

Toooo Weeeettt..Attention on Deck...Now hear this...Standby to hear a message from the bridge.... **“Saints January newsletter”** ...Arriving!

**ALSO ON SAINTS WEBSITE**



## **VA-163 SAINTS GRAM**



**KEEPING THE MEMORY ALIVE**

**Distance and time may separate us**

**but friendship and memories won't**

Dedicated to those who have invested their lives to the cause of Freedom in America! God Bless our Men and Women who are (or Have) in any way or manner served to protect our Great Nation and the freedom we have.

And God Bless the United States of America.

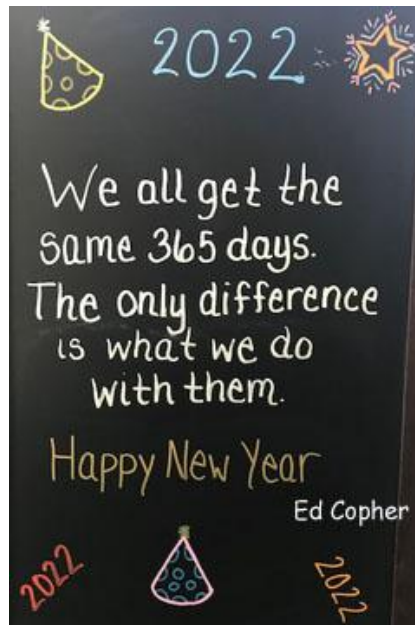


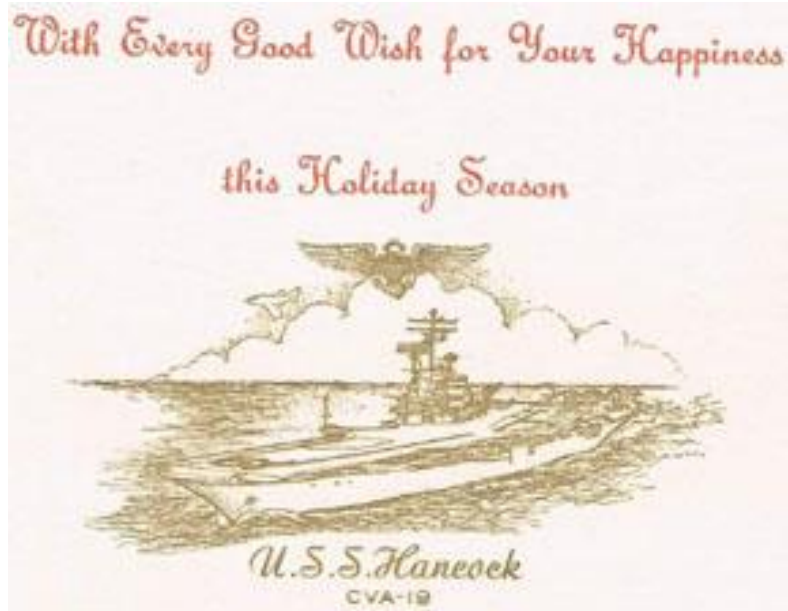
2022

20th Year Edition

Established Nov 2002

VOL 1 Issue 227





"Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, today is God's gift, that's why we call it the present"

**Stay Safe, Be Healthy, Be Well, Salute to all you heros**

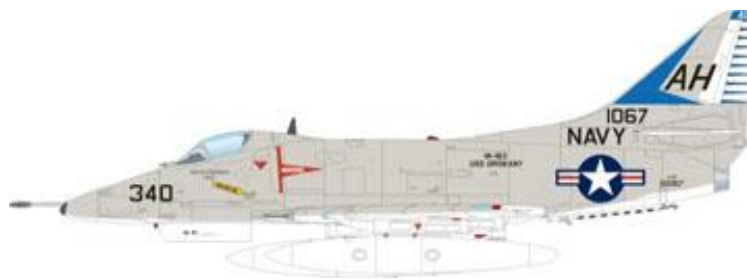
**Military Enlistment Oath:** I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution Of The United States against **all enemies, foreign and domestic**; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States.

