Toooo Weeet... Attention on Deck... "Saints... March... 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.



13th Year Edition

Established Nov 2002

VOL 1 Issue 161













Inside Chick-Fil-A Restaurant Atlanta

Standing the Watch

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

Saints Tradition

An old Saints tradition is that friends who have not seen or heard from each other for long periods of time never question their friendship. These friendships resume at the same time they left off regardless of distance and time between them. We call these friends "Family".

Saints Motto

"Fight by Night or Day, Land or Sea"















ONCE A SAINT, ALWAYS A SAINT

Listen to music as you read the newsletter:

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

The Warrior Song...

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lTs6a0OrdQU&feature=player_embedded

To all of the United States Armed Forces, with thanks. - Marching Snare Drums

Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy: The Andrew Sisters http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2pfCFU3Mqww&feature=related

Ghost Riders in the Sky: Johnny Cash

 $\underline{http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mynzbmrtp9I}$

Run Through the Jungle: CCR

 $\underline{\text{http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EbI0cMyyw_M}}$

Courtesy of the Red, White and Blue: Toby Keith

 $\underline{http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5PXSK3iDeAI}$

Proud to be an American: Lee Hazelwood

 $\underline{https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ps7xmW-9LXQ}$

America, The Land I Love: James Rogers

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_ICCyjZs3Hy

American "New Song": http://www.youtube.com/v/6TPgJSZf5Vw?version=3&autohide=1&autoplay=1

Ballad of the Green Berets. 1966: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m5WJJVSE_BE

Vietnam Memorial Wall Song: https://www.facebook.com/100000531380774/videos/1142596289101406/



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Douglas_A-4_Skyhawk









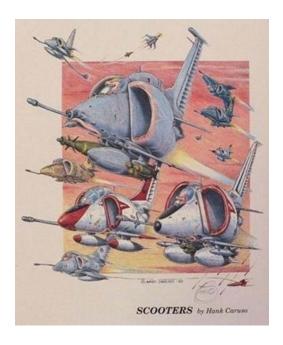
















Saints 310 in DaNang with wing damage Oct 1966



Birds of a feather...Flock Together











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

Also on Saints website, **PHOTOS** section

Contains 76 Albums (Sets).... 4,634 Photos

View Counts as of 29 Feb 2016

Photos

587,875views

Photo stream

30,088 views

Albums

23,974 views

Total

641,957 views





FYI www.Flickr.com charges \$24.95 per year to keep the SAINTS Photo Albums on their web site.

Paid the one year fee on 15 Nov 2015





SAINTS WEB SITE

Saints website www.va163.org (password: Saints4ever (capital S)

9,394 Visitors since Mar 09

** Paid \$183.95 to renew GoDaddy website hosting for 2 years on 10 Sept 2015

**Paid \$25.00 to renew Saints Flicker Photo site for 1 year on 15 Nov 2015

**Paid \$10.00 to renew Domain Name (va163.org) for 2 years on 01 Mar 2016

** Paid \$12.00 to renew **Domain Provider** for 1 year on 01 Mar 2016

Donations are appreciated

Ed Copher

242 Toye Blvd

Canyon Lake, TX 78133

Saints Website and Photos site FEES:

Jim Houston, Palm Coast FL, is the Saints webmaster, he designed the website, and does all the updates etc.

Website Hosting is done by GoDaddy at a cost of \$183.95 for two years (Paid up until 10 Sept 17)

<u>Domain Name:</u> (**Whois Proof**) There is an annual charge for keeping the <u>Domain Name</u> <u>www.va163.org</u> which is \$5 p/yr (*Paid up until 15 Mar 18*)

Domain Provider: (Active Domain) \$12 p/yr (Paid up until 31 Mar 2017)

Photos Site: Saints Photos Flicker site fee is \$25 p/yr (Due 15 Nov of each yr) Paid on 15 Nov 2015



Saint John "Fritz" Schroeder: Feb 2016 Gulf Coast

Sheep head fish, they eat coral.







Skyhawk Association Texas Meeting in San Antonio: 31 March - 3 April 2016

A-4 Texans

The Skyhawk Association is having their winter/mid year meeting in San Antonio.

