



ANA **GRAMPAW PETTIBONE**
SQUADRON INC.
1 DECEMBER 2016
www.gpsana.org



Editor Hal McDonnell

The Grampaw Pettibone Squadron is a non-profit organization (IRS Sect. 501(C)(4) which, through meetings, discussions, speaker programs, and periodic field trips, serves to educate squadron members and the general public on the requirements of an adequate national defense, especially maritime aviation, which is essential to a free society, and to support the military professionals (active and reserve) responsible for many aspects of national defense. GPS also seeks to foster the strong pride, esprit, and fraternal bonds which exist among those associated with Naval Aviation.

THE GPS LUNCHEON MEETING

WILL BE HELD ON

THURSDAY, 8 DECEMBER 2016

AT THE

GARDEN GROVE ELKS LODGE

LOCATED AT 11551 TRASK Ave., GARDEN GROVE

Hangar doors open at 1130, Luncheon is at 1200, secure at 1330.

Please make reservations before 9 PM on Monday 5 December 2016

COST IS \$15.00. FOR RESERVATIONS Please E-mail

RayLeCompte34@Gmail/com or by Phone: 562-287-4846

About our speaker's topic:



CDR Erik Franzen

THROUGH THE PIPELINE A PILOTS JOURNEY

From recruitment to wings, the training
and flying career of a Navy pilot.

CDR Franzen is a native of Southern California. He graduated from San Diego State University in 1991 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Studies and was commissioned through the NROTC program. He received his wings of gold at the "Cradle of Naval Aviation," Pensacola, Fla. in September 1994. He then

transferred to VAW-120, the E-2C/C-2A Fleet Replacement Squadron, was selected to fly the Hawkeye, and his training culminated in day and night carrier qualifications in the E-2C. He was next assigned to VAW-117 out of Miramar, Calif. and made two deployments with the Wallbangers, participating in Operation Southern Watch aboard USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63) and Operation Desert Fox while aboard USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70). CDR Franzen then reported to VT-22 at NAS Kingsville, Texas. He instructed student Naval Aviators in intermediate and advanced phases of flight training flying the T-45 Goshawk. While with VT-22 he participated in many Weapons Detachments to NAF El Centro, Calif. and in the three years as an Instructor Pilot he accumulated more than 1,000 hours in the Goshawk. Following his tour in Kingsville, CDR Franzen transitioned from the E-2C to the C-2A Greyhound. He did his transition training back in Norfolk, VA with VAW-120 before heading west again to join VRC-30 in San Diego, Calif. for his Department Head tour. In March 2003 he deployed as the Officer in Charge of Detachment Three aboard USS Nimitz (CVN 68) and participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Upon his return from deployment he finished his Department Head tour as the Operations Officer for VRC-30. CDR Franzen then



An Arleigh Burke class destroyer
recieveiving its ordnance loadout at NWS
Seal Beach

reported back to VAW-120 in Norfolk, Va. and served from June 2005 until June 2007 as the Fleet Replacement Squadron Operations Officer during which time he conducted ten carrier qualification detachments. His next two assignments were staff jobs with the VAW/VRC Wing where he served as the Operations Officer from July 2007 until July 2009 and then as the E-2C/C-2A/C-12/C-26 Readiness Officer for Commander Naval Air Forces in San Diego. Following his tour in San Diego he spent four years in the desert at NAF El Centro where he was first assigned as the Executive Officer and then in July 2013 he took over as the Commanding Officer. CDR Franzen has accumulated over 3,000 flight hours and 300 carrier arrested landings. His personal decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, three Navy Commendation Medals, the Navy Achievement Medal and various campaign and unit awards.

About our November luncheon:



Fred Sheldon

UNMANNED UNDERSEA SYSTEMS

By Dick Fields
GPS PAO

Gramps was once again fascinated by the advances in scientific as well as military technology presented by Fred Sheldon, the program manager for Autonomous Undersea Vehicles such as the Boeing Echo Voyager, an AUV. The vehicles in the presentation were created by Boeing at its own expense for future use by the military as well as scientific purposes.



hour roaming endurance capability after which it is recovered by the sub through a torpedo tube.

