

Toooo Weeet... Attention on Deck... "Saints March 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.

# March 2021

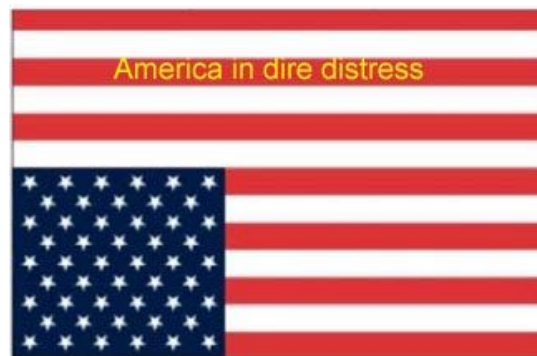
18th Year Edition

Established Nov 2002

VOL 1 Issue 217



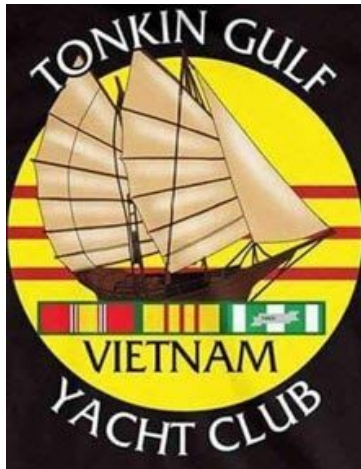
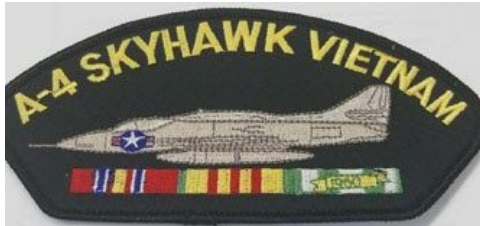
Stay Safe, Be Healthy, Be Well



**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.

**It was a record cold February winter in Texas.....**





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!”

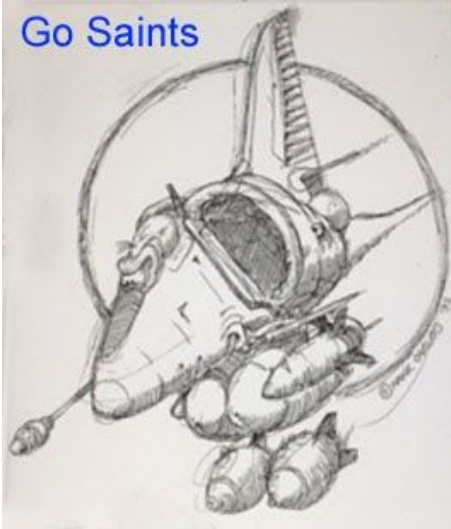
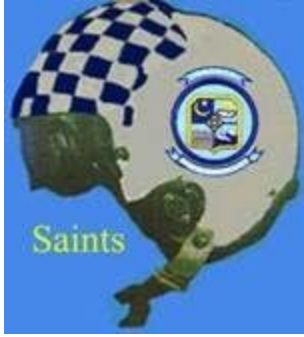
Keeper of the Flame, Song by Miranda Lambert

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=ydE6lzdad->Very was

## **ONCE A SAINT, ALWAYS A SAINT**







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 03 March 2021**

**“Over a million views”**

**1,113,678 views**

\*\*\*\*Paid \$59.99 to Flickr.com for Saints Photo website on 02 Feb 2021

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

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

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

**19,750** *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

1211 Gruene Vintage

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 (2)

Tom Harwood

Bill Houk

Tom Kline

Dale & Mary Landroth

Daniel Lestage

George Lundy

Roger Meyer

Pete Munro

Floyd Oakes

MA Petty

John Roosen

Bill Sargent

Fritz Schroeder

John Shore (2)

