



**\*\*SPRING, 2009\*\***

**Online Version at <http://vp1pops.com/newsletters.html>**

*(NOTE: The printed version of the newsletter is kept to ten pages to conserve postage costs. A longer version is available online).*

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 and immediately after its transition from the SP-2H Neptune to the P-3B Orion between the years 1969 to 1974.

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**Current Officers: President** Rich Haglund, 3570 Deerfield Drive South, Salem, OR 97302; 503-378-7621; [ralh503@yahoo.com](mailto:ralh503@yahoo.com); **Co-Vice Presidents** Rick Salas, 10020 NE 234th Street, Battle Ground, WA 98604; 360-687-9636; [dundusty@aol.com](mailto:dundusty@aol.com); Gary Spees, 1539 NW Silver Street, Bremerton, WA 98311; 360-692-2967; [gary2967@msn.com](mailto:gary2967@msn.com); **Secretary/Treasurer** Reisse Perin, 7721 Settlers Avenue, Boise, ID 83704; 208-322-0188; [reisse@rlpcpa.com](mailto:reisse@rlpcpa.com); **Chaplain** Carson Hunt, 376 County Road #1, South Point, OH 45680; (740) 646-3158; [ccae@zoominternet.net](mailto:ccae@zoominternet.net); **Internet Information Coordinator/Webmaster/Newsletter Editor** Ken (KB) Sherman, 89 Adams Road, North Grafton, MA 01536; 508-839-6580; [asa66@charter.net](mailto:asa66@charter.net)  
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**HOW TO JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP** To join or renew your VP-1 POPS Membership, contact **Secretary/Treasurer Reisse Perin, 7721 Settlers Avenue, Boise, ID 83704; 208-322-0188; [reisse@rlpcpa.com](mailto:reisse@rlpcpa.com)**. Or, print membership form at [http://vp1pops.com/member\\_form.html](http://vp1pops.com/member_form.html) and mail-in.

All membership dues, new or renew, for the next Biennial (2008-2009) are \$15.00. 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.

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From: Dick Haglund [[ralh503@yahoo.com](mailto:ralh503@yahoo.com)]  
Sent: Monday, April 06, 2009 12:20 PM  
To: Membership  
**Subject: Reunion 2009**

Hi, All:

It is now less than five months until the San Diego reunion. Jim McAllister has reported that the event is moving as planned, and by all accounts should be a terrific experience. The board is excited about the reunion as it is a wonderful location and should appeal to all.

This reunion presents an unusual and interesting dilemma to the organizers: to what extent will the troubled economy effect participation? Earlier in the year I asked for a rough estimate of those intending to attend. Some 50 people responded to the affirmative, so I greeted those numbers with optimism for the event. As of April 1, only about 24 rooms had been reserved. It will take nearly 65 reservations to make it pay. Ordinarily I wouldn't be alarmed by these numbers as we all tend to wait on any activity until it is in the cross hairs before we start to act and organize. This year I'm unsure about the numbers and what they mean.

The greater question is, if we don't have the numbers to proceed, what happens to the Organization of VP-1 POPS. The reunion provides a platform by which we administer to VP-1 POPS: election of officers, reunion locations, organizers, review finances, etc. Our organizational health relies on the reunion business meeting.

The board intends to proceed with reunion as usual. If numbers continue to lag into June, we will need to consider options, as there are financial obligations we have with the motel, that will be incurred if we don't meet room reservation requests by a drop-off date. That obligation will come out of VP-1 treasury funds. One suggestion was that if we can't make the reunion work this year, to postpone it until 2010, and hope the economy recovers enough that folks will find the reunion more attractive and affordable.

The upshot of this piece is to encourage attendance, and if you do plan to attend, to please make arrangements sooner rather than later, so that Mac has a sense of where he stands on planning. Please feel free to write, call or E-mail any of us on the board to express an opinion or ask questions (see Officers page on VP-1 POPS website).

Dick

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**VP-1 POPS 2009 REUNION**  
**SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA**  
**OCTOBER 8<sup>TH</sup> THRU OCTOBER 11<sup>TH</sup>**

**HEADQUARTERS AND LODGING**

***CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL IN HOTEL CIRCLE, SD***  
***(RESERVATIONS CALL 1[888] 233-9527 REGISTRATION CODE***  
***“VPR”)***  
***ROOM RATES ARE \$115.00 PER NIGHT, MAXIMUM 4 PERSONS PER ROOM,***  
***PLUS STATE AND LOCAL TAXES OF 12.5%. OVERNIGHT PARKING FEE \$5.00***

## **ITINERARY**

**Thursday 8 Oct 09:** Arrival/check in. (Early arrival check in available if room is ready); Hospitality Suite will be manned and open at 9:00 AM. Pizza party social in Hospitality Suite commencing at 1800 hrs (6:00 PM).



