

NEWSLETTER

VP 40 Reunion Group

The 15th bi-annual reunion was held in Pensacola, FL on Oct 8-12, 2014. There were 133 attendees, with 78 VP40 members. A very good turnout. There are pictures posted on our web site of the reunion. I am including a group picture for those of you that were not there or did not purchase one.

Hope to see you all again and others as well at the next one. I have posted some pictures on our web site www.vp40.com.

The 2016 Reunion will be at San Diego, CA.

Dates: start : Wednesday October 5, 2016

end : Sunday October 9, 2016.

Place: HOLIDAY INN BAYSIDE San Diego, CA.

<http://www.holinnbayside.com/>

YOU are responsible for making your hotel reservations. Use the CODE VP4 when registering for our group rate.

VP 40 ROSTER

Presently I have 300 Active members on the list. There is not a roster in this newsletter. You can find a current one on our web site. In addition I have the Dues list and there are some members who have NOT paid their 2014-2016 dues yet (\$20 bi-annually). They are overdue at this time for the 2014-2016 time period. You will have a notice in your package if this is the case, please send it to me and make the check payable to **VP40 Reunion Committee**. If you have paid your dues, I Thank you.

One of my goals is to increase the active membership and also increase attendance at reunions. We have picked up a few folks and sadly lost a few. I ask for your help. We all need to participate. If we all would just look at a cruisebook and try and locate 1 or 2 of the people you knew it would help.

I am requesting that you review the member roster attached and let me know of any changes, additions, deaths, etc. If you know of anyone who is eligible to join our group, get in touch with them or let me know and I will do it. Some of us are getting a little long in the tooth !!! So we need to keep this group alive and kicking.

I have had quite a few requests from the P3 era of VP40 who would like to join our group and come to the reunions. We took a vote at the 2014 reunion and it was decided to include the P3 era members at this time. I have posted this on our web site, but I have not had a lot of interest so far. If you know of anyone from the P3 ERA (1967-present) please let them know they are welcome to join our group. VP30 is training the P3V replacement, the P-8A (a converted 737 aircraft) The 1st P8's are in the fleet, VP40 should be getting them, replacing the P3v. So the P3v members will be as obsolete as we seaplane members are. I will try and have the VP40 P8A at our reunion.

MEMBER CHANGES I have been notified of since the last newsletter Feb /2016***New Arrivals***

Dale Wietzke	1971-1974	AT2
Dick Wilcox	1958-1961	AE2
Tom (Mac) McClelland	1961-1964	AX2

Raymond Wegrzyn	1961-1963	AE1
Robert Maley	1951-1951	L3

DEPARTURES

Jim Gard	2/2015	AT2	1959-1960
David H Partridge	3/21/2016	ATR2	1961-1963
Gorman Ponds	11/11/2013	E3	1964-1967

Widows & family of deceased members are very welcome to attend our reunions and to join us and continue their friendship with this very special group of people.

Contacts

I have been in phone/email contact with former VP40 people who have NOT signed up for our group yet. I do not know why but perhaps someone else can convince them to join.

Some of the people I have been in contact with are the following

Tom (Mac) McClelland AX2 ---Mac has joined our group and will attend the upcoming reunion

George Cullison AX2—George so far is not interested in joining

Bill Grayson AO1—Bill lives in Mexico and will not join or attend the reunion

This is the LAST newsletter before our reunion this year. It contains updated reunion plans.

Included with this newsletter is the registration form for the reunion. Please fill it out and return it to me along with the money due for it. If you are not ready to commit yet, please let me know if you are a NO, YES or MAYBE as soon as possible. It makes it a lot easier to plan it.

You can make your hotel reservations NOW and remember to use the code **VP4** when doing so.

This newsletter and a history of the ones available and in the future, will be posted on our web site. Anyone that I have an email address for will receive newsletters via that route. (that will include any attachments i.e. Rosters, reunion information)as well. Anyone who I DONOT have an email address for will continue to receive the newsletters etc. via snailmail. This was voted on and approved at the last reunion business meeting. The mailing costs are expensive and we can save some cost using the internet.

I have some responses from members with corrected email addresses, phone #'s, addresses etc.

