

Toooo Weet... Attention on Deck...“Saints...November 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.



16th Year Edition
Established Nov 2002
VOL 1 Issue 192



Standing the Watch

Ed Copher, Editor, “Saints Everlasting Keeper of the Flame”

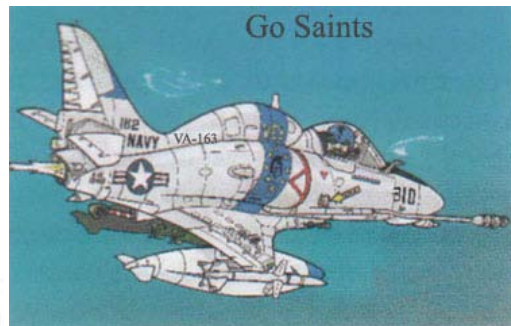
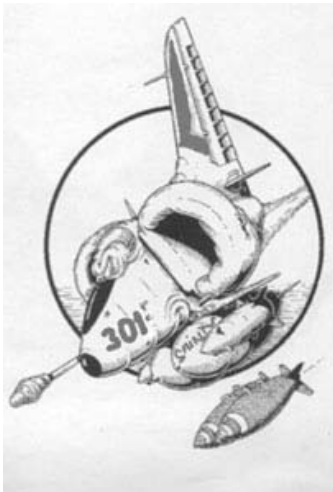
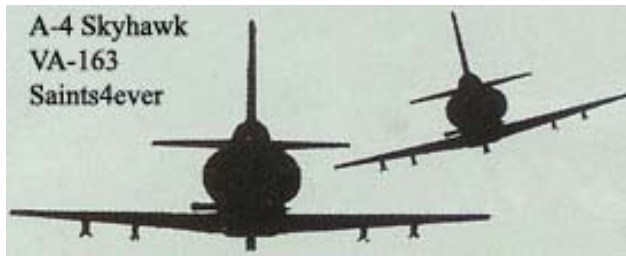


Saints Tradition

An old Saints tradition is that friends who have not seen or heard from each other for long periods of time never question their friendship. These friendships resume at the same time they left off regardless of distance and time between them. We call these friends “**Family**”.

Saints Motto

“Fight by Night or Day, Land or Sea”



ONCE A SAINT, ALWAYS A SAINT



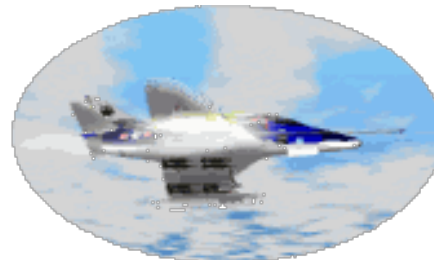
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Douglas_A-4_Skyhawk







Birds of a feather... Flock Together





[Click Here](#)

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

Also on Saints website, [PHOTOS](#) section

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

View Counts as of 03 November 2018

Photos

843,971 views

Albums

31,105 views

Total

902,733 views



www.Flickr.com charges \$24.95 per year to keep the [SAINTS Photo Albums](#) on their web site.

****PAID the \$24.95 annual Flickr photo site fee on 15 Nov 2017****



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

THE WEBSITE HAS THE LATEST NEWSLETTERS AND ROSTER

Saints website www.va163.org (password: *Saints4ever* (capital S))

15,211 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**

New Fee: Webmaster Maintenance Fee. \$120 p/year (paid Jan 2018)

*****Paid 30 Jan 2018: the annual webmaster fee of \$120*****

***** Paid 22 Feb 2018: Domain Registration \$26.90 for 2 years, next due 31 Mar 20**

***** Paid 31 Mar 2018: Domain Protection \$4.50**

Jim Houston, **Webmaster** for www.VA163.org began charging for maintaining the Saints website. He is only asking \$10 a month (\$120 p/year).

Any donations are appreciated.

Ed Copher

176 Landa Street #315

New Braunfels, TX 78130



Skipper Compton's 90th Birthday video & pictures:



From Ed Chadwick:

Here are some emails and pictures that report the recent 90th birthday celebration for the Skipper. Pictured left to right are: John {Mild Man} Miles, Ken [Mule] Adams, George [Moose] Lundy, Gordon [Goose] Hunter, life size cut out of Admiral Brian [Magnolia] Compton, Ed [Gentle Ed] Chadwick, Admiral Jerry [Felter] Breast, Dale [Step and a Half] Landroth, and Allan [The Flying Quack] Adeeb. Also attending and missing from the picture are Richard [Ode] Odegaard, John [Fritz] Schroeder, Griff [The Baron] Sexton and our beloved leader. It seems straight arrow Denny Earl was introduced to Olongapo by Moose not so straight Lundy. The East End Club was where some of the officers hung out for cultural enlightenment as well as training in animal husbandry. The picture below brings back happy memories, although I know of no one who saw the establishment in the daylight. While the Skipper may have some memory problems, he preformed admirably, even leading his officers in the "Saints Go Marching In" scuffle with song, while aboard a stern wheeler. A separate email will show many more pictures of the gala event. Ed Chadwick

