

Toooo Weeet.... Attention on Deck.....“Saints... February... 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*

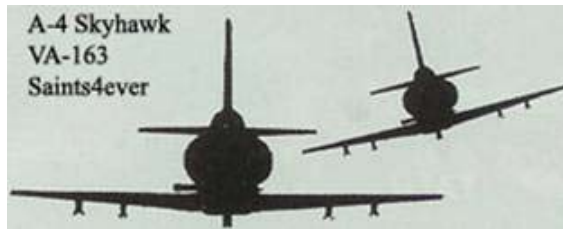
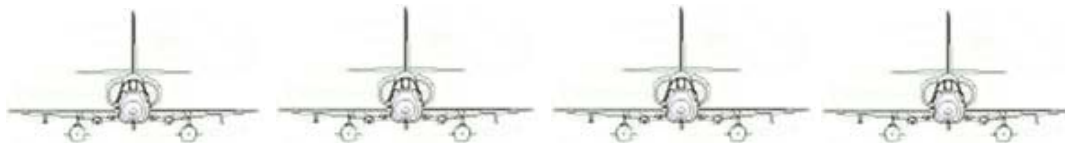
Dedicated to those who have invested their lives to the cause of Freedom in America! God Bless our Men and Women who are (or Have) in any way or manner served to protect our Great Nation and the freedom we have.
And God Bless the United States of America.



2012

10th Year Edition
Established Nov 2002
VOL 1 Issue 112

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





ONCE A SAINT, ALWAYS A SAINT

Listen to music as you read the newsletter:

Click Here <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MgsgUbXCeIA&feature=related> **“When the Saints Go Marching In - US Navy Seventh Fleet Band”**, at the top right of your screen, click the Minimize minus sign (-). It will then go back to the newsletter with the music playing. When finished listening to music, go to your desk top home page, on the bottom tool bar, right click on **When the Saints...**, and select close.

Birds of a feather... Flock Together





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

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

Contains 71 Albums (Sets).... 3,992 Photos.... 18,096 views (as of 31 Jan 2012)



[SAINTS WEB SITE](#)

Saints Internet Web Site www.va163.org (password: *saints4ever*)

4,598 Visitors since Mar 09

*****NOTICE***** Please sign the *Guestbook*



Saints 2012 Reunion:

Location: Hilton San Diego, Mission Valley

Date: 5-7 Oct 2012

Point of Contact: Scott Mitchell ccsm249@verizon.net

The reunion will be held in San Diego, CA on the **weekend of 5 - 7 October 2012**. The site of the gathering will be the Hilton San Diego, Mission Valley. Activities will include a 3 hour dinner cruise around San Diego Bay on Friday evening, an escorted tour of the USS Midway Museum Saturday afternoon and a sit-down banquet to celebrate our fellowship at the hotel on Saturday night. A bloc of 30 rooms has been set aside by the hotel at a rate of \$109 per night. Saints will be eligible for this low rate for up to 2 days before the reunion weekend and 2 days afterwards for a total of six nights. We will be able to book rooms 6 months prior to the event beginning in April 2012. The hotel is also providing a complimentary hospitality suite for our use and all Saints will be entitled to a 20% discount in the hotel restaurant and bar. Be on the lookout for an e-mail or letter setting forth the event schedule and associated fees right after the first of the year. A booking code for the bloc of rooms will be provided when the hotel is ready to accept reservations.”

UPDATE 9 Jan 2012

Shipmates: this is the second AND LAST broadcast e-mail to those with active addresses in our master Saints database. After the first try, I heard from 42 of about 110 addressees, so not too bad. But if I don't get a reply after this try, your name goes back into cold storage until the next reunion. If you are one of the “on-the-ball” 42, no need to reply again. If you can't remember if you replied or not, I feel your pain, but reply just to be safe.

OK, enough humor. I have a letter that I am sending to Saints who **do not** maintain e-mail addresses.

Having perused the letter, please decide whether or not you want to remain on the active reunion list and then let me know. Again, if there is no reply, your name comes off the reunion correspondence list **BUT YOU WILL REMAIN IN THE MASTER DATABASE**.

My plan is to winnow down the mailing list to reunion revelers by early February at the latest.

Dear SAINT:

If this letter reaches the person whose name appears on the envelope, then you are among the 270 individuals for whom there is data on those who served in Attack Squadron 163. There is to be a reunion for all willing Saints in San Diego this coming Fall. The dates are 5 to 7 October. The site of the reunion is to be the Hilton, Mission Valley and a bloc of rooms has been reserved at the favorable rate of \$109 per night. Moreover, the hotel has agreed to extend this special rate for six days either side of the reunion to make it cost effective to visit San Diego for longer than just a weekend.