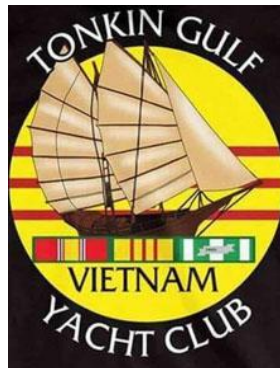
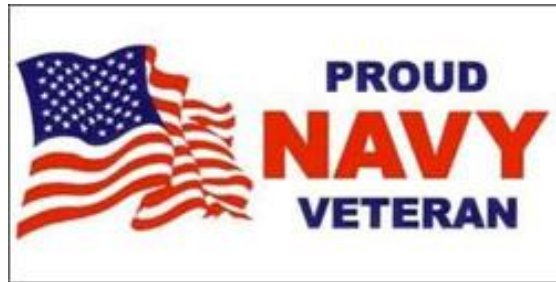


**P**atriot

**pa·tri·ot** *Noun*  
[pey-tree-uhz, -ot or, esp. British, pa-tree-uhz]

A person who vigorously supports their country and is prepared to defend it against enemies foreign and domestic.





Standing the Watch



Ed Copher, Editor, "Saints Everlasting Keeper of the Flame"

**"Keeper of the Flame"**

Memories glimmer and hide in the dim shadows  
Daring us to ‘...catch me...if you can!’...  
As time steadily treads its own meandering path,  
It’s hard to trace old members of the clan.  
Then someone steps up with lantern and blade  
Shouting, “Let’s gather them in for us all, good neighbor!  
We’ll bring forth those hidden in the shade, and  
Share them with one and another!  
“I’ll keep that flame high and the blade ever sharp,  
That our friends may never be lost in the dark!”

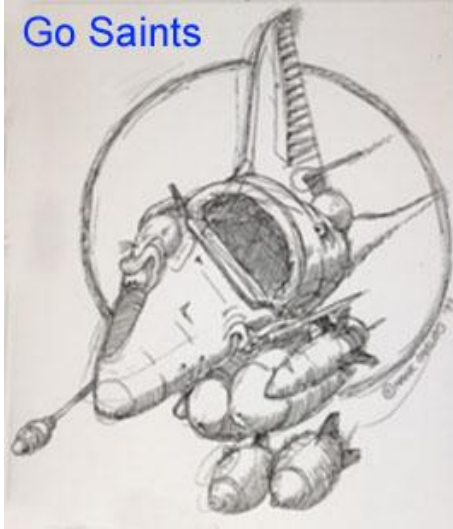
**ONCE A SAINT, ALWAYS A SAINT**



**Tailhook Navy**









ATKRON 163





## *Saints Photos Website*



<http://www.flickr.com/photos/va163saints/sets/>

Also on Saints website, PHOTOS section

**Contains 80 Albums.... 4,832 Photos**

**View Counts as of 4 January 2022**

**“Over a million views”**

**1,115,622 views**



**New Album: "Saints Reunion Virginia Beach"**  
49 photos & 1 video

Click on link below

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/va163saints/albums/72157720165688053/with/51698826279/>

\*\*\*\*Paid \$63.95 to Flickr.com for Saints Photo website on 01 April 2021

**\*\*\*SAINTS WEBSITE\*\*\***

**THE WEBSITE HAS THE LATEST NEWSLETTERS AND ROSTER**

Saints website [www.va163.org](http://www.va163.org) password: **Saints4ever** capital S

**30,336** Visitors since Mar 09

**History, Latest Info, Photos, In Memoriam, Miscellaneous, Newsletters, Links, Recall  
Roster**

\*\*\*Total cost for the Saints Website is \$293.97 per year

**\*\*\* 5 OCT 2021 paid \$306.75 to "GoDaddy" web  
hosting for 2 year renewal \*\*\***

15 Jan 2020 paid \$120 to “Webmaster” for maintenance of site, annual renewal

01 March 2021 paid \$14.45 for “Domain Name” one year renewal

Any donations are appreciated

Ed Copher

1211 Gruene Vintage

New Braunfels, TX 78130

Folks that have sent in “**website**” donations 2017-21: A big shout out...”Thank You”

Ken Adams

Raymond Baker

Dave Carey

Ed Chadwick

Dennis Dooley

David Farley

JC Ferris

Bob Feuillerat

Earl Groff (3)

Tom Harwood

Bill Houk

Tom Kline (2)

