete Dree's. I think we all agree to what Pete said about Bob and the rest of all our good people! Louie

NOMINATIONS FOR VP-1 POPS OFFICERS AND NEXT REUNION SITE

All positions, President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer are up for nomination and election at the Branson Bash. In addition, please nominate our next reunion site-be aware that a "Reunion Host" has to be present at the Branson Bash to commit for the nominated reunion site to be voted on. Please submit your nominations to Louis Tafoya, with cc to KB Sherman by 31 September 2007. The addresses are noted above. Thank you.

HOW TO JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

To join or renew your VP-1 POPs Membership, complete the attached Membership Information Form and send it to our Secretary, KB Sherman. You may elect to send your Dues Payment check of \$15.00 with the form, or send it directly to our Treasurer, Richard Haglund; if you send the check to Richard, ensure that you include a memo stating that the membership form was sent to our Secretary.

All membership dues, new or renew, for the next Biennial (2008-2009) are \$15.00 and you may send it in, or pay at the "Branson Bash" reunion. It has been the custom to pay at the ongoing reunion in the past. Biennial VP-1 POPS dues are normally assessed in January of each even numbered year.

Note: This form may be reproduced and send to eligible buddy's you know! (REV. DEC 2005)

VP-1 P-3 ORION PIONEERS

MEMBER INFORMATION FORM

Please send the information requested below to VP-1 POPs for administrative records. If you do not want your address information to appear on the master roster please so state and it won't be published. Ditto for phone numbers and e-mail addresses – if you don't want them listed please so state. Send the completed form via snail-mail to **VP-1 POPs, c/o Ken Sherman, 89 Adams Rd., North Grafton, MA 01536-2101**. Or, send the information via e-mail, responding by item number, to **ASA66@CHARTER.NET**.

1. NAME: _____
(first) (middle initial) (last)
2. MAIL ADDRESS: _____
(street or po box) (city / town) (state) (ZIP)
3. RESIDENCE: _____
(street) (city / town) (state) (ZIP)
4. SPOUSE NAME: _____
(first) (middle initial) (last)
5. TELEPHONE: Home _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____ Fax: _____
6. E-MAIL ADDRESS(ES): _____
7. WEB PAGE URL: _____
8. BIRTHDATE: _____ 9. RANK OR RATE IN VP-1: _____ 10. DATES SERVED IN VP-1: _____
11. SIGNIFICANT BILLETS/ASSIGNMENTS IN VP-1: _____
12. FLIGHT CREW(S) SERVED IN: _____ 13. NICKNAME(S) KNOWN BY IN VP-1: _____
14. IF RETIRED MILITARY, DATE RETIRED: _____ 15. RETIRED RANK OR RATE: _____
16. CURRENT OCCUPATION / EMPLOYER: _____
17. WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN & WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING SINCE YOU LEFT VP-1?

PLEASE USE THE REVERSE SIDE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, REMARKS, COMMENTS, OR QUESTIONS

DON'T FORGET TO SEND US A RECENT PHOTO

Note: This form may be reproduced and send to eligible buddy's you know!

----- Original Message -----

From: "Louis Tafoya" <ljetafoya@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2007 12:39 PM
Subject: To those that can't make the Branson Bash-from Cliff

Dear All,

FYI. Please pass on to our Guys that can't make the Branson Bash. Thanks.

Louie

----- Original Message -----

From: "Bill Johnson" <billpatty@charter.net>
To: "Louis Tafoya" <ljetafoya@msn.com>
Cc: "K. B. Sherman" <ASA66@CHARTER.NET>
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2007 8:00 AM
Subject: Fw: from Cliff

Louie, here's an idea from Cliff Freund.
Bill

----- Original Message -----

From: <p3cliff@netzero.net>
To: <billpatty@charter.net>
Sent: Monday, September 03, 2007 2:51 PM
Subject: from Cliff

We are headed back to USA on 13 Sept. in time to drive to the reunion. I will call when we get to Florida.
I see list of attendees. Not too bad but some names missing I would liked to have seen. Might be an idea to send a message to all something like "If you are not attending the '07 Reunion and would like to send a message to your Squadron mates, send an e-mail and it will be read out to all sometime during the weekend."
Will talk to you soon.
Cliff

Taiwan Finally Gets its P-3C Aircraft

By K.B. Sherman

Following years of financial and political battles within the country, the Taiwanese legislature in June finally approved the purchase of twelve US P-3C aircraft. Taiwan reportedly will also buy updated Patriot anti-missile missiles and is still officially looking for new submarines.

