



Aviation Midshipmen LOG

Summer 1997

The Flying Midshipmen Newsletter

Ship's Company

New Life Members

(all from 'Annual' except *)

Donald W. Baker
 R. W. "Barney" Barnhart
 C. H. "Charlie" Brown
 *L. E. "Larry" Brumbach
 *Charles B. Cox
 Alex R. Dunn
 *Charles R. Hall
 Jesse Hofmann
 Allen F. Holmgren
 Joseph E. Klause
 *Robert W. Maughmer
 Frank R. MacKinnis
 Matt O. Musick
 Clifton D. Myers
 Edward Phillips
 Charles J. Raney
 Norris A. Roberts
 Richard J. Scukas
 Paul W. Shea
 Benjamin E. Spence
 *L. Keith Thurston
 William B. Warwick
 John H. Wachtel
 Robert D. Wilroy
 Earle F. Worley
 John F. Youngstrom



Brennan Teaches at Quantico Aviation Camp - Flying Midshipman, Bob Brennan (15-48), above right, points to Quinten Rudd (2nd row—hands clasped) during Aerology class at Quantico Marine Base, Virginia, during this summer's Aviation Training session. Thirty students completed the two week course with two-thirds passing the FAA Private Pilot's exam (about normal for 1st try). (Rudd passed!)

Dues & Life Memberships

Annual Members: dues are \$10 and run from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31 each year. Next to your address is the year for which you are current - if you do not have a '97' or later, you are in arrears - PAY UP! Life members pay no dues! (Please make checks payable to: FMA - this is not tax deductible.) Life Memberships will be accepted in accordance with the following schedule:

Prior to age 70 = \$100
 Year turning 70 = 70
 Year turning 71 = 60
 Year turning 72 = 50
 Year turning 73 = 45
 Year turning 74 = 40
 Year turning 75 = 35
 Age 76 and up = 30

(Only DONATIONS to: AVIATION MIDSHIPMEN FOUNDATION are tax deductible.)

Aviation Training Instructors

The following Flying Midshipmen (and spouse) have been volunteers for the summer Aviation Training Program:

Bob Brennan	Jim Long
Bob Colby	Tom McCoy
Warren Dukes	Carol McCoy
Bernie Dvorscak	Bill Parish
Jim Fletcher	Joe Preston
Ken Horn	Bob Ramsay
Lee Houchins	Gene Vanderbeck
Lou Ives	Chuck Zilch

Some of the above have participated numerous times. All are highly commended and are urged to continue with this significant work in steering our nation's youth into aviation pursuits. We need more of our members (and wives!) to take part. Please contact the FMA to learn more about how you can help play a roll in this fine program.

Six locations were scheduled for our Teenage Aviation Training this summer: NAS Brunswick, NAS Jacksonville, NAS New Orleans, NAB Coronado, Whiteman AFB and Quantico. Two had to be cancelled: Brunswick when not enough students applied and Coronado when our assigned facilities were taken over by active-duty Marines on a quick-scheduled exercise.

On Golden Wings

Raymond C. Allen
 O. W. "Bob" Crowl
 Warren C. Dukes (LM)
 Luther F. Duncan
 William M. Flynn
 Arthur B. Forrest
 A. R. "Bob" Loomer (LM)
 Wm. E. "Gene" Tillerson (LM)
 Martin J. Twite, Jr. (LM)

FMA Hampton Roads Dinner—Oct. '97

The Hampton Roads FMAers, spouses, guests and wanna-be's (other FMAers also welcome & encouraged) will be dining together Friday, Oct. 24, at the NAS Oceana "O" Club. It's an "All-U-can-eat" Prime Rib Buffet which also includes: ham, chicken and seafood dishes plus soup, bread and salad bar. Cost is only \$16.05 includes gratuity). All interested in attending call Herb Sargent: (757) 481-6264.

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"NOW HEAR THIS!" from your President



How many times those attention getting words from the bridge have been heard by these old ears!?!? Clearly the IMC got our attention when the boatswain blew his pipe and said them. That expression fell in behind: "FIRE, FIRE, FIRE" or "GENERAL QUARTERS, ALL HANDS MAN YOUR BATTLE STATIONS". Never the less, our attention was gained.

Since our last newsletter, there have been two truly terrific reunions. The first one (in February) was at the Ponce-de-Leon Resort in St. Augustine, Florida. The surroundings were magnificent, the weather superb and the camaraderie unsurpassed. The gathered group (210) was overwhelmed by the hospitality shown by our Jacksonville shipmates. It is always dangerous when one

calls attention to good works for inevitably some deserving guys are mistakenly not mentioned. Having said that I can only write BRAVO ZULU to John Anthony, John Kremer, Roger Miller and the whole crew. I'm sure that great support came from the distaff side in all the arrangements. On a personal note - it was great to see my old 'best man' - Warren Dukes. Warren traveled each day back to the Mayo Clinic for cancer treatments and still made all the events. Regretfully, he is now in our 'taps' column.

The next great event was San Diego in May. Many east coasters joined with the long established west coasters for a very memorable time at the Town & Country in Mission Valley. We piggy-backed on the ANA Convention and thus had the opportunity to hear from the active duty leadership. Roy Mantz and his team clearly made a major hit - another BRAVO ZULU. Our accommodations and food were outstanding. Paul Speer gave a first class speech at our banquet (over 150). Paul heads up the development project for Lindbergh Field. His remarks were particularly interesting since they gave an overview to the many changes that have made San Diego what it is today. The weather was California spectacular and once again the camaraderie very special.

In a previous newsletter, I commented about the FMA Board. It is appropriate to revisit the Board. What a pleasure it is to meet with this crew. They are particularly attentive and interested in the affairs of our "fraternity". Our last meeting was on July 11th in Arlington, Virginia (a quorum was present). It is very important for the FMA membership to know that some members have to travel from Florida and Virginia Beach at their own expense! The agenda included, inter alia, our membership and financial status, reunion results, a scholarship proposal by the Holmgrens, update on our summer aviation training program and a review of the FMA History program.

Our membership and financial status is covered in this newsletter. It is appropriate to observe - WE ARE DOING WELL! The combination of sound conservative investment, along with revenue from reunions and memorabilia sales bode well for our legacy.

