

PEOPLE PLANES PLACES



PH1 William R. Goodwin

Edited by J0SN Dan Ball and J02 Amy L. Pittmann

Awards

Naval Aviation News received second place in the **2000 CHINFO Merit Awards**, in the publications for a specific audience category. Art Director Morgan Wilbur and Grampaw Pettibone artist Ted Wilbur received second place and honorable mention (HM), respectively, for graphics in support of a publication.

Other aviation winners were: Military funded newspapers, small deployed units: 1st, *Take Notice/Gator Gazette, Belleau Wood* (LHA 3); 2nd, *The Guardian, George Washington* (CVN 73); 3rd, *Give 'Em Hell Herald, Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75); HM, *Starscope,*

Constellation (CV 64) and *The Kennedy Eagle, John F. Kennedy* (CV 67). Military funded newspapers, small shore units: 1st, *Northwest Islander*, NAR Whidbey Island, Wash. Military funded newspaper (magazine format): HM, *Depotalk*, NADEP North Island, Calif. Civilian enterprise newspaper (metro): HM, *The Weaponeer*, NAVAIRWARCENWPNDIV, China Lake, Calif. Civilian enterprise newspaper (tabloid): HM, *The Signature*, NAS Sigonella, Italy.

News article: HM, JO1(SW) Joel Huval, *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75). Sports Article: HM, Loren Barnes, NAS Jacksonville, Fla. Series: 1st, Art Giberson, Scott Hallford, Mike Antoine, Larry

Kachelhofer, NAS Pensacola, Fla.; 2nd, JO2s Pete Robertson and Robert A. Carfrae, *George Washington* (CVN 73).

Single or stand-alone photograph: Jeff Hall, NAS Lemoore, Calif. Photojournalism: 3rd, Art Giberson, NAS Pensacola, Fla.

Web-based publication, 1st, *USS Nimitz News Online, Nimitz* (CVN 68); HM, *NAVAIR E-Mag*, COM-NAVAIRSYSCOM, Patuxent River, Md.

Outstanding new writer: 1st, JO3 Paul S. Newell, *George Washington* (CVN 73); 3rd, JO3 Jackey Bratt, NAS Jacksonville, Fla.; HM, JO2 Laura C. Wiggins, *Bonhomme Richard* (LHD 6).

Department of the Navy Print

Journalist of the Year: HM, JO1 Luis M. Luque, *George Washington* (CVN 73).

Family Grams, small commands: 2nd, *The Seahawker*, VAW-126. Family Grams, large command: 2nd, *Talon*, *Tarawa* (LHA 1).

Cruisebooks, large commands: 1st, *Millennium Cruise*, *John C. Stennis* (CVN 74); 2nd, *Hull Swap Summer 2000*, *Essex* (LHD 2)/*Belleau Wood* (LHA 3).

TV information program: HM, *Chow Boss Show*, *John F. Kennedy* (CV 67). SITE TV newscast: 1st, *NewsLinc*, *Abraham Lincoln* (CVN 72); 2nd, *WJFK On Station*, *John F. Kennedy* (CV 67). SITE TV spot production: 1st, JO2 Carmichael Yepez, *Abraham Lincoln* (CVN 72). SITE open: 1st, *FOD Walkdown Training Video*, JO2 Carmichael Yepez, *Abraham Lincoln* (CVN 72); 3rd, *Tracy's Travels*, JO2 Greg Bobish/OSCM(SW/AW) Tracy Connell, *John F. Kennedy* (CV 67).



John C. Stennis (CVN 74) became the Pacific Fleet's top carrier after the San Diego, Calif.-based ship won 11 of the 12 individual Battle "E" categories in CY 2000.

The Navy League presented the following 2001 inspirational leadership awards to the aviation community: MTCM(AW/SS) Sean P. McGurk, VAQ-136, **Adm.**

Claude V. Ricketts (E7 and above); AT1 (AW/SW) Daniel L. Gray, HC-2, **Adm. Claude V. Ricketts** (E6 and below); Lt. Kendra M. Bowers, VFA-105, **Capt. Winifred Quick Collins** (female officer); and AD1 Renee L. Behn-Leblanc, VP-9, Unit 25447, **Capt. Winifred Quick Collins** (female enlisted).