- On <u>Thursday, 31 March</u>, we will check in and take advantage of our Ready Room to get started- the Margarita Room #206- dinner TBD. Guest provided libations and snacks allowed in the Ready Room!
- On Friday, 1 April, we are planning a road trip to Fredericksburg for a visit to the Museum of the Pacific War or local touring/wine tasting for those that

choose. Lunch at the Hangar Diner will follow and then RTB SAT. Friday evening, we will all enjoy a dinner at Mi Tierra at the Market Square.

- On <u>Saturday, 2 April</u>, we will hold a board meeting in the Margarita room in the AM- all are invited to attend. That afternoon we will enjoy downtown venues followed by dinner at the Granary Cue and Brew in the Pearl.
- On Sunday, 3 April, we will have an informal kiss-off breakfast at the hotel restaurant.

Should be a great 4 days. We have a block of rooms at the Holiday Inn San Antonio-Downtown-Market Square, 318 West Caesar Chavez Blvd http://holiday-inn-san-antonio.pacificahost.com. Contact the hotel at Skyhawk Association.2016 Reunion or toll free at 888-615-0725 with reservation code SKY no later than 10 March to take advantage of our discounted room rate of \$79/night. You can cancel up to 1800 the first day of your reservation without penalty. If you need to make a reservation after 10 March or if the room block is full, contact me for assistance. If you can't make it for the planned days or you want to commute, let us know which day(s) you will be attending.

Bill "Jigger" Egen, President Skyhawk Association zerocep@ec.rr.com

252-463-0194 252-670-1814 C



The Port anchor from the USS Oriskany has been moved from Jack London Square (Oakland, California) to the USS Hornet Museum in Alameda California...

The Port anchor from the USS Oriskany was located for years near Jack London Square, (on the Oakland estuary) in Oakland, California, but in August of 2012 it was moved to Alameda, California, to become part of the USS Hornet Museum in Alameda California...

In early 2014, Al Smith, a volunteer from the USS Hornet Museum, said the Port anchor from the USS Oriskany will become the Hornet's port anchor, as she only has a single starboard anchor...

The Port anchor pictures from the USS Oriskany when it was located for years, near Jack London Square (Oakland, California)...

http://www.navsource.org/archives/02/cv-34/oak1.jpg

http://www.navsource.org/archives/02/cv-34/oak2.jpg

http://www.navsource.org/archives/02/cv-34/oak3.jpg

http://www.navsource.org/archives/02/cv-34/oak4.jpg

http://www.navsource.org/archives/02/cv-34/oak5.jpg

The starboard anchor from the USS Oriskany and piece of chain were brought to Oriskany NY in 1991 and placed on a pedestal built by local citizens and construction companies.

http://www.navsource.org/archives/02/cv-34/tri1.jpg

Port anchor moved to USS Hornet Museum:

http://www.navsource.org/archives/02/cv-34/anc1.jpg

http://www.navsource.org/archives/02/cv-34/anc2.jpg

http://www.navsource.org/archives/02/cv-34/anc3.jpg

Link to the USS Hornet Museum:

http://www.uss-hornet.org/

I heard from a Docent on the USS Hornet that the Mast with all its rigging on the Hornet also came from the USS Oriskany...

Fwd: Saints Newsletter...March 2016



Oriskany Deck Logs: Agent Orange claims

Hubert Cook has info on USS Oriskany Deck Logs. Could be used on VA disability Agent Orange claims as proof that we received fresh water from inland Vietnam, from Unrep ships.

Hubert Cook: hcook150@gmail.com



SCUTTLEBUTT

Latest was heard at the "Gedunk"

The Smoking Lamp is out due to JP-5 in the drinking water.

Cold Saltwater showers "only" due to no fresh water



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 ... allot 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





VN Memorial Wall with Faces:

http://www.vvmf.org/Wall-of-Faces/20740/WILLIAM-R-HALE



Below is a link to a web site about the war in Viet Nam. Whether you are a Viet Nam veteran or not, you may find this web site very interesting because it contains an absolutely enormous amount of information about the war.

http://www.cc.gatech.edu/~tpilsch/Vietnam.html



Remembering the Vietnam War:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XayOuMHIzDM 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/

Life Magazine Vietnam War Photography:

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





SAINTS Newsletters in Archives: To view the last 12 months newsletters

Go to www.yahoo.com (click on the link in blue)

On the Yahoo home page, select Sign-In (top right side)

Type in Yahoo ID: va163lemoore@yahoo.com

Type in Password: saints4ever (lower case)

After Signed In, back on the Yahoo home page, select MAIL (left side bar)

When you get into the mail box, select Inbox (on left side bar)

Select the newsletter that you want to view.