Happy un-Birthday to the Skipper and Bravo Zulu to David and the crew. 'Twas FAR better than a Moose Lundy tour of Olangapo!
Denny & Diane

On Tue, Oct 30, 2018 at 12:42 PM David Compton <davidtcompton@hotmail.com> wrote:
gentleman, it truly was a pleasure seeing dad interact with you guys as I know Dad really Treasures your friendships. I'm enjoying getting to know you and I hope I hope I can attend your future get-togethers. we'll see how dad is doing. I'm not sure if you know it but he has actually been diagnosed with Alzheimer's. Obviously you could see some decline. However I thought he was in high spirits and high function during the parties. Kind Regards,. David

To All:

What a great weekend of eating, drinking, and sharing sea stories plus going to bed very early.

For those of you there, it was a great pleasure to see you all and honored to be in your distinguished presence for a monumental event. We should all be so fortunate to live to be ninety and have such great family and friends to help celebrate.

For those who were unable to attend, you missed a superbly organized event with wonderful food and the ultimate deepest south hospitality. We can hope there will be a next Saints reunion, and that we can all be there. Any place or other ideas, please send a note to Ed Chadwick or me.

Keep smiling and all the best,

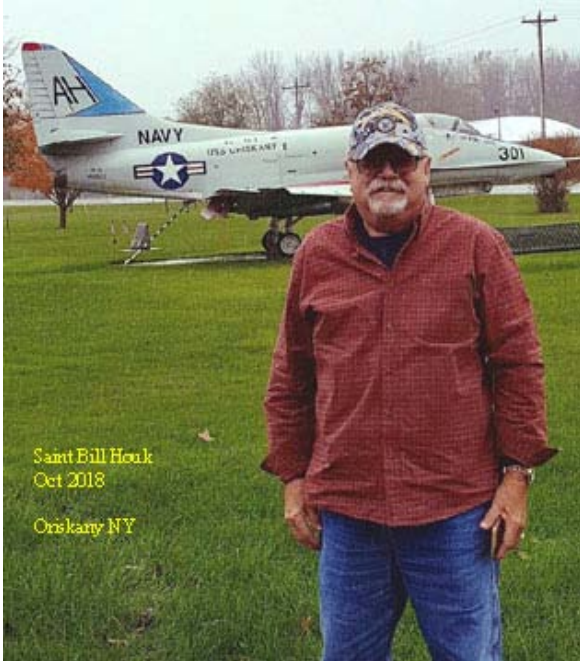
Moose

1. http://doseckes.com/q/ZKAaVhAU5i_bqxIcU1rjkA **Video**
2. <https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipMZ21ozDW4zyn7GwsQed9xBg-3YDbYPZ12DDnIU58o-06fz2dTIOjiAvKaipfdcKg?key=ZkZFc1o4MXVoc1FLXzhiSGVvMWl4aW5Sa3hsMzIR>
3. <https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipOTOzCTxIU--mqPcT3bKsJAdIRL2Et7Biwox46uKRFE4VoJArmBd137jMhQKHCmMA?key=ZXFBSjZkU0QzQzNhb0ZpVXIyQ1YwNkNtQVJQMkln>
4. https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipO16OU4_7IJEUVooEa78D7z2J7zLayAm0rzBWogadRF86lcNaKI-53ie5vj6AZfA?key=dXpKR2lnTml0YnpuM0NIWFILa29ka1M4VzhZbGxR **12 pictures**
5. https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipPXVlbuRMkfdtRZFX26q8cbrYeOk4-OawqLIRcir3tXUkprGBWbQajC0_6xECMX_w?key=b3dNZ3RWb2tpN01COUxOdHI0cF9HMTJGM3kwZ0ln **12 pictures**



