



ANA **GRAMPAW PETTIBONE**
SQUADRON INC.



1 JUNE 2017

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 JUNE 2017

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 June 2017

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

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



About our speaker's topic:

PUNCH OUT: DITCHING A DELTA DART ROBERT C. ETTINGER, COLONEL USAF (RET)

Colonel Ettinger had previously completed a distinguished career in the US Air Force, where he flew many combat missions over North



Vietnam, flew as a test pilot on numerous systems, directed test organizations, and ultimately, served as Vice Commander of the Air Force Flight Test Center, at Edwards Air Force Base. He is sure to have some fascinating and exciting stories to share with us.

Bob received a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering and an ROTC commission in the Air Force from UC Berkeley in 1959. While Pilot Training in Texas he flew the T-34, T-37 and the T-33.

Bob entered Advanced Air Defense Interceptor Training in the F-102. During this 3-year, 8-month assignment, Bob survived a night head-on collision at about 1,000 knots closing speed and spent 8 hours in 55° water 100 miles off the eastern shore of Northern Japan.

After training replacement crews for the F-4 for two years at Elgin AFB, Florida, he joined the 435th Tactical Fighter Squadron and the 8th Tactical Fighter Wing flying the F-4D at Ubon Royal Thai Air Base. He was part of a special six aircrew team trained in the TV guided Walleye glide bomb. These were the first examples of terminally guided bombs that could drop a bridge with a single 1,000-pound bomb. Previously it had required 8 flights of 4 with eight 750-pound bombs each to drop the same bridge. The recent Iraqi War was initially completed in a matter of days using almost exclusively terminally guided GPS bombs. Bob flew 130 combat missions during the Vietnam War, including 100 over North Vietnam.

In 1968 he was selected for the Aerospace Research Pilot School (ARPS) at Edwards AFB. To qualify for this assignment, he took the Astronaut Flight Physical made famous by the movie *the Right Stuff*. The decision to subject himself to this week-long physical required serious consideration since it left one in thirty pilots irrevocably grounded by some obscure ailment that never would have been discovered by a normal annual flight physical.

ARPS consisted of a very strenuous 12-month course of aerodynamics and flight test training including atmosphere flight test and space flight. Bob also flew docking training simulators and zero-g training aircraft. During training he managed to eject from a burning F-104 Starfighter without injury.

Colonel Ettinger was assigned to the 4950th Test Wing at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio in 1969. He flew many systems tests in the F-4 and F-100. Bob's most significant flight-testing during this assignment was the development of the Survivable Flight Control System F-4 Fly-by-Wire system. During his four year tour at WPAFB Colonel Ettinger earned a Master's Degree in Aeronautical Engineering from Ohio State University.

In 1974 Colonel Ettinger returned to Edwards AFB as Chief of the F-4 Test Team and later a member of the Lightweight Fighter Joint Test Force flying the YF-16 and YF-17. He then became project pilot for the Fighter Control Configured Vehicle (CCV) program, a YF-16 with vertical canards, which allowed flat turns or turns without banking. This was a research project for the Air Force Flight Dynamics Laboratory. When the F-16 entered full scale development, he served as the Operations Officer, and Director of the F-16 Combined Test Force, participating in all phases of the F-16 Full Scale Development. Bob was the first USAF pilot to fly F-16A #1 and F-16A #2.

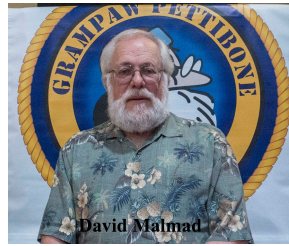
In 1979, he was the co-recipient of the Society of Experimental Test Pilots' Iven C. Kincheloe "**Test Pilot of the Year**" award for the successful completion of the hazardous high angle of attack and departure from controlled flight testing of the fly-by-wire and relaxed stability F-16. In 1980, Colonel Ettinger returned to Wright-Patterson AFB as the Chief of the Flight Controls Division of the Flight Dynamics Laboratory.

He joined the Aeronautical Systems Division as Director of the A-10 Systems Program Office (SPO) in 1981. In 1982, he became the Director of the Fighter/Attack SPO.

Colonel Ettinger rejoined the F-16 Program in 1983 as the Deputy Director of the F-16 SPO. He returned to Edwards AFB, CA in 1985 as the Vice Commander of the Air Force Flight Test Center. In this dream job for a test pilot, he had the opportunity to fly every fighter and trainer under test during his tour.

Colonel Ettinger retired from the Air Force in 1987 to become an executive in the aerospace industry.

JUNE 6th D-DAY



May 11, 2017
**SPEAKER
BRIEFING**
By David L. Malmad GPS PAO

The Grampaw Pettibone Squadron was honored for its May 2017 meeting to have Lt. Col Michael A. (Brittany) Spears, USMC, Commanding Officer of Headquarters Squadron MCAS Miramar, CA.