Dale & Mary Landroth

Daniel Lestage (2)

George Lundy

Roger Meyer

Pete Munro

Floyd Oakes

Richard Odegaard

MA Petty

John Roosen (2)

Bill Sargent

Fritz Schroeder

John Shore (2)

Lucy Sticklely

James Thompson

Bill Tomko

Anthony Stabile

Lucille Sticklely (3)

James Marcely (VA-164)

Steve Cutting (VA-164)

Tommy Wimberly (other)

**Folks that have donated to the “Saints Flower Fund”: Thank You**

*Flowers have been sent to 7 funerals*

Ken Adams

Raymond Baker

Dennis Dooley

Earl Groff

John Roosen

Thomas Harwood

Griff Sexton

Ed Chadwick

Daniel Lestage (2)

Lucille Stickley (3)



**Need to keep Rick Sprague in our thoughts and prayers:**

Presently in the hospital in Michigan

Submitted by Anthony Stabile, 4 Jan 2022

AE2 Rick "Bear" Sprague is in the hospital in MI and (I think) he is not doing well. His wife reports that he always enjoys hearing from his old Saints shipmates!

Phone: 517-242-7810 Email: [rspague@4wbi.net](mailto:rspague@4wbi.net)

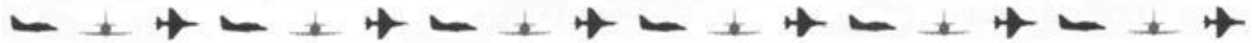


**Saint Charlie "Tuna" Stender** is the new Skyhawk Association SDO Coordinator



Added Three to the Website Memorial Section:

1. Michael Moulton
2. Russ Weidman
3. Bill Isenhour





Gruene Hall

Stay warm, Saints





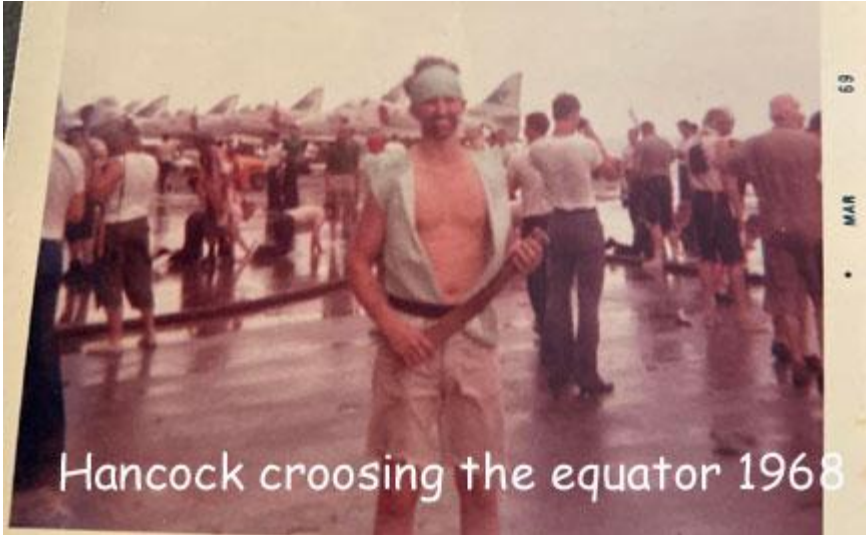
Oriskany 1966



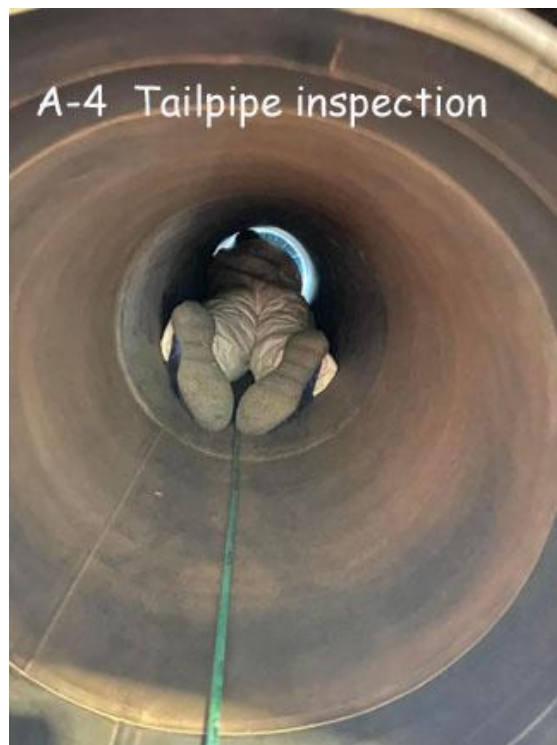
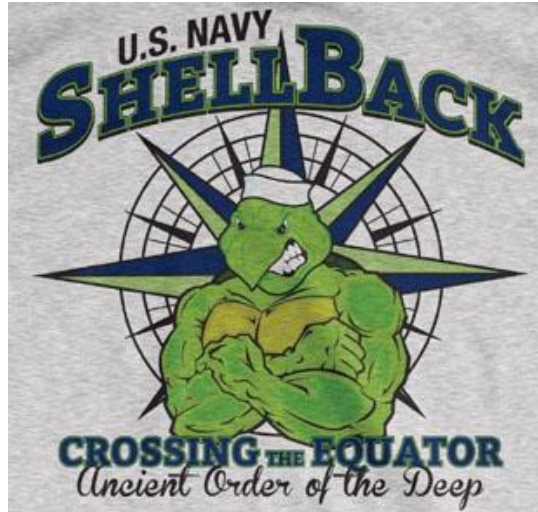
Oriskany model







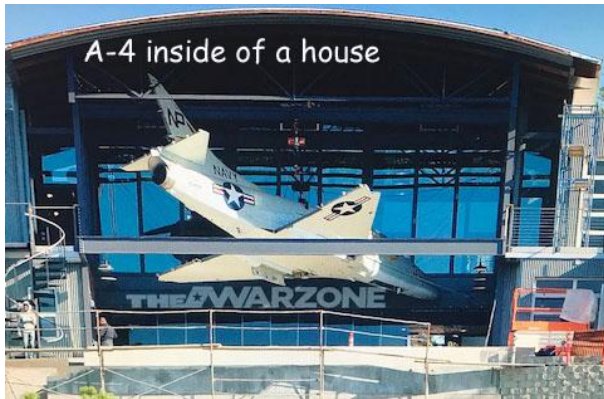
Crossing

















[Join the “VA-163 Saints” Facebook group:](#)



Please join the “**VA-163 Saints**” Facebook group. Updates on reunions etc. and other interesting Saints postings. You can post pictures and other info for others to enjoy. Just go to Facebook Groups and search for **VA-163 Saints**. Ed Copher is the group administrator and will approve your joining.



[Oriskany Dive video, to the Brig:](#) 6 Dec 2021

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/28616026909/permalink/10157960059966910/>

[Oriskany Dive video, to the XO’s stateroom and Officers Mess:](#) 31 Oct 2021

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/28616026909/permalink/10157960065921910/>



# U.S.S. ORISKANY CV-34

## KOREAN WAR SHIP'S COMPANY

PHAN Thomas L. McGraw, Jr.

AE3 Thomas M. Yeager

### AIR GROUP SQUADRONS

#### VF-62

LTJG. James M. Weaver

#### VF-121

ENS. Randolph T. Scoggin

#### VF-22

LTJG. Ralph N. Mew  
LTJG. Roy Taylor

#### VA-923

LT. George A. Gaudette, Jr.  
LTJG. James A. Hudson  
CDR. John C. Micheel

## VIETNAM WAR SHIP'S COMPANY

LTJG. Dewey L. Alexander  
SA Peter Chan  
LTJG. Ramon A. Coppel  
SN Jimmy M. Dolan  
CDR. Richard E. Donahue  
SN Robert L. Dyke

LCDR. Omar R. Ford  
LT. Frank M. Gardner  
LCDR. William J. Garrity, Jr.  
SN James K. Gray  
JO3 Raul A. Guerra  
CDR. Jack H. Harris, CARDIV-9

AA Greg E. Hart  
LTJG. James B. Hudis  
CDR. Harry W. Juntilla  
LTJG. James A. Kelly, Jr.  
SN James A. Leo  
LCDR. Walter F. Merrick

CDR. Charles D. Metzler  
BM3 Donald W. Shanks  
BM3 Alvin M. Shifflett, Jr.  
LTJG. Franklin M. Tunick  
LT. Edwin W. Van Orden, Jr.