A lot of thought has gone into how we should direct our efforts. Please note from another place in this newsletter that up to now the greater proportion of our contributions have gone to worthy causes other than the summer aviation program. Our financial contribution to this program has been modest and is taken from earnings rather than capital. The Board is totally supportive of the aviation training program because of the wonderful LEVERAGE we can bring to bear. The leverage is the voluntary time given by our members to teaching. Judge Bob Colby reports that over 1400 students have been helped by voluntary FMA instructors. There are nine working in the program this summer (and even one spouse!). I think that this effort will continue to grow and be even more productive as our remaining years fly by. Further, we can still contribute to other appropriate activities as the Board sees fit.

Now to HISTORY - this a very important subject for at this time in life it is largely what we are! I am reminded of a visit to Pensacola in the middle seventies by a group of Golden Eagles and their wives. It was a good size group and we wanted these old timers to see what was going on in the training command. A very full schedule was developed for their visit. One of their group complained to me that we had given them no time to tell their story. I immediately canceled several planned events and arranged for a large room in the "O'club" for them to speak to a gathering of flight instructors. THAT WAS FUN!! One old Captain said that he had crash-landed in the Bay of Biscay while on an ASW mission in World War One. He explained that in those days their communication was by carrier pigeon. Their first action after landing was to use an ax carried in the fuselage to chop of the engines so that they could float. The second action was to send a "MAYDAY" (He didn't use that term) by pigeon. After a very long wait they got so hungry they killed and ate the rest of the pigeons! Happily, the first pigeon must have made it!

Now Hear This: Continued from page 2

Our history program has been richly enhanced by Lou Ives and his colleague. Over twenty loose leaf binders of personal histories were contributed to the Museum in Pensacola during our May 1996 reunion. Lou has decided to resign as Historian and Board member. He would not attend our last board meeting even though several board members (including me) made calls to him. His long letter to me was read to the board in lieu of his presence. He wrote - among other things -

"I am writing to those entities and individuals with whom we've corresponded:

"The Flying Midshipmen Association can no longer support the Flying Midshipmen History Project. Lou Ives has resigned as FMA Historian and will continue this necessary history project under other aegis. As a history cannot be compiled without contributions from all who participated, it will expand to include all who went through Navy flight training between wars - 1946 -1950."

The FMA Board has never said that we "....can no longer support the Flying Midshipmen History Project." It was clear from correspondence and phone calls to individuals on the Board that Lou felt aggrieved over the management of the project. The Board wants the project to be concluded and has named a new Historian - Glenn Allen. Glenn has, over the years, contributed in a more than significant way by research of many orders, records and training documents to compile the all-encompassing listing of all Aviation Midshipmen. His efforts have not been sufficiently recognized in the past. He will need all the help he can get from our dedicated corps! FMA/AMF DOES NOT PLAN AT THIS TIME TO SOLICIT FUNDS FOR THE HISTORY PROJECT.

It is clear to all of us at this time in our lives that the old adage: "It's not the getting there that counts; it's the journey." We must celebrate the journey!!

Last and personal note: I live in a rural area in southern Maryland. Our place is surrounded by wild life including many different kinds of birds. One of those birds keeps calling "PESTER, PESTER, PESTER" - I hope my old shipmate Fred Pester reads this since that bird keeps reminding me of him.

BEST WISHES TO ALL THE FMA AND THEIR FAMILIES,

Paul Engel

Snowbirds Flock to Florida

by John Anthony

Blessed by beautiful weather, 210 Flying Middies, wives, guests and friends attended a well-choreographed reunion in February this year at the Radisson/Ponce deLeon Resort in St. Augustine.

Many kudos to the reunion committee: John Anthony (chairman), Chuck Bailes, Bill Frith, Ed Goossen, Chuck MacDowell, Roger Miller, Joe Sherin, John Strand, Ken Study and Jim Williams.

Highlights included: 2 days of golf, tennis, a submarine tour and dining/dancing in the 'Ponce' Ballroom on Saturday evening. John Reilly won the dinner/dance door prize of a ship's hatch clock (he reports that it keeps perfect time).

Great dining was enjoyed by all attendees in the many super St. Augustine restaurants. Also enjoyed by the "shop 'till you drop" crowd was the largest Outlet Mall in Southeastern U.S.

An often heard comment was: "Why don't we have all our East Coast reunions here!"

St. Augustine Reunion Attendees

Glenn/Nancy Allen	Fairfax, VA	Gene/Elaine Conrad	Barrington, IL	Dane/Nancy Karns	Lehigh Acres, FL
John/Suzie Anthony	Jacksonville, FL	Vince/Jenny Dauro	Huntsville, AL	Roger Kersch	Matthews, NC
John/Sally Ashby	Pine Bluffs, WY	Mike/Betty DeCarlo	Tallahassee, FL	Bill/Laverne King	Chester, VA
Tex/Annie Atkinson	Orlando, FL	Ray/Lois Demming	Orange Park, FL	Jim/Marcella Kissick	VA-15
Bob Aumack	Pebble Beach, CA	Vern/Barbara Demois	Montgomery, TX	Ed Klapka	Coronado, CA
Chuck/Maria Bailes	Orange Park, FL	Warren Dukes/Sue Maxwell	Baker, FL	John/Bette Kremer	Jacksonville, FL
Hank/Georgia Bailey	Reynoldsburg, OH	Fred/Elaine Dunning	Alexandria, VA	Lou/Jane Kriser	Vienna, VA
Jack/Donna Baker	San Clemente, CA	Dick/Dottie Ellis	Hilton Head, SC	Al/Lola Kuehnappel	Lake Ariel, PA
Frank Bardecki		Lowell/Betty Elmore	Peachtree City, GA	John Lacouture	Alexandria, VA
/Marie Hammond	Jacksonville, FL	Paul/Tan Engel	Compton, MD	Bill/Vi Lassen	Lenexa, VA
Ed/Marge Barrineau	Camarillo, CA	John/Ruth England	Cocoa Beach, FL	Don Lynam	Port Orange, FL
Jerry/Ruth Bell	Plantation, FL	John Farrell/L. Lazar	Miami, FL	Chuck/Jeanne MacDowell	Middleburg, FL
Fred/Eileen Bellar	Sandusky, OH	Bob/Mary Foley	Wayzata, MN	Frank/Jane MacKinnis	Eden, MD
Bill/Katie Bernard		Bill/Jeanne Frith	Orange Park, FL	Russ/Bufi Marcellus	Ocean Springs, MS
Jim/Judy Bigler	Martinsville, VA	Gayle Fry	Marion, MS	Hal/Toni Marr	Orange Park, FL
Del Brandenburg	Alexandria, VA	Oel Futrell	Strong, AR	Gene/Jewell Martin	Milton, FL
Bob/Libby Brennan	Pittsford, NY	Triq/Carolyn Gamble	Granville, OH	Tom/Caroll McCoy	Big Canoe, GA
Emory/Hettie Campbell	Lawrenceville, GA	Joe/Leigh Gawrys	Virginia Beach, VA	Wilson/Vera McCulley	Green Cove Springs, FL
Harry/Caryl Carlson		Ed/Donna Goossen	Jacksonville, FL	Dick/Kelly McKenzie	
George/Joan Carlton	Sun City Center, FL	Tom Haddock		Jim/Dannelle Messner	Americus, GA
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Frank/Jennie Cheek		Bob/Tish Kaiser	Orange Park, FL	George/Shirley Muirhead	VA-15
Bob Colby	McLean, VA	Bob/Pat Kangas	Orange Park, FL		

