

Edited by J03 Amy L. Pittmann



Awards

The individual and unit winners for the **1999 Grandpaw Pettibone Award** are Lt. Andrew Meshel of HM-14, and the members of HSL-42. The award is presented annually to the individual and unit who have contributed the most to Naval Aviation safety through publication. RAdm. John Nathman cited Lt. Meshel for his article

“Copilots and Frogs” stating, “telling your story so that others do not make the same mistake indicates a strong degree of personal courage, the kind of courage that makes Naval Aviation a safer, more efficient force.” Nathman also commended HSL-42 for the numerous safety articles it submitted, and for accumulating 111,350 Class A mishap-free flight hours over the past 13 years.

During a 26 May reunion of the VA-155 *Silver Foxes*, former squadron members were presented belated **Distinguished Flying Crosses (DFC)** that dated from the squadron’s 1965 cruise aboard *Coral Sea (CV 43)*, which was then engaged in combat operations over North Vietnam. The DFCs were presented to Cdr. Gerald J. Chasko, LCdr. Earnest Mares and Lts. Kenneth Holthaus, Edwin G.



Sailors aboard *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75) rig the emergency barricade during a flight deck drill while training in the Atlantic Ocean on 9 May.

PH3 Aaron J. Lebsack

Hiebert, Richard Floriani, Albert Hyde, James Hughes, William Kish, Jay D. Starling, James Mattly and George Blosser for heroism during combat in Vietnam (ranks are as of 1965). Former VA-155 CO, RAdm. James B. Morin, USN (Ret.), attended the presentation, and former squadron member and POW Capt. Wendall Rivers, USN (Ret.), received a Gold Star in lieu of a second DFC.

RAdm. Tim Beard, Commander Naval Strike and Air Warfare Center, presented two awards for Kosovo combat on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy and the Chief of Naval Operations at a command ceremony in June. LCdr. Brian B. Brurud was awarded the **Silver Star Medal** for his actions on 15 April 1999 while serving as an F-14A *Tomcat* pilot with VF-41 aboard *Theodore Roosevelt* (CVN 71). Brurud led an air attack against Podgorica Airfield in the Serbian province of Montenegro in support of Operation Allied Force. Lt. Clay G. Williams received the **Distinguished Flying Cross with a Combat Distinguishing Device** for his participation in aerial flight from April to June 1999 as a forward air controller (airborne) with VF-41 during combat operations against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in support of Operation Allied Force.

Lt. Francisco Silebi, also of VF-41, received the **Chief of Naval Operations Valor Award** for combat operations over Kosovo. Silebi received the award for his calm professionalism in the face of danger when several surface-to-air missiles were launched against his aircraft in April 1999. The Valor Award is given to the individual who most embodies the spirit of bravery.

AB1 (AW/SW) Kent Davis received the **1999 Government Employees Insurance Company Military Service Award** on 1 May for his contributions to multiple

crash and salvage operations on board *Carl Vinson* (CVN 70).

The Fuels Management Division at NAS Oceana, Va., received the American Petroleum Institute's trophy for the **Best Naval Air Station Fuel Operation in the Navy**. The award was established in 1988 to promote excellence in fuels management and to recognize those who made the most significant contributions to Navy and Marine Corps fuel operations and fleet fuel support.

NADEP Cherry Point, N.C., received the **1999 North Carolina Governor's Award** for excellence in waste reduction in a federal facility. The NADEP was among 12 North Carolina industrial and governmental agencies and institutions recognized for excellence in eliminating, reducing and managing waste.

Scan Pattern

An SH-60 *Seahawk* from jHSL-94 assisted *Samuel Eliot Morison* (FFG 13) in seizing nearly a ton of cocaine from a fast boat off the coast of Columbia in late May. Operating as part of a Federal Joint Interagency Task Force, the frigate's surface, air and law enforcement team tracked, pursued and seized illegal narcotic shipments as part of its five-month deployment to the U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command headquartered at NS Roosevelt Roads, P.R. Together, *Morison* and the HSL-94 helo pursued the boat and retrieved 28 bales of dumped narcotics spread over a two-mile area.