### AIR WINGS AND SQUADRONS

#### CVW-16

CDR. Rodney B. Carter  
LCDR. Donald V. Davis  
LT. Lloyd P. Hyde  
LCDR. Jesse J. Taylor

#### VFP-63

LT. Joseph R. Klugg  
LT. Henry S. McWhorter  
LTJG. Robert D. Rudolph

#### VA-163

LT. Malcolm A. Avore  
LCDR. Ralph C. Biaz  
CAPT. Roy H. Bowling  
LCDR. James E. Dooley  
LT. Ralph E. Foulke, Jr.  
LCDR. Jeffrey M. Krommenhoek  
LT. Clarence D. Miller  
LCDR. Clement J. Morissette  
LTJG. Thomas E. Spitzer  
ENS. Ronald E. Tardio

#### VAW-111

ATC Roland R. Pineau  
LTJG. Donald F. Wolfe  
LTJG. Andrew G. Zasu

#### CVW-19

CAPT. Donald D. Aldem, GAG

#### VA-23

LT. Stanley K. Smiley

#### VAQ-130

ADJ2 Barry A. Bidwell  
LTJG. Raymond V. Deblasio, Jr.  
LT. John R. Painter, Jr.  
LTJG. Charles S. Taylor

#### VF-111

LTJG. Cody A. Baisters  
LCDR. Norman S. Levy  
LTJG. William G. McWilliams, III

#### VA-152

LCDR. James A. Beene  
LTJG. Robin B. Cassell  
CDR. John A. Feldhaus  
LT. Charles W. Fryer  
AO3 Dale A. Lash  
AZAN David A. Lisle  
CDR. John J. Naasbaumer  
LT. Edg D. Taylor  
ENS. Darwin J. Thomas

#### VA-164

LCDR. John F. Barr  
LTJG. James L. Brewer  
LTJG. William H. Ballard  
CDR. Frank C. Edkins  
CDR. Richard D. Hartman  
LT. David L. Hodges  
LTJG. William A. Johnson  
LTJG. Fredric W. Knapp  
LCDR. Richard C. Perry  
CAPT. Trent R. Powers  
LCDR. Daniel L. Strong  
CDR. Clyde R. Walsh  
AMSS Richard M. Woynarshi

#### VAH-4

CDR. George K. Parris  
AE Charles D. Hardin  
ENS. Bruce M. Patterson  
LCDR. James A. Smith

#### VF-125

LTJG. Lawrence S. Mailben

#### VF-162

MAJ. Robert G. Bell, USAF  
ENS. Charles W. Boggs  
CDR. Terry A. Dennison  
CDR. Herbert E. Hunter  
ADMIRAL Wayne A. Michalak  
LCDR. Richard W. Minnich, Jr.

#### VA-153

CDR. Thomas P. Frank

#### VA-155

LT. Daniel V. Borah, Jr.  
LT. Leon F. Haas

#### VAH-61

CDR. James R. Dennison  
LT. Terrence H. Hanley  
PHCS Henry H. Herrin, Jr.

#### VF-191

LT. John B. Martin, II

#### VF-194

LT. Richard B. Lindberry

#### VAW-11

LTJG. William R. Clements  
LT. John F. Francis  
LTJG. Norman L. Roggove

#### HC-1

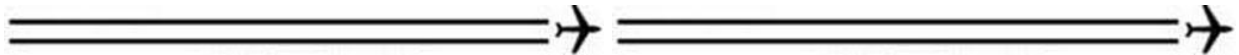
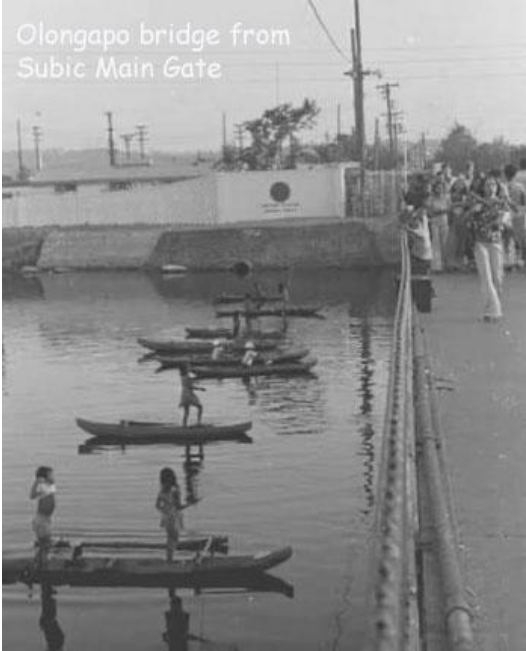
LT. Jocelyn F. Biskate, Jr.  
LT. Julian D. Hammon, Jr.  
ENS. Daniel O. Kim  
LTJG. Gerald W. Siebe  
FN William Walling  
LTJG. James R. Walsh