[Bill Houk visit to Oriskany Museum in New York:](#) Oct 2018

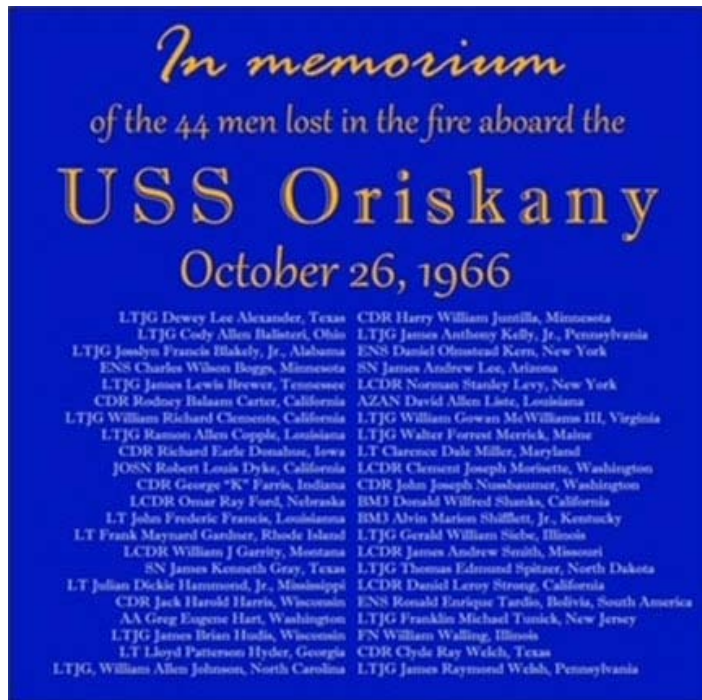
Bill donated his Saints Flight Deck gear to the Museum



Saint Bill Houk
Oct 2018
Oriskany NY



[Oriskany Fire was 52 years ago on 26 Oct 1966:](#) 44 great men lost their lives



Written by Saint Robert Lee: I feel like I wrote this; could have wrote this same thing, Ed Copher
Bob is a Saints Plank owner, assigned in to VA-163 in 1961

26 October 1966

The morning fire ball lit the sky

It was another day for us to fly
Two sorties each pilot had to make
Twenty four hours we must work without mistake
We slept and ate when we could
It was never long but it was always good

The pilots were exhausted like their crew
We had been like that a month or two
The night flights were done and the birds were all back safe
The Oriskany turned into the wind to begin another race
We were preparing for the daylight raids that now would take nights place
Bombs were on the hanger deck with fuel hose strung to the planes
Munitions not exploded were parked into their lanes

Magnesium flares 4 feet long had come back on that night
We hung them from a copter to light the way for troops down in the fight
We would drop them from a jet to light the folks below
So we could lay down Napalm, it made a lovely show
Death from above is clean and sweet
When it is people you will never meet
The flares were made safe by a key removed when they were loaded

A key someone forgot to get when they came back unexploded

The ship was turned into the wind the crew was in a race
A dead tired crew, with explosives new, in that crowded space
Not to play with matches is what I heard my mother say
But the Navy told two teenage boys to stow those flares away
They did what they were told and put them in the explosive locker
Until the last one just ignited it really was a shocker
The boys did not know what to do
So they did the wrong thing that is true

They threw it in the locker and they batten down the door
I guess they thought it would go out when the air was no more
The ship sounded general quarters and the fire control team was on the spot
But when they got to that locker it was burning bright and hot
They could not get inside it no matter how they tried
The steel was burning red hot and all that touched it soon was fried

Fire travels fast throughout a ship that's made of steel
Steel is no barrier to heat transfer, it is a deadly deal
Pressure grew inside that locker till it could hold no more
Then it blew across the hanger deck into the quarter's door

A fire ball shot down the corridor where the officers stay
And burned the lungs of anyone that dared get in its way
It lit up crafts on the hanger deck and they began to burn
Smoke jammed down the corridor because we made that turn

Into the wind that now brought smoke and death we very soon would learn

Cabins were now death traps were men died from smoke before they burned
One commander that I knew said "This is not my day to die"
He stripped down to his skivvies, then got naked as could be
And he squeezed out of his port hole, that's the way that he got free
Then he jumped into some fire gear and helped us in our fight
He worked just like an enlisted man well into the night

We finely got the fire out and the ship was still afloat
We transferred dead and dying on to another boat
We limped back down to Subic Bay where we patched her up again
Then sailed her home to Hunters Point where they put her damage to an end

I think about these events and I cannot let them go
I dream about the men we lost and the ones I did not know

In early morning when I wake, particularly each fall
I see them in the ceiling and shadows on the wall
Forty Four souls died that day, and submitted to Gods call
Why did it have to happen? Where would you place the blame?
It was not those teenage sailors that the Navy soon would name

If you would listen to my tale I will tell you what I think
It was those fools in Washington that drove us to the brink

From Saint John Roosen:

I can appreciate the horrors that the survivors of the big "O" fire went through, being a survivor of the Forrestal fire in 1967 and then cross decking to VA-163 on the O boat 6 days later. The general public does not appreciate the problems that the average service member faces everyday in the service of his country whether in combat or not.