Secretary of Defense William Cohen approved the merger of the Aviation Structural Mechanic (Structures), **AMS**, and the Aviation Structural Mechanic (Hydraulics),

2000 Association of Naval Aviation Awards

ANA OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

Tactical Aviation

LCdr. Carl J. Deni, VF-14

Martime Patrol

Lt. Michael V. Mineo, VP-5

Force Support and Special Mission

VAW-124, Cdr. Stephen L. Guse, CO

Aviation Chief Petty Officer

ATCS (AW) Randal R. Beever, VAQ-134

Aviation Maintenance Petty Officer

AK1 (AW) Michael W. Goodwin, VAQ-137

Rear Admiral A. C. Read Navigator of the Year

Lt. George M. Perry, VF-41

Dorothy M. Flatley Award for Inspirational Support

Mrs. Connie S. Cantrell, VAW-125

Naval Aviation Article Writing

(Cosponsored by U. S. Naval Institute)

Maj. Ross Roberts, USMC, VMFA-312

Edward H. Heinemann Award

Capt. Robert A. Wirt, F/A-18E/F Integrated Test Team

Helicopter Aviation

USCG Crew 6011, CGAS Sitka, AK:

LCdr. Robert E. Yerex, Lt. James S. O'Keefe,

AMT1 Christian A. Blanco and AST3 Noel G. Hutton

Extraordinary Airmanship

LCdr. Albert C. Oesterle, VFA-137

FLEET OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

Pilot of the Year

LCdr. Dennis C. Mikeska, VFA-27 (CNAP)

Lt. James D. Webb, VFA-37 (CNAL)

Naval Flight Officer of the Year

Lt. Gregory F. Gallman, VF-2 (CNAP)

Lt. Mark J. Colombo, VAQ-140 (CNAL)

Landing Signal Officer of the Year

Lt. Frederick E. Crecelius, CVW-5 (CNAP)

LCdr. William P. Pennington, CVW-8 (CNAL)

Michael G. Hoff Attack Aviator of the Year

(Sponsored by Raytheon)

LCdr. Scott A McClure, VFA-137 (CNAP)

LCdr. Brian B. Brurud, VF-41 (CNAL)

CHIEF OF NAVAL AIR TRAINING

Pilot Instructor of the Year

Capt. Donald G. Temple, USMC, VT-3

Flight Officer Instructor of the Year

(Sponsored by Northrop Grumman)

Capt. Nelson R. Sturdivant, USAF, VT-10

VAdm. Robert Goldthwaite Award for Overall Training Excellence

(Sponsored by the Boeing Company)

VT-22, Cdr. Chris Fedyschyn, CO

AMH, ratings, effective 1 March 2001.

While operating in the Mediterranean, members of the **VAQ-140 Patriots** participated in a project of international goodwill in Dubrovnik, Croatia, on 3 May. The *Patriots* volunteered to refurbish a complex which houses the Dubrovnik Humanitarian and Peace Organization. The organization provides women in postwar Croatia the opportunity for self-improvement through training, social interaction and employment. The women of the center showed their gratitude by preparing a lunch for the Sailors. International community efforts like this provide

a unique opportunity for interaction between different cultures.

Records

Several units marking **safe flying time**:

Unit	Hours	Years
HSL-42	111,350	13
VAQ-134	42,000	29
VPU-1	35,565	18

Capt. Lee Holbrook recorded his 1,000th trap, with VAQ-136 aboard *Kitty Hawk* (CV 63) in May.

Anniversaries

Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum celebrated its

Silver Anniversary on 4 July marking the 25th year since the arrival of *Yorktown* (CV 10) in Charleston Harbor, S.C.