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Aviation Midshipmen LOG

PUBLISHER

Aviation Midshipmen Foundation

EDITOR

Ort Rudd

ART DIRECTOR & LAYOUT

Dan Trimble

RESEARCH

Glenn Allen

PHOTO CONTRIBUTORS

Hank Frazer, Roy Mantz, Gene Conrad
Jim Morin, Fred Bereswill, Dude
Brannen, Glenn Allen, Bob Alexander

ADDRESS

P.O.Box 2284
Arlington, VA 22202-0284
(703) 521-4859
(800) 964-5955
(800) 964-5956 FAX

The Aviation Midshipmen LOG is published biannually by the Aviation Midshipmen Foundation, a charitable, educational foundation established Article 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and is the newsletter of the "Flying Midshipmen". Operations are on an all-volunteer basis; there are no paid employees and no rented office space except for a post office box and an "800" telephone number to provide service for our members.

Articles and photos for publication in the LOG are solicited and should be submitted to the editor at the above address.

Ship's Store

FLYING MIDSHIPMEN aviator style, Navy blue, short-sleeve shirts. Sizes: med., large, x-large, 2x-large = \$25.

FMA Golf Caps (white poplin w/leather strap) = \$10

FMA lapel wings = \$5

FMA decals bumper & window (specify) = \$1

Mailing and handling included.

Check to: FMA

Flying Midshipmen Donations

Over the past 15 years, the Flying Midshipmen have made the following monetary donations:

1982	Naval Aviation Museum, Pensacola	\$1,000
1986	Naval Aviation Museum, Pensacola	\$3,000
	Navy Memorial, Wash., D.C.	\$1,000
1989	Navy Museum, WNY, Wash., D.C.	\$1,000
	Navy Exhibit, Smithsonian, Wash., D.C.	\$1,000
1993	Teenage Summer Aviation Training	\$1,000
	Naval Aviation Museum, Pensacola	\$1,000
1994	Teenage Summer Aviation Training	\$ 300
1995	Teenage Summer Aviation Training	\$1,500
1996	Teenage Summer Aviation Training	\$2,000
1997	Teenage Summer Aviation Training	\$2,000

In addition, Flying Midshipmen have donated hundreds of artifacts, mementoes and souvenirs to museums (primarily the WNY Museum) for use in displays throughout the United States.

Aviation Midshipmen Foundation Donors

Gold (\$500 and up)

Virginia Beach Reunion '92
New Orleans Reunion '93
Jacksonville Reunion '94
Washington, DC Reunion '95
Pensacola Reunion '96
St. Augustine Reunion '97
San Diego Reunion '97
Paul H. Engel
James B. Morin

Silver (\$100 thru \$499)

F. Trevor Gamble
Charles T. Phillips
Louis Kriser
Charles C. Carter
Glenn L. Allen, Jr.
John A. Strand, Jr.
John R. Nicholas
Robert T. S. Colby
Gulf Coast Reunion '95

Bronze (up to \$100)

Martin H. Henry
Robert D. Kaiser
Robert E. Ramsay
R. Orton Rudd
S. Frank Viteznik

Reunions Help Build Foundation Coffers

The St. Augustine and San Diego reunions were managed so expertly that they were able to benefit the Aviation Midshipmen Foundation with monetary contributions in amounts of \$1,900 and \$700 respectively. Sincere thanks is given from our entire membership to these two fine 'managers' - John Anthony and Roy Mantz! Wouldn't they be great additions to the U.S. Congress!!

HOWGOEZIT

Membership

w/addresses—881 Missing—18
Deceased—336 Total FMA—1235
Life Members—504 (26 LMs Deceased)

FMA Treasury

Investment fund—\$27,450
NFCU (savings)—\$1,100
NFCU (checking)—\$2,623
Total—\$31,173

AMF Treasury

Investment fund—\$21,827
NFCU (savings)—\$5,668
NFCU (checking)—\$ 257
Total—\$27,752

The Lost Flight

We have lost track of the following FMA members; can you help us find them?

Raymond H. Barker
Richard F. Bradberry
Homer L. Burrell, Jr.
Jean S. Clauzel
Henry E. Covert
Robert M. Dagg
Charles E. Engel
David L. Hardin
Stanley M. Hayes

Floyd E. Hower, Jr.
Edward P. Kellogg, Jr.
Robert J. McCarty
Robert Allyn McGrath
George F. Smith
William D. Smith
H. Carlisle Stafford, Jr.
Thomas H. Thornburg
Carlton L. Wilgus