Reunion activities are tentatively planned around an evening supper cruise around San Diego Bay on Friday night, a visit to the USS Midway Museum on Saturday and a sit-down banquet at the hotel on Saturday. Hopefully we will arrange a topical program for the Saturday dinner, but there will be an all-hands vote on where and when to hold the next reunion. Does Branson, Mo. peak anyone's interest?

For those carefully counting retirement dollars, here are the round numbers; You and your roommate \$109 per night,

evening dinner cruise \$60 per person, rubber chicken banquet \$35 per person to include table wine. Midway entrance fee \$12 per senior.

OK, it is too early to book rooms, but we are interested in who will be attending. While e-mail is the quickest and most cost-effective way to communicate, not everyone has it. Therefore you have received this letter. But I only want to correspond by snail mail or phone with those who want to attend.

Therefore, I ask that you call the number above and leave me a voice mail; “Yes I want to attend,” or “No I am not interested this year,” and please don’t forget to leave your name. If you now have e-mail, send your response to ccsm249@verizon.net and I will move you into the e-mail group. Even if you decline, you will not be removed from the master Saints data base. But please give me a break and let me know one way or another in the near future.

You want more info? You have to make contact and get on the active list, but being one of the actives will not obligate you in any way to show up and pay. Let’s hear from you!

The Last Saint, a.k.a “De Commissioner”



Unknown Skyhawk Losses: 12 Jan 12

Dave, Gabby and I are still chasing down Skyhawk losses, over 1,400 so far which does not include most Israeli, Malaysian, Indonesian losses. These are the unknowns that have pilots names etc. that we can’t match to any known Skyhawk loss and I’m hoping you (or your contacts) can provide a BuNo for these losses.

unknown	A-4	31-May-63	VA-125	Lemoore	CA	Lt(jg). Roger A. Shaffer (VA-125, NAS Lemoore) ejected Standard, Saturday, June 1, 1963.
unknown	A-4C	12-Jun-63		Alameda	CA	Lt. Edward C. Davies, 29, ejected safely after his A-4C S crashed about five miles NE of Hamilton AFB. Press Tele
unknown	A-4	15-Oct-65	VA-125	Lemoore	CA	Ens. Anthony Karl Vanko, 22, parachuted to safety Friday county while on a training mission from NAS Lemoore. Eu
unknown	A-4	22-Nov-65	VA-125	Lemoore	CA	LCdr. Charles Brown (VA-125) ejected safely fr Islands Friday. <i>The Modesto-Bee, Sunday, Nover</i>
unknown	A-4B	28-Jan-66	NARTU	Olathe	KS	Lt. Bruce R. Jones was uninjured when the brak and broke into flames. Lawrence Daily Journal -
unknown	A-4	2-Feb-66		USS Constellation		Lt(jg). Larry S. Mettler, 27, was killed Wednesday; sank about 45 miles NW of San Diego, CA. Albu
unknown	A-4E	25-Feb-66	VA-23	Lemoore	CA	Cdr. Robert R. King and LCdr. Stewart Blair, both assign CA while making a practice GCA. Blair's Skyhawk crashe Pendleton. Redlands Daily Facts Friday, Feb. 25, 1966.
unknown	A-4E	25-Feb-66	VA-23	Lemoore	CA	Cdr. Robert R. King and LCdr. Stewart Blair, both assign CA while making a practice GCA. Blair's Skyhawk crashe Pendleton. Redlands Daily Facts Friday, Feb. 25, 1966.
unknown	A-4	11-Apr-66	VA-	Yuma	CA	Ens. Daniel S. Kapner, 25, a member of a NAS Lemoore Chocolate Mountain range in Imperial County, CA. Oakla
unknown	TA-4J	26-Aug-92	VT-7	Meridian	MS	Capt. Lamar R. Ishee, 30, was killed and Navy Reserve I runway and skidded about 75 yards before crashing nose-



“Finding the Fallen”: Dedicated to KIA Saint “Skip” Foulks

By Andy Saunders, an aviation war historian in England, was just published. The book covers missing aviators over the span of wars. The book is dedicated to Ralph E Foulks Jr, a member of your squadron and my brother. I was honored to write the forward for the book, and more so that Skip was remembered in such a way. His picture is on the cover.

