

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



2022

20th Year Edition

Established Nov 2002

VOL 1 Issue 237

Happy, happy Thanksgiving to all. Be Well



"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, It will all come to pass

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

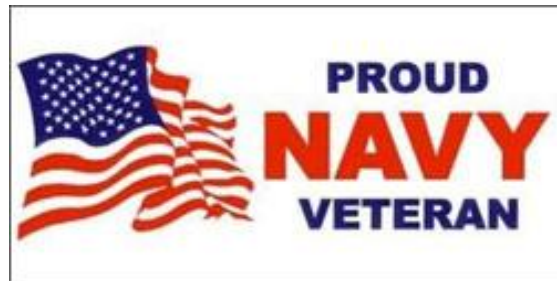
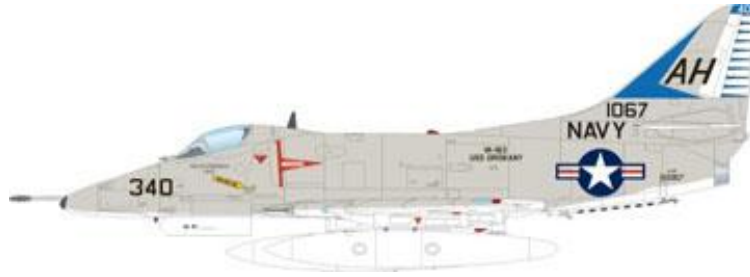


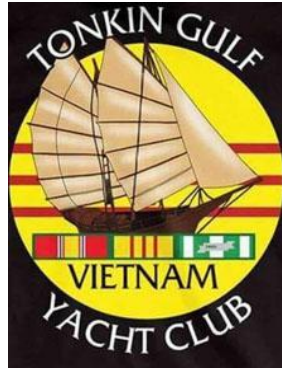


Patriot

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!

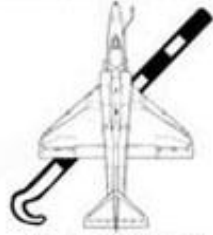
"I'll keep that flame high and the blade ever sharp,

That our friends may never be lost in the dark!"

ONCE A SAINT, ALWAYS A SAINT

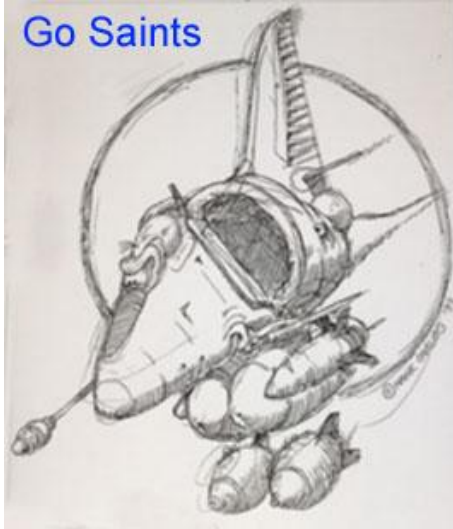


Tailhook Navy



A-4 SKYHAWK







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 November 2022

“Over a million views”

1,117,334 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 password: *Saints4ever* **capital S**

31,545 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 (3)

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
John Shore (2)
James Thompson
Bill Tomko
Anthony Stabile
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
John Roosen
Seth Rossman

Thomas Harwood

Griff Sexton

Anthony Stabile

Ed Chadwick (2)

Daniel Lestage (2)

Lucille Stickley (4)



Skipper Compton's wife passed away: Maxine "Magnolia" Anderson (Parris) Compton

May she rest in peace.

My dad, Bryan Compton, lost his wife Maxine. We are having a memorial for her in Demopolis Alabama. Please let the Saints folks know. Kind regards David Compton

Obituary:

<https://memorials.gassetfuneralhome.net/maxine-anderson-compton/5051580/obituary.php>



Birthday Announcement:

Submitted by Ed Chadwick

Doc Adeeb turns **90** on 17 November. It would be great if many of us contacted him and wished the Doc Happy Birthday. I just talked with him and he was mowing his lawn.

