

Toooo Weeeettt..Attention on Deck...Now hear this...Standby to hear a message from the bridge.... "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.

# February

2023

21st Year Edition

Established Nov 2002

VOL 1 Issue 240



## A Blessing

"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest". Matthew 11:28



"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation *under God*, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

**"Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, today is God's gift, that's why we call it the present"**

**"Remember today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday"**

**"Don't complain about growing old! Some people don't get the privilege"**

***Stay safe, Be proud, Be strong, Be healthy, and Be well***

**Military Enlistment Oath:** I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution Of The United States against **all enemies, foreign and domestic**; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States.



**Salute.**

*Salute to all you Saints heroes. Thank you for your service.*

*May God Bless you*



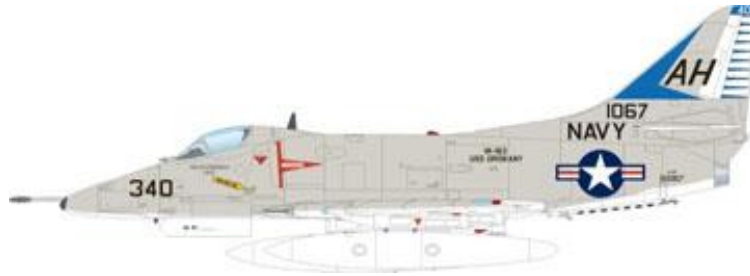


Patriot

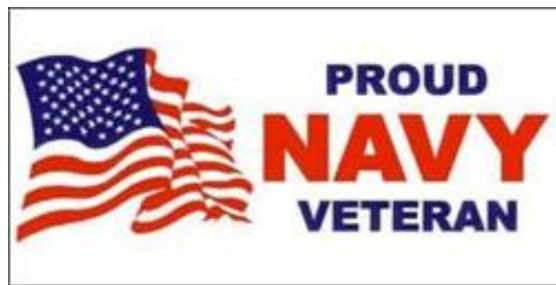
pa·tri·ot *Noun*

[pey-tree-uhz, -ot or, esp. British, pa-tree-uhz]

A person who vigorously supports their country and is prepared to defend it against enemies foreign and domestic.







Standing the Watch



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

**"Keeper of the Flame"**

Memories glimmer and hide in the dim shadows  
Daring us to ‘...catch me...if you can!’...  
As time steadily treads its own meandering path,  
It’s hard to trace old members of the clan.  
Then someone steps up with lantern and blade  
Shouting, “Let’s gather them in for us all, good neighbor!  
We’ll bring forth those hidden in the shade, and  
Share them with one and another!  
“I’ll keep that flame high and the blade ever sharp,  
That our friends may never be lost in the dark!”

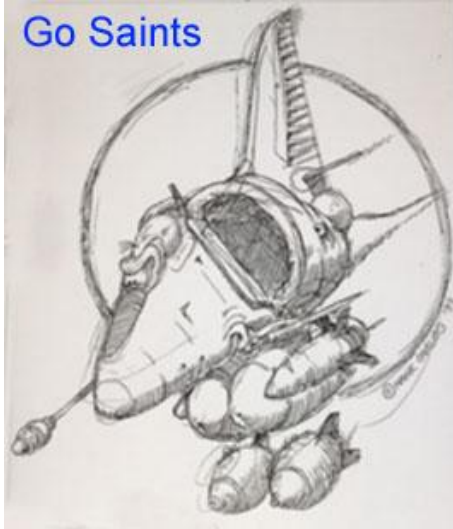
**ONCE A SAINT, ALWAYS A SAINT**



**Tailhook Navy**











ATKRON 163



## *Saints Photos Website*





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

Also on Saints website, PHOTOS section

**Contains 80 Albums.... 4,832 Photos**

**View Counts as of 03 February 2023**

**“Over a million views”**

**1,117,655 views**

“Saints Reunion Virginia Beach” **49 photos & 1 video**

**Click on link below**

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/va163saints/albums/72157720165688053/with/51698826279/>

\*\*\*\*Paid **\$76.00** to Flickr.com for Saints Photo website on 27 April 2022

**\*\*\*SAINTS WEBSITE\*\*\***

**THE WEBSITE HAS THE LATEST NEWSLETTERS AND ROSTER**

Saints website [www.va163.org](http://www.va163.org) password: **Saints4ever capital S**