Lucy Sticklely

James Thompson

Bill Tomko

Anthony Stabile

Lucille Stickley (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

Earl Groff

John Roosen

Thomas Harwood

Griff Sexton

Ed Chadwick

Daniel Lestage

Lucille Stickley (3)



**John Roosen's wife passed away: Joanne H. Roosen....RIP**

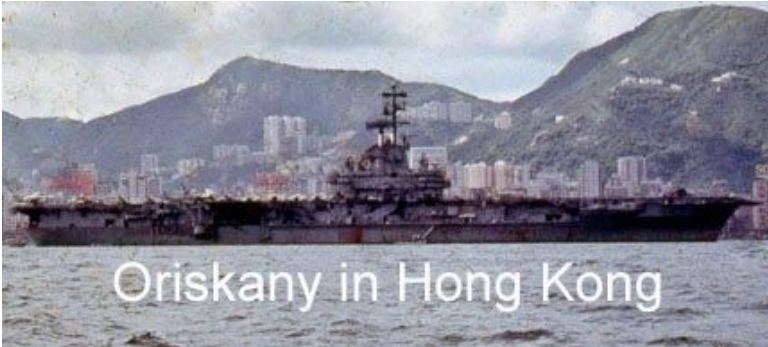
Submitted by Ed Chadwick: I just learned that John Roosen's wife of 60 years, Joanne, died on February 15th. Their address is N7740 County Road J., Menomonie, WI 54751. Please keep them in your prayers.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/joanne-roosen-obituary?pid=197784181>



## [Digital Winter Edition of The A4ever Journal](#)

Every year we produce 4 journals - 3 hardcopy and one digital. The digital edition is now available on the website. To download a copy go to [skyhawk.org](http://skyhawk.org) and click on the Journal cover. A copy will be downloaded to your device. No need to sign in. Enjoy





The USS Oriskany sinks yesterday 24 miles off the coast of Pensacola Beach, Fla.

JEFFREY P. KRASIS, U.S. Navy

# Old carrier makes final voyage

### Navy program sinks ship to create reef, diving attraction

BY MELISSA NELSON  
Of The Associated Press

**IN THE GULF OF MEXICO** • As hundreds of veterans looked on solemnly, the Navy blew holes in a retired aircraft carrier and sent the 888-foot USS Oriskany to the bottom of the sea yesterday, creating the world's largest manmade reef.

The rusted hulk took 37 minutes to slip beneath the waves, about 4½ hours faster than predicted, after more than 500 pounds of plastic explosives went off with bright flashes of light and clouds of brown and gray smoke.

Korean and Vietnam War veterans aboard a flotilla of 300 charter boats watched from beyond a 1-mile safety perimeter as the "Mighty O" went down in 212 feet of water, about 24 miles off Pensa-

cola Beach.

Lloyd Quiter of North Collins, N.Y., who served four tours on the ship in Vietnam, played the attention-all-hands signal on his boatswain's pipe, and wept.

"I'm a little stunned. It's a little hard to take," he said.

The carrier went down stern first, the bow lifting up into the air and creating a giant spray of water as it came down. The blue ocean churned a foamy white as the deck — bright orange with rust — slid under. Hundreds of surrounding boats blew their horns in tribute.

The Oriskany (pronounced oh-RISK-uh-nee) became the first vessel sunk under a Navy program to dispose of old warships by turning them into diving attractions.

Other ships have been turned into reefs, including the warship USS Spiegel Grove, a cargo vessel that was scuttled in 2002 off Key Largo. But that was a civilian project, paid for with county

and private money.

The Oriskany, commissioned in 1950 and named after an American Revolutionary War battle, saw duty during the Korean War and was home to John McCain when the Navy pilot and future senator served in Vietnam. It was also among the ships used by President Kennedy in a show of force during the 1962 Cuban missile crisis. It was decommissioned in 1976.

McCain was shot down over Hanoi in 1967 after taking off from the Oriskany and was held as a prisoner of war for five years.