PAUL ENGEL

ORT RUDD

JOHN ANTHONY

JIM MORIN

ED BARRINEAU

TAN ENGEL

SUZIE ANTHONY

RITA JOHNSON

MARGE BARRINEAU

ST. AUGUSTINE REUNION



GENE & ELAINE CONRAD

JOE REYES



CAROL & TOM MC COY

GEORGE & BONNIE RUSSELL

BOB AUMACK

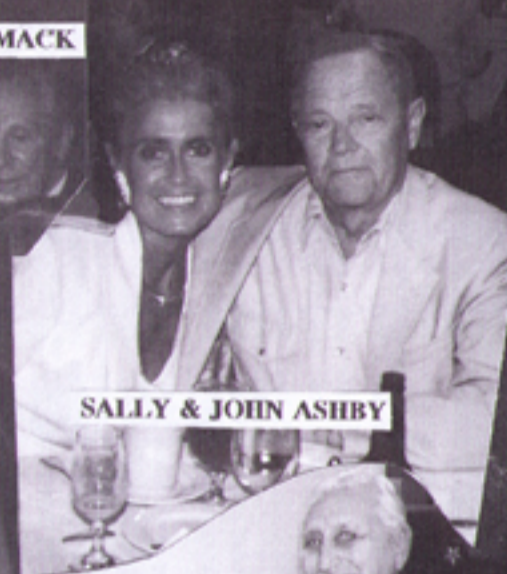


LOU KRISER

CHARLIE WARING

RAY CARPENTER

LOWELL ELMORE



SALLY & JOHN ASHBY



MYSTERY DANCE PARTNER

JANE KRISER



TRIG & CAROLYN GAMBLE

TISH & BOB KAISER



PETE "fill 'er up" TUFO

Oops!



JERRY & RUTH BELL



BOB SMYTH

RITA JOHNSON

TONI & HAL MARR



JOHN STRAND

JOE SHIERIN

ROGER MILLER

JOHN ANTHONY

KEN STUDY

ED GOOSSEN

CHUCK MACDOWELL



ED COLLING

ORT RUDD

PAUL SPEER

Dinner Speaker



"JD" BURTON

KATHLEEN COOPER



ED CROW

KATHLEEN & ROY MANTZ

SAN DIEGO REUNION



DUDE BRANNON

TOM DAVIS

AL BECK



POLLY & STEW ZINK



DUDE BRANNEN-GENE GREENE-CHARLIE BROWN

Brothers-in-law

Married sisters from Kingsville, Texas

Not FMA



JOYCE & JACK DENNING

PAT & LEN CZERNICKI



PAUL ENGEL

ED BARRINEAU



SWINGING GROUP AT ST. AUGUSTINE The weather was great! The course was great! The golf crowd was large! And, the scores were large! (Only kidding.) Yes, we have some real 'baggers' in our midst. Watch out for the fake limp and don't foolishly give away strokes. FORE!

St. Augustine: Continued from page 3

- | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Bill/Barbara Nevius | Virginia Beach, VA | Paul/Jeanne Shea | Pensacola, FL |
| Jim/Jan Newman | Madison, AL | Joe/Billie Sherin | Atlantic Beach, FL |
| Diane Norman | Virginia Beach, VA | George/Marilyn Sinkez | Virginia Beach, VA |
| Wayne/Carrie Norris | Verona, VA | Bryan/Cookie Smith | Plant City, FL |
| Nancy Nystrom | Jacksonville, FL | Wayne Smith | Vero Beach, FL |
| Ray/Carrie Oakes | Carlsbad, CA | Robert Smyth | Savannah, GA |
| Jim/Ginger Parce | Unadilla, NY | Dick/Jane Stack | Mount Airy, GA |
| Jim/Bobbie Parkes | Los Alamitas, CA | George/Lillian Stanton | Jacksonville, FL |
| Ben/Zemma Paschal | Milton, FL | John/Ginny Strand | Orange Park, FL |
| Bob Ramsay | Winter Springs, FL | Ken/Mary Anne Studly | VA-15 |
| Bill/Mary Jane Rau | Virginia Beach, VA | Francis/Doris Sullivan | Houston, TX |
| Jim/Geri Redden | Fairfield, OH | Ben/Sue Taylor | Guest |
| John/Eileen Reilly | Charlotte, NC | Preben Thompson | Wilmington, NC |
| Joe/Frannie Reyes | Potomac, MD | Jack/Jeanne Thomson | V-5, Ga. Tech. |
| Jay/Joy Richmond | Pensacola, FL | Tom Thornton/Kim Keffer | Vienna, VA |
| Ort Rudd | Arlington, VA | Pete/Georgene Tufo | Ashville, NC |
| George/Bonnie Russell | Birmingham, AL | Jim Tyson | Leonardtown, MD |
| John/Dottie Schaefer | Hartland, MI | Nick Vagianos | Cocoa Beach, FL |
| Ray/Ruth Schmidt | No. Palm Beach, FL | Al/Lynn Van Leuven | Lynchburg, VA |
| Fred/Gene Schneider | Baker, FL | Bob/Issy Wallin | Aptos, CA |
| Richard/Georgia Scukas | Wilmington, DE | Bob Ward | Hobe Sound, FL |
| Dave/Barbara Seeman | Avenue, MD | Charlie Waring | Punta Gorda, FL |
| Bernie/Gloria Shank | Englewood, FL | Bill/Mary Wilkinson | |

Flying Midshipmen Brings 'Founding Father' Back to Life

Our own Sam Lancaster (20-48) is still winning rave reviews with his impersonation of Benjamin Franklin. Earlier this year, Sam was flown to Kingsport, TN, on an all-expenses paid trip to do five shows. On Mondays and Fridays (in addition to his 'Franklin' bookings), Lancaster plays the character of Asa Tift at the Shipwreck Historeum in Key West, Florida. Tift was one of the island's first and most successful wreckers. The Tift house, built in 1851, later became home of Ernest Hemingway and is now a museum. When really busy, Sam leads up to 32 tours a day and gets his picture snapped many more times than that.

In the mid-70s, Sam auditioned with the Arlington Players and landed the role of Franklin for their production of the award-winning Broadway musical "1776". Sam was just rounding out his 30 year Navy career with Washington, D.C. duty.

Those of us who attended our 1986 reunion in Pensacola enjoyed some of Sam's additional talent with his magic tricks and sparkling patter at our luau at the Mustin Beach "O" Club.

Sam and his wife, Marianne, reside in Key West.



Sam Lancaster as Ben—that's his real hair.

Flying Midshipmen Reunion '98 – Virginia Beach

Dates: April 29 - May 3

Place: SUNSPREE Resort on the Ocean (Holiday Inn), 39th Street & Atlantic Avenue, Virginia Beach, VA 23451; for reservations call: 800-94-BEACH or 757-428-1711.

