



VPB-111/VP-21 VAGABOND NEWS

www.VP-21.org, and www.VPB-111.org

John G. Esposito, Editor

WINTER EDITION 2011

A MESSAGE FROM THE LEFT SEAT:

If everything goes according to plan, you'll be receiving this issue of our newsletter before the 2011 reunion. For those who are attending, let me say that I look forward to seeing you and enjoying our time together. For those who will not be there, I'm sorry. We'll miss you and you'll be missing a really fun time. Tiny and Mary Ledford have put together a great reunion with some really outstanding events.

Closure of NASB is proceeding according to plan. Although the station will be turned over to civilian authority at the end of March, the Exchange and Commissary will remain open until September. An air show including the Blue Angels will be held in August. An aircraft builder has already moved into Hangar 6. Other activities have signed up for use of space on the station so only time will tell what the final impact of the Navy's departure will mean to the Brunswick area. One thing is certain. With the loss of the good will brought to this community by the men and woman of NASB, no matter the economic impact, the town will never be as well off.

DONATIONS RECEIVED:

THE FOLLOWING NAMED PERSONS HAVE MADE MONITARY CONTRIBUTIONS

TO OUR ORGANIZATION SINCE THE LAST ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER:

JACQUES BAKER
RAYMOND H. GAUS
J.W. MOORE
GERALDINE M. RAAB

IN ADDITION, DUE TO AN ERROR ON MY PART, THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE HAVE MADE GENEROUS DONATIONS THAT HAVE NOT BEEN

ACKNOWLEDGED.

THOMAS E. SAYRE AND WARREN C. MASSEY

PLEASE ACCEPT MY SINCERE APOLOGY FOR THIS OVERSIGHT.

Thanks to each of you for helping to keep our organization airborne.

Dick

PLEASE NOTE:

The VPB-111/VP-21 Veterans Association charges no dues. Our operations are totally supported by the generous contributions of our membership and by the sale of our squadron products. The association comes under section 501(C) 19, of the Internal Revenue Code as a “Not for Profit” organization. As such, contributions are legitimate tax deductions. Please make your contribution checks payable to the “VPB-111/VP-21 Veterans Association” and forward them to the Treasurer, Richard S. Webb, 219 Montoya Drive, Lady Lake, Florida, 32159-8642.

TAPS:

It is with deep regret that I make mention of the passing of our following shipmates:

- Harold E ‘Bud’ Whalin. Served in VP21 at Brunswick, ME from ’61 to ’63 as an Aircraft Maintenance Administrator. He passed away on 1 January, 2011.
- David E. Webster. Passed away on 29 January 2010 at the age of 75. Cause of death was a heart attack.
- Robert Scott Stone. Passed away at the age of 86 in Norfolk on 15 November 2010. He served in VP21 in ’49. He was an Aircraft Commander in both PB4Y2 and a P4M-1 aircraft.
- Cmdr. Bill Eaton. Passed away in January ’11 after suffering from a long illness. He served in VP 21 directly from Flight School.

May they rest in peace.

WELCOME (BACK) ABOARD:

- Charles D. Miller of Willis, Texas. He served in VP21 from '62 to '64. He was a Lt.
- Gus Rich. No details available.

From the Online Coordinator:

What's happening at the old Brunswick Naval Air Station?

The local redevelopment authority for what had been NAS Brunswick announced that Flight Level Aviation of Norwood, Massachusetts has been selected as the Fixed Base Operator (FBO) for what will now be called the "Brunswick Executive Airport". Operations of the base as a civilian airport are expected to commence on April 2nd.

The Navy has transferred 730 acres of the base to the Mid-coast Redevelopment Authority so they can start working on future long-term development of the property. As reference, the overall size of the base is 3,300 acres, or about five square miles. To date, Kestrel Aviation is in line to take over Hangar 6 in which they will manufacture their single engine carbon composite turboprop aircraft. Too, Molnylcke, a Swedish company has announced that they also will take space on the base and set up operations to manufacture a line of products used in hospital operating rooms and for wound care after surgery.

The base gates are now open to the public during daylight hours, so if you're in the area and are not a retiree, you can now get onto the base for a tour.

Lastly, the Blue Angels will be at The Great State of Maine Air show at the base. The show is currently scheduled for August 26th, 27th, and 28th. Check out the shows website at: <http://www.greatstateofmainearshow.us/>

VPB-111/VP-21 VETERANS ASSOCIATION
255 Mere Point Rd.
Brunswick, ME 04011

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VPB-111/VP-21 VETERANS ASSOCIATION

A non-profit, fraternal, and historical association devoted to the reestablishment of contact with shipmates of the past, to strengthen the camaraderie among its members, to record and preserve the memories and incidents of the Association, to preserve the memory of departed shipmates, and to promote the comfort and welfare of its members and survivors. No dues are assessed!

Directors:

- *Dunlap, Harry, Director, 55427 Pine Grove Ave., Norfolk, VA 32502*
- *Dwyer, Dan, Online Coordinator, Director, #6 Sarah Liberty Lane, Scarborough, ME 04074*
- *Esposito John G., Editor/Director, 862 Central Ave., Southampton, PA 18966*
- *La Fontaine, Edward, Museum Director, 161 Jackson Dr., Frankfort, KY 40601*
- *Locke, William Chairman, 255 Mere Point Rd., Brunswick, ME 04011*
- *Nelson Robert, Special Projects, 49 Woodland Drive, Tequesta FL 33469*
- *Novay, Ron, Director, 7775 Lake Hardeman Rd., Saulsburry, TN 38067*
- *Nute, Carter, Storekeeper/Director, 7605 NW 50th ST., Gainesville, FL 32653-1137*
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- *Schuster, Fred, Dir/Historian/Director, 2713 Cabin Creek Rd., Edwardsville, IL, 62025*
- *Herman Schmidt, Webmaster/Director, 3404 Red Tailed Hawk Dr. Port Saint Lucie, FL 34952*

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