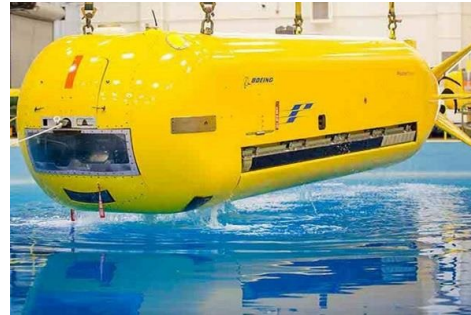


Fred began with the AN/BLQ-11, a unit that was designed for long term mine reconnaissance. It is launched through a submarine's torpedo tube with a size of 21 inches X 20 feet and a weight of 12,800 pounds. It has a 5

The next item was the "Echo Ranger", a larger and more capable device for commercial oil and gas surveys. It has dimensions of 4 feet X 4 feet X 18.5 feet, weighs 977 pounds dry and can work at a depth of

10,000 feet. It was used to explore and capture the sonar images of the U.S.S. Independence, an aircraft carrier that was scuttled near Half Moon Bay in 1951. Fred showed the high resolution sonar images of the remainder of the ship in its resting place underwater. The sensor device was the Coda Octopus high resolution echoscope that produced 3-D images of the sunken ship.

Another project was the "Echo Seeker", a large



Displacement Unmanned Underwater Vehicle ("LDUUV"). Its dimensions are 6 feet X 6 feet X 32 feet and it has a 20,000 foot depth capability.

It is a high level autonomy testbed. Its SONAR resolution is 3 inches at depth. It requires a manned platform on shipboard to manage its procedures. Its operational cost is \$130,000 per day!



The next design is the "Echo Voyager" that has dimensions of 51 feet long. Its depth capability is 11,000 feet. It

has rechargeable batteries as well as liquid fuel that gives it a 90 day operational duration and a range of 150 nautical miles unrecharged with a total range with repeated surface recharging of 7000 nm. Its operating speed is 3-8 knots with 3 being the normal to keep power consumption lower. It has two snorkels and one fuel tank and has an "X" shaped set of tailfins that allow it to continue to function even if the tail is damaged. It has a very quiet operating noise level even with the diesel engine running. It has the capability of deploying payloads for antisubmarine warfare as well as for patrol. It is equipped with magnetic as well as gyro compasses and can establish its position while on the surface with GPS as well as remote setting. Its operational abilities are destroyed if it is recycled to protect the technology if captured. It uses AIS auto identification equipment to locate and track nearby ships. The construction is of a metal and carbon fiber with multiple internal watertight compartments that are pressurized to allow descent into great depths. It uses a Lithium Polymer battery that has extensively been demonstrated to be safe as opposed to the lithium ion batteries that have had major fire problems. This is all from Boeing and all this comes from Southern California facilities.

We thank Fred for his work and his presentation to our meeting about some of the things that no matter how long at sea, we cannot see, but they are really there.



Sailors L-R: Command Senior Chief Kirby Lee, Seaman Rodney Martin, PO1 Jarvis Battle, PO2 Jose Vasquez, and CPO John Sisson

SAILOR OF THE QUARTER AWARDS

Article by Bill Thompson

On Thursday, November 10, the Grampaw Pettibone Squadron met for their regular monthly luncheon meeting at the Elks Lodge in Garden Grove. One of the highlights was the recognition of the Sailors of the Quarter who had been selected by the Seal Beach Weapons Station from the two major commands at the base. The Senior Sailors of the Quarter are P O 1 Jarvis Battle and P O 1 (SW) Tyler Schwartzbarra. The Junior Sailors of the Quarter are: P O 2 Jose Vazquez and P O 2 (SW) Leland Larsen. The Bluejacket of the Quarter is: Seaman Rodney Martin. Each received financial awards from Grampaw Pettibone Squadron and gift certificates from Avila's El Ranchito Mexican Restaurant, Beachwood BBQ, The Crab Cooker (Newport Beach), Glory Days Beachside Grill, Hennessy's Tavern, O'Malley's on Main, and the Yucatan Grill. They also received an acrylic plaque from USAA that recognized their individual achievements. Each of the sailors was introduced by Command Senior Chief Kirby Lee, SBWS. The Grampaw Pettibone Squadron Certificates of Appreciation were presented by Chief Petty Officer John Sissons, Munitions Command, NWSSB.