VFs 32 and 143, VFA-87 and VP-45 received the **2000 Golden Wrench Award** for aircraft maintenance excellence.

The top fleet antisubmarine warfare squadrons received the **2000 Capt. Arnold Jay Isbell Trophy**: HS-7, HSL-42 VP-45 and VS-31 in the Atlantic; and HS-7, HSL-42 VP-4 and VS-21 in the Pacific.

The **SECNAV Achievement in Safety Ashore Award** winners and runner-ups in the aviation community were: large industrial activity winner, NADEP North

Opposite, a Kitty Hawk (CV 63) catapult crew shoots a "no load" to test catapult four during routine deployment. Below, PH2 Shane Wallenda caught four VF-103 Jolly Rogers F-14 Tomcats lined up on the flight deck of George Washington (CVN 73) awaiting launch during NATO exercise Destined Glory in October 2000.



EP-3E Crew Honored



Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld (left) and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Henry H. Shelton present awards to the crew of the EP-3E *Aries II* that collided with a Chinese fighter over the South China Sea on 31 March. Pilot Lt. Shane Osborn was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) for saving the crew and plane. Senior Chief Aviation Machinist's Mate Nicholas Mellos received the MSM for his leadership of the crew during its emergency landing and subsequent detainment by the People's Republic of China. The remaining 22 members of the crew received the Air Medal.

Island, San Diego, Calif.; large nonindustrial activity runner-up, MCAS Miramar, Calif.; Out-Conus nonindustrial activity winner, NAS Keflavik, Iceland; and runner-up, NAS Sigonella, Italy.

The Naval Aviation Museum Foundation, Pensacola, Fla., presented the **2001 Arthur W. Radford Award** for excellence in Naval Aviation history and literature to Capt. Edmund T. Wooldridge, USN (Ret.), and the **2001 R. G. Smith Award** for Naval Aviation art to Craig Kodera.

Lt. Juan Garcia of *Constellation* (CV 64) received the **National Image Inc., Meritorious Service Award** for excellence in promoting education programs in CY 2000.

AME3(AW) Leighton Bridge received a **Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal** for rescuing an airman on the flight deck of *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75). Bridge risked his life by tackling the airman as she was unknowingly walking toward the moving props of an E-2C

Constellation Battle Group Visits Australia

By JO2(SW/AW) A. R. Pree

The *Constellation* (CV 64) battle group started its 2001 WESTPAC deployment with a visit to Australia. While there, Sailors and Marines participated in community relations projects that benefited others and permitted ship's company to experience the country in a way that tours and sightseeing cannot. For example, in Fremantle, 31 personnel performed yard work and painting at several different locations, and 20 Sailors visited children and elderly patients at the Fremantle Hospital.

Constellation opened its doors to more than 60,000 Sydney residents, above right, and 30,000



PHAN Margarito Garcia

visitors in Fremantle. In addition to general tours during the day, *Connie's* supply department hosted evening receptions in the hangar bay in both ports as an act of goodwill and friendship.

AVIATION LOSES FAMED ARTIST



Robert Grant “R. G.” Smith, 87, died on 29 May at his home in California after a long illness.

Smith is best known as a Naval Aviation artist, and his two tours as a combat artist in Vietnam and trips to naval units around the world led to his distinction as an Honorary Naval Aviator.

Smith’s career began in 1936 as an engineer with Douglas Aircraft, where he helped design naval aircraft such as the SBD *Dauntless*, AD *Skyraider*, F4D *Skyray*, A3D *Skywarrior*, and the A4D *Skyhawk*. He was also one of the five original founders of the American Society of Aviation Artists.



In 1994 he became the first recipient of the R. G. Smith Award for excellence in Naval Aviation art—named in his honor by the National Museum of Naval Aviation in Pensacola, Fla.

Left, R. G. sketches a patrol boat in South Vietnam. Below, “Night Ambush From Tango Boat (ATC) Vihn Te Canal Cambodian Border.” Bottom, Operation “Wet Wing” KA-3B *Skywarrior* refuels an A-4 *Skyhawk*.