**31,802** 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**

\*\*\*14 March 2022 paid **\$15.45** to "Active-Domain" website hosting for 1 year renewal\*\*\*

\*\*\*5 OCT 2021 paid **\$306.75** to "GoDaddy" website hosting for 2 year renewal\*\*\*

15 Jan 2022 paid \$120 to "Webmaster" for maintenance of site, annual renewal

01 March 2022 paid \$14.45 for "Domain Name" one year renewal

**Any donations are appreciated**

Ed Copher

1211 Gruene Vintage

New Braunfels, TX 78130

**Folks that have sent in "website" donations 2017-22: A big shout out... "Thank You"**

Ken Adams

Raymond Baker

Dave Carey

Ed Chadwick (3)

Dennis Dooley

David Farley

JC Ferris (2)

Bob Feuillerat

Earl Groff (4)

Tom Harwood

Bill Houk (2)

Dale & Mary Landroth

Daniel Lestage (2)

George Lundy (2)

Roger Meyer

Pete Munro

Floyd Oakes

Richard Odegaard

MA Petty

John Roosen (2)

Seth Rossman (2)

Bill Sargent

Fritz Schroeder (2)

John Shore (2)

James Thompson

Bill Tomko

Anthony Stabile (2)

Lucille Stickley (4)

James Marcely (VA-164)

Steve Cutting (VA-164)



Tommy Wimberly (other)

**Folks that have donated to the “Saints Flower Fund”: Thank You**

**Flowers have been sent to the last 12 funerals**

Ken Adams

Raymond Baker

Dennis Dooley

Earl Groff (2)

John Roosen

Seth Rossman

Thomas Harwood

Griff Sexton

Anthony Stabile

Ed Chadwick (2)

Daniel Lestage (3)

Lucille Sticklely (4)



**Saints 2023 Reunion in Planning Stage:** Submitted by Ed Chadwick

**Attention on deck, now hear this!**

**VA-163** SAINTS Reunion in Pensacola, during late October or early November. Reach out to all the squadron mates who you know and tell them of the possible event. With a sufficient number, the planning will begin. We ain't getting any younger, so let's do it!

Let me know if you have any suggestions. Thanks a lot.

**Point of contact:** Ed Chadwick: [chadco@chadcorealestate.com](mailto:chadco@chadcorealestate.com)

Phone: 503-781-3973



Douglas A-4F \* Skyhawk \*  
VF-164 \* Ghostriders \*  
NAS Lemore, 1971.  
CVA-19 USS Hancock.