Colleen Ijuin...Skip's Sister



Message from Anthony Chibbaro: Roommate of Saint Ron Tardio killed in Oriskany Fire

*Ed, I was interviewed tonight by Phil Tourney (USS Liberty survivor - attacked by Israel in 1967) on the 'RBN' radio network. I was able to mention that it was **Saint Ron Tardio** - who by getting me to get up during the Oriskany fire - who saved my life. Tony C.*

Texas Football team visits the USS Boxer in San Diego: Prior to Holiday Bowl 28 Dec 11

Watch the video at: <http://espn.go.com/longhornnetwork/highlight?id=7395551>

[Texas Football visits the USS Boxer](#)

Countdown to Holiday Bowl kickoff: The Longhorns visit the USS Boxer to attend the Navy & Marine Corps Luncheon.

Make sure and look at the New VA/Veterans Benefits for 2012, located at the bottom of this newsletter.

MILITARY REPORT

— The Military's Largest Benefits Update —

www.Military.Com : News

Military Report is the most comprehensive military benefits and quality-of-life newsletter for military personnel and retirees. Make sure that you and your colleagues [subscribe](#) for this free update publication. Click on each blue link to go there.

Skyhawk Association Newsletter: Dec 2011

Your humble servant, "the Hun", sends greetings from the Prez:

Hope this finds you all enjoying the holiday season and ready for a Merry Christmas! As my wife and I get ready to take off for Grandkiddo lands, thought I'd better get this off to you with some important information and reminders.

First, we're excited about the upcoming mid-year Board meeting at Fun 'n Sun on Saturday the 31st of March! The actual Expo and Fly In runs from 27 March to April 1st. We're planning to promote as many A-4 fly-in's as possible without a budget to help with gas. I'm betting at least 3-5 will be able to make it, despite the costs. Keep your fingers crossed. Our base hotel is the Ramada Lakeland, Lakeland, Florida. Make your reservation by calling the hotel directly at 863-688-8080. If there is a problem regarding the rate ask Vickie Leach the assistant manager. Two night stay: Arrive Friday, March 30, leave Sunday, April 1. The rooms are blocked under the "Skyhawk Assn." name. The daily rate is \$79. We expect the Board meeting to be followed by lunch and a small program highlighting the Skyhawk's heritage. This may be a once in the decade show of Skyhawk force for those of us who can't get to Israel, Argentina, Brazil, ATAC, ATSI or Cazaux AB in SW France. Ha. That's my lead in to our confirmation that there ARE a few more A-4's out there still flying!

"A-4's Still Flying" has been a pet project of mine for a while now. Although getting updates from some of the main players continues to be a challenge, here's my latest update and "best guess" totals:

Skyhawk Ventures A4C: As you've hopefully read in our email news flash and the recent Journal, Dan Carr and Porter Spangler moved their A-4C from the 'almost a flyer ½ credit' to a super flying machine this summer! Add one flyer for the good guys. Congrats again guys!

Singapore 150 Squadron: Lo and behold, although no one I can find has talked to them, it has been confirmed that the Singapore 150 Squadron is still flying A-4SU's and TA-4SU's as a training squadron in Cazaux AB in Southwestern France. While they started with some 18-20 aircraft, 5 or 6 are known to have been donated to various static display venues in France but we expect some 10-12 remain active at Cazaux. Two actually were flown in and on display at an airshow in St. Dizier, France this past June (photos attached, courtesy of "Scramble"!).

Other notes: **Rich Sugden and his Teton Aviation Services** are hoping to have their TA-4 flyable for the Fun 'n Sun show! Good luck Rich! And it has been confirmed that JDI, owner of the aircraft flown by the flight demo team Black Diamonds (previously known as the Heavy Metal team), has purchased the 8 remaining New Zealand A-4K's with delivery expected in the coming year. Let's hope they can get through the red tape to show them off soon!

New totals of flying Skyhawks: Int'l Military....as many as 91

Contract services...up to 17

Private owners...let's say 4 ½

New grand total...**wait for it!**...as many as.....**112 ½!** Again, pretty impressive for a 58 year old airplane!

Membership: We're over 900 members and counting! Keep up the good recruiting work folks! We're still pushing the "1000 by the 200's" membership drive....1000 members by the end of the two centennial years! We can do it with your help! Local meetings are a key way to generate interest and enthusiasm out there. I'll reiterate our offer to run some roster sorts for your locale....just let us know! And a special welcome to an old friend, new member Ev Alvarez, and a host of other fine Skyhawkers!