Contact info:

Allan Adeeb <bigaladeeb@aol.com>

305 304 4325

2421 Cedar Shore Circle, Jacksonville, FL 32210



Remember that the 56th anniversary of the Oriskany Fire was on 26 Oct 2022.

It was a sad, sad day for all the Saints.

Submitted by Tony Chibbaro

To Fellow Shipmates:

I woke up this morning thinking about how on this day **56** years ago we were all looking forward to our scheduled 10 days R&R in Sasebo, Japan . . NONE of us knew what lay ahead of us just a few days ahead on 10/26. The Coral Sea could not relieve us - we stayed on 'Yankee Station' . . . then cruel 'fate' struck us.

I am sending this out today . . 10/26 is always a 'somber' day.

You all are in my daily prayers . . I also pray for all who are 'gone' . . 400 Vietnam War Veterans die every day as our 'ranks' are thinning.

I don't send this **NOT** to make anyone feel bad about that day long ago . . . but for all to celebrate being alive . . and do something for fun today in honor and memory of those with whom we served.

God's Good Blessings be upon ALL . . keep you and yours SAFE and WELL . . all have a great day . . . and . . I am proud to have served with you ALL.

My Saint roommate, RonTrido, woke me up and saved my life, I think of him everyday.

Ron perished in the fire.

Tony Chibbaro

VIETNAM VIRTUAL WALL

This really is an amazing and sobering website.

First, click on a state. When it opens, scroll down to the city where you went to high school and look at the names.

Click on the name and it will give details of the person's death, a picture, or at least their bio and medals.

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.

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

WE APPRECIATE, LOVE, HONOR, AND RESPECT YOU AND ALL OF THESE VIETNAM VETERANS!



USS Enterprise fire on 14 Jan 1969. Claimed the lives of 28 shipmates and 343 suffered major injuries, 15 aircraft, mostly F-4 Phantoms, were totally destroyed. Caused by a mobile aircraft engine start unit, GTC-100 installed on a MD3A tractor, its engine exhaust impinged on Zuni warheads and one or more of the warheads exploded, causing a chain reaction. The ship was on the second day of doing Operational Readiness Inspection to get qualified to conduct combat operations, located just off the coast of Hawaii.







JC FERRIS IN OLONGAPO 1966



OLONGAPO



Bob Hickerson "Raven" 18 Sept 2022

Former President of the Skyhawk Association passed away:

Ed, I am Judy Hickerson, Bob Hickerson's wife. I just wanted to let you know that Bob passed in September following a long battle with failing health. I know he enjoyed the Saint's newsletter. His memorial was on Oct 12th and several A-4 pilots were in attendance. It was good to see "old" friends again. Judy

Bob was on an exchange tour from the Marines in 1972 and early 1973. He was the LSO on a **Hancock** cruise and he flew with VA -55 and VA-164. He roomed with Rich McCreary and Dave Dollarhide produced a photo of us this week.

ALSO: Bill Egen "Jigger" passed away: 8 Sept 2022

Bill was highly involved in the Skyhawk Association and magazine.

THE A4 EVER

SKYHAWK ASSOCIATION JOURNAL VOL. 28-3



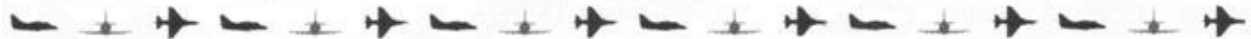
Contents:

- Hell on the Fantail
- Great Escapes: VMA-331
- Skyhawks on Display
- Puresome Unplugged

