



Cold War Squadron Finds A Place on the Plaque Wall

Newly elected in December 2008 as Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Navy Memorial, Dick Vie returned to Washington in early February for the dedication of two commemorative plaques honoring the Navy aircraft squadron he flew with and his shipmates who were killed in an aviation accident on the island of Midway in 1961. Mr. Vie, the Executive Chairman of Unitrin Inc., a financial services company providing insurance and consumer finance products and services, served in the Airborne Early Warning Barrier Squadron in the early 1960s.

Several of Mr. Vie's fellow crewmembers joined him for the ceremony, including Lee Kalsch, Jim Kennedy, Bill Shoemaker, Tony Spencer, and Ray Triplett. Two other AEW shipmates, Nelson Harms and Steve Meyer, also were in attendance.

This squadron has a rich and tragic history that dates back to the early days of the Cold War. Approximately 1,500 miles sit between Alaska and Midway Island – usually shrouded in fog. The path between these two land masses was considered the likely route for invaders (nuclear-laden supersonic bombers) to cross the defense line to North America. It made the Pacific coast naked and vulnerable. And so, the “Pacific Barrier” was born. It was designed to prevent an “end run” around radar outposts from land bases and the occasional patrolling ship. It extended protection for North America another 1,500 miles. A wing of radar-packed planes – together with surface radar pickets of a destroyer escort squadron – were put into commission and assumed the watch 24-7 on July 1, 1958. A flight took off from Midway Island every 4 hours, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

These men flew 14 to 16-hour missions, non-stop, in severe weather conditions, ensuring that any ship or aircraft moving across this 1,500-mile expanse of ocean would immediately be

detected and identified as friend or foe.

They flew Lockheed “Super Constellations” – or “VW-2 Super Connie’s” – on an initial budget of \$350,000. (An Atlantic squadron was also established, operating out of Argentia, Newfoundland.) The planes contained \$2 million of electronic and other technical equipment. This was the first line of defense for North America.

Continued on next page



Former crewmembers from the Airborne Early Warning Barrier Squadron attend the plaque dedication hosted by Navy Memorial Chairman Dick Vie.

Plaque Dedication

Continued from front page

The pilots were rigorously trained: after 500 hours in multi-engine planes, they endured a specialized training course specific to VW-2 aircraft. It took 16 months to qualify for second pilot and two years to qualify as an aircraft commander. The flight engineers were all senior petty officers and experienced mechanics who had graduated from 12 weeks of intensive ground school training, followed by 2-3 months of in-flight training before they were eligible to be a second engineer. To qualify as a first engineer required 110 hours of flight panel operations aboard a “Connie” in-flight.

The risks and danger of these squadrons’ missions were never more evident than on January 22, 1961 when one of the squadron’s aircraft was returning from a barrier patrol and made contact with a small pile of coral on the approach end of the runway – just as the plane was in the final stage of touching down at Midway Island. Making a hard landing and veering to one side of the runway, the plane hit a crash truck that was parked nearby to respond to emergencies. The plane broke apart and caught fire, killing six crewmen aboard the aircraft and the three men on the crash truck. It was a devastating loss.

“It was my great honor to become aircraft commander of the F-35 crew months later,” Mr. Vie said. “I hope other flight crews and ground crews of the Barrier Squadron will also dedicate plaques to this great wall.”

PLAQUE PROGRAM

Begun in 1996, the commemorative plaque program provides reunion groups, families and individuals the opportunity to create a permanent memorial by sponsoring a plaque for an individual, group, ship, squadron, shipmate or a specific battle. Forms to dedicate a new plaque are available online at www.navymemorial.org. You may also contact Paul Haley by phone at 1-800-821-8892 Ext. 760 or via e-mail at paulhaley@navymemorial.org. *More information on page 5.*

FROM THE PRESIDENT’S DESK

As you read this, the Navy Memorial will be busy preparing for our annual Blessing of the Fleets ceremony – charging our fountains on the Plaza and ushering in the spring season on Saturday, April 4, 2009. Springtime here means daytime concerts, reunion group wreathlayings and plaque dedications and a new exhibit: The Year of the Seabees & Civil Engineer Corps. Throughout 2009 we will be honoring, celebrating and telling the stories of our dedicated Construction Battalions and the legacy of their work around the world through an exhibit and a series of public programs.