USMC Skyhawkers: Marine Skyhawkers, reunion planning continues for the Centennial reunion in conjunction with the MCAA Symposium in Oxon Hill, MD 17-19 May 2012. We'll be doing check-ins and a welcome reception on Thursday the 17th, squadron activities and the MCAA Flight Jacket Happy Hour on Friday, and a reunion tour of the National Museum of the Marine Corps and Skyhawkers Banquet (Globe and Laurel) all in Quantico, VA on Saturday the 19th. Plan accordingly please! And start saving now...rooms at the Gaylord National Hotel are expensive! (MCAA/reunion rate \$224+taxes per night)

Tailhook bar bill aftermath: We had a super Tailhook and Annual Meeting last September, but we're still having a bit of sticker shock (along with our Intruder Association partners) over the bar bill from the Ready Room. Our guests treated themselves a bit too generously. We'll be working with the Intruder guys to figure something out to get this event/concession back under control for future Tailhooks. Neither of our budgets can handle the unexpected costs incurred this year. We're thinking it was such an aberration due to the Centennial and extra large turnout that brought to Hook.

Latest Journal: You've got the latest winter edition of the Journal in your hands by now and we hope you're enjoying it. Thanks to Raven for another great issue. I issued a call for callsign background stories a while back and you'll note that Raven got one in this issue in the form of a letter to the editor. Let's keep them coming!

Last of the A-4 line: The Flying Leatherneck Museum/Historical Foundation (@ MCAS Miramar) is commencing about a \$5000 restoration project on 160264, the very last Skyhawk off the Douglas production line. I'm sure you all recall the press at the time and it's special "Easter Egg" paint scheme for its touring around the country, enroute to VMA-331 and 2nd MAW. The Flying Leatherneck Museum has this aircraft on display in faded, generic livery, in need of a great paint job, and has received approval to depart from its normal paint schemes and will refurbish this historic Skyhawk to its original **delivery** paint scheme! It's a great effort and a super salute to the Skyhawk community! We are asking for the generous support of both the Skyhawk Association and the USMC Skyhawkers in contributing to the effort. Your **tax deductible** contribution may be made on line at the Museum's web site, https://secure2.comentum.com/flyingle/public_html/index.html, or by mail to The Flying Leatherneck Historical Foundation, PO Box 45316, San Diego, CA 92145-0316. Please note on your check or web site contribution "For the A4M 160264 Easter Egg restoration project" or something similar to ensure proper direction of your contribution. You, of course, can just contribute to the Foundation's general fund as well. A picture of the original livery is attached.

[The Skyhawk Association has 890 members, 14 Saints are members](#)

Ed Copher is the Association SDO for VA-163 Saints

[Skyhawk Association website, VA-163 page:](#)

VA-163 Page, click here: <http://a4skyhawk.org/3e/va163/va163o.htm>

*Please join the Skyhawk Association. They have a great **Quarterly Magazine**...alot of A-4's and Saints articles. **Only \$30 per year.***

Skyhawk Association Members: Use link to access the Ready Room for; recent additions, aircraft histories, photo galleries, our roster, journals, and more. Need access? Contact the [RR Coordinator](#).
A-4s Forever! sdo-coordinator@a4skyhawk.org / bluebolts6364@aol.com

"Skyhawk Association Members: Use the new site address <http://A4skyhawk.org> to get access to the wealth of info available and contact the webmaster for access to the 'Members Only' information at email webmaster@a4skyhawk.org ."



[Saints and Military sites for Hats, Shirts, Pins, Decals, and Models:](#) Submitted by Bill Tomko

Go to Saints Website, **Miscellaneous Section**, for details. Also www.usmedals.com

I have done a ton of Internet research looking for Saints, Oriskany and A-4 related collectibles, pictures, books, videos, models, decals, pins, shirts and hats. I was asked to publish some of the links I had been satisfied with. I am happy to share it here and if you need help finding some thing please feel free to email me at Tomkowj@aol.com



[The real story of Viet Nam:](#) What Really Happened with Viet Nam!

5 Minute video

The truth! Finally!!! But don't expect to see it broadcast or released anywhere... it would embarrass the Congress. Observe which Party controlled the Congress at the time.

Click on: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F67C8yzww_Y&feature=digest

Sad to learn that 285 Vietnam War Veterans die EVERY day – yuk!



Remembering the Vietnam War:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XayOuMHLzDM> 7:11 min video

VIETNAM Veterans, War Casualties.....RIP: Memorial Virtual Wall

First click on a state.....then when it opensan alphabetical order of city-town or village within that state is listed, with names of those lost from that home townthen it should show you a picture of the person or at least his/her bio and medals.....<http://www.virtualwall.org/iStates.htm>



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>



Statistics about the Vietnam War

Interesting information about statistics and myths associated with the Vietnam War... <http://www.vhfcn.org/stat.html>

Superb Vietnam Tributes:

A Place Called Vietnam...<http://www.operationmom.org/ToOurParents.html>

<http://patriotfiles.org/VietnamWar.htm>

<http://www.vietnampix.com/>

A well done moving video by Vietnam vets from Michigan .