© DEBARRE Michel

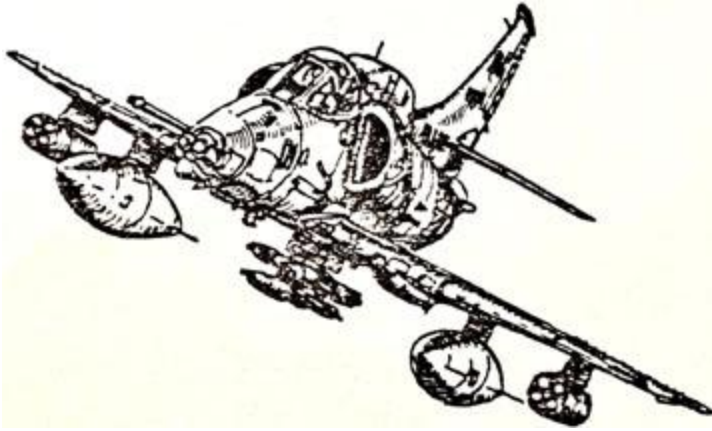




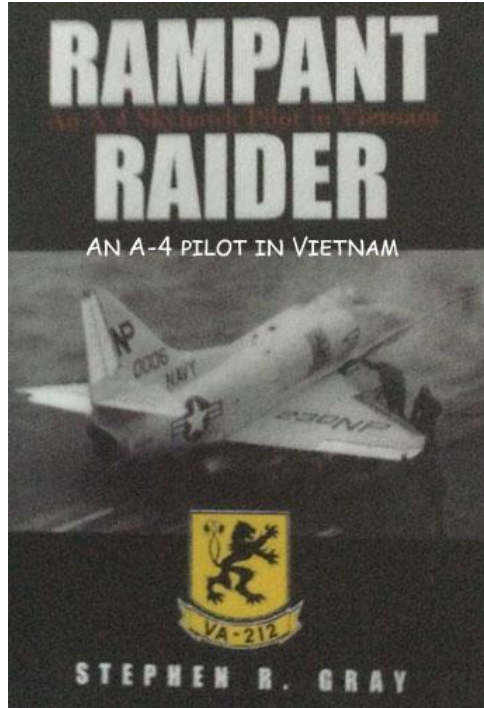






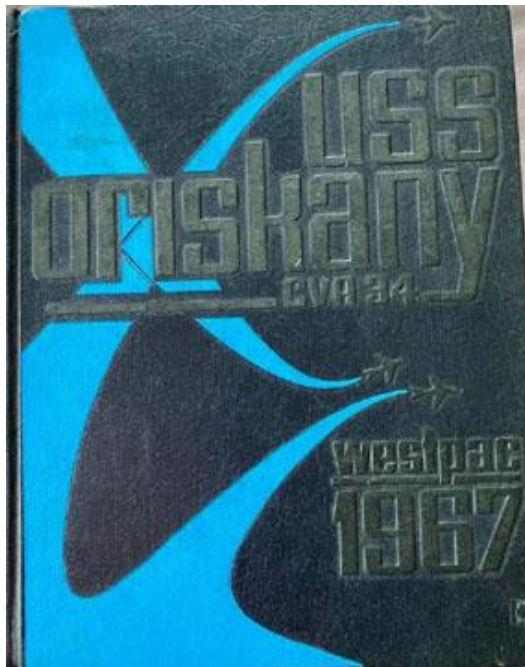
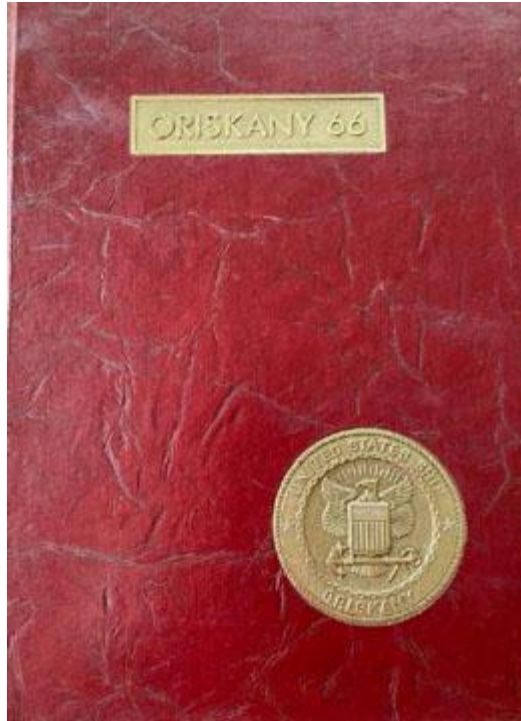
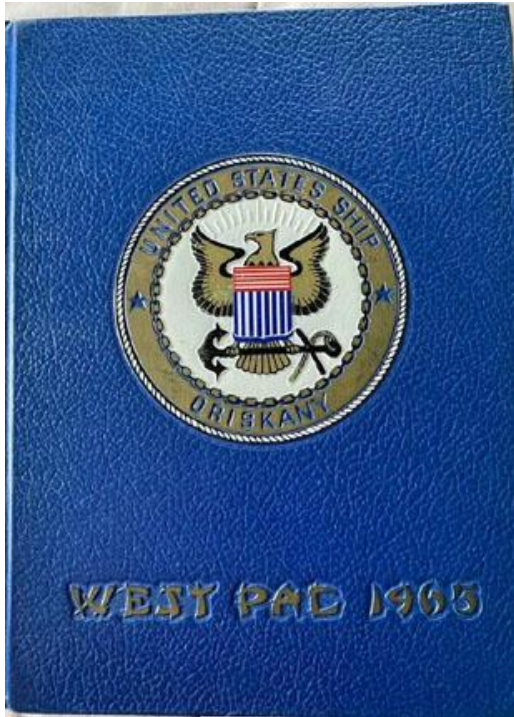






Book:







### [A4ever Winter Edition](#)

The Winter edition of the Skyhawk Association Journal has been posted to the web site. Go to [skyhawk.org](http://skyhawk.org) and click on the link to download the edition.