To get out of Mail, under the top toolbar, find Yahoo! click on that to get back to the Yahoo home page.

NOTE: The newsletter is being sent as an "Attachment" to the email.

To open the attachment, click on the Icon that looks like a paperclip on top part of email next to the date.

ALSO: When you first get to the Yahoo Home Page, if you are already signed in to a different yahoo account, then you must sign out of that account, and then sign in to Saints account.

"ALSO"

Fwd: Saints Newsletter...March 2016

Newsletters are on Saints Website: Past month's newsletters

Go to Saints Website, click on Newsletters, password: saints4ever



Websites of Interest

Oriskany Web Sites:

USS Oriskany (CVA 34) 25 Sep 1950 / 20 Sep 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.

- 1. USS Oriskany Online: Great Photos from Dive Shop Pensacola: www.ussoriskanyonline.com I 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. Oriskany Dive Video & Photos: http://www.oriskanycharterboats.com/oriskany_photos.htm
- 8. Diving Oriskany Reef, 25 March 2007: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9l-wYnlBZis
- 9. Oriskany Cruise Books on CD's: 1. http://glewis.us/obooks.htm 2. http://navysite.de/cruisebooks/cv34-67/index.html
 - 3. http://navysite.de/cruisebooks/cv34-67/index.html
- 10. Oriskany 1967 Vietnam Combat Cruise, DVD sale: http://www.cv41.org/GRS/uss_oriskany_67/index.html
- 11. Oriskany Information and History/Pictures: http://www.pnj.com/newsfiles/oriskany/index.shtml
- 12. Oriskany model: http://www.motionmodels.com/ships/cv/
- 13. USS Oriskany Photo Galleries: http://www.flickr.com/photos/7437991@N08/galleries/72157622440145584
- 14. USS Oriksany History 1972: http://www.ussoriskany.com/id17.html
- 15. USS Oriskany digital Cruise Book Project (http://glewis.us/obooks.htm)
- 16. Oriskany 1970...Flight Ops: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mXaKTJIVxHM&feature=email 10 min
- 17. 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

18. 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

19. Saints Video on YouTube: Dennis Lund video filmed on the Oriskany including the Oriskany fire!

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DJ5ykZjRalM

- 20. USS Hancock: Click here: Scotty Moore The USS Hancock ("Hannah")
- 21. Tour of Duty photo site: 3000 photos, some Saints https://www.flickr.com/groups/435090@N22/

F-14 Awesome:

https://www.facebook.com/AeroSedifer/videos/726820814119544/ ****** **Carrier Take Off:** https://www.facebook.com/360fly/videos/833531760105993/ ****** F-18 Awesome: https://www.facebook.com/AeroSedifer/videos/722613734540252/ ****** F-18 Cable Break & Ejection: https://www.facebook.com/NASV.ORG/videos/684231788279463/ ******* **Navy Singers:** https://www.facebook.com/317421738278558/videos/1084577351562989/ ******* VA-163 Tonkin Gulf Yacht Club Shirts are available For 927 Commands that operated in the Vietnam Theater from 1950 to 1975. To view the TONKIN GULF YACHT CLUB SHIRT with Rocker = ATKRON 163 Rating = NAVY Click on: http://www.hullnumber.com/TONKIN-GULF-SHIRT.php?rating=NAVY&hn=VA-163 LINK TO COMMAND ROSTER PAGE: http://www.HullNumber.com/VA-163 My best wishes to All Hands on your end, Dave Schultz - Web PO ******* The Blues Flying the A-4 Oh the good old days. Scooter drivers prepare to shed a tear..... The best Blue Angel show of all time. A-4's. Here is a video of them from the '70's. Bear Smith and Skip Umsted are the last two guys walking towards the camera before they get to their planes. They both died later in aircraft accidents. The crazy solo is Denny Sapp. Best show for the spectators because it was close to show center. Always in sight. Tightest diamond formation ever. $\underline{https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wk3XSV6H6w0}$ *******