Like many organizations and businesses, we, too, felt the nosedive the economy took in the fall of 2008. The Council of Non-Profits says that 35% of non-profit organizations have seen a decrease in giving for the first nine months of 2008 - compared with 19% just a year ago. Ironically, GuideStar indicates that 64% of non-profits saw an increased demand for their services in 2008.

While we are pinching our pennies here at the Navy Memorial in 2009, we are looking for more creative and cost-efficient ways to keep you connected with each other, celebrate your service and perpetuate the memory of your service. We are producing more information electronically, adjusting the scope and scale of some of our events, and implementing collaborative partnerships with some of our “sister” sea service support organizations.

We value your support of the Navy Memorial and will continue to be good stewards of the resources that you donate to us. As always, we welcome your feedback and comments.



Richard A. Buchanan
Rear Admiral, United States Navy (Ret.), President & CEO

Vinson Hall Residents Join Navy Memorial Pearl Harbor Commemoration Event

Just 25 years old when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, Cdr. John Budzik, USN (Ret.), was stationed at Honolulu Harbor, 10 miles from the site of the attack. Rear Adm. Edward Walker Jr., USN (Ret.), who was nine years old at the time and living in Makalapa – just up the hill from Pearl Harbor, joined Commander Budzik and crewmembers from USS *Carl Vinson* (CVN-70) and the public at the U.S. Navy Memorial to remember and honor those who lost their lives 67 years ago.

Commander Budzik is a resident of and Rear Admiral Walker serves on the board of directors of the Vinson Hall Retirement Community in McLean, Va., home to many sea service veterans. In addition to the wreathlaying on the Plaza, Commander Budzik was made an honorary crew member of USS *Carl Vinson*.



Pearl Harbor survivor Cdr. John Budzik places a commemorative wreath at the foot of *The Lone Sailor*.

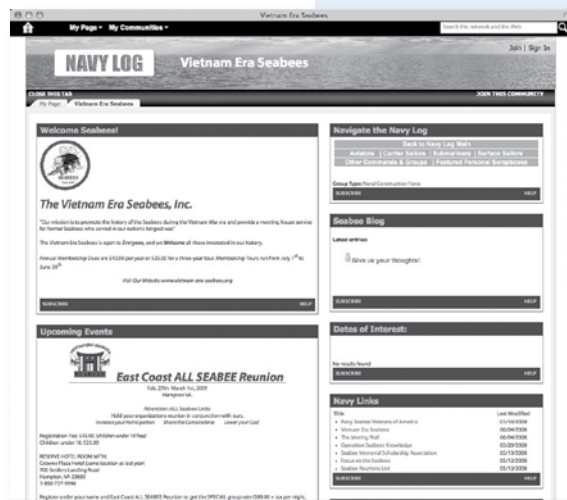
Navy Memorial Builds Online Communities

See Your Ship and Shipmate on the Internet

In an effort to reach out to younger veterans and Sailors who use the Internet on a daily basis and find new ways to keep you – our veterans – connected with each other, the Memorial has developed several online products: the new Navy Log and NavyTV. The new Navy Log Community allows users to build a type of online scrapbook – with the capability of adding multiple photos, videos and memories. It also lets users build affinity groups – a ship reunion group, a chief's mess, a spouse's group – with photo albums of the group's reunions, email links to the group, an online bulletin board where group members can post messages to the entire group, and much more. Go to www.navylog.org to learn more!

Television on the Internet

At NavyTV, www.navytv.org, visitors can watch hundreds of short videos about the Navy: World War II- and Vietnam-era documentaries, daily updates from current Navy operations around the world, and History Channel and PBS series about the Navy – just to name a few. Visitors can sign up to receive email updates on new programming that can be watched – on demand – 24 hours a day.



Charitable Gift Annuity Update: New Rates Began February 1

The Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) program allows donors to transfer cash or marketable securities to the Navy Memorial in exchange for a gift annuity contract (quarterly or annual cash return.) It was begun in 2002 in association with the American Council on Gift Annuities using their generous interest rates which are reviewed yearly (current rates effective February 1, 2009 given below). For more information, please contact Paul Haley by phone at 1-800-821-8892 Ext. 760 or via e-mail at paulhaley@navymemorial.org.

CGA TESTIMONIAL

This isn't rocket science...