### [Join the "VA-163 Saints" Facebook group:](#)



Please join the "**VA-163 Saints**" Facebook group. Updates on reunions etc. and other interesting Saints postings. You can post pictures and other info for others to enjoy. Just go to Facebook Groups and search for **VA-163 Saints**.

Ed Copher is the group administrator and will approve your joining.



[From CNN: US pilot shot down four Soviet MiGs in 30 minutes, and kept it a secret for 50 years](https://www.cnn.com/2023/01/20/asia/korean-war-fighter-pilot-soviet-shootdown-intl-hnk-ml/index.html)

Submitted by Mule:

US pilot shot down four Soviet MiGs in 30 minutes -- and kept it a secret for 50 years

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/01/20/asia/korean-war-fighter-pilot-soviet-shootdown-intl-hnk-ml/index.html>







# THE "DIXIE CUP"

## A U.S. NAVY TRADITION

www.history.navy.mil

### EARLY DAYS OF AN ICON



In 1886, a "low rolled brim, high-domed item constructed of canvas" is written into regulations.

Since then, it has been affectionately referred to as the "Dixie Cup." In the early days, the brim was worn much lower, as seen here by Sailors aboard USS Washington.

Sailor Uniform Regulation 1901-07

### KEEPING IT SQUARE



Despite regulations saying the cover is not to be "crushed, bent or rolled," Sailors have been personalizing their hats by stylistically reshaping them since its inception.

"The Cap & All 'O' -" Mark A. Stanger

### PROPER WEAR AND MARKING



The hat "must be made of white cotton twill with a rounded crown and full starch brim."

It must be worn "squarely on the head with the lower front edge approximately 1 1/2 inch above the eyebrows and not crushed, bent or rolled."

Ownership markings should be on the back of the brim, between the crown so marking will not show when turned up.

Sailor Uniform Regulation 1901-07

### ICONIC



The Dixie Cup came to symbolize the Navy and became an iconic symbol amongst Sailors and civilians alike.

Featured prominently in popular culture, it was in one of the most recognizable photographs of the Second World War when a Sailor was seen kissing a nurse on Victory over Japan Day in Times Square in New York City.

"The Cap & All 'O' -" Mark A. Stanger

### A NEW ERA

In 2016, the Navy expanded the wear of the Dixie Cups to female enlisted Sailors, ushering in a new era for the cap.



# 139,392

The number of Dixie Cups ordered by Defense Logistics Agency Troop Support in 2014. The hat is currently made by ORC Industries, a non-profit manufacturing, logistics and assembly company in La Crosse, Wisconsin.

Defense Logistics Agency Troop Support

### HOLLYWOOD AND THE DIXIE CUP



For years, Hollywood has used the Dixie Cup to symbolize the Navy. It's been featured in movies such as "The Last Detail," "Anchors Aweigh," "Cinderella Lears," "The Sand Pebbles," "Flags of Our Fathers" and many more.