From Marvin Johnson, VA-164

It is 52 years ago when we experienced that dreadful fire on the USS Oriskany on October 26, 1966. I've made 3 west PAC cruises to Vietnam, first 2 cruises on the Oriskany, the third cruise on the USS Hancock. I'll never forget my first cruise on the Big O, the fire that start in the flare locker, starboard side, first compartment forward of the first hanger bay that killed 43 men.

We fought that fire for at least 12 hours, before we got it under control. I was an AE (Aviation Electrician in VA-164) not a fire fighter, but I volunteered to get in line in the passage way to help carrying the salt water hose, and the water on the deck between the hatches was almost boiling hot, we had to stand with one leg in water & alternate.

Our shipmates were carrying bodies out that was burnt so bad, you couldn't determine if the body was a white man or a black man. The smell of burnt human flesh is a strange smell, one I'll never forget. Some memories are hard to forget, especially the bad ones! October 26, 1966 was like a mini Dec 7, 1941 for us, but the enemy was entirely different, it was carelessness.

The fire was started by magnesium flares that was stored in the flare locker, first compartment starboard side, forward of hanger bay one. The fire started exactly 7:20 am, according to Capt John H. Iarrobino, skipper of the Might Big O.

The ordinance crew that was handling some magnesium flares in the flare locker, was tossing them to each other, and one fell to the deck, and ignited. As you know, once magnesium starts burning, it will continue to burn, and nothing but time will put it out!

Approximately 7:30, I was awoken to an unusual fire drill alarm. As I laid in my rack on my fart sack, I was thinking to myself, I've never heard of a fire drill at sea. I've seen fire drills in port, but never at sea, especially on Yankee Station.

It was about five minutes later; Capt John H. Iarrobino got on the PA system and announced General Quarters!! My designated GQ Station was my AE work shop which was located just above the fan tail.

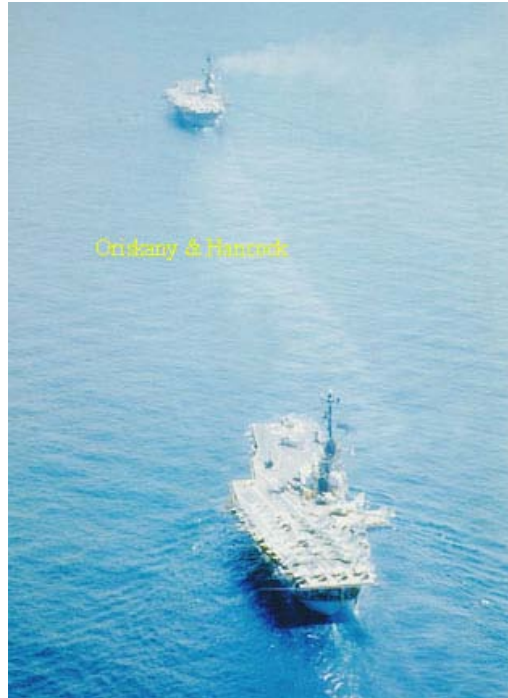
In all the confusion, I managed to get dressed, and exit the berthing area which was also above my work shop. As I was walking through the hatch to the ladder (stairs) to go down to my GQ Station which was my work shop, the air was filled with smoke, we couldn't see our nose in front of us, and we couldn't breath! So we managed to make it up to the flight deck, to get some fresh air. When we got to the flight deck, and caught our breath, we experienced a state of urgency that we never experienced up to that day. A co-worker of mine, Bob Richard & I decided to go down to hanger bay one area to help fight the fire.

As I said in previously, we got in line with the salt water hose, and help carried it forward in the starboard passage way, working our way through officer country.

Our dead shipmates were stored in our food reefers below decks, until we got back to PI. A lot of us lost our appetite to eat in the mess hall, so we ate sea rations until we got to Subic Bay.



[181 Pictures from Oriskany, including inaction **Fire photos:**](https://genelewis.smugmug.com/SLIDE-GALLERY-FROM-JAMON-KENT-PH2/) No need to log in.
<https://genelewis.smugmug.com/SLIDE-GALLERY-FROM-JAMON-KENT-PH2/>



From Robert "Bob" Lee: One of the first Saints to be assigned to VA-163

Steven's Song

He soars in and out the waves, just three inches o'er the water
An Albatross is good luck every sailor tells his daughter
For when that bird sails so near,
We know there's nothing left to fear.