Rate: \$82.00 + tax per night

SCHEDULE

April 29 = Wine & Cheese Reception at Hotel

April 30 = FlyMid Banquet at NAS Oceana "O" Club

May 1 = Dinner at the Holiday Inn

May 2 = ANA Ball at Marriott Hotel, Norfolk (or free night)

May 3 = Farewell Breakfast at Holiday Inn

(FMA Hospitality Suite open from Wednesday through Sunday noon)

(Tennis and Golf for athletics types)

NOTE...NOTE...NOTE

When writing checks for Flying Midshipmen SHIP' STORE items or paying dues, please make payable to FMA or Flying Midshipmen Ass'n. only make checks payable to Aviation Midshipmen Foundation when making a tax-deductible contribution to the Foundation. All correspondence should be addressed to FMA, P.O.Box 2284, Arlington, VA 22202.

"ONCE A JOCK...."

From Gene Tissot (9-46): "Fifty Years Later" Late in the afternoon of January 11, 1985, a Howard DGA took off from Wheeler AFB in the western part of Oahu. The occasion was a commemoration of Amelia Earhart's takeoff from the same field fifty years before. Other than being a high wing monoplane, the Howard bore little resemblance to Amelia's airplane. When Amelia took off she headed her beautiful red Lockheed *Vega* to the east and the next morning landed at Oakland - the first person to fly from Hawaii to the mainland solo.

On the podium to witness the takeoff was a large group of persons that were interested in commemorating the golden anniversary of this feat. Mrs. Muriel Morrisey, Amelia's younger sister, was there, and the general heading PACAF presided over the ceremonies.

But what in the world were two Flying Midshipmen and their wives doing on that podium. And they had good seats, too!

It turns out they were the sons of two men who played an important part in the success of the flight. Roy Mantz was the son of Paul Mantz, who was Amelia's technical advisor. Gene Tissot was the son Ernie Tissot, her mechanic. The sons' paths had crossed before - in 1946 they were both at USC in the V-5 program.

In December 1934, I vividly remember going aboard the Matson liner, *SS Lurline*, at the dock in Long Beach and seeing my father off. How exciting it was to a seven year old to be able to go aboard an ocean liner. Also on the voyage were Mr. and Mrs. George Putnam and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mantz - and, of course, the airplane.

My father kept the *Vega* well preserved during the voyage, and I have a photo of him on a ladder with an old fashioned spray can applying oil to the *Vega's* engine. I have another of Amelia and my father standing on the deck of the *Lurline*.

After arriving in Honolulu, Paul Mantz flew the *Vega* to Wheeler Field, where it was readied for the record breaking flight. On a rainy January afternoon the decision was made to go. My father ran alongside the *Vega* as it started the long and muddy takeoff run. Amelia said in memoirs that the last thing she saw was "an ashen faced Ernie running alongside".

I have the letter that she carried, postmarked one day at Honolulu and the next day at Oakland. I also have the letter she wrote to my father stating what a fine job he had done on her *Vega*. And I also have those wonderful memories of a shining moment in early aviation history.

From Joe Reyes (4-48): I sent following letter to Ms. Abigail Van Buren in June, 1997: "Dear Abby: I was amused by your column regarding the many unusual uses of condoms by the infantry during our wars. I was a Navy fighter pilot (Tailhooker) and since we were at sea for considerable lengths of time, metals would oxidize. My 38 caliber hand gun, which I always carried, was no exception. To protect it and to keep it from rusting, I inserted it in a condom. This kept it dry and operational. As a practicing Catholic, I kept the faith and used condoms for this purpose only (I now have eight children). As a proud Tailhooker, I want to thank the condom manufacturers. Without condoms, our personal guns would have been unfunctionable....Very truly yours, /s/ Joe - 'Ol Straight Arrow"

From Hank Frazer (8-47): In March 1947, I reported to NAS Glenview for "Selective Flight" training as an Apprentice Seaman, V-5, USNR. We were required to solo (or washout of the program) after 10 one hour flights in Yellow Perils. There was snow on the ground and the sheepskin flight gear - jacket, boots, gauntlets and helmet were most welcome. After an earlier than average solo on flight number 5, the instructor offered to spend my other 5 flights on aerobatics. He began with a demo of an eight point roll, but on position 4 my loose seat belt and shoulder harness let go and a new airborne status began - HEAD DOWN! I lost the gauntlets and boots as the chute snapped open. I landed in knee deep snow in my oxfords. As the instructor orbited, I gathered up my chute and trudged across several large fields to get to a road for pick up and return to the air station.

My explanations of 'equipment malfunction' fell on deaf ears. The XO declared the jump to be "voluntary" and ordered base restriction to the base over Easter weekend, then immediate transfer to Ottumwa, Iowa, where appointment to Midshipman, USN, occurred and pre-flight began. Lucky Hank!

From Earle Worley (13-46): Buzz Warfield and I joined up in the V-5 program together. When we got to Corpus Christi, we were in a group of 100 students assigned to an 'experimental' project where 50 (top part of the alphabet) got a shortened syllabus in N2S's then into SNJ's and the other 50 (bottom half which Buzz and I were in) went directly to SNJ's. I flunked out on Intermediate Aerology simply because I had lost interest and wouldn't study. On leaving the Navy, I enrolled back in college, University of Richmond, and obtained a BS in Business Administration - major in Accounting.

I became a copilot on DC-3's for Capital Airlines in April, 1953. Capital merged with United Airlines in June, 1961. I then flew for United until retirement in 1988. After 35 years of airline work, I finished as a '747' captain flying to the Far East. Now it's golf and tennis at Kingsmill in Williamsburg, Virginia.

Report from OTTUMWA: Spring of 1947, the Des Moines River went on a rampage and the city of Ottumwa witnessed one of its worst floods ever. The Midshipman brigade at the U.S. Naval Pre-flight School at the Naval Air Station was assigned patrols to protect merchants from looting.