DONATED IN FOND MEMORY BY WINGMEN, SHIPMATES AND FRIENDS



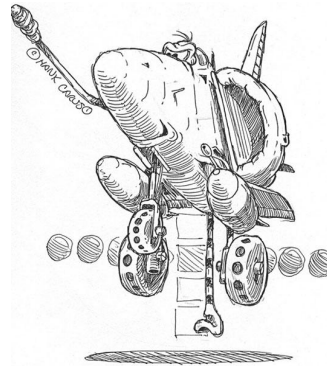


Olongapo bridge from Subic Main Gate



[Navy Band doing White Christmas:](https://youtu.be/LPAqyC6GMw8)

<https://youtu.be/LPAqyC6GMw8>





**The Skyhawk Association** has 797 members, 14 Saints are members

**Home page:** Click here: [Home Page | The Skyhawk Association](#)

**VA-163 page:** [VA-163 | The Skyhawk Association](#)

**YouTube page:** [Skyhawk Association - YouTube](#)

Please join the **Skyhawk Association**. A great **Quarterly Magazine**, allot of A-4's and Saints articles.

Only \$30 per year.

**To Join:** <http://skyhawk.org/>

## Websites of Interest

**BOMBS AWAY!**

**Oriskany Websites:** USS Oriskany (CVA 34) 25 Sep 1950 / 20 Sep 1979 Stricken from Navy List 1989. Sold 9 Sep 1995, but the contractor defaulted. Repossessed by the Navy and contract terminated 30 Jul 1997. Sunk off the coast of Florida 17 May 2006 for use as an artificial reef. Click on the ship name for a complete history.

1. Great Oriskany Photos from Dive Shop Pensacola: [www.mbtdivers.com](http://www.mbtdivers.com)
2. The best pictures of the reefing. Going to her final resting place: <http://www.irishmansoftware.com/Oriskany.htm>
3. Oriskany Reunion Association: [www.ussoriskany.com](http://www.ussoriskany.com)
4. Video of Big O going under: <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-1401279762745553286&q=oriskany>
5. Patriot Media "The Mighty O": <http://patriotmediainc.com>
6. Oriskany Dive Video & Photos: [http://www.oriskanycharterboats.com/oriskany\\_photos.htm](http://www.oriskanycharterboats.com/oriskany_photos.htm)



7. Diving Oriskany Reef, 25 March 2007: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9l-wYnlBZis>
8. Oriskany Cruise Books on CD's: A. <http://glewis.us/obooks.htm>  
B. <http://navysite.de/cruisebooks/cv34-67/index.html>  
C. <http://navysite.de/cruisebooks/cv34-67/index.html>
9. Oriskany 1967 Vietnam Combat Cruise, DVD sale: [http://www.cv41.org/GRS/uss\\_oriskany\\_67/index.html](http://www.cv41.org/GRS/uss_oriskany_67/index.html)
10. Oriskany Information and History/Pictures: <http://www.pnj.com/newsfiles/oriskany/index.shtml>
11. Oriskany model: <http://www.motionmodels.com/ships/cv/>
12. USS Oriskany Photo Galleries: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/7437991@N08/galleries/72157622440145584>
13. USS Oriskany History 1972: <http://www.ussoriskany.com/id17.html>
14. USS Oriskany digital Cruise Book Project <http://glewis.us/obooks.htm>
15. Oriskany 1970...Flight Ops: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mXaKTJIVxHM&feature=email> 10 min
16. Oriskany Memorial Dive for Saint Ralph Bisz: Saints logo patch placed on Oriskany, 20 Sept 2010 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YqNETwJvF3A> 7:13 min video
17. Oriskany Dive to put Saint Larry Spear's ashes to rest on Oriskany: 03 Dec 2010 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aBnOkCrDnQo> 7:25 min video
18. Saints Video on YouTube: Dennis Lund video filmed on the Oriskany including the Oriskany fire! <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DJ5ykZjRaIM>
19. Tour of Duty photo site: 3000 photos, some Saints <https://www.flickr.com/groups/435090@N22/>
20. USS Oriskany Fire & Sinking: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IS2uky8K5Jk> 42 min video
21. 1963 TOUR OF THE USS Oriskany: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e92t7kgV\\_Ws](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e92t7kgV_Ws) & <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k9Mh975VCII>
22. O Boat Sinking Video: 24. <http://trib.al/t69QQT4>