THANK YOU. The database has been corrected.

DO NOT FORGET OUR VP40 WEBSITE

www.vp40.com

I have created a web site for the VP40 seaplane era group AND ALL time frames now. I am modifying it to include the P3 people, and the P8a people when applicable. If anyone has photos stories etc, from the P3 era please send them to me and I will post them in our web site. I hope you will visit it. There are a lot of pictures, video, some cruise books (more to come), archive of past newsletters, web links, and some interesting reading. It will be updated every week or sooner if required . I am always looking for pictures, stories, video, etc. to publish in it. If you have anything to contribute do not hesitate send it to me and it will be included ASAP. WE do have a members only section, you MUST be a member of our group to access it. Once you log in you will have access to pages that are not available to the general public. These pages will contain information like the current active member roster, with address, phone etc. This is for security reasons, only VP40 members will be able to log into the site.

There is also a Ships Store where you can purchase caps, mugs, T Shirts etc. with VP40 markings. We found a local printing shop to make our T shirts and they are priced reasonable so we have a couple of selections. We are running this ourselves and we finally have some stock, so order and enjoy. If you want something different just ask and we will try and obtain it. Contact: ggfisk@vp40.com OR bobpolk@vp40.com.

This web site belongs to our group so the more we use it the better it will become. Any comments and suggestions are welcome. You can leave comments for others to enjoy and it is a great way for other members to communicate with you. If you need an email address, I can provide one for you from VP40 (i.e. ggfisk@vp40.com). I hope you will use and enjoy the site. So please if you have a current email address send it to me. If you want to receive a hard copy of the newsletters let me know, otherwise they will be posted on the website (and sent via email to you). In addition if anyone has pictures, video, stories, information, etc. they would like to share please send it to me, either digital or hard copy and I will post them in the web site. I will return your originals if needed.

As of 8/3/2016 we have had a total of 84,730 pages viewed , and 6,826 views of our web site in the last 30 days. It is now averaging about 228 per day and growing. I will keep adding content as often as I receive it.

CONGRATULATIONS, keep using it and I will keep updating it.

AGENT ORANGE

I have been in contact with members of MMA and VP50, VP48, VP47 on the subject of Agent Orange. The VA is still rejecting most claims from members of seaplane squadrons. Please help if you have filed or intend to file a claim with the VA for Agent Orange. There is some information about this and other matters on our web site. Have a look. I KNOW OF A FEW MEMBERS THAT HAVE HAD THEIR CLAIMS ACCEPTED RECENTLY. Contact Bob Polk, Mike Kane, Ken Colson for more details of their claims.

Unfortunately I am aware that more of our members are having Agent Orange and other health problems but the good news are they are filing for compensation. Above all **DO NOT GIVE UP**, if the VA request more info , provide it and they will eventually allow the disabilities.

CAVITE CITY ORPHAN FUND

We will have a presentation for the creation of a VP40 fund donation committee to provide clothing, shoes, money etc. for orphans in Cavite City, P.I. The poverty there is worse than when we were stationed there if you can imagine that. Please thank Jack and Joy Fisher, and Mike Kane for all their efforts to this great cause. There will be multiple feedings during the years ahead, so please join in the cause. There are some pictures of it on our web site. Please take a look.

2016-2018 dues

Semi-annual dues are up for payment starting NOW. If you have paid up please ignore this, but most of us HAVE NOT paid for them yet. I will accept payment at the reunion, if you are not attending please send me payment of \$20.

My address is
Guy Fisk
340 Lynn Cove Road
Asheville, NC 28804

I must report that only about 100 of the 300 members pay their dues, soon if not paid for 2 years or more you will not be receiving any updates to our group and cannot attend reunions.