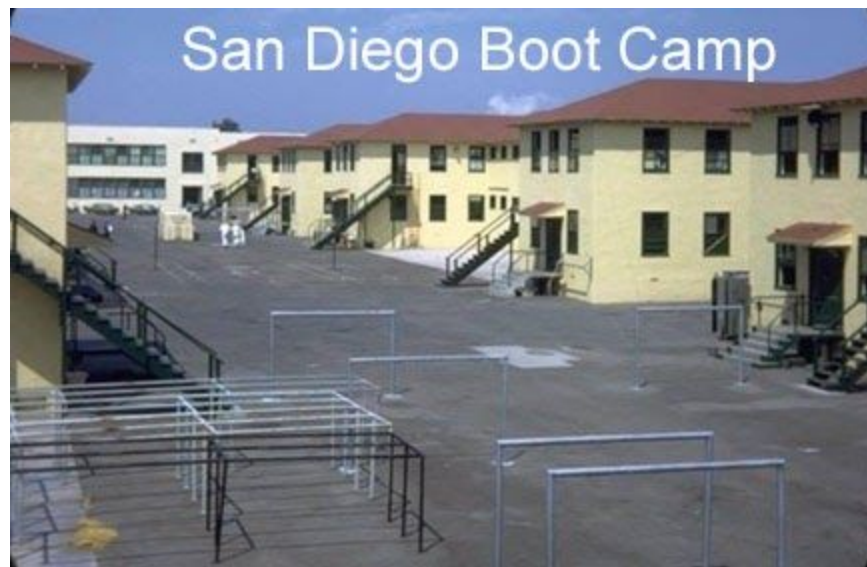
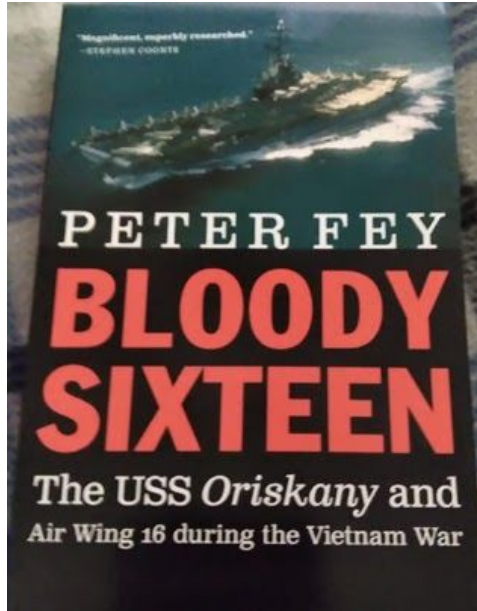
"It was a small, old carrier that fought very valiantly, and I'm very proud to have been a part of the air wing that served with great courage and distinction," McCain told CNN yesterday.

The Environmental Protection Agency in February approved the sinking of the ship, which had toxins in its electrical cables, insulation and paint. EPA officials said the toxins will slowly leach out over the estimated 100 years it





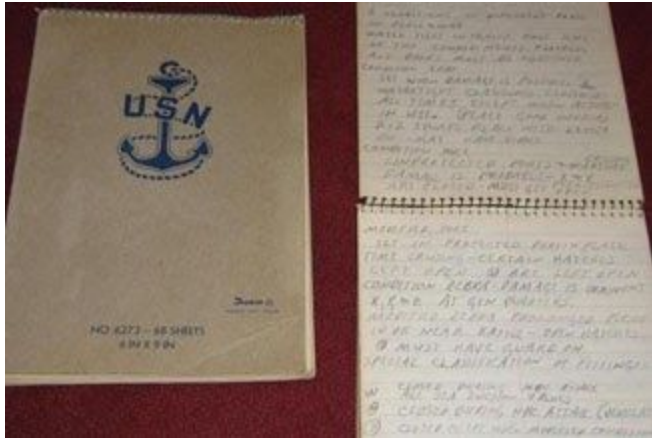
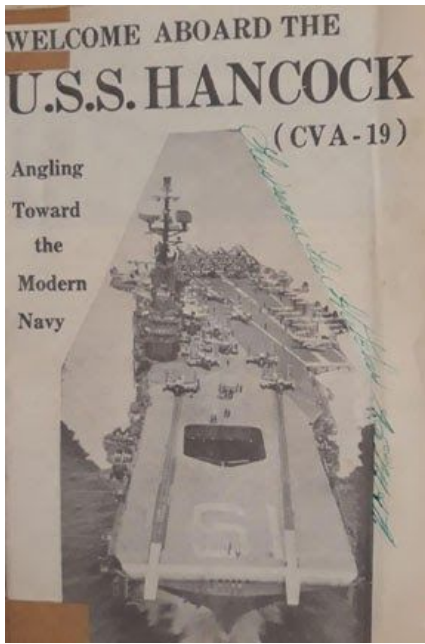