The GREAT GUYS

Here are some of the Great Guys who have made contributions to Gramps in November. These guys and the members who attend the monthly luncheons are the ones who make possible Gramps' Sailor of the Quarter program and the Mailing of the OP-Plan. Gramps and his staff thank them all and hope to see your name here. Members who do not attend the monthly luncheons should consider a contribution to cover the monthly 61 cent cost for each OP-Plan mailed to you. You can save Gramps money by getting the OP-Plan via email. Just email me at hmcdonnelz@yahoo.com to change to email.

TIM BROWN
VINCENT VAN DEN BRINK
DAVID FRANZEN
RAY LECOMPTE
JIM MENEES
ROB MENEES



C.O. Colum

Tim Brown

This is my time to thank the staff and everyone else who has helped Gramps through another great year. First, I want to thank three of our members who have "retired" from active participation as Staff Officers but remain active in the organization, George, Fran and Paula.

George Del Gaudio continues to help out with the Sailor of the Quarter ("SOQ") Awards Program despite some health and transportation issues. He is our go-to guy when we have questions about the SOQ Program. I bet that you folks who attend the luncheons never noticed a drop in quality of the program when Bill Thompson took over for George. That was the result in large part to George's efforts in conjunction with Bill's attention to detail and very diligent work. Thank you both.

Fran and Paula Pieri, the familiar faces at the membership table when you first come in the door, have moved to Oceanside. They quickly figured out that the drive is too much. They turned over the Membership Officer duties to Sel Ramsay. We will really miss you guys. Fran and Paula did an excellent job as co-Membership Officers. Sel has hit the ground running and is already proposing ideas to the staff regarding building our membership. Thank you all.

The rest of the staff soldiers on. Vince van den Brink has been especially helpful this year. Vince moved up to Executive Officer after it was left empty for quite a long time for a lack of a volunteer to take over for Bob Antil. Vince did a great job running a few meetings when I was absent. Thank you Vince. Hal continues to produce an exceptional OpPlan each month. I use the OpPlan to introduce potential new members to Gramps and it is always a pleasure to send a copy to active duty personnel. Thank you Hal and Vince.

Dick and Carol Fields are just awesome. Dick is our audio/video guy, photographer and also does the write-up on the Speaker's presentation. OK, every once in a while he is not at the luncheon and Bob Cashman fills in admirably with a very professional "substitute" column. Carol continues greeting members and collecting luncheon fees with Dolores' assistance. Dolores has passed the job of Treasurer to Ray LeCompte who is ably assisted by his wife, Joy. Thank you Dick, Carol, Bob, Dolores, Ray and Joy.

Cindy Macha is a relatively new addition to the staff but has done an outstanding job of getting very interesting and informative speakers for our luncheons. She has also been a thoughtful and creative addition to our "think tank" which is also known as the staff. Doc Helton has had some medical challenges this year but he continues to attend our luncheons to remind us to get our flu shots and to keep us current on other medical conditions that may be relevant to our members. Andy Benjock and Ed Mason have been a great addition to the staff. Their constant presence at the front table to get your involvement in supporting the SOQ Awards Program through the 50/50 has been a real boost to our treasury. Thank you Cindy, Doc, Ben and Ed.

So now it is my time to say Happy Holidays to all of our members and friends. I want to remind you that we always appreciate any monetary gifts you might make to Gramps. Your entire contribution goes to support the SOQ Program, printing and mailing of the OpPlan and/or maintenance

of our website: www.gpsana.org. All of the best to you and your families in the coming year.