Now my friend he was an airman and he flew aboard our chopper
When planes were landing on our deck they were the only stopper
To save downed pilots from their slaughter
When their planes would fall into the water
Many a man had they saved
From Davy Jones watery grave

The day was done, and it was fun, we'd put the birds away
I went down to the fan tail to enjoy my end of day
To smoke my cigarette and drink my coffee that was black
To think about the day's events before I hit the sack
I saw two long white ribbons tail behind that boat

They were from the ship screws and made a long wide moat
In between those long straight lines raged “St Elmo’s Fire”
I was suddenly awakened and filled with great desire
To see that great winged bird soars above the waves
For every sailor knew that it saved us from our graves

The sea it was quite clam and the weather it was fair
But there simply was no bird, there was no savior there
Then I looked up from my cup, and the copter was quite near
It would land upon the flight deck, there wasn’t any fear
A deed it’s done a hundred times when all the flights had ended
With all the pilots safe on board their work was now suspended
The chopper passed above my head to take its landing space
In the doorway I could see my friend Steve’s smiling face
Then as the chopper left my sight I heard a dreadful clatter
A rain of wood and steel came down, and then I knew the matter
A stray antenna had been raised, it was a big mistake
It caught that chopper by its blade and everything did brake
That chopper flew across the deck and in the sea it fell

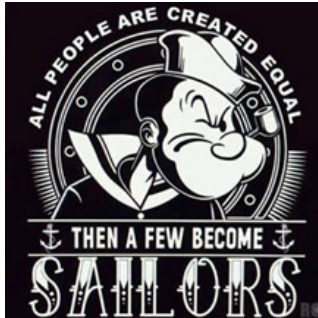
Then I heard my shipmate yell “Oh what the bloody hell”
While I was frozen in my fear, my shipmate who was standing near
Grabbed a buoy that was there and tossed it high into the air
And then the engines roared as the ship began its turn
The deck it was now slanted as the waves began to churn

That big ship had momentum and it took 5 miles or more
To bring it back to that buoy that was tossed out of our door
At that buoy I saw two heads popping in and out of the waves
Then the captain’s yacht approached and two men they were saved
The pilots were strapped in and safe so they could quickly flee
But Steve he was about the cab it was his job you see
They said he must have hit his head when he fell back from that door
But all I know, is from that day I would see Steven nevermore

Now those that die in bloody battle have honors heaped upon their head
They get metals, they get movies made, but it’s hardly ever said
That the boys that died like Steven are heroes just the same
And so I’ll tell his story and try to give his name some fame
I tried with rhyme and reason, to right a long gone wrong
So hear me and remember, that this is Steven’s song



[USS Oriskany Reunion in Bremerton, Washington:](#) Sept 2018



SCUTTLEBUTT

Latest was heard at the "Gedunk"

The Smoking Lamp is out due to JP-5 Jet Fuel in the drinking water.
Cold Saltwater showers "only" due to no fresh water.

Remember: The soap will not rinse off in cold saltwater shower....



[Skyhawk Association Magazine for Fall 2018:](#)



[The Skyhawk Association has 797 members, 14 Saints are members](#)

Ed Copher is the Association SDO for VA-163 Saints and VA-125

[Skyhawk Association Links:](#)

Association main page: <http://a4skyhawk.info/>

[VA-163 page:](http://a4skyhawk.info/article-unit/va163) <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.

[Skyhawk Association Digital Journal:](#) Feb 2017

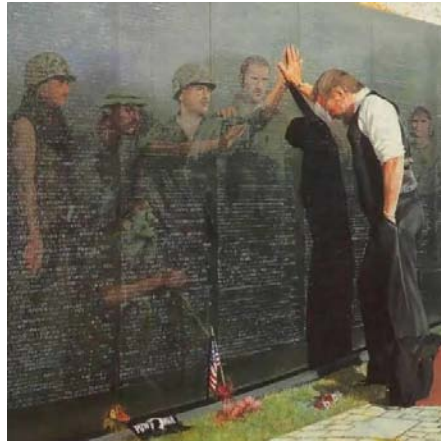
This year's digital edition can be found at: <http://a4skyhawk.info/article-journal-public/skyhawk-association-journal-public-page1>

[Skyhawk Association Journal - THE A-4ever](#)

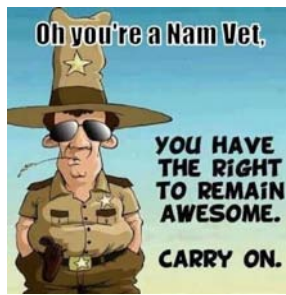
a4skyhawk.info

Our "Members Only" Journal is published twice yearly and contains excellent textual and color image examples of the historical and current activities of one of the ...