Rescues

Two Sailors of VAQ-136 proved their mettle while aboard *Kitty Hawk* (CV 63). AO3 Thomas Zeman and AME3 Christopher Stark saved a young airman's life on 1 May when they tackled him moments before he went under an EA-6B *Prowler* and would have been sucked into the intake of the turning engine. During a flight crew change the airman was assigned to catch the overflow fuel

NAVAL AIR RESERVE OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

Pilot of the Year

Lt. Stephen J. Morris, VFC-13

Naval Flight Officer of the Year

LCdr. John A. Mueller, VAQ-209

Capt. Davis L. Bourland Personal Excellence Award

AD1 (AW) L. C. Jordan, VFA-204

CNO AVIATION ACHIEVEMENT

Cdr. Theodore G. Ellyson Aviation Production Excellence Award

(Sponsored by the Thomas Group)

HMT-303, Lt. Col. Dale Smith, USMC, CO

VT-22, Cdr. Chris Fedyschyn, CO

HC-3, Cdr. Bill Personius, CO

HSL-40, Cdr. Wayne A. Tunik, CO

VAdm. Robert B. Pirie Air Traffic Controller of the Year

(Sponsored by Telephonics Corp.)

AC1 (AW) Harvey L. Wicker, Jr., NAS Whidbey Island, WA

VAdm. William P. Lawrence Air Traffic Control Technician of the Year

(Sponsored by Telephonics Corp.)

ET2 Brian J. Dunn, NAS Brunswick, ME

Capt. Virg Lemmon Naval Aviation Maintenance Excellence

(Sponsored by Lockheed Martin)

Maj. Michael S. Nisley, USMC, MALS-39

Capt. Charles J. Nechvatal Aviation Ground

Maintenance Officer

(Sponsored by The Boeing Company)

Lt. Matt Wells, VS-41

Capt. Michael J. Estocin Strike Fighter Squadron Excellence

(Sponsored by the Boeing Company)

VFA-15, Cdr. Scott E. Smith, CO

RAdm. Clarence Wade McClusky Air-to-Ground Excellence

(Sponsored by Northrop Grumman)

VF-41, Cdr. Sam B. Richardson, CO

RAdm. Frank Akers Airborne Early Warning Excellence

(Sponsored by Northrop Grumman)

VAW-115, Cdr. Matthew Klunder, CO

Adm. Arthur W. Radford Tactical Electronic Warfare Excellence

(Sponsored by Northrop Grumman)

VAQ-141, Cdr. David T. Ott, CO

Adm. Jimmy Thach Carrier-based Antisubmarine Warfare Excellence

(Sponsored by Lockheed Martin)

HS-5, Cdr. Frederic P. Flight, CO

Capt. Arnold Jay Isbell Antisubmarine Warfare Superiority

(Sponsored by Lockheed Martin)

HS-14, Cdr. David A. Lausman, CO

HS-15, Cdr. George A. Cox, CO

HSL-37, Cdr. William H. Cameron, CO

HSL-42, Cdr. John E. Roberti, CO

VS-38, Cdr. Paul E. Hennes, CO

after the engine was shut down; however, he was headed to his position via the danger zone around the running engine's intake. In another flight deck incident, ADAN Timothy Schroeder caught a fuel leak from the bottom of the station two drop tank of an EA-6B *Prowler* just before takeoff, and immediately called for suspension of the launch.

VAQ-136 troubleshooters AME3 Corey Davis (foreground) and ADAN Timothy Schroeder help launch a *Prowler* off the deck of *Kitty Hawk* (CV 63) in May.



Lt. Dwight Clemons

Change of Command

CARGRU-6: RAdm. Lewis Crenshaw, Jr., relieved RAdm. Michael Johnson, 8 May.

CINCLANTFLT: Adm. Robert J. Natter relieved Adm. Vern Clark, 23 Jun.

HC-3: Cdr. William Personius relieved Cdr. Anthony Dzielski, 28 Apr.

HSL-41: Capt. (sel) Earl L. Gay relieved Capt. Charles B. Key III, 22 Jun.