ORGANIZATIONS and CONTACTS:

Membership Chairman:

Guy Fisk 340 Lynn Cove Road Asheville, NC 28804
home phone- (828) 505-8013 cell phone- (828) 423-2106
email- ggfisk@charter.net or ggfisk@vp40.com

NATIONAL FLIGHT LOG:

Leslie Geiger (800)327-5002

HISTORIAN:

Bruce Barth
(512) 288-9824 bbarth1@austin.rr.com

WEB SITES OF INTEREST

www.vp40.com our web site for this group

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/P5M_Marlin

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PBM_Mariner

www.vpnavy.org

www.navalaviationmuseum.org

www.vpmma.org

<http://tlbigley.com/VP-40/>

<http://marinermarlin.com/>

<http://www.navy.mil/allhands.asp>

<http://www.history.navy.mil/branches/nhcorg5.htm>

<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>

<http://www.va.gov/>

[http://www.health.mil/News And Multimedia/News/detail/10-08-](http://www.health.mil/News_And_Multimedia/News/detail/10-08-)

[31/VA Officials Publish Final Regulation to Aid Veterans Exposed to Agent Orange.aspx](http://www.health.mil/News_And_Multimedia/News/detail/10-08-31/VA_Officials_Publish_Final_Regulation_to_Aid_Veterans_Exposed_to_Agent_Orange.aspx)

<http://www.navytimes.com/>

[http://www.dhc-2.com/Aird Aviation Archives.html](http://www.dhc-2.com/Aird_Aviation_Archives.html)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qaF35VhMNoo&list=PL67EDF55D76D0FD6A>

<http://www.decklog.com/homeport.asp>

<http://www.hullnumber.com/VP-40>

<http://www.fra.org/>

<http://www.military.com/benefits/military-pay/charts/historical-military-pay-rates.html>

<http://www.vpnavy.com/>

<http://navy.togetherweserved.com/>

<http://www.vp40.navy.mil/>

<http://www.maritimepatrolassociation.org>

<http://www.vva.org/>

<http://www.koreanwar.org/html/units/navy/vp40.htm>

<http://www.vp48.org/>

<http://www.vp40.navy.mil/>

Here is the information about the upcoming reunion 10/5-10/9/2016

Here is the website for the hotel. You can make your reservations starting NOW. Be sure and mention you are with the VP40 reunion group to ensure you get the discounted rate. Our group code is **VP4**

HOLIDAY INN SAN DIEGO BAYSIDE

4875 North Harbor Drive
San Diego, CA 92106
Tel (619) 224-3621 or (800) 650-6660
Sales Fax (619) 224-1787

www.holinnbayside.com

GROUP INFORMATION

POST AS: **VP40 Reunion**
CONTACT: **Guy Fisk** TITLE: **2016 Reunion Organizer**
ADDRESS: **340 Lynn Cove Road Asheville, NC 28804**
TELEPHONE: **828-505-013**
EMAIL: ggfisk@charter.net or ggfisk@vp40.com

DATES REQUESTED

Arrival: **Weds October 5, 2016**
Departure: **Sunday October 10, 2016**

ROOM RATE INFORMATION

Room	Single Rate	Double Rate	Triple Rate	Quad Rate
Run of House	\$124	\$124		

All rates are subject to the 10.5% occupancy tax, the 2% tourism marketing district tax, and the 0.09% California Tourism Tax. The Reunion rate will be offered 3 days pre and post reunion dates, based upon availability. Parking fee is waived.

METHOD OF RESERVATION	CUT-OFF DATE
An advance deposit or credit card guarantee for the 1 st night's room and tax is due by September 14, 2016. Individuals must identify themselves as part of VP40 Reunion at the time of making reservations in order to be eligible for the special group rate. Please call (800) 662-8899 or (619) 224-3621 to make reservations.	The Hotel understands all reservations will be held on an individual basis. The block of rooms will continue to be held until the cutoff date of September 14, 2016. Reservations received after September 14, 2016 will be provided on a space available basis. If the Group Rate is not available after the cutoff date, the prevailing rack rates will apply for reservations confirmed.

CHECK-IN TIME IS 4:00 PM / CHECK-OUT TIME IS 12:00 PM

The hotel has FREE airport shuttle 24 hours 7 days a week. Call hotel for pickup and delivery.