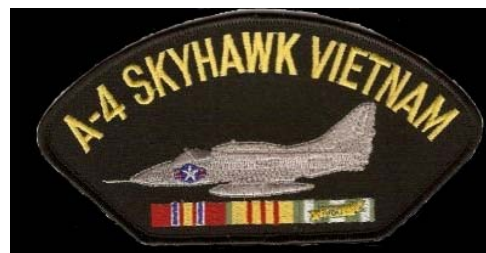




Agent Orange Troop



Vietnam War Resources:



Below is a link to a web site about the war in Viet Nam. Whether you are a Viet Nam veteran or not, you may find this web site very interesting because it contains an absolutely enormous amount of information about the war. <http://www.cc.gatech.edu/~tpilsch/Vietnam.html>



[Vietnam War Resources, Data Site: Amazing accumulation](#)

ALMOST ALL YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT VIETNAM AND A LOT MORE:

This is probably the best search list ever compiled about Vietnam. It would take months to look at everything this site offers. Click on the link: <http://www-static.cc.gatech.edu/fac/Thomas.Pilsch/Vietnam.html>

[Life Magazine Vietnam War Photography:](#)

<http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=Life+Magazine+Vietnam+War+Photography&go=&form=QBIR>



[Newsletters are on Saints Website:](#)

Go to [Saints Website](#), click on [Newsletters](#),

To view the Roster: click on [Roster](#), then [Complete Roster](#), password: **Saints4ever** (capital S)



****Websites of Interest****

Oriskany Web Sites:

<u>USS Oriskany (CVA 34)</u>	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.
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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: 1. <http://glewis.us/obooks.htm> 2. <http://navysite.de/cruisebooks/cv34-67/index.html> 3. <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. [USS Hancock](#): Click here: Scotty Moore - The USS Hancock ("Hannah")
20. [Tour of Duty photo site](#): 3000 photos, some Saints <https://www.flickr.com/groups/435090@N22/>
21. [USS Oriskany Fire & Sinking](#): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IS2uky8K5Jk> 42 min video
22. [1963 TOUR OF THE USS Oriskany](#): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e92t7kgV_Ws &
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k9Mh975VCII>
23. [O Boat Sinking Video](#): <http://trib.al/t69QQT4>
24. [Oriskany Video](#): With F-4's https://youtu.be/e92t7kgV_Ws
25. [USS Oriskany Alumni](#): "facebook page" and gallery has some great photos. Go to Facebook to join the group.

[VA-164 Lady Jessie documentary video](#):
<http://doseckes.com/q/Hh25zIVFA0D4TXaTBVDFLw>

[181 Pictures from Oriskany, including inaction Fire photos](#):

No need to log in.
<https://genelewis.smugmug.com/SLIDE-GALLERY-FROM-JAMON-KENT-PH2/>

[ADM Stockdale History](#):
<http://usnhistory.navylive.dodlive.mil/2015/11/13/navy-legend-vice-adm-stockdale-led-pow-resistance/>

[49 plane flyover](#):
Click here: Arrowhead Stadium, 49 plane flyover - YouTube

[Great Military Commercial](#):
https://www.youtube.com/embed/uoABty_zE00?rel=0

[Skyhawk Association](#): Scroll down for articles about VA-163 and other units. Also about NAS Lemoore.

David Weber (AKA "Twidget") one of our website volunteers has developed a site map for the Skyhawk Association website. Dave has written the computer code which will allow users to simply click on a particular link and go directly to that location on the web. There is also a "Glossary" located in the Ready Room under the heading "Finding Stuff". We hope you find these latest web tools useful. Thanks to all for volunteering to be an SDO. Your efforts are greatly appreciated. Thanks as always, George

NOTE: IN the Ready Room; there is a link to a "Glossary"

<http://a4skyhawk.info/home>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/article/notices>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/page/faq-research-contact>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/article/association-membership>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/article/association-online-membership-payment-options>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/article/association-leadership>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/page/scooter-ships-store-and-px>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/page/links>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/page/terms-use>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/article-journal-public/skyhawk-association-journal-public-page1>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/page/light-attack-mission>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/article/skyhawks-vietnam>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/article/vietnam-navy-deployments>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/article/vietnam-marine-air-bases>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/article/vietnam-conflict-targets>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/article/a4-vietnam-moh>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/article/navy-cross>

future silver stars page.