HSL-42: Cdr. Michael L. Martin relieved Cdr. John E. Roberti, 1 Sep.

MALS-29: Lt. Col. Lisa C. Bachiller, USMC, relieved Lt. Col. Steven L. Franklin, USMC, 8 Jun.

NADEP North Island, CA: Capt. Emory L. Chenoweth relieved Capt. Coleen A. Watry, 19 May.

Naval Test Wing Atlantic: Col. Eugene Fraser relieved Capt. Mike Cosgrove, 19 May.

NSAWC: RAdm. Daniel L. Kloepfel relieved RAdm. Timothy R. Beard, 30 Jun.

PATRECONWING-10: Capt. Timothy S. Norgart relieved Capt. William P. Marriott II, 12 May.

PATRECONWING-11: Capt. James J. Cardosi relieved Capt. Alex S. Hill, 7 Apr.

TACRON-12: Cdr. Kent D. Bradshaw relieved Cdr. Mark A. Compton, 28 Jul.

VAQ-129: Cdr. Michael A. Collins relieved Capt. Donald P. Quinn, 11 May.

VAQ-134: Cdr. Thomas A. Tack relieved Cdr. Robert C. Field, 25 May.

VAQ-209: Cdr. John Watson relieved Cdr. Clay Fearnow, 10 Jun.

VAQWINGPAC: Capt. Douglas R. Swoish relieved Commodore John P. Cryer III, 1 Jun.

VAW-120: Cdr. Edward D. Rosequist relieved Capt. Brian M. Roby, 13 Apr.

VAW-121: Cdr. Kevin Oaks relieved Cdr. Mike Morris, 15 Jun.

VF-32: Cdr. Will Cooney relieved Cdr. Gary Galloway, 20 Apr.

VFA-22: Cdr. Ronald P. Townsend relieved Cdr. W. Scott Ryder, 11 May.

VFA-27: Cdr. Robert P. McLaughlin relieved Cdr. Kevin C. Hutcheson, 12 May.

VFA-83: Cdr. Kevin Keutman relieved Cdr. Patrick Rainey, 14 Apr.

VFA-131: Cdr. Scott A. Stearny relieved Cdr. James K. Cook, 20 Apr.

VFA-137: Cdr. Michael S. White relieved Cdr. Lawrence D. Burt, 1 Jun.

VP-1: Cdr. Thomas J. Doughty relieved Cdr. James D. Heffernan, 1 May.

VP-8: Cdr. James C. Stein relieved Cdr. Paul R. Martinez, 12 May.

VP-46: Cdr. Walter B. Jackson relieved Cdr. William F. Moran, Jr., 23 Jun.

VQ-1: Cdr. Bernard Lessard relieved Cdr. Todd Boyers, 22 Jun.

VQ-3: Cdr. Margaret D. Klein relieved Cdr. Jay S. Gallamore, 7 Jul.

VRC-30: Cdr. John M. Kennedy relieved Cdr. Stephen C. Kingston, 7 Jul.

VS-29: Cdr. Curt W. Goldacker relieved Cdr. Edmond L. Boullianne, 24 Mar.

VS-31: Cdr. James Gregorski relieved Cdr. Ralph N. Alderson, 24 Apr.

VT-10: Cdr. Brian Toon relieved Lt. Col. Rick Anderson II, USAF, 7 Jul.

VT-31: Capt. Douglas S. Coppinger relieved Capt. Ronald D. Senger, 26 May.

Further inspection showed the leak came from a crack in the middle section of the drop tank. Schroeder's quick actions prevented potential loss of aircrew and aircraft.