This was made by Michigan Vietnam Vets, but it says it all for every Vietnam Vet. Share it with a Vietnam Vet or a family that may have lost a Dad, Brother, Uncle or Son...

I thought they did an excellent job on this. Touching, I suspect in the future this theme will be shown over and over again for each conflict. Thankfully the Gulf war vets were welcomed home with honor.

This is one of the better Vietnam videos made by and for Michigan Vietnam Veterans, but I believe all of you will appreciate this. This story could and is retold by 49 other states and territories as well.

If you know a Vietnam Veteran consider sending this link to them.

http://www.v-prod.com/trailer_vietnam.html

Life Magazine Vietnam War Photography:

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





NONE



Web sites 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. USS Oriskany Online: *Great Photos from Dive Shop Pensacola*: www.ussoriskanyonline.com/ www.mbtdivers.com
2. The best pictures of the reefing. *Going to her final resting place*: <http://www.irishmansoftware.com/Oriskany.htm>
3. Two Memorial Video's of the Oriskany: <http://www.ussoriskanyonline.com/>
4. Oriskany Reunion Association: www.ussoriskany.com
5. Video of Big O going under: <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-1401279762745553286&q=oriskany>
6. Patriot Media "The Mighty O": <http://patriotmediainc.com/>
7. Remembering Oriskany Guest Book: <http://www.rememberingoriskany.bravepages.com/guestbook2.html>
8. Oriskany Dive Video & Photos: http://www.oriskanycharterboats.com/oriskany_photos.htm
9. Diving Oriskany Reef, 25 March 2007: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9l-wYnlBZis>
10. Oriskany Cruise Books on CD's: <http://glewis.us/obooks.htm>
11. Oriskany 1967 Vietnam Combat Cruise, DVD sale: http://www.cv41.org/GRS/uss_oriskany_67/index.html
12. Oriskany Information and History/Pictures: <http://www.pnj.com/newsfiles/oriskany/index.shtml>
13. Oriskany model: <http://www.motionmodels.com/ships/cv/>
14. USS Oriskany Photo Galleries: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/7437991@N08/galleries/72157622440145584>
15. USS Oriskany History 1972: <http://www.ussoriskany.com/id17.html>
16. USS Oriskany digital Cruise Book Project (<http://glewis.us/obooks.htm>)
17. Oriskany 1970...Flight Ops: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mXaKTJIVxHM&feature=email> 10 min
18. **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
19. **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

Subic New Photos: Cubi Point recent photos

<http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=Subic&qpv=Subic&FORM=IGRE#x0y0>

Bob Hope (This will knock your socks off!!)

We're sure you'll enjoy this!!! For those of you who remember Bob Hope...ENJOY! If you have never heard of him...watch and see what you've missed!

We should not forget what Bob Hope and others did for our GI's for so many years.

This is an amazing video with sound, the 10 minutes it takes to watch just flies by.

You will be glad you watched it.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L-HeETwJSUc&feature=player_embedded

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/)

<http://a4skyhawk.org/>

[Another Saints website site:](http://www.va-163saints.com/) By Saint Dennis Lund

<http://www.va-163saints.com/>

[When the Saints Go Marching In - US Navy Seventh Fleet Band](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MgsgUbXCeIA&feature=related)

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

[VA Benefits Blog on Facebook:](https://www.facebook.com/vabenefitblog?sk=app_129722457108553#!/vabenefitblog?sk=wall)

VA Benefit Blog

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

[Douglas A-4 Skyhawk:](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hAplCSSZqAs&feature=related) 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)

http://www.v-prod.com/trailer_vietnam.html

[Remembering the Brave:](http://www.jensensutta.com/slideshows/RTB/)

<http://www.jensensutta.com/slideshows/RTB/>

[Lemoore Naval Air Station Operations Area Map:](#)

If you want to look over NAS Lemoore, Go to the first URL line below, then click on it. This will take you NS Lemoore (Reeves Field), CA Flight Plan home page. Here you will want to click on

[Click here for full scale & interactive Sectional view of KNLC.](#)

Once you to this interactive map, you can zoom in with the mouse click on + or - (in left upper corner) all around the base at Lemoore, all of operations area. While you are snooping around the base looking at all the hangars, FA/18 Hornets and Super Hornets, zoom and "grab the screen" with the pointer (white glove hand) and move south down to the Administration and Housing Area to continue snooping.