**Friday 9 Oct 09:** Golf at Admiral Baker Military Recreational Facility (0800 tee times) then cookout in the park for all hands at 1300 hrs.

**Saturday 10 Oct 09:** Banquet at Admiral Kidd Club on San Diego Bay commencing at 1830 hours. (What a gorgeous setting on the patio)



**Sunday 11 Oct 09:** Brunch in Hospitality suite at 1000hrs then Business meeting and election of new VP-1 POPS Officers. Check-out/adjourn.



**NOTE:** Maximum time is being allowed around scheduled events for

**Sightseeing: (Seaport Village, Old Town, CV 41 Midway Museum. SD Zoo, other points of interest) and for informal get-togethers and just “hanging out” at our spacious, well equipped hospitality suite next to the pool area.**

**Crowne Plaza will honor Reunion room rates for 3 days prior to and 3 days after our reunion at the \$115.00 rate. Come early and stay later as San Diego is most beautiful at this time of the year with many “Fleet Week “ activities happening all month long in October. San Diego airport is a 15 minutes away from the Hotel. Renting a car is optional as most sighting can be done by trolley services that stop at the hotel.**

**LET US KNOW IF YOU WILL ATTEND THE REUNION!!!!!!**

**E-MAIL TO: jimcallister@cox .net or 1-760 489-5632**

**Jim McAllister**

**2365 Old Ranch Rd**

**Escondido,CA 92027**

**Your Reunion team Jim Mc, Pete Drees & Charlie Budenz**

**I will mail you a registration**

**package in June, 2009 with the**

**full itinerary and events costs.**



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**From:** Jim McAllister [silky~~mac~~1@cox.net]

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 29, 2008 6:33 PM

**Subject:** Newsletter and Crowne Plaza Web site info

Aloha, Shipmates.

Pete Drees and I have been quite busy making the necessary arrangements. We will be having our Saturday night (10 Oct 09) banquet at the Admiral Kidd Club overlooking nighttime San Diego bay. It is a GORGEOUS Navy club and will accommodate our group handily. FLEET WEEK runs almost the entire month of October with many things to do in support of our Navy/Marine Corps fighting team. A tour to ex-USS Midway (CV 41) is on the schedule along with an all hands picnic on Friday at Admiral Baker Military Recreation Center. Golf, Swimming, Softball, and a cookout are in the planning stages. Hopefully, there will be enough O's in attendance to stand off the E's in a friendly softball game and get some "payback" for all the "Turkey Bowl" touch football games we lost in the 70's (thanks to the Wagner brothers-they were awesome!).

The Crowne Plaza (Old Hanalei Hotel) has been completely remodeled and it seems that you are back in Waikiki Beach. All rooms (75 initially reserved) have either single Kings or Double beds

(max 4 persons per room) and face either the pool area or the Riverwalk golf course right next door. We will have a huge Hospitality Suite on the main floor next to the pool area and will be able to have our own "refreshments" brought in as well. I am planning a "Pizza" party get together for Thursday evening in our hospitality suite to renew new and old acquaintances. The Crowne Plaza provides free transportation to and from the SD airport and to nearby Old Town where you can pick up the San Diego trolley (senior discount rate of course) to go anywhere in Downtown SD. There is little need to rent a car other than our two occasions away from the hotel as a group (Admiral Kidd banquet/Admiral Baker picnic). I will put one of my able bodied assistants on the "transportation detail." Sounds like a good job for "Charlie "boogaloo" Budenz who has recently joined my SD team. Looking to enlist Bob Wood and Chuck Hightower also but they don't know it yet!!

Advance room reservations can be made after May 15th 2008 by calling 1-800-2CROWNE or [www.cp-sandiego.com](http://www.cp-sandiego.com) or through our web site once the link is up and operating. Remember to say you are with the VP-1 POPS reunion. Enough for now. Hope you all plan on attending as this will undoubtedly be one of the best reunions yet since "SILKYMAC IS IN CHARGE". Aloha and Mahalo Fellow Shipmates Jim McAllister sends.....

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From: Carson Hunt  
**Subj: Branson Books**

Aloha to All!