VN 40 years ago...75 pictures

http://www.vintag.es/2015/04/vietnam-war-40-years-ago-75-beathtaking.html

Legends of the Ho Chi Minh Trail

http://www.laosgpsmap.com/ho-chi-Minh-trail-Laos/

There are many links to the archive by date as well as to specific articles like this one about an F-4 shootdown: http://www.laosgpsmap.com/ho-chi-minh-trail-shot-down-plane/

This is the homepage:

www.laosgpsmap.com

Ho Chi Minh Trail Tours:

www.laosgpsmap.com/ho-chi-minh-trail-tours/

Vietnam War Stories:

http://cherrieswriter.wordpress.com/category/the-vietnam-war-story/

Tags: book sites, books war, cherry soldier, combat, Combat Infantry, digital books, firefights, Grunts, Historical fiction, jungle warfare, Military, novels, The vietnam war, The Vietnam war story, Veteran, Vietnam blog pages, Vietnam book, Vietnam conflict, Vietnam veteran, war books, war stor, Wars and Conflicts

Number of Vietnam Vets Still Alive:

This has a lot of the statistics on Vietnam Vets..... http://www.nationalvietnamveteransfoundation.org/statistics.htm

1956 Navy All Hands Meeting:

Thought you might find this 1956 All Hands..... interesting. http://www.navy.mil/ah_online/archpdf/ah195603.pdf

A good day to revisit the Virtual Wall:

Vietnam Wall

First click on a state. When it opens, scroll down to the city and the names will appear.

Then click on their names. It should show you a picture of the person, or at least their bio and medals.

This really is an amazing web site. Someone spent a lot of time and effort to create it.

I hope that everyone who receives this appreciates what those who served in Vietnam sacrificed for our country. The link below is a virtual wall of all those lost during the Vietnam War with the names, bio's and other information on our lost heroes. Those who remember that time frame, or perhaps lost friends or family can look them up on this site.

http://www.virtualwall.org/iStates.htm

Do you remember these?

This will bring back memories

 $\underline{http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=puGQsQux80k}$

Vietnam Photos:

 $\label{lem:http://news.yahoo.com/photos/a-soldier-s-story-never-before-seen-images-of-vietnam-war-slideshow/vietnam-photo-599932980.html? format=embed\#mediaphotosbobaspotlightgallery=\%252Flightbox\%252Fa-soldier-s-story-never-before-seen-images-of-vietnam-war-slideshow%252Fvietnam-photo-599932096.html$

Military Video ~ Ending is Fabulous

Please take the time to view this and watch till the end. I was so very touched. And once again.....

Thank you to ALL who have served our country! I live in a free nation because of your sacrifice! God Bless you! Because of the warriors of the past, the present, and the future, we Americans can walk tall.

For those of you of may not know, or have forgotten, Lt. Col. Oliver North was wounded in Vietnam many times and never left the men he commanded. I am now passing this on for you to watch. It's not just enjoyable, it is riveting! When you are done pass it on too, I think it's important ... don't you? If you are a veteran, I say thank you, for everything! You are SO special! Take the time for this one. You won't be disappointed ... the end is a kicker.

 $\underline{http://www.nragive.com/ringoffreedom/index.html}$

NAS Lemoore April 1968:

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

Photos/History of Vietnam:

Excellent Viet Nam Pictorial History

From the Denver Post.

Click here: VietamPictorialHistory

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/

When the Saints Go Marching In - US Navy Seventh Fleet Band

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

VA Benefits Blog on Facebook:

VA Benefit Blog

Douglas A-4 Skyhawk: 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

A-4 Skyhawk Photo Galleries on Flickr.com website: Some of our Saints photos are in there!!!

 $\underline{www.flickr.com/photos/45586426@N06/galleries/72157623353551691/}$

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/

RAO BULLETIN Update, 01 March 2016

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



SAINTS ONBOARD (260 Names)

"Muster Call"

Revised 29 Feb 2016

New or changed address:

See website roster

Please advise if you have any additions or corrections.

Complete <u>Muster Call</u> can be found on the Saints website – <u>www.va163.org</u> (password, <u>Saints4ever</u>) capital