<http://www.fltplan.com/AirportInformation/KNLC.htm>

http://wh94.fltplan.com/route/index.cfm?AirportSingle=t&maptype=blank&airport_id=KNLC&mapservicetype=sectionals_esri&MapHeight=99pc&MapWidth=99pc

[A-4 Skyhawk Photo Galleries on Flickr.com website:](#) Some of our Saints photos 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/

Virtual Aircraft Encyclopedia:
<http://www.aviastar.org/index2.html>

McDonnell-Douglas A-4 Skyhawk: http://www.aviastar.org/air/usa/mcdonnel_sky.php

RAO BULLETIN Update, 01 FEB 2012

Read the **Articles** go to the web site at: http://post_119_gulfport_ms.tripod.com/rao1.html

2012 VA Benefits Edition:

In the Link and in cover as well, you'll find it broken down in the sections listed for easier reading and researching, also with link to PDF as well as one in Spanish, or look through the document reader embedded.

[VA Benefits 2012 Edition](#)

Captured: A Look Back at the Vietnam War on the 35th Anniversary of the Fall of Saigon
141 Photos. Good history of the war in photos.

Click here: <http://blogs.denverpost.com/captured/2010/04/30/captured-a-look-back-at-the-vietnam-war-on-the-35th-anniversary-of-the-fall-of-saigon-2/>

Music of the Vietnam War:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KnnLrmbOYE&feature=related> 8:36 min video

1960's: *Great photos, music, and facts.*

This is the one of the best presentations of the sixties. It is very well done. Just click on the link and sit back and enjoy the memories.

Click here: <http://objflicks.com/TakeMeBackToTheSixties.htm>

1950 - 1982 Jukebox: *This is really cool. Have fun with it.....!!*

Click here: <http://www.tropicalglen.com/>

What We Drove in the 50's & 60's:

<http://cruzintheavenue.com/CarsWeDrove.htm>

Music from 60's & 70's:

Nine different play lists with about 100 songs on each list from 60's & 70's

<http://chu65nang67.us/nam/vietnam.html>



2012 VA Benefits Guide Now Available

Click here: [VA Benefits 2011 Edition](#)

The VA 2012 guide to "Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents, and Survivors" is now available online. This is the all-in-one place to learn about the benefits to which you or a family member might be entitled.

Click [here](#) to view the guide.

Veteran's Resources 2012

Appeals http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21_1/mr/part1/ch05.doc