Col Michael Spears USMC

The Colonel with 20 years service in the USMC – began his career as a Grunt in the Marine Corps Reserve before training as a pilot in F18 single seat and 2 seat aircraft. In addition to his F18 experience, the Colonel trained as a pilot on a special project with the Marine Corps to pilot a weaponized C130 transport. The Colonel described the aircraft which is armed with missiles and not with guns. Concluding his overview the Colonel described his current assignment, Commander of 1300 Marines in the San Diego area, responsible for the Marine Corps Air Station and all base support.



Taking questions from the audience, Colonel Spears noted his overseas experience included 2 tours in Afghanistan as well as other middle-east locations. When describing Marine Corps pilot training, he noted that before becoming a pilot all are initially trained in infantry tactics and operations. This training enables pilots supporting ground operations to have a more in-depth understanding of ground operations and the ground support role needed from air assets. The Colonel described how missions are organized and executed.

Additional presentation described the features, function and mission requirements of the Marine Corps AC130 Harvest Hawk Gunship operation for close air support which is equipped with the Hellfire and Javelin missile, the Javelin modified for air operations. Included were descriptions of a number of ground support missions and the responsibility for targeting the correct objective to eliminate or minimize collateral damage.

The Colonel spent 16 plus years as an F18 pilot flying an all weather capable supersonic aircraft. His initial experience was 2 years training before fleet assignment followed by an 8 year commitment, with over 2000 hours in the F18, about 1200 hours in the C130 and more recent time in the King Air and Citation for VIP transport.

The Marine Corp has 12 active duty attack squadrons and only 1 reserve squadron. In addition to discussing operational missions, the Colonel described the needs of preparing and executing operations for air shows at Miramar, particular emphasis on coordination, control and execution with all primary and support roles to provide a safe, secure and enjoyable event.



F35B

The Colonel in response to a question regarding future resources, indicated the future is the F35 transitioning today and through 2023, though some operations may call for other resources depending upon the type of mission

assigned. Asked to describe the formation of squadron readiness, it was noted that a USMC squadron is 12 aircraft and operational readiness in the 1990s had 10 aircraft ready, while in the last 3 years it has dropped off as noted that an operational unit in which the Colonel was assigned had only 4 aircraft ready and available. The typical operational life of an F18 is 6000 hours, however, some are at 7-8000 hour history which impacts readiness. In the last 3 years, readiness has improved, though staffing levels remain virtually the same

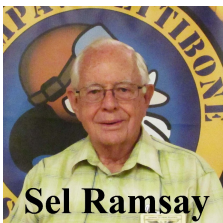
The Colonel in conclusion indicated he was very impressed with the current administration selection of retired USMC officers to serve in cabinet and staff roles.



CO's Column
Tim Brown

The last few months have been challenging. First, Fran and Paula Pieri, our longtime Membership staff and always-present members, moved to San Diego County to be closer to their grandchildren. That is just too far to

commute to our staff meetings and luncheons. I miss them sitting at the table to the left of the door when you first walk into the hall for our meetings. Just really



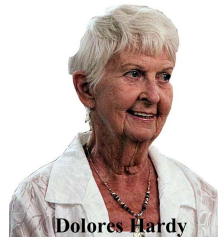
Sel Ramsay

nice people. Luckily Sel Ramsay stepped up and is handling the duties of Membership Officer but I still miss them. Thank you Fran, Paula and Sel.



FRAN PIERI

Then, Dolores Hardy, our longtime Treasurer, has retired. I remember when she took over for Andy Andresen, long before most of our current members were around. Dolores got shanghaied by



Dolores Hardy

competent current staff member



Ray LeCompte

stepped in to take over. Ray LeCompte (and his wife, Joy) has been doing an excellent job of keeping the accounts of the organization and making sure that our bills are timely paid. Carol Fields continues to "man" the reception table to collect lunch payments and gifts from the Great Guys. Thank you Dolores, Carol, Ray and Joy. Most recently Dick Fields came to me and let me know that he does not want to continue to perform the duties of PAO and Audio Visual guru. I do not recall how long Dick has been doing double and triple duty. Just seems that he has been my "go to" guy for many, many years. It will seem strange not to have him there to fix whatever is going wrong at the moment and make that manure smell like roses. He made things go so smoothly, so effortlessly, for the longest time and he will be missed. As it turns out, we have two new members who have stepped up to take over Dick's duties.

either Bob Olds or Dave Newbro into taking over the job. You will have to ask her how long she handled that job.

Again, a

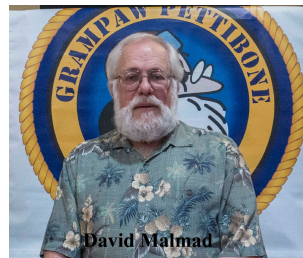


Carol Fields



Dick
Fields

First, Dave Malmad stepped up as PAO. He has been writing the columns that summarize the speaker's presentation/brief. He also is sending stories to Zip Rausa at Wings of Gold. I have been very impressed by Dave's work ethic and attention to detail.



David Malmad

The audio/visual duties have been assumed by Joe Murphy. Joe is a relatively new member and has jumped in to help with the computers and projectors that add so much to the presentations. There have been some unexpected challenges but Joe has been up for them. Hardly a hiccup! Thank you Dick, Dave and Joe.