23. Oriskany Video: With F-4's [https://youtu.be/e92t7kgV\\_Ws](https://youtu.be/e92t7kgV_Ws)

24. USS Oriskany Alumni: "facebook page" and gallery has some great photos. Go to Facebook to join the group

**Ed Copher Oriskany Fire Interview:** Done at Virginia Beach on 5 Nov, 30 min video  
[ED COPHER RAW INTERVIEW https://f.io/oxWyqbJo](https://f.io/oxWyqbJo)

**Huggin the Deck video:** 54 min video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eSgDIS5I9s8>

**John Shore 1965-66 WestPac Video:**

<https://youtu.be/pWeBAyWfP8>

**USS Hancock:** Scotty Moore - The USS Hancock ("Hannah")

[http://scottymoore.net/USSHancock.html?fb\\_action\\_ids=620396487990408&fb\\_action\\_types=og.likes&fb\\_source=other\\_multiline&action\\_object\\_map=%7B%22620396487990408%22%3A325920780869208%7D&action\\_type\\_map=%7B%22620396487990408%22%3A%22og.likes%22%7D&action\\_ref\\_map=%5B%5D#NASNI](http://scottymoore.net/USSHancock.html?fb_action_ids=620396487990408&fb_action_types=og.likes&fb_source=other_multiline&action_object_map=%7B%22620396487990408%22%3A325920780869208%7D&action_type_map=%7B%22620396487990408%22%3A%22og.likes%22%7D&action_ref_map=%5B%5D#NASNI)

**Lots of Oriskany Info:**

<http://www.navsource.org/archives/02/34.htm?fbclid=IwAR0Onwxj0QPhQRFLCmZ6wzytPb9D9YpRVSIB2Ea6cKhhUKm2gP0SECiqj-k>

**A-4 Skyhawk Wikipedia:**

[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Douglas\\_A-4\\_Skyhawk?fbclid=IwAR0ICpJW03arF1pU2JU3uv5vccB2Y4S9\\_UXVE\\_mmsKY7KuXYttPrc0oH2UM](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Douglas_A-4_Skyhawk?fbclid=IwAR0ICpJW03arF1pU2JU3uv5vccB2Y4S9_UXVE_mmsKY7KuXYttPrc0oH2UM)

**Amazing Carrier Landing:**

[https://fb.watch/8szS\\_yQV97/](https://fb.watch/8szS_yQV97/)

**Website on the A-4 Skyhawk** with much interest as I am very keen to commission and publish further books on this beautiful and iconic aircraft. More on us can be gleaned here:

<https://www.fonthill.media/products/phantom-pilot>

If you are interested in possibly connecting and discussing a proposal on the A-4 Skyhawk or a pilot/ground crew memoir, please do not hesitate to contact me. [j.slater@fonthillmedia.com](mailto:j.slater@fonthillmedia.com) via [fonthill.onmicrosoft.com](http://fonthill.onmicrosoft.com)

**Oriskany Amature flight deck videos:** From Facebook

1. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/28616026909/permalink/10157816002016910/>
2. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/28616026909/permalink/10157815770641910/>
3. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/28616026909/permalink/10157815786321910/>

**Landing on Oriskany Video:**

[https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=gm2jT6Ftn3E&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR23MVLfw69KhDsQ9A5BFS3tAEGzT\\_dBFHtHXMHL-GsiBh7TUxnRSdL-1Cs](https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=gm2jT6Ftn3E&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR23MVLfw69KhDsQ9A5BFS3tAEGzT_dBFHtHXMHL-GsiBh7TUxnRSdL-1Cs)