When President Bush assumed office in 2001, one of his first acts in breaking with the Clinton Administration was to offer Taiwan an \$18 billion weapons deal, including P-3s, Patriots, and tactical aircraft. But since then political infighting in Taiwan has blocked this deal from actually happening. Taiwanese politics is divided between those who insist that Taiwan remain a sovereign nation and those who seek reunification with Red China. The latter have long blocked any efforts to make Taiwan stronger against a potential Chinese invasion.

Formally proposed in 2004, this deal – a “special budget item” – has been blocked nearly every month since. The submarine issue has been even more contentious. Taiwan was rebuffed by Germany, France, and Holland in its desire to get new subs because Europe remains increasingly afraid of making China Angry. The US cannot readily supply diesel-electric subs to Taiwan or anyone else because the US Navy carefully destroyed the domestic diesel sub base when it decided to go with all nuclear-powered boats. By 2004, the US was quietly suggesting that Taiwan buy some used diesel subs from Spain or Italy until they could procure new ones. Taiwan’s sub fleet consists of two 1980s *Zwaardvis-class* Dutch submarines and two *ex-US Guppy-II* subs from the 1950s. One promise that has been fulfilled was Bush’s pledge to sell Taiwan the US’ four *Kidd-class* guided missile destroyers.

At various times since 2002 the following have been named as possible sources for new subs for Taiwan: General Dynamics Electric Boat, teamed with Collins-class submarine maker Australian Submarine Corporation; German company STN Atlas; German shipyard Howaldswerke-Deutsche Werft (HDW), maker of the Type U-212/U-214; Raytheon; Holland, maker of the Moray-class SSK; Northrop Grumman Litton Ingalls Shipbuilding yards in Pascagoula; Lockheed Martin; and Israel, maker of the Gal-class SSK.

The US Navy’s latest P-3C – the Update III.5 – can carry ten tons of weapons, including the Harpoon and Maverick missiles. It also carries the AN/ALQ-78A Electronic Countermeasures Set, AN/ARC-187 UHF satellite radio set, AN/ARN-151(V)1 Global Positioning System [GPS], AN/ALR-66A/B(V)3 ESM Set with EP-2060 Pulse Analyzer, AN/AAS-36A Infrared Detecting Set [IRDS], AN/AVX-1 Electro-Optical Sensor System, and AN/APS-137B(V)5 Radar. Taiwan is likely to get a less updated version.

As the P-3 saga wound its slow way along, Taiwan, having balked at the cost of replacing its antiquated ASW aircraft with US P-3Cs, looked at getting a cheaper US-made alternative, refurbished P-3Bs. These would reportedly have cost approximately \$66 million each, with a total of nine coming to a relatively low \$ 595 million. The US Navy operated the last version of the P-3B – the P-3B TACNAVMOD, or “Super Bee,” well into the 1990s, and this final version was superior in performance to earlier model P-3Cs.

This latest iteration of this tale calls for Taiwan to take delivery of its P-3Cs beginning in 2011. Still unaddressed is funding for the new PAC-3 anti-missile batteries and whether Taiwan still intends to somehow find newer submarines for its navy. On the bright side, as the US Navy replaces the P-3C with [the P-8A](#), more P-3Cs will become available for export.

Related articles: http://navlog.org/taiwan_kidds.html, http://navlog.org/taiwan_tech.html,
http://navlog.org/northrop_taiwan_subs.html, http://navlog.org/taiwan_f16s.html