Recently, I called one of our CGA participants in Pennsylvania who had lost her husband late in 2006, shortly after the two of them signed their first CGA contract at a rate of 8.9%. I was calling to advise Emily that she could now do a second CGA at a very desirable, single life rate of 10.5% if she was willing to act prior to February 1, 2009 when the rates would be reduced. She was very aware of the upcoming rate reduction having supported the CGA programs of two other favorite charities; they had already alerted her before I had a chance to call! She exclaimed, "This isn't rocket science you know; I have been waiting for your call, Paul. An offer of 10.5% on a portion of our life's savings that I choose to donate to the Navy Memorial which was my husband's favorite charity shouldn't be missed; my check is in the mail.

Plaque honoree AMM2 Walter L. Nelson could not attend the dedication ceremony hosted by Paul Haley (center), so his daughter Madeline Morehouse (left) and great granddaughter Mackenzie Easter (right) videotaped the ceremony for Petty Officer Nelson. They celebrated with him and extended family with a video screening later at home.



Sample Rates with a minimum investment of \$5,000:

One Person		Married Couple	
Age	Rate	Age	Rate
70	5.7%	70/70	5.25%
75	6.3%	75/75	5.6%
80	7.1%	80/80	6.1%
85	8.1%	85/85	7.0%

Why a Charitable Gift Annuity?

- Fixed Payments, Partially Tax Free
- Guaranteed Payments For Life
- Charitable Income Tax Deduction
- Help Insure Our Traditions, Heritage and Sailors Are Never Forgotten

please support the navy memorial



Sample plaques recently dedicated



SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

Support the Navy Memorial by filling out and mailing this form in honor of or in memory of a loved one.

Questions can be directed to Nan McComber at (202) 380-0730 or nmc-comber@navymemorial.org.

“IN HONOR OF” OR “IN MEMORY OF” GIFTS

I would like to make a contribution to the United States Navy Memorial in memory of or in honor of someone special to me:

In Memory Of _____

In Honor Of _____

Occasion (if appropriate) _____

Donation Amount: \$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 Other _____

An acknowledgement will be sent to the family (omitting amount):

Please Inform _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Email _____

Donor Information:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Email Address _____

If you prefer the convenience of giving by credit card:

VISA MasterCard American Express Discover

Account _____ Ex. Date _____

Signature _____

Please make checks payable to the **U.S. Navy Memorial Foundation** and enclose in the envelope. Thank you for your donation! Your gift is tax-deductible. Please visit our web site at www.navymemorial.org



Send this page to:

United States Navy Memorial

701 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Suite 123

Washington, DC 20004-2608

FAX: (202) 737-2308

The Charitable Bequest Program

What is the Bequest Program?

The Bequest Program is a simple way to support the Navy Memorial in your estate planning. Bequests can be provided in the form of cash gifts, stock gifts, or a percentage share of the proceeds of a real estate or business sale.

Why is it important?

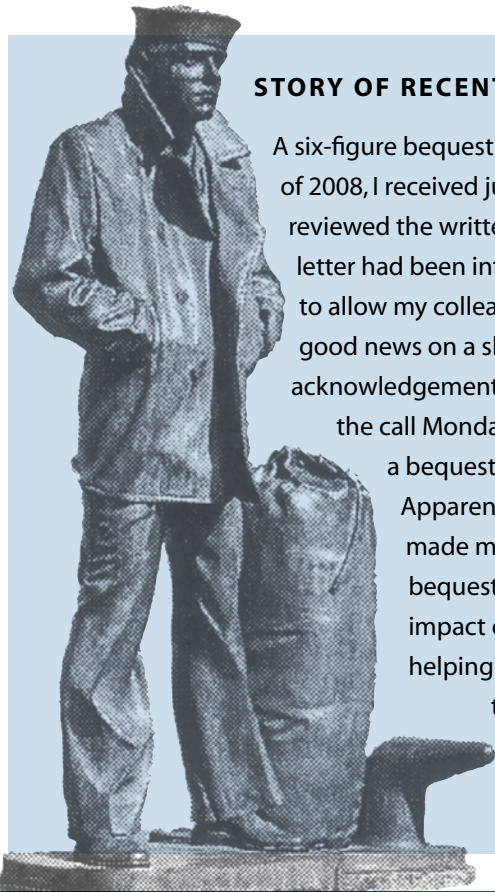
So often our loyal supporters would like to do more to ensure that the public outreach programs we sponsor will continue well into the future and that the Naval Heritage Center will be well maintained and updated over time. Know that your bequest of whatever size is vital to the financial well being of your Navy Memorial.