"The Cap & All 'O' -" Mark A. Stanger

By: Mark A. Stanger, Specialist in USN, Staff Historian



BACK WINDOW OF A TRUCK, HANCOCK DECAL

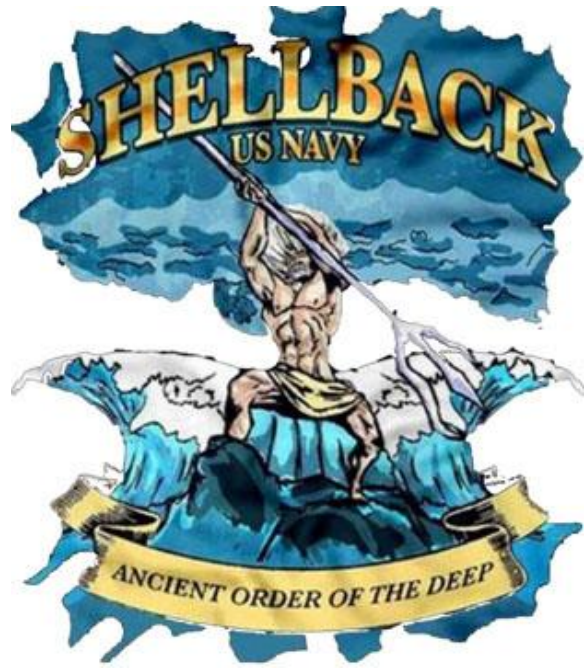


**Question:** Submitted by Seth Rossman [cwo4sir@gmail.com](mailto:cwo4sir@gmail.com)

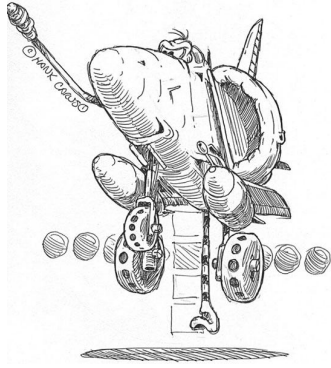
Has a LT (or higher) named Larry Estep ever been a member that you recall? Would have been a Saints pilot circa 1961-63.











**The Skyhawk Association** has 797 members, 14 Saints are members

**Home page:** Click here: [Home Page | The Skyhawk Association](#)

**VA-163 page:** [VA-163 | The Skyhawk Association](#)

**YouTube page:** [Skyhawk Association - YouTube](#)

**Please join the Skyhawk Association. A great Quarterly Magazine, allot of A-4's and Saints articles.**

**Only \$30 per year.**

**To Join:** <http://skyhawk.org/>

## **Websites of Interest**

**BOMBS AWAY!**

**Attack Squadron 163 (VA-163) crew Roster:**

<https://www.hullnumber.com/crew1.php?cm=VA-163>

**Oriskany Movie, Bridges at Toko-Ri**

<https://youtu.be/K46-MRxjteU>

**Carrier Anchor video:**

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/1464882337319813?fs=e&s=TleQ9V>

**A-4 RC video:**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/807712349254574/permalink/8830135263678869/>

**Lady Jesse A-4 RC video:**

<https://youtu.be/fMZRI7c7vs0>

**Navy Dreams:** This is a cool retro WWII type video. Music is great too.

This poor sailor kid had a hell of a dream! And where it was made. Ready? In RUSSIA to American music!!! I would love to see that LSO on my platform.....

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Cp-IQroPNIM>

**How Blue Water Navy Ships were exposed to Agent Orange - BLUE WATER NAVY ASSOCIATION**

<https://www.bwnvva.org/how-blue-water-navy-ships-were-exposed-to-agent-orange.html>

**Oriskany Websites:** USS Oriskany (CVA 34) 25 Sep 1950 / 20 Sep 1979 Stricken from Navy List 1989. Sold 9 Sep 1995, but the contractor defaulted. Repossessed by the Navy and contract terminated 30 Jul 1997. Sunk off the coast of Florida 17 May 2006 for use as an artificial reef. Click on the ship name for a complete history.

1. Great Oriskany Photos from Dive Shop Pensacola: [www.mbtdivers.com](http://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](http://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. 32 Oriskany Dive Video & Photos: [http://www.oriskanycharterboats.com/oriskany\\_photos.htm](http://www.oriskanycharterboats.com/oriskany_photos.htm)
7. Diving Oriskany Reef, 25 March 2007: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9l-wYnIBZis>
8. Oriskany Cruise Books on CD's: A. <http://glewis.us/obooks.htm>  
B. <http://navysite.de/cruisebooks/cv34-67/index.html>  
C. <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](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. Tour of Duty photo site: 3000 photos, some Saints  
<https://www.flickr.com/groups/435090@N22/>

20. USS Oriskany Fire & Sinking: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IS2uky8K5Jk> 42 min video
21. 1963 TOUR OF THE USS Oriskany: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e92t7kgV\\_Ws](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e92t7kgV_Ws) & <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k9Mh975VCII>
22. O Boat Sinking Video: 24. <http://trib.al/t69QQT4>
23. Oriskany Video: With F-4's [https://youtu.be/e92t7kgV\\_Ws](https://youtu.be/e92t7kgV_Ws)
24. USS Oriskany Alumni: "facebook page" and gallery has some great photos. Go to Facebook to join the group
25. **Oriskany Dive video, to the Brig:** 6 Dec 2021  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/28616026909/permalink/10157960059966910/>
26. **Oriskany Dive video, to the XO's stateroom and Officers Mess:** 31 Oct 2021  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/28616026909/permalink/10157960065921910/>

### **Oriskany Fire, Life Magazine**

Life Magazine, November 25, 1966

"A Carrier's Agony — Hell Afloat"