**A-4 Inflight Crash video:**

<https://fb.watch/8jyVi92eJh/>

**Oriskany Sinking video:**

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=F2-Aew7SMO8&fbclid=IwAR2xrucXr7I2IaUx8SM98-IIDXp>

[Ai3](#)

**Vietnam Memorial Wall Faces:**

154 service members with names inscribed on The Wall were born on Oct. 23. Their photos are spotlighted today on the Wall of Faces. Every day,

the Wall of Faces changes to honor those who were born on that day. Join us in remembering them today and each of the 58,279 service members with names inscribed on The Wall. Search The Wall here: [vymf.org/wall-of-faces](http://vymf.org/wall-of-faces)

**Oriskany Video Clip:**

<https://youtu.be/-UbU3iMj4zw>

**Petula Clark, Sailor 1961**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4-r0ngPEHkg>

**Oriskany in Bridges of Toko-Ri:**

[https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=bIFuGFBw\\_yI](https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=bIFuGFBw_yI)

**Sailor Song 1961**

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=share&v=4-r0ngPEHkg>

**Veterans Benefits Newsletter from the VA:**

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVAVBA/bulletins/27794cb>

**Military Aircraft photos:**

<http://www.doyletics.com/tidbits/militaryadvice.pdf>

**Oriskany Dive 9 Feb 2020:**

<https://vimeo.com/390358620>

**Blue Angels A-4 Video:**

<https://www.navalhistory.org/2020/01/24/how-the-navy-got-a-hit-recruiting-video-from-van-halen>

**High Flight by John Denver:**

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=1xNGgWNRUf8#>

**F-18 Parking on Flightdeck:**

<https://fbwat.ch/1vthAlcaGlvADom4>

**A-4 Launch 1962:**

<https://www.facebook.com/100026351565698/posts/312902602931456?d=n&sfns=mo>

**I Stand:**

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/2eBxVxO0nh4>

**Blue Angels In Flight:**

[https://www.wearethemighty.com/blue-angels-cockpit-footage?utm\\_source=facebook&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_campaign=Evergreen&utm\\_term=Veterans&utm\\_content=blue-angels-cockpit-footage](https://www.wearethemighty.com/blue-angels-cockpit-footage?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=Evergreen&utm_term=Veterans&utm_content=blue-angels-cockpit-footage)

**Blue Angels Cockpit...**

[WATCH: BLUE ANGELS - Footage Inside the Cockpit](#)

**Saints WestPac 1965-66 Video:**

Saint John Shore had his 8 mm movies converted to a DVD. He said it only took him 50+ years to get it put together. I took the DVD and uploaded it to YouTube.com. What a task for this rookie YouTube user, took many hours, first had to convert the DVD to Mp3, and that took hours of work. Then upload to YouTube took many steps to get accomplished. Click on the link below to view on YouTube.

**LINK** address: <https://youtu.be/bwuTIK544cQ>

**Oriskany Sinking Article & photos:**

<https://fighterjetsworld.com/naval/the-u-s-navy-blows-up-aircraft-carrier-sets-world-record-that-still-stands/10506/>

**181 Pictures from Oriskany, including inaction Fire photos:**

No need to log in.

<https://genelewis.smugmug.com/SLIDE-GALLERY-FROM-JAMON-KENT-PH2/>

**NAS Lemoore April 1968:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5sRIO4kvjVE&feature=youtu.be>

**SAINTS ONBOARD (260 Names)**

## **“Muster Call”**

**Revised 04 January 2022**

**New or changed address:**

Admiral Compton has a new home phone number: 334 654 5060. His son David has moved to Demopolis and is the best source to get information on or to the Skipper. David's phone number is 571-286-6161 and email [dtcompton3@gmail.com](mailto:dtcompton3@gmail.com)

**See website roster**

*Please advise if you have any additions or corrections.*

**Complete Muster Call can be found on the Saints website –**

[www.va163.org](http://www.va163.org) password, *Saints4ever* **capital S**



***Happy trails to you....until we meet again.....*** <https://g.co/kgs/3FJhs4>