While on patrol, Midshipman Howard Phillips, Paul Franklin and Robert Westropp encountered their battalion officer, marine Lt. Lawrence Stien and another person stranded on the porch of a house that was in danger of being swept into the Des Moines River. Lt. Stien's hands were cut and bleeding. The 3 midshipmen were on dry ground and separated from the endangered house by about 25 feet of a raging torrent of water. A coil of rope Franklin had was secured to a tree and a post on the porch. Westropp went across the rope, hand over hand, with feet dragging in the water. He returned to dry ground with Lt. Stien on his back. If the rope let go or if Westropp lost his grip, both would have been lost.

Lt. Stien prior to this time was known for some disdain of Midshipman Westropp, however, on the midshipman's departure from Pre-flight, he was heard to say to him: "Thanks for saving my life, Westropp".

Note: To submit items for "**ONCE A JOCK....**" send to: Flying Midshipmen - Attention: LOG, P.O. Box 2284, Arlington, VA 22202 or FAX 800/964-5956.

Twenty-Fifth Annual West Coast Reunion

by Roy Mantz

More than 150 FMA members, widows, spouses, and friends attended FMA '97, the twenty-fifth year FMA has had a reunion of former aviation midshipmen on the West Coast. The reunion was held in conjunction with the annual Association of Naval Aviation (ANA) Convention/Symposium at the Town & Country Resort Hotel in San Diego, May 21 - 25, 1997. The main attraction of the reunion was a banquet on Thursday, May 22nd, attended by 146 members and guests. Following the reception and dinner and announcements by FMA officers Ort Rudd and Paul Engel, a special wood and brass, gimbaled clock door prize was won by Bob Christianson. The highlight of the evening was an extremely interesting, highly informative, and very timely talk by one of our own. Paul Speer, Pre-Flight Class 12-48, not only had a highly successful 37-year naval aviation career, having attained flag rank and held numerous commands afloat and ashore, but followed with a successful business career. Following a second retirement, Paul was appointed a Port Commissioner for the San Diego Unified Port District. Paul was the perfect candidate to address the banquet attendees on the various changes that have or are currently taking place in San Diego, at Lindbergh Field, and in the naval community, particularly in view of the actions by the Base Reduction and Closure Commissions in recent years. The talk was well received and capped a delightful evening.

Several local San Diego FMAers are responsible for the successful reunion, particularly Ed Crow and Hank Wylie, who managed the Hospitality Suite. Watchstanders assisting them were: Bob Ables, Hank Frazer, Greg Lawrence, Dewey McCrary, Fred Newman, Ray Oakes, Jerry Proesel, Bill Quarg, Dave Robertson, Paul Van Keuren, and Bob Worchesek. The participation by all was exceptional and is greatly appreciated.

West Coast Reunion Attendees

Bob/Shirley Ables	San Diego, CA	Tom Davis/Gudi Lashbrook	Crystal River, FL	Jim/Bobbie Parkes	Los Alamitos, CA
Bob/Louise Aldrich	Las Vegas, NV	Mel/Ellomae DeMond	Spokane, WA	Chuck/Nancy Peacock	Mountain Lakes, NJ
Glenn Allen	Fairfax, VA	Jack/Joyce Denning	Vancouver, WA	Ed/Nita Peterman	San Marcos, CA
Ken/Jinny Keller Austin	Virginia Beach, VA	Jerry/Rosie Driscoll	Carlsbad, CA	Charles/Florence Phillips	Surprise, AZ
Jack/Donna Baker	San Clemente, CA	Fred/Elaine Dunning	Alexandria, VA	Jerry/Beverly Proesel	Spring Valley, CA
Ed/Marge Barrineau	Camarillo, CA	Paul/Tan Engel	Compton, MD	Bob/Sue Quaney	Carlsbad, CA
Al Beck/Janet Whitehead	Orinda, CA	Don/Joan Flanigan	Portola Valley, CA	Bill Quarg	San Diego, CA
Bob Bell	Rancho Palos Verdes, CA	Hank Frazer	San Diego, CA	Joe/Fran Reyes	Potomac, MD
Bob/Jan Bennett	San Diego, CA	Norm Gearhart	Camarillo, CA	Dave Robertson	San Diego, CA
Fred/Lois Bereswill	Issaquah, WA	Don/Georgia Goodrum	Fayetteville, GA	Rocky Rockwell	Coronado, CA
Dan/Alice Bergman	Libertyville, IL	C. R./Penny Hall	Cupertino, CA	Earl/Dixie Rogers	Sacramento, CA
Fred Blechman	West Hills, CA	Jerry Hamill	Del Mar, CA	Ort Rudd/Hap Hazzard	Arlington, VA
Waldo/Peggy Born	Charleston, IL	Lawrence/Gail Hartley	Highland, MI	Larry/Maria Schoelen	Laguna Hills, CA
Del/Fran Brandenburg	Alexandra, VA	Don Hegrat	Poway, CA	Joe/Billie Sherin	Atlantic Beach, FL
Dude Brannen	Chula Vista, CA	Boot Hill	Riverside, CA	Dick/Norma Shrewsbury	Phoenix, AZ
John/Joan Brannon	San Diego, CA	Don/Connie Hornbeck	Bonita, CA	Snuffy/Sheryl Smith	Del Mar, CA
Joseph/Peggy Brecka	Binghamton, NY	Wayne/Betty Irwin	Groveland, CA	Bob Smith	Dallas, TX
Charlie Brown/Gene Greene	Westlake Village, CA	Greg/Phyllis Lawrence	Solana Beach, CA	Paul/Jenny Speer	Coronado, CA
Jim Burden/Laura Clark	Fairfax, VA	Roy/Kathleen Mantz	Coronado, CA	Joe/Pat Storey	Celebration, FL
J. D. Burton/Kathleen Cooper	South Pasadena, CA	Bob Maughmer	Calabasas, CA	Gil/Patti Summers	Niwot, CO
Ron/Cathie Caldwell	Albuquerque, NM	Harry May	La Mesa, CA	Barney/Bea Tesch	North Bend, WA
Jim/Dean Campbell	Solana Beach, CA	Jim McClure	Santa Ana, CA	Paul/Helen Van Keuren	La Jolla, CA
Curt Carter	Clearwater, FL	Bob/Mimi McCombie	Virginia Beach, VA	John/Lois Vitcenda	Englewood, CO
Bob Christianson	Lynn, MA	Dewey/Altha McCrary	San Diego, CA	Gabe Wilson/Sage Faber	San Diego, CA
Ed Colling	Wiltshire, England	Russ/Ginger McJunkin	Englewood, CO	Bob/Joyce Worchesek	Bonita, CA
Gene/Elaine Conrad	Barrington, IL	John Miller	Flagstaff, AZ	Tom/Beverly Workinger	McHenry, IL
Ed Crow	Coronado, CA	Ralph/Anne Neiger	Escondido, CA	Hank/Fran Wylie	Chula Vista, CA
Len/Pat Czernicki	Bridgeton, MO	Fred/Linda Newman	San Diego, CA	Stew/Polly Zink	Williamsburg, VA
Dale/Joan Davis	Punta Gorda, FL	Ray/Carrie Oakes	Carlsbad, CA		

