

Toooo Weeet... Attention on Deck... "Saints...July newsletter"...Arriving!

ALSO ON SAINTS WEBSITE

VA-163 SAINTS GRAM

-I-
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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.



2020

17th Year Edition

Established Nov 2002

VOL 1 Issue 209



Stay Safe, Be Healthy, Be Well

It will come to pass

To all the healthcare workers; thank you for your service.

“All Lives Matter”

God Bless our Military and Law Enforcement



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!"

Keeper of the Flame, Song by Miranda Lambert

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=ydE6lzd-VQ>



ONCE A SAINT, ALWAYS A SAINT





ATKRON 163



[Click Here](#)

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

Also on Saints website, PHOTOS section

Contains 80 Albums (Sets)... 4,832 Photos

Total

937,350 views



****Paid \$49.99 to Flickr.com for Saints Photo website on 17 Nov 2019



*****SAINTS WEB SITE*****

THE WEBSITE HAS THE LATEST NEWSLETTERS AND ROSTER

Saints website www.va163.org (password: *saints4ever* (all lower case))

17,789 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**

4 Sept 2019 paid \$286.34 to “GoDaddy” web hosting for 2 year renewal

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

04 Mar 2020 paid \$14.45 for “Domain Name” one year renewal

Any donations are appreciated

Ed **Copher**

176 Landa Street #210

New Braunfels, **TX 78130**

Folks that have sent in “website” donations 2017-20: A big shout out...”Thank You”

Ken Adams

Raymond Baker

Dave Carey

Ed **Chadwick**

David Farley

JC Ferris

Bob Feuillerat

Earl Groff

Tom Harwood

Bill Houk

Tom Kline

Daniel Lestage

George Lundy

Roger Meyer

Pete Munro

Floyd Oakes

MA Petty

John Roosen

Bill Sargent

Russ Stickley

James Thompson

Bill Tomko

Anthony Stable

Lucille Stickley

James Marceley (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 4 funerals

Ken Adams

Raymond Baker

Russ Stickley

Earl Groff

John Roosen

Thomas Harwood

Griff Sexton

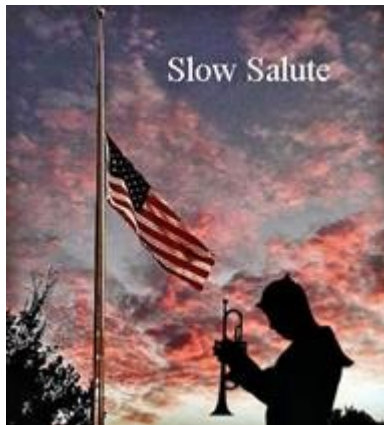
Ed **Chadwick**

Daniel Lestage

Lucille Stickley



TAPS:



AMS -2 Russell E. Stickley (Saint Nov 1960 - Jun 62)



Obituary:

<https://www.gehrigstitchapel.com/memorials/russel-stickley/4238972/index.php>

From his wife Lucy:

It is with heavy heart that I am writing to tell you Russ passed away 8 June here at home.

He was diagnosed with lung cancer just three weeks ago, it had already spread throughout his body, and we kept him here at home until he slipped into a coma and passed away on 8 June.

Please let all the Saints know. We made just about all the Saints Reunions, he was hoping to be able to make it to another reunion, but just know he loved the military and was so proud he served. We had just past our 61st wedding anniversary. His funeral will be on 16 June at the First United Methodist church here in Sidney, NE.

We both have enjoyed the Saints Newsletters and I have been reading them to him, because the macular degeneration had taken most of his eyesight.

Thank You Ed for lovely
Military Bouquet from VA 163.
So pretty with the flags and
the Blue Square vase. They
were so pretty. Russ would have
been so proud. He dearly loved
to be a part of the Squadron
and his special Navy friends.
You are doing and have been
doing a fine job keeping us
all informed on the newsletters
of all the happenings.
Thank You.
Lucy Stickley

The family of
Russel Stickley
acknowledges with deep
appreciation your kind
expression of sympathy.



An Original Saints Plank Walker:



Legends of Stockdale:

Submitted by Tony Chibbaro:

Last night on PBS TV - after the program "The Roosevelt's" was a 30 minutes program - "Legends of Air Power" - on the late **Admiral Bond Stockdale** - the ONLY 3-star Admiral ever to have been a fighter pilot and to have been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

By age 12 he knew that he wanted to attend the Naval Academy - he did - was a brilliant student - later on an exceptional pilot.

In 1964 while a pilot aboard the USS Intrepid - he responded to the supposed attack by the North Vietnamese upon the two **USS Turner Joy and Maddox** - there NO such attack - he knew it and the Navy reported such - Lyndon Johnson LIED / LIED to the Congress and to the American people. Actually, the two Destroyers were in the Gulf hoping to entice the North to attack them - there was NO attack.

Stockdale actually fired the first shots of the war - leading a flight to attack oil depots in the North.

Stockdale could have elected to be assigned as an instructor at the Naval Academy - instead was 'CAG' aboard the Oriskany in 1964 during mission #202 that he was shot down over the North.

While a POW - Stockdale actually tried to commit suicide - NOT because of the torture - he was afraid that the North Vietnamese would force him to write a 1964 issue of 'Navy Times' and a story of how he had been a pilot aboard the Intrepid responding to the supposed attack on the Maddox and that he would be forced to tell the truth - that there was NO attack.