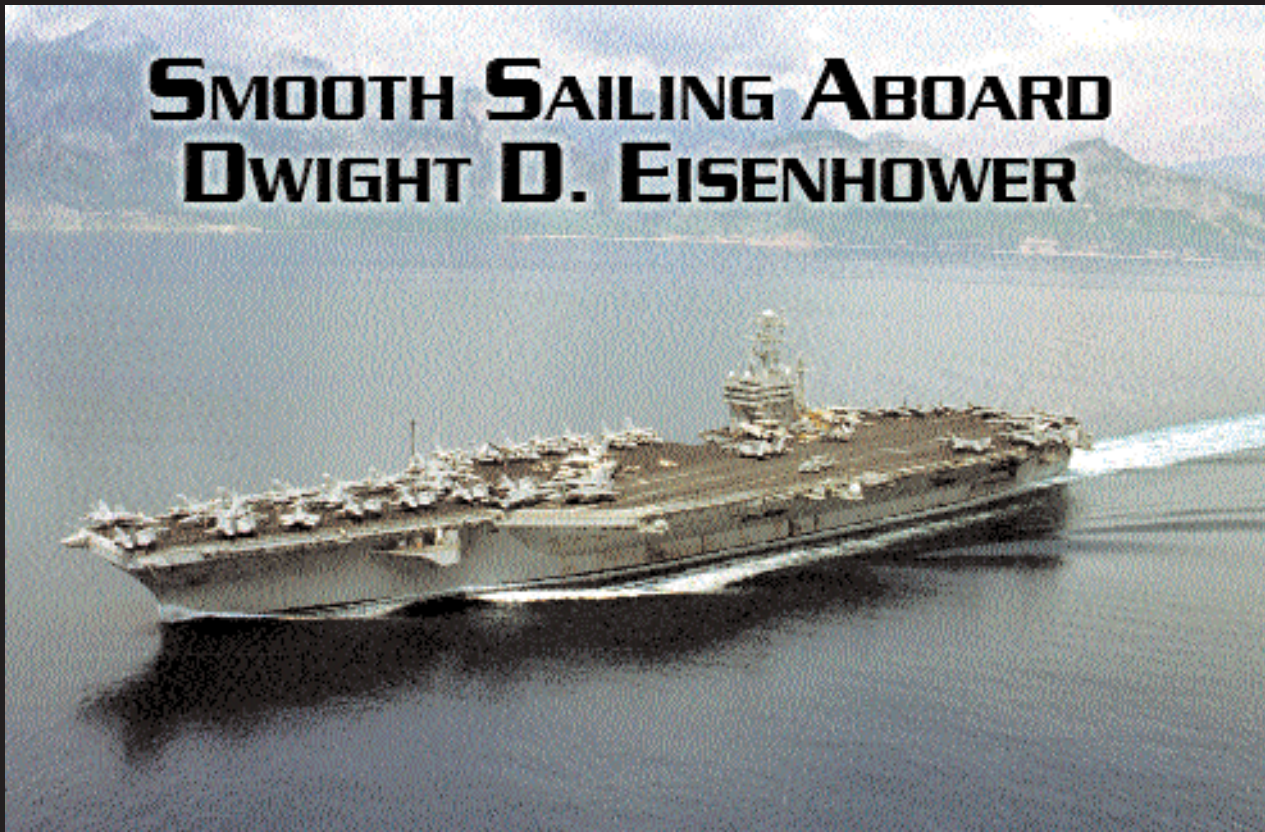
An SH-60B *Seahawk* from **HSL-43** assigned to *Bunker Hill* (CG 52) rescued a civilian pilot on 23 May after his twin-engine aircraft crashed into the ocean approximately 200 miles off the southern California coast. Pilots Lt. Blair Keithley and Ltjg. Trey Brown used forward-looking infrared radar to

locate the downed pilot. Once on scene, helicopter crew chief AW1 Troy Alexander lowered search and rescue swimmer AW3 Nicholas Gibson to the victim. After recovery, the pilot was treated aboard *Bunker Hill* by a reserve flight surgeon before transfer to San Clemente Island. *Abraham Lincoln* (CVN 72) and *Shiloh* (CG 67) also assisted in the rescue. When the incident occurred the three ships were en route to the Hawaiian operating area to participate in the 17th Rim of the Pacific multinational naval exercise.