An approximate **15 page article with photos** detailing the tragedy at sea. Click below for complete article:

<http://www.ussoriskany.us/Oriskany/LifeNR.pdf>

### **Oriskany in Western Pacific**

<https://youtu.be/CuznRX9Pa9k>

### **Oriskany Flight Ops and Unrep:**

[https://catalog.archives.gov/id/85461\]\(https://catalog.archives.gov/id/85461\)](https://catalog.archives.gov/id/85461](https://catalog.archives.gov/id/85461))



**Oriskany on YouTube video:**

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=6l8DIJA5DU0&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR210YA4tzW4VITm58zt0aerctBQCmhNBO rT9okW6Brb7V0Jmzlh9RNEP1g>

**From Ed Chadwick: Pilot Down**

Interestingly in 1967, we lost several men and aircraft in 1967 in an attempted rescue of one Navy pilot. Orders came down immediately that no more high threat rescues would be allowed. It's possible that the reactions of many of us may have eventually altered that "no rescue" policy.

<https://www.pilotsofamerica.com/community/threads/rescue-of-roger-locher.42816/>

**Oriskany Video from 1966:**

[https://catalog.archives.gov/id/85461?fbclid=IwAR3-cX6vMpSSO\\_o0yaSvozse5MfRLnf0VBaByznNGVWA3\\_U4WZ8OXNJjUGY](https://catalog.archives.gov/id/85461?fbclid=IwAR3-cX6vMpSSO_o0yaSvozse5MfRLnf0VBaByznNGVWA3_U4WZ8OXNJjUGY)

**Blue Angels:**

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

**Ed Copher Oriskany Fire Interview:** Done at Virginia Beach on 5 Nov, 30 min video  
[ED COPHER RAW INTERVIEW https://f.io/oxWyqbJo](https://f.io/oxWyqbJo)

**Huggin the Deck video:** 54 min video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eSgDIS5I9s8>

**John Shore 1965-66 WestPac Video:**

<https://youtu.be/pWeBAyWifP8>

**USS Hancock:** Scotty Moore - The USS Hancock ("Hannah")

[http://scottymoore.net/USSHancock.html?fb\\_action\\_ids=620396487990408&fb\\_action\\_types=og.likes&fb\\_source=other\\_multiline&action\\_object\\_map=%7B%22620396487990408%22%3A325920780869208%7D&action\\_type\\_map=%7B%22620396487990408%22%3A%22og.likes%22%7D&action\\_ref\\_map=%5B%5D#NASNI](http://scottymoore.net/USSHancock.html?fb_action_ids=620396487990408&fb_action_types=og.likes&fb_source=other_multiline&action_object_map=%7B%22620396487990408%22%3A325920780869208%7D&action_type_map=%7B%22620396487990408%22%3A%22og.likes%22%7D&action_ref_map=%5B%5D#NASNI)

**Lots of Oriskany Info:**

<http://www.navsource.org/archives/02/34.htm?fbclid=IwAR0Onwxj0QPhQRFLCmZ6wzytPb9D9YpRVSIB2Ea6cKhhUKm2gP0SECiqj-k>

**A-4 Skyhawk Wikipedia:**

[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Douglas\\_A-4\\_Skyhawk?fbclid=IwAR0ICpJW03arF1pU2JU3uv5vccB2Y4S9\\_UXVE\\_mmsKY7KuXYttPrc0oH2UM](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Douglas_A-4_Skyhawk?fbclid=IwAR0ICpJW03arF1pU2JU3uv5vccB2Y4S9_UXVE_mmsKY7KuXYttPrc0oH2UM)

**Amazing Carrier Landing:**

[https://fb.watch/8szS\\_yQV97/](https://fb.watch/8szS_yQV97/)

**Website on the A-4 Skyhawk** with much interest as I am very keen to commission and publish further books on this beautiful and iconic aircraft. More on us can be gleaned here:

<https://www.fonthill.media/products/phantom-pilot>

If you are interested in possibly connecting and discussing a proposal on the A-4 Skyhawk or a pilot/ground crew memoir, please do not hesitate to contact me. [j.slater@fonthillmedia.com](mailto:j.slater@fonthillmedia.com) via

[fonthill.onmicrosoft.com](http://fonthill.onmicrosoft.com)