An excellent book co-written by Stockdale and his wife Sybil is - "In Love and War".

Tony Chibbaro



New Braunfels, **Texas**





Was put down
Oriskany
smoke stack,
Memorial for
Rodney Young
on June 2020
by H2O Dive Team



Big O
Sasabo, Japan
1967

USS ORISKANY CVA 34

BUILT BY NEW YORK NAVY YARD

DEPLACEMENT: 42,000 TONS
 DIMENSIONS: 808 FT OVERALL LENGTH, 103 FT BEAM, 31 FT DRAFT
 MAIN MACHINERY: 4 BOLLERS, 4 GEARED TURBINE SETS, 4 SHAFTS, 210,000 SHP FOR 33 KTS
 ARMAMENT: 78 AIRCRAFT, 4 5-INCH GUNS
 CREW: 340 OFFICERS, 2950 ENLISTED MEN

FINAL DISPOSITION: SUNK ON 17 MAY 2006 AS AN ARTIFICIAL REEF IN THE GULF OF MEXICO
 212 FEET DEEP AND 24 MILES SOUTH OF THE COAST OF PUEBLA, V.

900 DIGITAL DATA RECORDS

U.S.S. ORISKANY
 COMMISSIONED
 15 SEPTEMBER 1954

U.S. NAVY
 15 SEPTEMBER 1954
 DECOMMISSIONED
 15 SEPTEMBER 1974

Oriskany Painting with A-1 Spad





Oriskany enroute to Vietnam 1967



This is the guy who makes squadron patches

From: Oliver Aguas <oliver@aviatorgear.com>

Patch and Coin Designer aviatorgear.com

If **you can**, please send me your design ideas.

From Saint Mark D Morell <mkdm0@aol.com> wrote:

It would be **VA-163 patches** don't know about how many yet. Am gonna send to members of the Tonkin gulf ya
served with And see if the fellow members are interested

Don't remember the size been 50 years

From: Oliver Aguas <oliver@aviatorgear.com>

To: Mark D Morell <mkdm0@aol.com>

Hello Mark D Morell,

Thanks for the email! Can you please let me know the following?

How many patches were you looking to order? Please note that we have a minimum of 50 for initial patch orders. Future reorders can be a
size would the patches be? What squadron or organization would the patches be for? What is the shipping address? Is there an NLT date y
receive the patches by? With or without Velcro backing? By default, our patches are quoted with Velcro backing. Subtract \$0.30 with ever
Velcro.

Once I have this info I can provide a price quote and get an artist started on a first draft of the artwork for you.



1972





The Skyhawk Association has 797 members, 14 Saints are members

VA-163 page: <http://a4skyhawk.info/article-unit/va163>

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

Only \$30 per year.

To Join: www.A4skyhawk.info.org



Websites of Interest

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

1. Great Oriskany Photos from Dive Shop Pensacola: 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
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
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

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=k9Mh975VCII>

22. O Boat Sinking Video: 24. <http://trib.al/t69QQT4>

23. Oriskany Video: With F-4's https://youtu.be/e92t7kgV_Ws

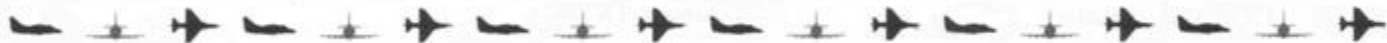
24. USS Oriskany Alumni: "facebook page" and gallery has some great photos. Go to Facebook to join the group

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



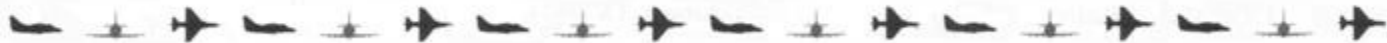
Oriskany in Bridges of Toko-Ri:

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=bIFuGFBw_yI



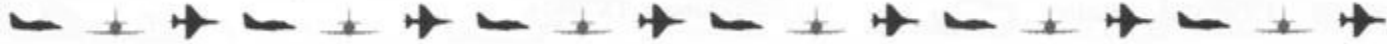
Sailor Song 1961

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



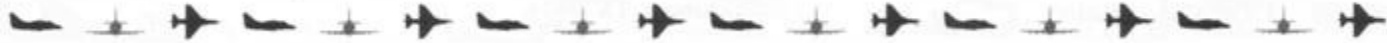
China Navy Training video:

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=zeJqxUMzN64>



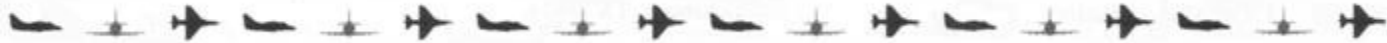
Veterans Benefits Newsletter from the VA:

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



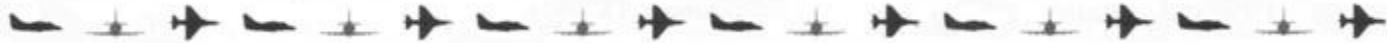
Nice Military Aircraft photos:

<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&



Blue Angels Cockpit...

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



Saints WestPac 1965-66 Video:

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 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:



SAINTS ONBOARD (260 Names)

“Muster Call”

Revised 03 July 2020

New or changed address:



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
(password, *Saints4ever*) capital S**