ITINERARY:

READY ROOM – Hospitality Room will be the Harborview Room
The room will open **Thursday-Saturday 0800 -2200**
Wednesday 1200 - 2200
Sunday 0800 – 1200

EVENT AGENDA

Adequate space has been reserved for the following agenda:

Date	Start Time	End Time	Function	Room
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Wed. 10/05/16	12:00 PM	10:00 PM	Hospitality	Harbor View Room	
Wed 10/05/16	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	Reception	Harbor View Room	
Thu.10/06/16	8:00 AM	10:00 PM	Hospitality	Harbor View Room	
Thu. 10/06/16	6:00 PM	10:00 PM	Dinner Buffet	Poolside Deck	
Fri. 10/07/16	8:00 AM	10:00 PM	Hospitality	Harbor View Room	
Fri.10/07/16	10:00 AM	11:30 AM	Business Meeting	Harbor View Room members only	
Fri.10/07/16	9:30 AM	12:30 AM	Old Town Trolley Tour	Wives/guests only	
Fri 10/07/16	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	Guest speaker Book signing	Harbor View Room	
Fri 10/07/16	6:00 PM	8:00 PM	Filipino Buffet	Bayside Room	
Fri 10/07/16	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	VP40 P3 tour	NAS North Island	
Fri 10/07/16	6:00 PM	8:00 PM	Filipino Buffet	Bayside Room	
Sat 10/08/16	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	Lunch	San Diego Yacht Club	
Sat 10/08/16	6:00 PM	10:00 PM	Dinner	Bayside Room	

There will be an open microphone in the room for anyone who wants to tell a sea story or two..and for anyone that wants to listen and perhaps contribute.

If anyone has **memorabilia** they want to display please bring it and it will be displayed. We will have cruise books, Seaplane Models, pictures and other memorabilia on display also.

There will be VP40 items: coffee cups, T Shirts, Ball Caps, pins etc. for sale in the ready room every day. There will be a TV and DVD player for our use. I have some DVD's of seaplanes, and other videos etc. for viewing.

The Ready room will be locked up at night.

Planned Activities

Wednesday Oct 5, 2016 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Welcome **reception** in the Ready Room (Harbor View Room)

Thursday Oct 6, 2016 6:00pm – 10:00 pm

Buffet Dinner at Poolside Deck

There will be entertainment for our enjoyment

Friday Oct 7, 2016 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

There will be a Filipana Buffet @ the Bayside Room like we had in 2012.

However there will not be a dancing group like we had before, unless some of you would like to volunteer to entertain us.

There will be business meeting from **10:00 11:30 AM** in the Ready Room. **This is for members only**

There will be a Old Town Trolley Tour for the wives/guests Friday afternoon, but I need to know if there is enough interest to schedule our own private trolley, cost \$28 for person.

There will be a guest speaker/author from **1:00 2:00** in the Ready Room. He will show a video and talk about his latest book **Eyes of the Fleet** about Seaplane Tenders, They will be available for signing and sale.

I am planning on a VP40 P8A/P3V tour @ NAS North Island 3:00-4:00. This is not firm.

Saturday Oct 08, 2016 11:30 AM – 1: PM

Reunion members have been invited by Bob Collins on Saturday Oct 8, to meet for lunch at the **San Diego Yacht Club at 11:30.**

Bob is a member and has extended an open invitation to us all, members and wives. It is a short ride from the hotel and I will see if they can provide transportation for anyone that needs it. We would like to get a head count before the reunion from anyone that will attend, I will also have a sign up sheet at the desk when you arrive at the Ready Room.

Saturday Oct 08, 2016 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm

Banquet Dinner @The Bayside Room

We will have a photographer available for the evening. Group photos will be tonight during the social hour (5:00-6:00)The photos will be for sale and available after the dinner tonight.

I am trying to arrange for VP40 to fly the new P-8A and a P3V from NAS Whidbey Island to NAS North Island for our reunion. I am not sure of the day yet, but shooting for Friday, We should be able to view it inside and out. What a thrill it would be for the New VP40 crew to meet us OLD VP40 crews.

MISC:

The Hotel will provide Airport pick-up/deliver service. Call them to arrange It.
For local travel, contact the Ready Room. We will set up trips and times. The hotel will provide some travel for a group.

PLEASE bring you old name badges with you if you have them.

If I can answer any questions or help with reunion problems please contact me

Guy Fisk

ggfisk@vp40.com

(828)505-8013

Cell (828)423-2106

SEE YOU ALL in San Diego in October 2016

Guy Fisk

LAGING HANDA