*HOOK 23 A-4 Reunion
August 24-26
Nugget Casino, Sparks, NV*

Fall 2022

<https://skyhawk.org>





ORISKANY REUNION IN KC OCT 2022



[The Greatest Beer Run Ever:](#) Movie

<https://youtu.be/GiP6wHmky1M>

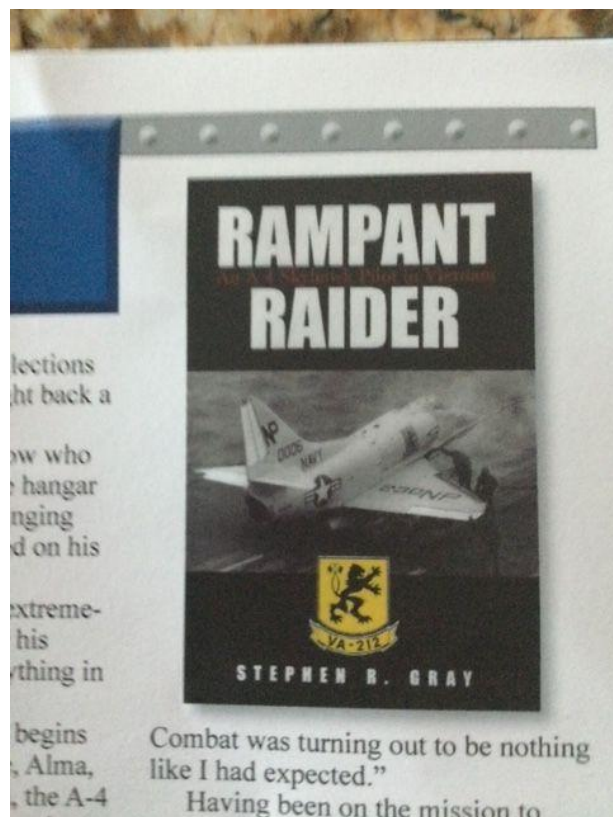
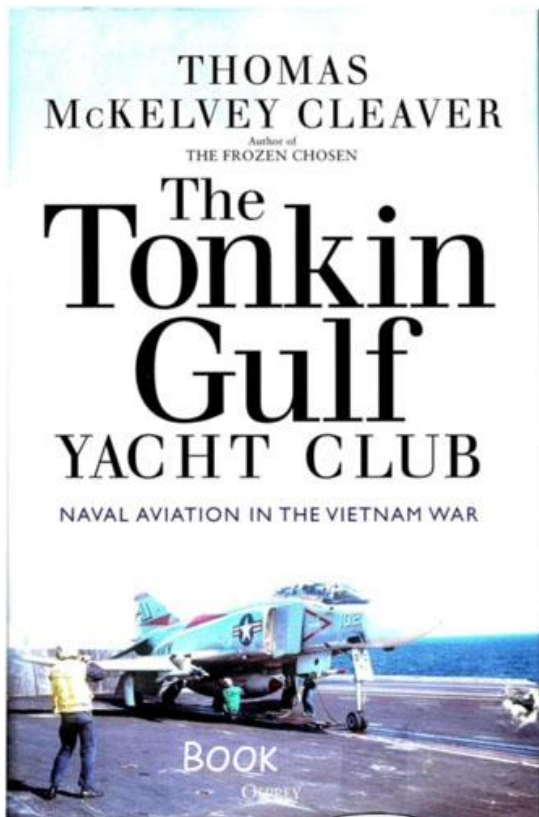


[Join the “VA-163 Saints” Facebook group:](#)