I reserved a room yesterday for the 2009 reunion. Chris and I plan to take a 2-1/2 week trek out and back with some visiting of relatives who live along the way, but mostly we will be camping, touring, and sight-seeing. Our economic outlook or health may cause us to reconsider, but this is the way it stands for now.

I have not yet recouped my costs for the Branson Reunion Book although all the costs and debts incurred (except time and effort) have been paid for. I do not plan on taking on the chore again, although I am proud to have done it once and proud of the resulting product. The price is \$25 per book with a flat \$5 priority shipping fee. The price will be at this level until I leave home for San Diego. After that the price will be going to \$30 per copy plus shipping, if needed, unless POPs would care to purchase the remaining 50 copies at a discount and try to sell them for a profit. Looking forward to seeing each of you in sunny Southern California.

Grace and Peace, Carson

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From: Mike McQuaid [rusticmike@yahoo.com]  
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2009 10:50 AM  
**Subject: Don and Kit McArthur's Daughter**

While reading the Sunday Houston Chronicle, one crew member on soon to launch Hubble Mission caught my eye. A quick check of Google confirmed my guess.

The attached snap from a Barbers Point Homecoming has the father holding Megan (I think). I expect a similar scene will be photographed when Megan returns, with the same relief after a safe return.



Barbers Point, 1971



[National Aeronautics and Space Administration](#)  
[Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center](#)  
Houston, Texas 77058



**K. Megan McArthur, Ph.D.**  
**NASA Astronaut**

**PERSONAL DATA:** Born in 1971 in Honolulu, Hawaii. Considers California to be her home state. Married. Her parents, Don & Kit McArthur, reside in San Jose, California. Megan enjoys SCUBA diving, backpacking, and cooking.

**EDUCATION:** Graduated from St. Francis High School, Mountain View, CA, 1989. B. S. Aerospace Engineering, University of California-Los Angeles, 1993. Ph.D., Oceanography, University of California-San Diego, 2002.

**EXPERIENCE:** At the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, Megan conducted graduate research in nearshore underwater acoustic propagation and digital signal processing. Her research focused on determining geoacoustic models to describe very shallow water waveguides using measured transmission loss data in a genetic algorithm inversion technique.

**NASA EXPERIENCE:** Selected as a mission specialist by NASA in July 2000, Megan McArthur reported for training in August 2000. Following the completion of two years of training and evaluation, she was assigned to the Astronaut Office Shuttle Operations Branch working

technical issues on shuttle systems in the Shuttle Avionics Integration Laboratory (SAIL). Dr. McArthur then served as the Crew Support Astronaut for the Expedition 9 Crew during their six-

Space Shuttle Mission Control Centers as a Capsule Communicator (CAPCOM). Dr. McArthur is assigned to STS-125, the final Space Shuttle mission to the Hubble Space Telescope.

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From: Cliff Leisinger [cliff@landstewardshipco.com]  
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2009 9:58 PM  
**Subject: Re: VP-1 POPS Reunion in SDn 2009**  
Wednesday, 18 March, 2009  
Re: SD 2009

I look forward to attending a VP-1 reunion one of these years, but 2009 will not be the year. My wife and I have our own landscape architectural design company and we are working as much as we can before the economy affects our clientele.

Our older son, John, turns 24 next month and is a 2nd Lt. in the Army Infantry at Ft. Benning, GA. Our younger son, Robert, begins college this coming summer with an Army ROTC scholarship. My wife, Jo Ellen, is getting used to the idea of military duty and a military family, and, after listening to me talk about things Navy - and VP-1 in particular - said she would like to attend a reunion while everyone in VP-1 is still young. Maybe next year we'll make the time.

Best regards,

Cliff Leisinger, crew 8, comm, Nov. '71 thru May, '73.

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

From: monewell@aol.com

To: rusticmike@yahoo.com; asa66@charter.nettluperine@tusd.net; billandraev@earthlink.net

Sent: Thu, 14 May 2009 11:59 am

**Subject: Re: Don and Kit McArthur's Daughter**

Wowie, Maui MIKE!

Because Megan earned her doctorate right HERE in San Diego at UCSD, we are fascinated by the shuttle flight she is embarked upon = AWESOME! We're not sure we're aware of the clue linking her studies in oceanography with becoming an astronaut, since they seem to be a "world apart"? But this IS thrilling nuz...

On other fronts:

1) **LtCol Joseph Walker Sears, USMC**, son of the late LT William Walker Sears (VP-1, Crew 5), will be moving his family in June from Norfolk, VA, where he has been flying the F/A-18 Desk for the Marine Corps, to MCAS Miramar, where he will assume command of the VMFAT-101 Sharpshooters in December. If you remember year-old Joe "lost" in base housing at Eva Beach in 1970, he turns 40 YEARS OLD on May19 of this year...