How do I participate?

As you create your will for the first time, or update your present one, remember that your bequest can create a legacy in your name and that it will assist us in our broad-based mission of public outreach and values-based education to honor, preserve and celebrate America's enduring naval heritage. Sample wording which may be used is on the right. After you execute your will, please contact Paul Haley by phone at 1-800-821-8892 Ext. 760 or via e-mail at paulhaley@navymemorial.org

Use this sample wording...

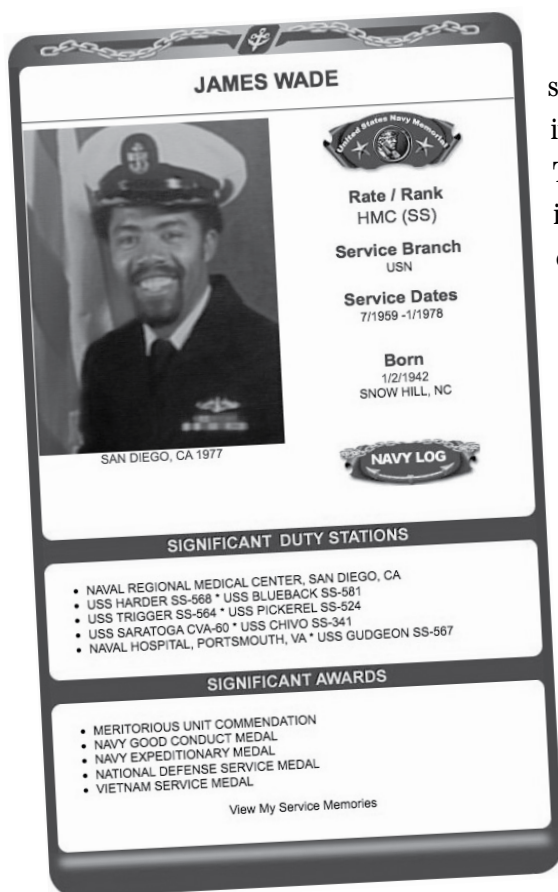
"I give to The United States Navy Memorial Foundation, 701 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 123, Washington, D.C. 20004-2608, the sum of \$ _____, to be used for the general purposes of The United States Navy Memorial Foundation."



STORY OF RECENT BEQUESTS: A Surprise Ending!

A six-figure bequest notification is a welcome letter at any time! Late in the fall of 2008, I received just such an announcement on a quiet Friday afternoon. As I reviewed the written bequest, my enthusiasm diminished as I realized that the letter had been intended for another Navy non-profit organization! Wanting to allow my colleague at that other Navy non profit to hear his organization's good news on a slow Friday afternoon, I called and faxed his bequest letter of acknowledgement. Although he had departed for the weekend, he returned the call Monday morning with equally good news for me. He had received a bequest notification letter addressed to the Navy Memorial. Apparently, this most generous widow of a senior naval officer had made matching gifts to both non-profit organizations. This surprise bequest from a long time modest donor made a very significant impact on our year-end financial statement. If you believe in helping to support our mission of promoting the history and traditions of the United States Navy, do consider including us in your bequest planning whatever the level of giving you might consider. Leave a legacy; make a bequest!

Navy Memorial's "Super Volunteers" Register 610,000 into the Navy Log



The Navy Log is currently home to more than 610,000 service profiles for Navy Veterans. Of those entries, hundreds, if not thousands, have been added by four dedicated men. The new updates to the Log allow people to enter more interactive and detailed profiles. There are also different communities to join and connect through shared interests. The updated Log makes it easier to add and search profiles. These four men have contributed so much of their time and effort to create lasting memorials for many veterans.

HMC James Wade, from San Diego, Calif., says that creating these profiles is a type of hobby for him. "I Google information and enter it in the Log. I get a lot of enjoyment from doing it." In addition to adding profiles for admirals and others who have passed away, Chief Wade uses the Navy Log to look up old friends. Some of these friends he has not seen in years and the Log helps to "bring back memories and times, both good and bad" of when they served together.