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Andy Benjock(L) and Howard Whittker show the cakes.

MARINE BIRTHDAY CAKE

Article by Tim Brown

Coincidental to our meeting on 10 November was the 241st birthday of the USMC. Our assembled members, led by Master Gunnery Sergeant Andy Benjock, USMC (Ret.) celebrated in a grand fashion. First, Ben read Gen. Lejeune's order summarizing the history, mission, and tradition of the Corps.

It further directed that the order be read to all Marines on 10 November of each year to honor the founding of the Marine Corps. Thereafter, 10 November became a unique day for U.S. Marines throughout the world. Next, Chaplain Bill Thompson who served as a Navy Chaplain with the Marines at Khe Sahn, read a prayer that was apparently written by a Marine fresh from combat. It was very moving. In true Marine fashion we also had two birthday cakes ready to consume by all those present. Ben recited the solemn statement that is done when the birthday cake is cut and then the oldest and then the youngest Marine present were served the first pieces of cake. Happy Birthday to the the United States Marine Corps.



MEMBERSHIP

By Sel Ramsay

Awhile back (It was quite awhile, actually), I read a book called "All The Ships At Sea", by William Lederer. I thought, "What an imagination this author has!", as he described different episodes of life in the Navy. One of them was even made into a movie starring Fred MacMurray.

Only after serving some time in the Navy did I begin to realize that the author did not really have such a spectacular imagination – these kinds of adventures actually do happen!

The lives of many of our veterans include times of adventure, humor, and deeds of daring-do. Some we hear about, some never see the light of day.

Grampaw Pettibone was essentially the "Dear Abby" of the magazine *Naval Aviation News*, written and published by the Navy at Naval Air Station Anacostia, in Arlington, Virginia. People, mostly Naval Aviators, would write in describing their adventures (or often, misadventures) and "Gramps" would answer with his admonition about what could, or should, have been done. Sometimes these were not just anecdotes of interest, but poignant lessons to the rest of us to help us avoid loss or injury. Grampaw Pettibone was like a coach.

Our hot summer days are now cooling down, and it will soon be time to put on our coats, again. And to go with the coats, our members can show their enthusiasm for Gramps with golden lapel pins. We have miniature Naval Aviator wings, Association of Naval Aviation (ANA) wings, and even a leather-helmeted "Gramps" to wear or give to a favorite person. (It used to be "lady", but now they fly, too.) Pins are \$5 each, available at the luncheon.

Come join us for lunch. Now and then some of these interesting tales get told.



FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Bill Thompson

Some of you may remember the 1942 edition of "Song and Service Book for Ship and Field--Army and Navy". On the inside cover of that edition there is a prayer by our first President: GEORGE WASHINGTON. After our recent contentious election it may be helpful for us to review that prayer. His prayer:

"Almighty God, we make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in thy holy protection, that Thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government, and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow citizens of the United States at large.

And finally that Thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without an humble imitation of whose example in these things, we can never hope to be a happy nation. Grant our supplication, we beseech Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen"

Can you make this prayer yours? Even though you may not be a Christian? Even though your religion is other than Christian? Even though you may feel you have lost your faith? Try it.... for the sake of OUR NATION.



From GPS C.O. CAPT Bob Olds

VETERANS DAY OBSERVANCE

On 11 November, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9557 and the City of Fountain Valley sponsored a Veterans Day program at the Veterans Memorial at 17635 Los Alamos Street in Fountain Valley. The ceremony included the singing of the national anthem and a number of remarks by local politicians. The featured, keynote speaker was our own former C.O., Captain Robert B. ("Bob") Olds, USN (Ret), who told the gathering of his experiences as a Naval Officer during his 31-year career. In the audience were many family members who, along with the gathered crowd, gained more respect for veterans like Bob who served our country in time of war, declared and "Cold War".

MERRY CHRISTMAS HAPPY NEW YEAR!