I really appreciate the members stepping in for our long-serving member/staff. Dick, Carol, Dolores, Fran and Paula did their assigned duties for so many years and they deserve your thanks. When you see them, let them know that you appreciate what they have done for Grampaw Pettibone Squadron for years.

Finally, thank you to Joe, David, Sel, Ray and Joy for stepping up and taking on new duties. It is truly appreciated



SAILORS OF THE QUARTER ARE HONORED

Article by Bill Thompson

At the regular May meeting of the Grandpaw Pettibone Squadron the first order of business was to honor the Sailors of the Quarter. They had been selected by the Naval Weapons Station at Seal Beach, CA.



L to R: Senior Sailor of the Quarter--MA1 Frederick Joshua; Junior Sailor of the Quarter--YN2(SW/AW) Joseph Williams; Junior Sailor of the Quarter--Torion Smith; Blue Jacket of the Quarter--Patrick Gannon

Those selected by the base were presented with certificates from Grampaw Pettibone Squadron along with gift certificates from local businesses. The sailors were introduced by the Base XO, Commander Erik Franzen USN, and the certificates were presented by the Base Commander, Captain Noel "Tink" Dahlke USN. The Senior Sailor of the Quarter was MA1 Frederick Joshua from Baltimore, MD; the Junior Sailor of the Quarter was BM2 Torion Smith from New York, NY; and the Blue Jacket of the Quarter was MA3 Patrick Gannon from Huntington Beach, CA.



First row (L to R): Senior Sailor of the Quarter--MA1 Frederick Joshua; Junior Sailor of the Quarter--YN2(SW/AW) Joseph Williams; Junior Sailor of the Quarter--Torion Smith; Blue Jacket of the Quarter--Patrick Gannon
Second row: (L to R) Sel Ramsey--Membership Chair; CAPT Noel Dahlke--CO for Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach; CPO Lindsey Troy; CPO Jay Knox; CDR Erik Franzen--XO for NWS Seal Beach

The Navy Munitions Command CONUS West Division (at the Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station) selected their Senior Sailor of the Quarter to be MN1(SW) Rey Collazoluciano. He was not present because of his reassignment to San Diego. The Junior Sailor of the Quarter was YN2(SW/AW) Joseph Williams from Compton, CA.

We were also blessed to have the wife and very young daughter of MA1 Joshua to be our guests for this day: Mrs.

Asami Joshua and daughter Zariah Joshua

Local restaurants honored the Sailors with gift certificates. We are grateful to have the assistance of these restaurants on Main Street, Seal Beach: Avila's El Ranchito Mexican

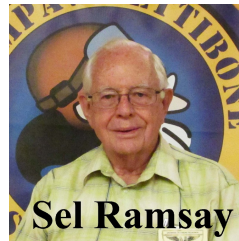
Restaurant, Beachwood BBQ, Bistro St. Germain, and Seaside Grill. On PCH in Seal Beach are: Coach's Sports Grill, Finbar's Italian Restaurant, Glory Days Grill, and Yucatan Grill. On PCH, in Long Beach is MIMI's, and in Newport Beach is The Crab Cooker. The support of these restaurants is vital to the success of our honoring the Sailors of the Quarter. Also, USAA provides attractive commemorative coins for each SOQ.

The GREAT GUYS

Here are some of the Great Guys who have made contributions to Gramps in May. 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.

Vincent van den Brink

Tim Brown, Peter Cherbak, Bob Helton, Chris Kretsinger, Ray LeCompte, Cindy Macha, Joe Murphy, Rafi Rahamin, and Bill Thompson,



Sel Ramsay

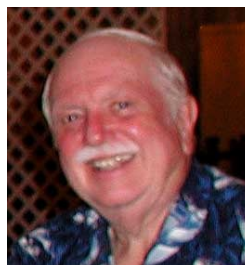
MEMBERSHIP

By Sel Ramsay
NEW MEMBER

This month's new member is Joseph Murphy. Joe enlisted in the Navy in 1969, serving two tours in WestPac aboard the guided missile destroyer escort USS Schofield (DEG 3) as a Fire Control Technician. After discharge from active duty, Joe attended Cal State University - Long Beach, getting degrees in Psychology and Mathematics.

He has worked with Bank of America and Amdahl Corp. as a computer software engineer; and EMC Corporation, making printed circuit boards for computers. Joe retired earlier this year.

WELCOME ABOARD



From the
FLIGHT SURGEON
Bob Helton MD
COLD, FLU,, OR ALLERGY

Common cold: symptoms last up to two weeks; stuffy, runny nose, sore throat, cough. Treated with rest, fluids, over-the-counter medications.

Seasonal flu: Symptoms usually last 1-2 weeks- high fever (100-102 degrees Fahrenheit) headache, aches and pains, weakness, exhaustion, cough, chest discomfort. Treated with rest, fluids, over-the-counter medications, prescription anti-viral drugs.

Airborne Allergy Lasts as long as the allergens are present: stuffy, runny nose, itchy, watery eyes. Treated with antihistamines, decongestants, nasal steroids.