Board of Veteran's Appeals <http://www.va.gov/vbs/bva/>

CARES Commission <http://www.va.gov/vbs/bva/>

CARES Draft National Plan <http://www1.va.gov/cares/page.cfm?pg=105>

Center for Minority Veterans <http://www1.va.gov/centerforminorityveterans/>

Center for Veterans Enterprise <http://www.vetbiz.gov/default2.htm>

Center for Women Veterans <http://www1.va.gov/womenvet/>

Clarification on the changes in VA healthcare for Gulf War Veterans
<http://www.gulfwarvets.com/ubb/Forum1/HTML/000016.html>
Classified Records - American Gulf War Veterans Assoc
<http://www.gulfwarvets.com/ubb/Forum18/HTML/000011.html>
Compensation for Disabilities Associated with the Gulf War Service
http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21_1/part6%20/ch07.doc
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<http://www1.va.gov/vso/index.cfm?template=view>
Disability Examination Worksheets Index, Comp
<http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/Benefits/exams/index.htm>
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Electronic Code of Federal Regulations <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/ecfr/>
Emergency, Non-emergency, and Fee Basis Care
<http://www1.va.gov/opa/vadocs/fedben.pdf>
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http://www1.va.gov/vhpublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=315
EVALUATION PROTOCOL FOR GULF WAR AND IRAQI FREEDOM VETERANS
WITH POTENTIAL EXPOSURE TO DEPLETED URANIUM (DU)
<http://www1.va.gov/gulfwar/docs/DUHandbook1303122304.DOC> and
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See also, Depleted Uranium Fact Sheet
<http://www1.va.gov/gulfwar/docs/DepletedUraniumFAQSheet.doc>
EVALUATION PROTOCOL FOR NON-GULF WAR VETERANS WITH POTENTIAL
EXPOSURE TO DEPLETED URANIUM (DU)
<http://www1.va.gov/gulfwar/docs/DUHANDBOOKNONGW130340304.DOC>
Fee Basis, PRIORITY FOR OUTPATIENT MEDICAL SERVICES AND INPATIENT
HOSPITAL CARE
http://www1.va.gov/vhpublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=206 Federal Benefits
for Veterans and Dependents 2005 <http://www1.va.gov/opa/vadocs/fedben.pdf> OR,
http://www1.va.gov/opa/vadocs/current_benefits.htm
Forms and Records Request <http://www.va.gov/vaforms/>
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http://www.access.gpo.gov/uscode/title38/partii_chapter11_subchaptervi_.html
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http://www.oqpn.med.va.gov/cpg/cpgn/mus/mus_base.htm
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<http://www1.va.gov/GulfWar/page.cfm?pg=7&template=main&letter=A>
Gulf War Veteran's Illnesses Q&As
<http://www1.va.gov/gulfwar/docs/GWIllnessesQandAsIB1041.pdf>
Hearings
http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21_1/mr/part1/ch04.doc
Homeless Veterans <http://www1.va.gov/homeless/>
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<http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/benefits/exams/index.htm>
Ionizing Radiation <http://www1.va.gov/irad/>
Iraqi Freedom/Enduring Freedom Veterans VBA <http://www.vba.va.gov/EFIF/>
M 10 for spouses and children <
http://www1.va.gov/vhpublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1007
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Mental Disorders, Schedule of Ratings
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Mental Health Program Guidelines
http://www1.va.gov/vhpublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1094
Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Centers
<http://www.mirecc.med.va.gov/>
MS (Multiple Sclerosis) Centers of Excellence <http://www.va.gov/ms/about.asp>
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<http://www.nchdp.med.va.gov/postdeploymentlinks.asp>
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<http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/regs/38cfr/bookc/part4/s4%5F124a.doc>
OMI (Office of Medical Inspector) <http://www.omi.cio.med.va.gov/>
Online VA Form 10-10EZ <https://www.1010ez.med.va.gov/sec/vha/1010ez/>
Parkinson's Disease and Related Neurodegenerative Disorders
<http://www1.va.gov/resdev/funding/solicitations/docs/parkinsons.pdf>
and, <http://www1.va.gov/padrecc/>
Peacetime Disability Compensation http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=browse_usc&docid=Cite:+38USC1131
Pension for Non-Service-Connected Disability or Death
http://www.access.gpo.gov/uscode/title38/partii_chapter15_subchapteri_.html and,
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Persian Gulf Registry
http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1003
This program is now referred to as Gulf War Registry Program (to include Operation Iraqi Freedom) as of March 7, 2005:
http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1232
Persian Gulf Registry Referral Centers
http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1006
Persian Gulf Veterans' Illnesses Research 1999, Annual Report To Congress
http://www1.va.gov/resdev/1999_Gulf_War_Veterans'_Illnesses_Appendices.doc
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http://www1.va.gov/resdev/prt/gulf_war_2002/GulfWarRpt02.pdf
Phase I PGR http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1004
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http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1005
Policy Manual Index <http://www.va.gov/publ/direc/eds/edsmps.htm>
Power of Attorney
http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/admin21/m21_1/mr/part1/ch03.doc Project 112
(Including Project SHAD) <http://www1.va.gov/shad/>
Prosthetics Eligibility
http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=337
Public Health and Environmental Hazards Home Page
<http://www.vethealth.cio.med.va.gov/>
Public Health/SARS <http://www..publichealth.va.gov/SARS/>
Publications Manuals <http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/publications.cfm?Pub=4>
Publications and Reports
http://www1.va.gov/resdev/prt/pubs_individual.cfm?webpage=gulf_war.htm
Records Center and Vault Homepage <http://www.aac.va.gov/vault/default.html>
Records Center and Vault Site Map <http://www.aac.va.gov/vault/sitemap.html>
REQUEST FOR AND CONSENT TO RELEASE OF INFORMATION FROM CLAIMANT'S RECORDS
<http://www.forms.va.gov/va/Internet/VARF/getformharness.asp?formName=3288-form.xft>
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http://www1.va.gov/rac-gwvi/docs/Minutes_April112002.doc
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http://www1.va.gov/rac-gwvi/docs/ReportandRecommendations_2004.pdf
Research and Development
http://www.appc1.va.gov/resdev/programs/all_programs.cfm
Survivor's and Dependents' Educational Assistance
http://www.access.gpo.gov/uscode/title38/partiii_chapter35_.html
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Part 18
http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/textidx?sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&c=ecfr&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfrv2_02.tpl
Title 38 Part 3 Adjudication Subpart A "Pension, Compensation, and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation" http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/textidx?c=ecfr&sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3_main_02.tpl
Title 38 Pensions, Bonuses & Veterans Relief (also $\tilde{A}\tilde{f}\tilde{a}\tilde{C}\tilde{A},\tilde{A}\tilde{\S}$ 3.317 Compensation for

certain disabilities due to undiagnosed illnesses found here)