Total Attending: 151—Flying Midshipmen: 86



MEX VILLAGE REVISITED Here is one of the many 'group-gropes' of our West Coast reunion attendees at the Coronado Mexican Village. (L to R) Hank Frazer, Chuck & Flo Phillips, Lois & Fred Bereswill, Ort Rudd, Norma & Dick Shrewsbury. Overheard during convivial conversation: "For at least a year after flight training, I didn't know banks would cash paychecks—mine was always cashed here—where most of it went anyway!"

**Plan for Norfolk
FlyMid '98!**

Jesse Brown Book

Professional writer Theodore Taylor (*"The Magnificent Mitscher"* and 50 other books) is currently writing a historical novel based on the life of Flying Midshipman Jesse Brown. Taylor would appreciate any anecdotes any of our members can provide concerning Jesse—Ottumwa, Pensacola, Jacksonville, squadron, USS Leyte, etc. His address: 1856 Catalina St., Laguna Beach, CA 92651, Tele: collect 714-494-6294.

FMA Deceased

JOHN E. ABBOTT
 WARREN J. ACKERMAN
 LAWRENCE H. ALLEN
 RAYMOND C. ALLEN
 MERLE L. ANDERSON
 WILLIAM R. ANDERSON
 JACK B. ANDREWS
 DONALD H. ANREP
 WALLACE D. ARBUCKLE, JR.
 DAVID E. ATKINS
 ALBERT L. AUDETTE
 HARRY L. AVANS
 WILLIAM H. BABIN
 FRANK E. BACHELLER
 WALLACE D. BALDWIN
 MAX D. BARR
 WILLIAM H. BARRY
 W.M. R. "RUSH" BARRETT
 MARSHALL J. BARRY, JR.
 HAROLD J. BARTLESON
 RUSSELL BAUM
 THOMAS M. BAXTER
 ROBERT S. BICK
 THOMAS C. BIESTERVELD
 RANDALL K. BILLINGS
 EDDIE R. BLAIR
 ROBERT L. BLOOD
 PAUL W. BOULIER
 DEAN T. BOWEN
 LAWRENCE M. BRENNAN
 LOWELL R. BREWER
 ELWOOD E. BREY
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 JOHN R. BRINKLEY
 GERALD R. BROWN
 HENRY H. BROWN
 JESSE L. BROWN
 ROBERT S. BROWN
 WALTER L. BROWN
 WILLIAM EDWARD BROWN
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 HERMAN J.C. BURCHARDI
 TOMMY LEE BURGESS
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 E. JOSEPH CRONIN
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 O. W. "BOB" CROWL
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 DWIGHT L. DENNIS
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 DONOVAN H. EARHART

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 WILLIAM M. LINDSEY
 ANTHONY LISEHORA
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 RICHARD C. LOOMER
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 OSWIN W. MOLL
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 WILLIAM L. MURPHY
 DANIEL L. MUSETTI
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 EMIL "BUSTER" NIGELS
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 RICHARD A. O'CONNOR, JR.
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 CHARLES S. PORTER
 THOMAS PORTER
 LOUIS C. POTTER (LM)
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 PHILIP S. RANDOLPH, JR.
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 MERLE A. RICE
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 EDWARD J. RICHTER
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 JOHN W. ROCHE
 BERTRAM M. ROEDER
 SAM ROSENFELD
 JOSEPH V. ROSSI
 RICHARD C. ROWE
 WILLIAM ROYSE
 DONALD B. RUTHERFORD
 HOWARD E. RUTLEDGE
 HUGO V. SCARSHEIM

ADDENDUM - 1997 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

(from "LOST FLIGHT")

R. W. "Barney" Barnhart (LM)
6020 Blackwell Den Rd.
Warm Springs, AR 72478-9084
Peggy
948 31-Aug-49
(870) 892-9772
(e) barnyb@tcac.com

George E. Burgi (97)
2222 Glencoe Cr.
Orange Park, FL 32073
Darlene
17-47 3-Jun-49
(904) 272-6929

John R. "Jack" Eckstein (97)
3841 Blufton Mill Rd.
Free Union, VA 23940
Lindy
5-49 16-Aug-50
(804) 823-2584
(e) flarepath@juno.com

Harry L. May (97)
P.O.Box 1328
La Mesa, CA 91944
11-48 27-Jan-50
(619) 443-9090 (O)

New members

Lawrence E. Brumbach (97)
297 Majorca Rd.
St. Augustine, FL 32084
13-48 16-Jun-50
(904) 471-5835

John J. Cotchen (97)
329 Elkknud Ln.
Johnstown, PA 15905
Vivienne
2-48 7-Jul-49
(814) 255-3034 (H)
(814) 539-3980 (O)
(e) JCOTCHEN@AOL.COM

C. B. "Chuck" Cox (LM)
5134 Osage Ave.
Kansas City, MO 64133
Jerry
13-48 ?
(816) 356-5852

Jerry F. Detwiler (97)
7573 S. Rosemary Cir.
Englewood, CO 80112
Rosie
4-49 24-May-50
303) 721-6106

Henry W. Frazer (97)
P.O.Box 880602
San Diego, CA 92168
8-47
(619) 491-2362

Herschel L. Gott (97)
545 Rosita Ave.
Los Altos, CA 94024
18-48 7-Jul-50
(415) 948-7912

Gene W. Harms (97)
1175 SW Middle Stream Ct.
Palm City, FL 34990
Irene
10-46
(561) 781-1175
(e) HARMSWAY@AOL.COM