San Diego  
Boot Camp







Balut, duck eggs

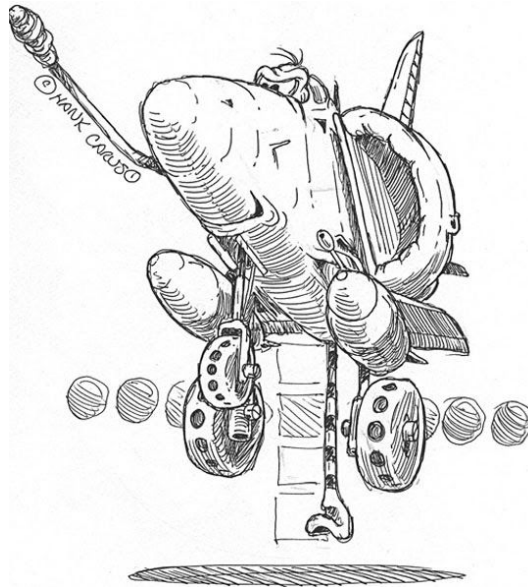


[NAS Lemoore websites](#): 2 videos

1. <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=sWOdFgJSS8o>



2. [https://fb.watch/3-tvv\\_r2CX/](https://fb.watch/3-tvv_r2CX/)



**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:** <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 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](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-wYnIBZis>
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

**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>

**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)



**Veterans Benefits Newsletter:**

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVAVBA/bulletins/2ae5164>

**Oriskany Sinking video:**

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=F2-Aew7SMO8&fbclid=IwAR2xrucXr7I2IaUx8SM98-IIDXpAi3gBQX0IIEp4Fb6JPagec-xEZFeeVHU>

**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: [vmf.org/wall-of-faces](http://vmf.org/wall-of-faces)

**Oriskany Video Clip:**

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

**A-4 Vietnam Magnet:**

[https://www.teepublic.com/magnet/8726181-douglas-a-4-skyhawk-vietnam-veteran?feed\\_sku=8726181D21V&utm\\_source=google&utm\\_medium=cpc&utm\\_campaign=Agency\\_Within\\_Shopping\\_AllDesigns&gclid=Cj0KCQjw-O35BRDVARIsAJU5mQWMJuS72eubdxmx2vtcaunkAOWtSgDb1aq1iRqXkESu76z5ldq\\_yJMaAsMIEALw\\_wcB](https://www.teepublic.com/magnet/8726181-douglas-a-4-skyhawk-vietnam-veteran?feed_sku=8726181D21V&utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=Agency_Within_Shopping_AllDesigns&gclid=Cj0KCQjw-O35BRDVARIsAJU5mQWMJuS72eubdxmx2vtcaunkAOWtSgDb1aq1iRqXkESu76z5ldq_yJMaAsMIEALw_wcB)

**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>

**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&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:**

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:**

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

# **SAINTS ONBOARD (260 Names)**

## **“Muster Call”**

**Revised 03 March 2021**

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>