On 4 June the **NAS Whidbey Island, Wash., Search and Rescue** (SAR) team rescued an injured mountain climber on Coleman Glacier on the west face of Mount Baker. The operations duty office had received a call for assistance from the Whatcom County Sheriff's office at 2040 on 3 June. When the SAR team was able to launch at 0500 the next day, the crew—aircraft commander LCdr. Mike Kammerzell; copilot Lt. Pat Rollins; crew chief AMH1 Marty Crews; and ADC Frank Leets and HMCS Bryce Schuldt—flew to Bellingham

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SMOOTH SAILING ABOARD DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER



Photos by PH3 Class David E. Carter II

Hearing they've passed the midpoint of a six-month deployment is "music to their ears" for Sailors aboard *Dwight D. Eisenhower* (CVN 69). Below, passing through the Suez Canal on 20 May is the milestone indicating the deployment's halfway point. Right, ABAN Mike Martinez (foreground) and AMS3 Ryan Roof take advantage of a no-fly day on 22 May to practice for an upcoming talent show. Above, following a port visit in Turkey, *Eisenhower* steams to the Arabian Gulf for the remainder of the deployment.



PHAN Alisha Clay

International Airport, Wash., to pick up a spotter from the Bellingham Mountain rescue club to assist. When the climbing party was located at 0615, Kammerzell positioned the helicopter in a 20-foot hover above them while medical personnel were lowered by the rescue hoist. Schuldts treated the injured climber on scene, and with Leets' assistance lifted the victim onto the litter and prepared him for recovery. The helicopter was

positioned with one wheel balancing on the side of the glacier while Schuldts and Leets loaded the patient, who was taken to a local hospital.

Blue Angels events coordinator Maj. Bruce Shank, USMC, flight surgeon LCdr. Pat McMahon and LCdr. Paul Moellere were awarded the Navy/Marine Corps Medal on 9 May for heroism in a noncombat situation. The three team members

rescued 2nd Lt. Nolan Porter, USAF, a student navigator at VT-4, on 14 August 1999 after he was struck by lightning while windsurfing near Pensacola, Fla. Maj. Shank and LCdr. Moellere pulled the victim from the water and LCdr. McMahon performed cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Lifesaving efforts continued until emergency crews arrived and transported Porter to Pensacola Naval Hospital.

Great Victory Has Grim Cost

By Eileen Brown

"When they talk about us as heroes, there were 186 who died that day," retired Cdr. Harry Ferrier said on 4 June at the ceremony for the Battle of Midway anniversary held at NAS Whidbey Island, Wash. Tears filled his eyes as his voice trailed away on the warm breeze. He could not continue. Recalling the horrific Battle of Midway (4-6 June 1942) reminded young and old of the high price of victory in the Pacific.

Cdr. Ferrier and retired LCdr. Stuart Mason were honored guests at the commemorative service. More than 100 invited guests and visitors from the Puget Sound area paid tribute to the brave personnel who were, in the words of the late CNO Adm. Mike Boorda, "hopelessly outclassed and outnumbered."



Above, Cdr. Harry Ferrier (left) and LCdr. Stuart Mason prepare to lay a wreath over the waters of Crescent Harbor (bottom). Mason was a Radioman Third Class with Bombing Squadron 6 aboard *Enterprise* (CV 6), and Radioman Third Class Ferrier, left, flew in TBF

Avengers in Torpedo Squadron 8 from *Hornet* (CV 8) during the Battle of Midway. Right, the NAS Whidbey Island Honor Guard renders a 21-gun salute. Bottom left, veteran Allen Howland holds a rose in remembrance of the 186 who died during the 4-6 June 1942 battle.



Chaplain Steven Eaton led prayers of remembrance for those lost and for those who survived, and Washington State Trooper Barry Kirk played "Going Home" as Ferrier and Mason dropped a floral wreath in honor of those laid to rest in the sea.