2) **Karin Lee Sears** (Bill & Sherie's daughter) is finishing up her first year of veterinary training at Colorado Mountain College in Glenwood Springs. She has aced the program and will remain working there over the summer. She is as cute as ever! With one year remaining, we look forward to visiting her in mid July...

3) **Capt Andrew Mykle Budenz, USMC**, son of CDR G. Charles Budenz (USNR-R, VP-1 AIO), has augmented as a regular USMC officer. Subsequent to his recent return from an 'In-Country' deployment to Iraq with VMGR-352 RAIDERS, he has been certified as an Aircraft Commander flying the KC-130J. We are hoping for photos of "BUTTERS" refueling his older brother "BJ" (Big Joe). Andy turns the BIG-THREE-ZERO on Father's Day...

THX, your 'trusty' AIO, Bugaloo (aka 'WHAMMO')

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From: footsnavy@earthlink.net  
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2009 5:56 PM  
To: Ed Huston  
**Subject: Current events= Old memories**

**Aloha!**

While watching the news programs about what is happening in Fargo reminded me of an old memory of my first tour in VP1...

In the spring of 1962 I was deployed to Kodiak in VP-1. We were tasked to assist the state of Alaska with river ice-jams and the rising waters were threatening to flood the town of Aniak. The wing/Naval district wanted to know if we could bomb the ice? We were comfortable with torpedoes or mines, but 500lb GP bombs were new to us.

We discovered that to use the rocket sight we would have to bomb from 200 feet. Further study revealed that to escape the debris from the blast we would have to fly at a minimum of 285 K. Now, I love the old Neptune, but we could not get anywhere near 285 knots! We checked further and found we would have to drop from 2,000 feet AGL.

We put the TACCO in the bow window with a supply of grease pencils. He would draw a grid on the glass and use that grid to con us to the drop point. After a day of practice with Water/Sand Fills we were confident enough to give it a try. The next day we loaded four GP bombs equipped with 0.25 second delay fuses.

The next AM we were airborne early and flew across the mountains. We contacted a civilian Cessna 172 that had a U of Alaska professor on board. He told us that he would mark the target with a balloon filled with black ink and then he would high-tail it clear of the drop area to avoid the blast/debris. Our biggest problem was that the town was very close to the drop area. If we missed by a few yards we could blow Aniak off the map!

We made four runs, dropping a single bomb each time. We could not see the explosions, but we sure could feel them. After the fourth run our spotter said he couldn't see any progress. He asked if we could go get more bombs, and we answered affirmative and turned towards Kodiak. After about 15 seconds the spotter called again, "Never mind, the dam just broke!" We turned around and made a low pass down the river to see our "handiwork". The whole town was on the river bank waving as we passed by, and the river was a raging current as all the water began to flow downstream. We wagged our wings and headed for Kodiak.

And that was the **only** time I ever dropped live bombs in my 20 years of flying!

Foots

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

**Subject: RE: VP-1 POPS reunion Website**

Reservations can be made between the hours of 7:00 am – 11:00 pm, 7 days a week EST time, by calling 888-233-9527 your group name is under: VP-1 Reunion. For all internet reservations e-mail link is <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/vp1>.

Now you and your attendees can now start to make reservations. You can send the link to your attendees or add the link to your web page; now your attendees can start making reservations via link or by calling the 800 number.

Your group can now get a 3.00 to 6.00 off Cloud 9/Super Shuttle, their regular price is 12.00 each way but see below how they can save money and only pay 9.00 one way or 18.00 round trip.

Advance reservation is required to get the reduced price see below:

Click on the link and go to [www.supershuttle.com](http://www.supershuttle.com) and use the **7J379** as the group code or call in to their 24 hour reservation line at 800-258-3826 and give the group code.

Best regards,

Anna

Sales Manager

Crowne Plaza San Diego

800-700-3328 ext. 3009

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***As we go to press ... the estimated registration fee will be \$ 20, to be applied each attendee's first evening's pizza party charges in our Hospitality suite. We are going down to the Admiral Kidd Club on Monday the 18th. Right now we are projecting Prime Rib or Salmon as the entrees .With gratuities and other cover charges it amounts to \$28.00 for the Prime Rib (sit down dinner) and \$24.00 for the Baked salmon per person.***

**VP-1 POPS**

**c/o Reisse Perin**

**7721 Settlers Avenue**

**Boise, ID 83704**