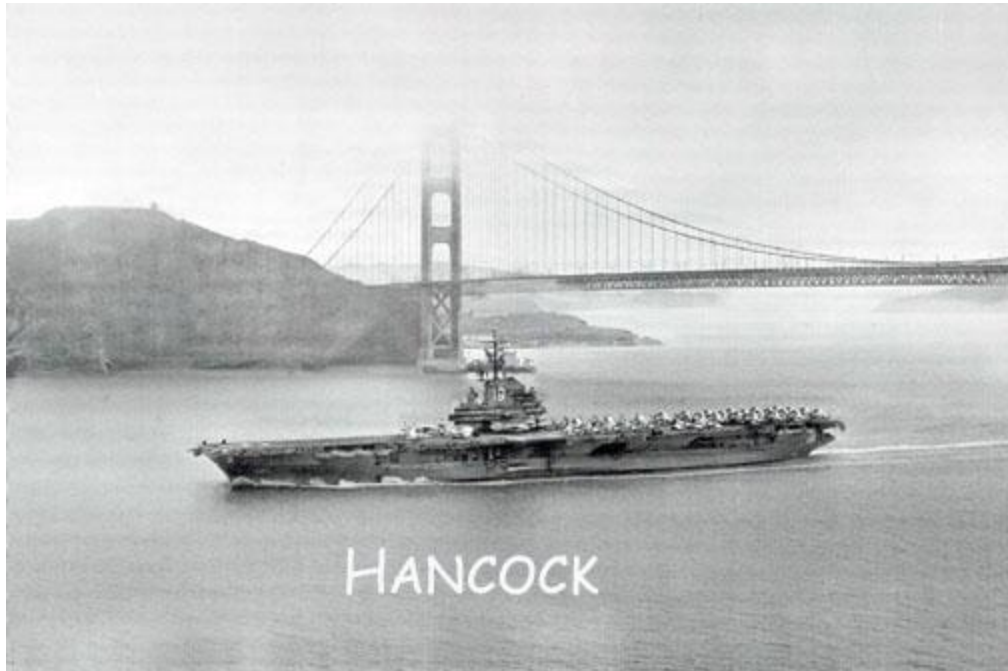


Please join the “**VA-163 Saints**” Facebook group. Updates on reunions etc. and other interesting Saints postings. You can post pictures and other info for others to enjoy. Just go to Facebook Groups and search for **VA-163 Saints**.

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



Books



Model in a box

**OH, YOU LAND YOUR PLANE ON THE
EARTH?**



**YOU'RE RIGHT, THAT DOES SEEM
PRETTY DIFFICULT**

Old Sailors Poem

Old Sailors sit and chew the fat,
About things that used to be.
Of the things they've seen, the places
they've been,
when they ventured out to sea.

They remembered friends from long ago,
The times they had back then.
The money they spent, the beer they drank,
In their days as sailing men.

Their lives are lived in days gone by, with
thoughts that forever last, of Bell Bottom
Blues, Winged White Hats, and good times
in their past.

They recall long nights with a moon so
bright, far out on a lonely sea.
The thoughts they had as youthful lads,
when their lives were wild and free.

They knew so well, how their hearts would
swell, when old glory fluttered proud and
free.
The underway pennant, such a beautiful
sight, as they plowed through an angry sea.

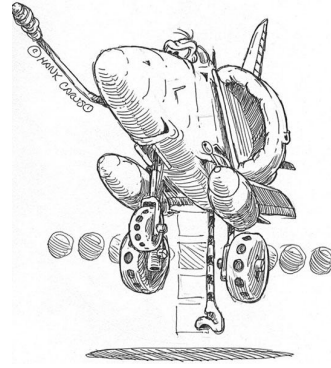
They talked of the chow ol' Cookie would
make, and the shrill of the bosun's pipe.
How salt spray would fall like sparks from
hell, when a storm struck in the night.

They remember old shipmates already gone,
who forever hold a spot in their heart,
when sailors were bold, and friendship
would hold, until death ripped them apart.

Their sailing days are gone away,
Never again will they cross the brow.
They have no regrets, they know they are
blessed, for honoring a sacred vow.

Their numbers grow less with each passing
day, as the final muster begins,
there's nothing to lose, all have paid dues,
and they'll sail with shipmates again.

I've heard them say before getting
underway, that there's still some sailing
to do, they'll say with a grin, that their ship
has come in, and the good lord needs a good
crew.



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!

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
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
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
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
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=k9Mh975VCII>
22. O Boat Sinking Video: 24. <http://trib.al/t69QQT4>
23. Oriskany Video: With F-4's 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=6I8DIJA5DU0&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR210YA4tzW4VITm58zt0aerctBQCmhNBOOrT9okW6Brb7V0Jmzlh9RNEP1g>

[From Ed Chadwick:](#) Pilot Down

Interestingly in 1967, we lost several men and aircraft in 1967 on 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.

<http://www.pilotsofamerica.com/forum/showthread.php?t=42816>

Oriskany Video from 1966:

https://catalog.archives.gov/id/85461?fbclid=IwAR3-cX6vMpSSO_o0yaSvozse5MfRLnf0VBaByznNGVWA3_U4WZ8OXNJjUGY

Blue Angels:

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

TA-4 inflight video:

https://instagram.com/skyhawk518?utm_medium=copy_link

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

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

Amazing Carrier Landing:

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 via 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

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: vymf.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

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#>

F-18 Parking on Flightdeck:

<https://fbwat.ch/1vthAlcaGlvADom4>

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

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 November 2022

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

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 password, *Saints4ever* **capital S**



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