The Navy Log is a great way to commemorate those who have served. Indiana native Cdr. Eugene Maresca says that the Log is useful in that it "forever records

people's service." He alone has entered more than 300 profiles. One feature that Commander Maresca thinks makes the Navy Log helpful is that there is a search tool which makes it easier to find those who may have fallen out of touch.

Most agree that it is important to enter names on the Log so that people will know who served and when. Mr. John Casey, a charter member of the Navy Log, enters names daily. He says that he will work for two hours, take a break, and then work for two more hours – adding names every day. He says that the Navy Log is "a great tool, because children and grandchildren [of those who have served] can show their father, or grandfather, that these [men] exist" and that they will always be remembered. Mr. Casey does a lot of work with veterans in Connecticut. The Connecticut Secretary of State gives Public Service Awards to veterans who are still alive. Mr. Casey prints entries from the Navy Log and presents them as certificates to accompany the Public Service Award. The certificate allows them to see that people will always remember their service.

Navy retiree and graduate historian RMCM Douglas Bewall agrees that "trying to keep history in the sea services is very valuable because family members of those who have served may want to research them." He uses the Navy Log every day to research people and attempts to add more information where he can. In addition, Master Chief Bewall does a lot of work for those who were killed in action and lost at sea. He primarily uses the Internet to research and enters the information on the Log so that relatives will know that their loved one's service will be documented and preserved in perpetuity.

To learn more about the Navy Log and to create a profile or join a community, go to www.navylog.org.



The United States Navy Memorial

701 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Suite 123
Washington, DC 20004-2608

www.navymemorial.org

THE UNITED STATES NAVY MEMORIAL

The Lone Sailor




Hours of Operation

Naval Heritage Center and Ship's Store

Open every day, 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Closed Thanksgiving, December 25 and January 1.

The United States Navy Memorial has been designated a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization by the Internal Revenue Service. Accordingly, donations to the USNM are tax-deductible. *The Lone Sailor* is published by The United States Navy Memorial President and CEO, Rear Adm. Richard A. Buchanan, USN (Ret.), 701 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Suite 123, Washington, DC 20004-2608 PHONE: (202) 737-2300 Ext. 718, E-MAIL: ahoy@navymemorial.org, INTERNET: www.navymemorial.org **Moving?** Please send your new address to receive all editions.



YOU CAN OWN A PERSONALIZED LONE SAILOR®
Collectible Statue in the new Brushed Silver finish. Have the plate custom engraved with Name and Rank. These collectible, heavy-weight replicas are eight inches tall.

The original Lone Sailor® bronze statue stands at the Navy Memorial Plaza in Washington, DC. He is the creation of the United States Navy Memorial's official sculptor, Stanley Bleifeld and represents the past, present and future Navy bluejacket – Adventurous, Independent, Courageous, Self-reliant, and Resourceful. His authentic image evokes the lure and romance of service at sea.

**YOUR NAME
YOUR RANK, UNITED STATES NAVY**

NOTE: FONT FACE MAY VARY

TO ORDER CALL TOLL FREE 1-800-403-1745
YOU CAN ALSO VISIT WWW.NAVYMEMORIALSTORE.COM

Lone Sailor Statue

New Edition Personalized

For Fastest Service Call Toll Free: **1-800-403-1745**
or go online at **www.navymemorialstore.com**

ITEM	QTY	COST	TOTAL
Silver Statue		\$95.00	
Custom Plate		\$19.95	
Shipping & Handling - PER STATUE		\$7.00	
SUB-TOTAL			
CT RESIDENTS +6% SALES TAX			
DONATION			
GRAND TOTAL			

CUSTOM NAME & RANK : PRINT CLEARLY

CALL 1-800-403-1745 FOR MULTIPLE PLATES

FULL NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE #: _____

EMAIL: _____

Send Check or Money Order, made payable to: Sky Retail Partners.
Or use your Credit Card. DO NOT SEND CASH.

CARD NUMBER: _____

EXP: _____ TYPE: VISA MC AMEX DISCOVER

SIGNATURE: _____

Mail check or Money Order, made payable to Sky Retail Partners, to U.S. Navy Memorial Store c/o Sky Retail Partners, 1895 Stratford Avenue, Stratford, CT 06615. Orders must be signed and may be subject to Credit Approval. Sky Retail Partners operates our Order & Distribution Center, the name will appear on your Billing Statement - for more information, call Toll Free 1-800-403-1745 ©2009 Sky Retail Partners.