<http://a4skyhawk.info/article/indonesia-skyhawk-combat-sorties>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/article/israeli-ayits-skyhawks-combat>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/article/argentine-skyhawks-malvinas>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/article/kuwait-skyhawks-gulf-war>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/page/heritage>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/page/midway-rr3>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/article/squadron-common>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/page/flight-operations>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/article/early-naval-aviation>

<http://a4skyhawk.info/article/carrier-landings>

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Navy Commercial:

<https://www.facebook.com/USNavyAircraftCarriers/videos/10156139765898669/>

Article about Stockdale:

<https://www.facebook.com/Tailhook.Association/posts/1613398878698053>

Vietnam Wall--THIS IS AMAZING!

This is really sobering. First click on a state. When it opens, scroll down to the city where you went to high school and look at the names. Click on the name and it will give details of the person's death, a picture or at least their bio and medals.

This really is an amazing web site. Someone spent a lot of time and effort to create it.

I hope that everyone who receives this appreciates what those who served in Vietnam sacrificed for our country.

Pass the link on to others, as many knew wonderful people whose names are listed.

<http://www.virtualwall.org/iStates.htm>

Vietnam Aircraft Losses:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_aircraft_losses_of_the_Vietnam_War

Vietnam Song:

<https://www.facebook.com/TheVeteransSite/posts/1724893187572582>

Blue Angels with A-4's:

<http://www.avgeekery.com/watch-blue-angels-reborn-flew-4f-skyhawk/>

How A-4's Ruled the Sky's:

<http://nationalinterest.org/blog/the-buzz/how-the-4-skyhawk-ruled-the-skies-21967>

Skyhawk Videos:

This is for the A4 Skyhawk enthusiast .Got this from my Nephew in law. I love to see those Bombs and Rockets go off "ON TARGET" and successfully complete the mission. I took many Skilled and brave Pilots and many hard working and skilled crew to do these 12 to 16 hours a day. Hard to believe I used to load the Ordinance so many, many years ago, where did all those muscles go?

www.youtube.com/watch?v=6IQymtxjt24

www.youtu.be/1mfdRvzUVtM
www.youtube.com/watch?v=WgwEWSjzwz8

VA-164 Video: Miss Jessie and Ghost Rider 401

Dick Perry of the O-boat's VA-164 and the saga of Miss Jessie.

<https://www.facebook.com/DosEckes-Productions-362988187722/?pnref=story>

The Blues Flving the A-4

Oh the good old days. Scooter drivers prepare to shed a tear.....

The best Blue Angel show of all time. A-4's. Here is a video of them from the '70's. Bear Smith and Skip Umsted are the last two guys walking towards the camera before they get to their planes. They both died later in aircraft accidents. The crazy solo is Denny Sapp. Best show for the spectators because it was close to show center. Always in sight. **Tightest diamond formation ever.**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wk3XSV6H6w0>

Resource Book with details of all aircraft loss on every cruise: Submitted by Ed Chadwick

Here is a site where books by Rene J. Francillon can be purchased. His "**Tonkin Gulf Yacht Club**" has a section that shows every carrier deployment during the Vietnam. It details each aircraft loss on every cruise, including the date, aircraft type, aircraft identification, squadron, pilots name / rank and well as whether the pilot was KIA, recovered or made a POW. I look at the book when memory fails me. It's a great resource.

<https://www.amazon.com/Ren%C3%A9-J.-Francillon/e/B001HCWSDM>

Detail Thesis on CAG 16 1965-1967

Commander Fey, who asked my permission to use a Photo I took of Commander Stockdale's Saints A-4 from 1965. He said he did a thesis on CAG 16 and a Manifest. Many of the Saints including Skipper's Compton and Foster were interviewed as well as Mildman and others. It spans 1965 thru 1967. I found it very interesting with insight I never was aware of, worth a read. WE WERE THERE!!! Thanks Bill Tomko

CAG 16 losses and info: https://www.google.com/?gws_rd=ssl#q=Peter+Fey+rolling+Thunder

VN 40 years ago...75 pictures

<http://www.vintag.es/2015/04/vietnam-war-40-years-ago-75-beathtaking.html>

Legends of the Ho Chi Minh Trail

<http://www.laosgpsmap.com/ho-chi-Minh-trail-Laos/>

There are many links to the archive by date as well as to specific articles like this one about an F-4 shootdown:

<http://www.laosgpsmap.com/ho-chi-minh-trail-shot-down-plane/>

This is the homepage:
www.laosgpsmap.com

Ho Chi Minh Trail Tours:
www.laosgpsmap.com/ho-chi-minh-trail-tours/

[Vietnam War Stories:](#)

<http://cherrieswriter.wordpress.com/category/the-vietnam-war-story/>

Tags : [book sites](#), [books war](#), [cherry soldier](#), [combat](#), [Combat Infantry](#), [digital books](#), [firefighths](#), [Grunts](#), [Hispanic](#), [Historical fiction](#), [jungle warfare](#), [Military](#), [novels](#), [The vietnam war](#), [The Vietnam war story](#), [Veteran](#), [Vietnam blog pages](#), [Vietnam book](#), [Vietnam conflict](#), [Vietnam veteran](#), [war books](#), [war stor](#), [Wars and Conflicts](#)

[Number of Vietnam Vets Still Alive:](#)

This has a lot of the statistics on Vietnam Vets.....