PROWLERS IN BELGIUM MIX IT UP

Right, an EA-6B *Prowler* with VAQ-134 lands in Florennes, Belgium, to attend the Tactical Leadership Program. The program allows pilots and aircrews of NATO nations' air strike forces to work together through a series of tactical flight missions. Below, VAQ-134 pilots and electronic countermeasures officers review mission plans.



Photos by PHC Charles M. Abell



Hawkeye.

Scan Pattern

The **CH-60S *Seahawk*** was officially redesignated the **MH-60S *Seahawk*** on 6 February.

The **Minutemen of Fleet Logistics Squadron (VR) 55**, Point Mugu, Calif., completed an around-the-world mission in a **C-130 *Hercules*** to support Underwater Construction Team 2's detachment mission from Guam to Madagascar. The team was conducting a port construction exercise in Manakara, Madagascar,

in support of recently reestablished diplomatic relations with the United States. The squadron departed Point Mugu on 2 February for Hickam AFB, Hawaii, and continued to points west until returning to Point Mugu on 15 February. The squadron logged approximately 25,500 miles in 14 days.

Sea duty credit is now awarded to most enlisted ratings assigned to the Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, ***Blue Angels***. Type 2 (sea) duty is approved for all aviation maintenance ratings and PH, AK

and HM ratings. There are 36 available billets for next year's team at the E5/E6 level, with openings in virtually all aviation ratings and available positions for JOs and YNs. The deadline for applications is 31 July and final selections will be made by 31 August. For more information visit www.blueangels.navy.mil or call 850-452-2466, ext. 139.

Records

Units marking **safe flying time**:

Five Star Reunion

On 27 March, five generations of *Dwight D. Eisenhower* (CVN 69) commanding officers reunited on board *Ike*.

From left to right: Capt. (Ret.) Gregory C.

Brown, 1995–1998;

VAdm. (Ret.) Edward W. Clextan, Jr., 1981–1984;

Ike's current CO Capt.

Mark T. McNally;

RAAdm. H. Denby Starling II, 1998–2000; and RAAdm. (Ret.) Joseph J. Dantone,

1988–1990. At far right is *Dwight D. Eisenhower*'s executive officer, Capt. Shawn R. Tallant.



PH3 Joshua Lee Treadwell

Unit	Hours	Years
HC-3	168,000	27
VFA-106	100,000	16
VMFA-332	85,000	23
HS-11	30,000	10

COMCVW-1 Capt. Phil W.

Grandfield achieved his **1,000th trap** on 14 March, aboard *Theodore Roosevelt* (CVN 71) in an F-14 *Tomcat* from VF-102.

Rescues

On 3 February, while escorting three Army OH-58 *Kiowa* helicopters to *Dwight D. Eisenhower* (CVN 69) 100 miles off the coast of Florida, an **HS-75** SH-60F *Seahawk*

aircrew learned that one of the helos had developed mechanical problems. Shortly thereafter the stricken *Kiowa* experienced a tail rotor drive loss, made a complete 180-degree turn, went into autorotation and ditched in the water. The rescue swimmer, performing his first jump since search and rescue school, entered the frigid water and checked over the two injured pilots. While the aircrew maintained position over the victims, the swimmer strapped the first survivor to the hoist. The crew had trouble locating the second pilot so the swimmer was lifted back into the *Seahawk* while they searched. The other pilot was soon located and

lifted to safety.

On 15 March, 495 nautical miles southeast of Guam, a **VP-1** P-3C *Orion* discovered a small skiff that had been reported missing and guided the rescue of its six passengers. The aircrew deployed a search and rescue package containing life rafts and basic survival items and conducted a radar search for nearby vessels to assist the rescue. The crew then established communications with a small motorboat on an island 15 miles away. The motorboat did not have

proper equipment for open-sea navigation, but the crew of the *Orion* was able to direct it with a path of smoke flares dropped into the water every three miles. The motorboat then towed the powerless vessel back to the island, following another trail of flares.