[http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/textidx?](http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/textidx?c=ecfr&sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title38/38cfr3_m)

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ain_02.tpl Title 38 PART 4--SCHEDULE FOR RATING DISABILITIES Subpart B--
DISABILITY RATINGS

[http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/textidx?](http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/textidx?c=ecfr&sid=ab7641afd195c84a49a2067dbbcf95c0&rgn=div6&view=text&node=38:1)

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.0.1.1.5.2&idno=38

Title 38, Â§ 4.16 Total disability ratings for compensation based on unemployability of
the individual. PART A "SCHEDULE FOR RATING DISABILITIES Subpart Âf "General
Policy in Rating [http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/textidx?](http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/textidx?c=ecfr&sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&rgn=div8&view=text&node=38:1)

[c=ecfr&sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&rgn=div8&view=text&node=38:1](http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/textidx?c=ecfr&sid=1b0c269b510d3157fbf8f8801bc9b3dc&rgn=div8&view=text&node=38:1)
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U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims <http://www.vetapp.gov/>

VA Best Practice Manual for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

<http://www.avapl.org/pub/PTSD%20Manual%20final%206.pdf>

VA Fact Sheet <http://www1.va.gov/opa/fact/gwfs.html>

VA Health Care Eligibility <http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility/home/hecmain.asp>

VA INSTITUTING GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF FUNCTION (GAF)

<http://www.avapl.org/gaf/gaf.html>

VA Life Insurance Handbook, Â–" Chapter 3

<http://www.insurance.va.gov/inForceGliSite/GLIhandbook/glibookletch3.htm#310>

VA Loan Lending Limits and Jumbo Loans http://valoans.com/va_facts_limits.cfm

VA MS Research <http://www.va.gov/ms/about.asp>

VA National Hepatitis C Program <http://www.hepatitis.va.gov/>

VA Office of Research and Development <http://www1.va.gov/resdev/>

VA Trainee Pocket Card on Gulf War <http://www.va.gov/OAA/pocketcard/gulfwar.asp>

VA WMD EMSHG <http://www1.va.gov/emshg/>

VA WRIISC-DC <http://www.va.gov/WRIISC-DC/>

VAOIG Hotline Telephone Number and Address

<http://www.va.gov/oig/hotline/hotline3.htm>

Vet Center Eligibility - Readjustment Counseling Service

<http://www.va.gov/rcs/Eligibility.htm>

Veterans Benefits Administration Main Web Page <http://www.vba.va.gov/>

Veterans Legal and Benefits Information <http://valaw.org/>

VHA Forms, Publications, Manuals <http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/>

VHA Programs - Clinical Programs & Initiatives

http://www1.va.gov/health_benefits/page.cfm?pg=13

<http://webmaila.juno.com/webmail/new/UrlBlockedError.aspx>>

VHA Public Health Strategic Health Care Group Home Page [http://](http://www.publichealth.va.gov/)

www.publichealth.va.gov/

VHI Guide to Gulf War Veterans, Â–(tm) Health

http://www1.va.gov/vhi_ind_study/gulfwar/istudy/index.asp

Vocational Rehabilitation <http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/vre/>

Vocational Rehabilitation Subsistence

<http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/vre/InterSubsistencefy04.doc>

VONAPP online <http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp>

WARMS - 38 CFR Book C <http://www.warms.vba.va.gov/bookc.html>

Wartime Disability Compensation [http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=browse_usc&docid=Cite:+38USC1110)

[getdoc.cgi?dbname=browse_usc&docid=Cite:+38USC1110](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=browse_usc&docid=Cite:+38USC1110)

War-Related Illness and Injury Study Center - New Jersey <http://www.wri.med.va.gov/>

Welcome to the GI Bill Web Site <http://www.gibill.va.gov/>

What VA Social Workers Do <http://www1.va.gov/socialwork/page.cfm?pg=3>

WRIISC Patient Eligibility <http://www.illegion.org/va1.html>

SAINTS ONBOARD (260 Names)

Revised 04 JAN 2011

New or changed address:

Denny Earl: (changed) dukendi@coz.net

Please advise if you have any additions or corrections.

Complete Roster can be found on the Saints website – www.va163.org

(password, *saints4ever*)