<http://www.nationalvietnamveteransfoundation.org/statistics.htm>

[1956 Navy All Hands Meeting:](#)

Thought you might find this 1956 All Hands..... interesting.

http://www.navy.mil/ah_online/archpdf/ah195603.pdf

[A good day to revisit the Virtual Wall:](#)

Vietnam Wall

First click on a state. When it opens, scroll down to the city and the names will appear.

Then click on their names. It should show you a picture of the person, or at least their bio and medals.

This really is an amazing web site. Someone spent a lot of time and effort to create it.

I hope that everyone who receives this appreciates what those who served in Vietnam sacrificed for our country. The link below is a virtual wall of all those lost during the Vietnam War with the names, bio's and other information on our lost heroes. Those who remember that time frame, or perhaps lost friends or family can look them up on this site.

<http://www.virtualwall.org/iStates.htm>

[Do you remember these?](#)

This will bring back memories

http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=puGQsQux80k

[Vietnam Photos:](#)

<http://news.yahoo.com/photos/a-soldier-s-story-never-before-seen-images-of-vietnam-war-slideshow/vietnam-photo-->

599932980.html?format=embed#mediaphotosbobaspotlightgallery=%252Flightbox%252Fa-soldier-s-story-never-before-seen-images-of-vietnam-war-slideshow%252Fvietnam-photo--599932096.html

Military Video ~ Ending is Fabulous

Please take the time to view this and watch till the end. I was so very touched. And once again..... Thank you to ALL who have served our country! I live in a free nation because of your sacrifice! God Bless you! Because of the warriors of the past, the present, and the future, we Americans can walk tall. For those of you of may not know, or have forgotten, Lt. Col. Oliver North was wounded in Vietnam many times and never left the men he commanded. I am now passing this on for you to watch. It's not just enjoyable, it is riveting! When you are done pass it on too, I think it's important ... don't you? If you are a veteran, I say thank you, for everything! You are SO special! Take the time for this one. You won't be disappointed ... the end is a kicker.

<http://www.nragive.com/ringoffreedom/index.html>

NAS Lemoore April 1968:

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

Photos/History of Vietnam:

Excellent Viet Nam Pictorial History

From the Denver Post.

Click here: [VietamPictorialHistory](#)

Vietnam War - Source list

I am passing this along because it is probably the best search list ever compiled about the Vietnam War. This simply has to be shared with anyone who ever served in Vietnam. It would take months (*more like years*) to look at everything this site offers:

<http://www.cc.gatech.edu/fac/Thomas.Pilsch/Vietnam.html>

A-4 Skyhawks:

<http://a4skyhawk.org/>

When the Saints Go Marching In - US Navy Seventh Fleet Band

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MgsgUbXCeIA&feature=related>

VA Benefits Blog on Facebook:

VA Benefit Blog

https://www.facebook.com/vabenefitblog?sk=app_129722457108553#!/vabenefitblog?sk=wall

Douglas A-4 Skyhawk: 6:10 min video
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hAplCSSZqAs&feature=related>

Vietnam War Documentary Trailer:
http://www.v-prod.com/trailer_vietnam.html

A-4 Skyhawk Photo Galleries on Flickr.com website: Some of our Saints photos are in there!!!
www.flickr.com/photos/45586426@N06/galleries/72157623353551691/
www.flickr.com/photos/45586426@N06/galleries/72157623815542532/
www.flickr.com/photos/45586426@N06/galleries/72157623727604239/
www.flickr.com/photos/45586426@N06/galleries/72157623854694748/
www.flickr.com/photos/45586426@N06/galleries/72157623854748712/

RAO BULLETIN Update, 01 Nov to read the **Articles** go to the web site at:
http://post_119_gulfport_ms.tripod.com/rao1.html



SAINTS ONBOARD (260 Names)

“Muster Call”

Revised 03 Nov 2018

New or changed address:

Ed Copher: newsman242@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 (password, **Saints4ever**) capital **S**