The **NAS Fallon, Nev., Search and Rescue** (SAR) team launched an HH-1N "Huey" to rescue an injured snowboarder on 31 March. The Mono County, Calif., Sheriff's SAR team was the first on scene. They stabilized, prepped for transfer and provided medical care to the 23-year-old woman who had fallen 800

CHANGE OF COMMAND

HC-2: Cdr. Timothy L. Watkins relieved Cdr. Gilmore N. Birklund, 3 May.

NAS Jacksonville, Fla.: Capt. Mark S. Boensel relieved Capt. Stephen A. Turcotte, 26 Apr.

Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71): Capt. Richard J. O'Hanlon relieved Capt. David R. Bryant, 22 Mar.

VAQ-137: Cdr. Gary C. Peterson relieved Cdr. William T. Griffin, 5 Apr.

VMFA-122: Lt. Col. J. Kevin Elder relieved Lt. Col. William W. Griffen, Jr., 1 Mar.

VMU-1: Lt. Col. Tracy Warren relieved Lt. Col. Thomas Ellis, 24 Mar.

VP-5: Cdr. Paul J. Frost relieved Cdr. Timothy E. Boothe, 23 May.

VP-8: Cdr. Michael W. Hewitt relieved Cdr. James C. Stein, 11 May.

VP-45: Cdr. Hugh H. Cook III relieved Cdr. Dennis J. Sinnet, 30 Mar.

VP-47: Cdr. Keith A. Bluestein relieved Cdr. Gregory J. Wittman, 21 Jun.

VS-24: Cdr. Brian E. Luther relieved Cdr. Michael C. Urquhart, 13 Apr.

VX-1: Capt. Glen R. Ives relieved Capt. George F. Barton, 30 Mar.



Left, Lt. Paul Mortel from Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron 11 conducts a preflight check on his SH-60 Seahawk prior to launch from the flight deck of Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71). Below, an E-2C Hawkeye from the Liberty Bells of Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron 115 roars into the sky after launching from Kitty Hawk (CV 63).

while deployed in the Pacific. Due to his condition he was unable to endure a catapult launch, so the *Seahawk* transported him to Hickam AFB, Oahu.

A dispute between two fishing

boat crewmen on 9 March prompted a Coast Guard HH-65 *Dolphin* rescue of a gunshot victim. The **CGAS Atlantic City, N.J.**, helo crew took a call from the fishing boat *Heather Anne*, located 12 miles from Manasquan Inlet,

feet down the side of an icy mountain. When the “Huey” arrived, the crew determined that the helicopter was too heavy, so they flew it back down the mountain and unloaded unnecessary gear and one crew member. Upon return to the mountain, a crewman rappelled to the victim and assessed the situation. It was decided that the victim be carefully moved to a position 300 yards down the mountain where the ground was more level. There, the pilot was able to perform a one-skid landing to recover the woman and helo crew member.

On 23 March the crew of an **HS-2 HH-60H** *Seahawk* transported a seriously ill Sailor from *Constellation* (CV 64) to Hawaii. The patient had been diagnosed with acute onset leukemia

N.J. In a gunfight between the two boats, a crewman on board *Heather Anne* was shot in the stomach. Authorities said there was a long-standing dispute between the two fishermen. The 82-foot cutter *Point Highland*, a 42-foot search and rescue utility boat and a New Jersey State Police boat with a Coast Guard boarding team also responded to the call.

On 7 March **CGAS Elizabeth City, N.C.**, received a call from the 640-foot tanker *Louros* that a 51-year-old crewman had broken his arm in several places. However, it wasn't until 9 March that *Louros* came within range of the station's HH-60J *Jayhawk*, which picked up the victim and flew him to a hospital in Elizabeth City.

A **CGAS Sitka, Alaska**, HH-60J *Jayhawk* crew rescued an 18-year-old woman suffering from life-threatening respiratory distress while aboard the 63-foot fishing vessel *Northern Explorer* on 16 March. The crew lowered its swimmer to assist the victim into the rescue basket, and the *Jayhawk* transported her to a regional health facility.

AT1 Mark R. Garcia