Robert W. Johnson (97)
Rt. 2, Box 70
Grottoes, VA 24441
Kathy
5-48 20-Jul-49
(540) 249-4266
(e) BOBKAT@SHENTEL.NET

Leslie W. Kallsen (98)
Meadow Sweet Farm
P.O.Box 115
Ihlew, MN 56140
Lany
5-48 20-Jan-50
(507) 348-4457

Charles P. Lamb (97)
8 Plover Ln.
Westport, CT 06880
Alberta
16-48 15-Mar-50
(203) 226-7343 (H)
(203) 384-6111 (O)
(e) C1614B@AOL.COM

James W. Laseter (97)
500 Lunalilo Home Rd., #17G
Honolulu, HI 96825
21-48 21-Jun-50
(808) 396-7455

Charles A. Luff (97)
1025 Guadalupe Del Prado, NW
Albuquerque, NM 87107-5434
Terry
St.Marys 1-Aug-47
(505) 345-0280

Robert W. Maughmer (LM)
4707 Park Olivo
Calabasas, CA 91302-1734
19-47 7-Jul-49
(818) 222-9233

E. David Millpointer (97)
300 Moraga Way
Orinda, CA 94563
Joy
14-48 21-Jun-50
(510) 254-4258

John E. Minardi, MD (97)
4163 Braewick Cir.
Dayton, OH 45440-1405
Joan
14-49 31-May-51
(937) 298-1318
(e) JMIN4163@AOL.COM

Charles P. Moore (97)
5921 Admiral Doyle Rd.
Pensacola, FL 32506
12-47 6-May-49
(904) 456-8402

R. P. "Rip" Munger (97)
56 Horton Ln.
New Canaan, CT 06840
Doris
18-48 3-Jun-49
(203) 966-1710

Robert A. Quaney (97)
3662 Harwich Dr.
Carlsbad, CA 92008
Susan
18-48 3-Mar-50
(760) 434-6337

David W. Robertson (97)
3534 Marlesta Dr.
San Diego, CA 92111-4719
Betty Lou
St Marys 29-Aug-47
(619) 277-0843
(e) daver@nprdc.navy.mil

Edward J. Szczebak (97)
1816 Pleasant Valley Dr.
Plano, TX 75023
Shirley
8-47
(972) 964-0657
(e) szczebakr@worldnet.att.net

L. Keith Thurston (LM)
1058 Granby St.
Auroro, CO 80011
Mary
15-47
(303) 343-3524

J. Spencer Winn (97)
7506 S. Jasmine Ct.
Englewood, CO 80112
Ellen
12-47
(303) 740-7343 (H)
(303) 741-2456 (O)

Earle F. Worley (LM)
101 Robert Miles
Williamsburg, VA 23185-8220
Bobbie
13-46
(757) 220-9115

Paul Wuesthoff (97)
P.O.Box 26
Carmen, ID 83462
Winifred
12-48 31-Mar-50
(208) 865-2282

FMA Deceased : Continued from page 8

EDWARD H SCHLEIF
THEODORE R. SCHMIDT
GEORGE M SCHRAUTH
MACK C. "RED" SELLERS
WAYNE C. SENER
MERRITT J. SHARRETT
JOHN R. SHAUGHNESSY
FRANK H. SHEFFIELD
JOSEPH P. SHORT
MARTIN J. SIGMORELLI
JAMES RAY SILER
GERALD L. SKORUPSKI
DANIEL J. SLIWINSKI
DAVID KENNETH SMITH (LM)
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LOREN D. "BUD" SMITH
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WILLIAM R. SONNEMAN
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JOHN R. "DICK" SWADENER (LM)
DAVID T. TATUM
HARRY E. THOMAS
KEITH E. THOMPSON
JOHN ROSS THOMSON (LM)
GUY T. THROWER
WM. E. "GENE" TILLERSON (LM)
FRANCIS DON TOBY

FMA Deceased : Continued from page 9

ROBERT G. TOMBRINCK
RALPH J. TOUCH
HAROLD TROLLE
EDWARD K. TRZCINSKI
CLYDE H. TUOMELA (LM)
MAURICE A. TUTHILL
STANLEY VAN LIERE
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HALE W. WAGNER
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MARTIN J. TWITE, JR. (LM)

ROLAND S. WARD, III
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FRED C. WEBER
GRADY A. WEEKS
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CLARENCE E. WEST
RONALD B. WEST
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EUGENE H. WHITTLESSEY
JAMES D. WHYTE

GEORGE H. WILLEY
RODNEY G. WILLIAMS
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HERBERT W. WILLIS
BOBBY L. WILSON
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JAMES H. WILSON
JAMES J. WILSON, JR.
WILLIAM O. WIRT, JR.
KENNETH G. WOLFEL
ALLEN C. WOODSELL
WILLIAM F. WROTH
GEORGE A. YANOVICH

REMEMBERING MANNO

By Bob Brennan (15-48)

Listen ye Middies, and ye shall hear,
Of one whose name will strike you with fear.
All FMA's from Class Forty-eight
Remember this little guy with ego so great.

Only five foot one, he really was small
But to worms like us, he stood mighty tall.
His screaming could make a grown man cry,
You obeyed instantly and didn't ask why.

"You there...push-ups..make it twenty.
OK...one hundred, that should be plenty.
And after that, two hundred laps,
What did I do to get stuck with you saps?"

In Physical Training, he was Simon Legree.
"You pukes couldn't make it in the USMC!"
He called us scum, low-life, and louse.
We replied (silently) ... "Yo, Mighty Mouse!"

He pushed himself like a freakin' machine
And was one of the best on the trampoline.
"Put on a show," the Admiral's command-o.
"Delighted" says he, our Lieutenant Mann-o.

Bouncing, bouncing, way up to the top.
Front drop, side drop, now a back drop.
I'm getting sick. Will he never stop?
A smart-ass yells, "Do a COUGH DROP!"

Enraged, he glares, his eyes like glass.
"OK you bastards, who's the wise-ass?"
"You there, dumb one, I see by your smirk,
Fifty push-ups--one handed--you jerk!"

But then he did a quick double take.
He knew he had just make a terrible mistake.
One final bounce and he flew out of the gym,
With his victim, the Admiral, hot after him!



Aviation Midshipmen Foundation
P.O. Box 2284
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