**Oriskany Amature flight deck videos:** From Facebook

1. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/28616026909/permalink/10157816002016910/>
2. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/28616026909/permalink/10157815770641910/>
3. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/28616026909/permalink/10157815786321910/>

**Landing on Oriskany Video:**

[https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=gm2jT6Ftn3E&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR23MVLfw69KhDsQ9A5BFS3tAEGzT\\_dBFHtHXMHL-GsiBh7TUxnRSdL-1Cs](https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=gm2jT6Ftn3E&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR23MVLfw69KhDsQ9A5BFS3tAEGzT_dBFHtHXMHL-GsiBh7TUxnRSdL-1Cs)

**A-4 Inflight Crash video:**

<https://fb.watch/8jyVi92eJh/>

**Oriskany Sinking video:**

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=F2-Aew7SMO8&fbclid=IwAR2xrucXr7I2laUx8SM98-IIDXp>

[Ai3](#)

**Vietnam Memorial Wall Faces:**

154 service members with names inscribed on The Wall were born on Oct. 23. Their photos are spotlighted today on the Wall of Faces. Every day, the Wall of Faces changes to honor those who were born on that day. Join us in remembering them today and each of the 58,279 service members with names inscribed on The Wall. Search The Wall here: [vvmf.org/wall-of-faces](http://vvmf.org/wall-of-faces)

**Oriskany Video Clip:**

<https://youtu.be/-UbU3iMj4zw>

**Petula Clark, Sailor 1961**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4-r0ngPEHkg>

**Oriskany in Bridges of Toko-Ri:**

[https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=bIFuGFBw\\_yI](https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=bIFuGFBw_yI)

**Sailor Song 1961**

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=share&v=4-r0ngPEHkg>

**Veterans Benefits Newsletter from the VA:**

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVAVBA/bulletins/27794cb>

**Military Aircraft photos:**

<http://www.doyletics.com/tidbits/militaryadvice.pdf>

**Oriskany Dive 9 Feb 2020:**

<https://vimeo.com/390358620>

**Blue Angels A-4 Video:**

<https://www.navalhistory.org/2020/01/24/how-the-navy-got-a-hit-recruiting-video-from-van-halen>

**High Flight by John Denver:**

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=1xNGgWNRUf8#>

**A-4 Launch 1962:**

<https://www.facebook.com/100026351565698/posts/312902602931456?d=n&sfns=mo>

**I Stand:**

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/2eBxVxO0nh4>

**Blue Angels In Flight:**

[https://www.wearethemighty.com/blue-angels-cockpit-footage?utm\\_source=facebook&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_campaign=Evergreen&utm\\_term=Veterans&utm\\_content=blue-angels-cockpit-footage](https://www.wearethemighty.com/blue-angels-cockpit-footage?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=Evergreen&utm_term=Veterans&utm_content=blue-angels-cockpit-footage)

**Blue Angels Cockpit...**

[WATCH: BLUE ANGELS - Footage Inside the Cockpit](#)

**Saints WestPac 1965-66 Video:**

Saint John Shore had his 8 mm movies converted to a DVD. He said it only took him 50+ years to get it put together. I took the DVD and uploaded it to YouTube.com. What a task for this rookie YouTube user, took many hours, first had to convert the DVD to Mp3, and that took hours of work. Then upload to YouTube took many steps to get accomplished. Click on the link below to view on YouTube.

**LINK** address: <https://youtu.be/bwuTIK544cQ>

**Oriskany Sinking Article & photos:**

<https://fighterjetsworld.com/naval/the-u-s-navy-blows-up-aircraft-carrier-sets-world-record-that-still-stands/10506/>

**181 Pictures from Oriskany, including inaction Fire photos:**

No need to log in.

<https://genelewis.smugmug.com/SLIDE-GALLERY-FROM-JAMON-KENT-PH2/>

**NAS Lemoore April 1968:**

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

## SAINTS ONBOARD (260 Names)

**“Muster Call”**

**Revised 03 February 2023**

**New or changed address:**

Admiral Compton has a new home phone number: 334 654 5060. His son David has moved to Demopolis and is the best source to get information on or to the Skipper. David's phone number is 571-286-6161 and email [dtcompton3@gmail.com](mailto:dtcompton3@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](http://www.va163.org) password, Saints4ever **capital S****





*Happy trails to you....until we meet again.....*<https://g.co/kgs/3FJhs4>



