

# Aviation Shapes the History of TACAMO

# TRAILING WIRE



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TACAMO.ORG



**Celebrating 27 Years of**



**TH**

Established 1997

**serving the TACAMO Community**



## LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MIKE VOS



Happy New Year TCVA, we hope your 2024 is safe and successful. 2024 will be a year of changes and innovation for TCVA.

First, I'd like to introduce our impending Membership program, which will begin with the upcoming redesign of our website. Since TSA/TCVA's inception, membership has been a voluntary thing. We'd like to thank those of you who have paid their dues and helped us keep the website up and the lights on. Moving forward, we will be requesting that all of our members register for access to the website. These credentials will cost \$35/year and will allow you full access to the TCVA website (<http://tacamo.org>) and other benefits of membership outlined in another article. Our Active Duty members will be granted full membership at NO Charge, upon registration.

This change in membership was not an easy decision to make. But, the increasing costs of managing the association made it necessary to take this step. It's a modest increase from our previously voluntary \$25/year and competitive with other veteran associations, like Tailhook and the Air Transport Association. We hope it doesn't deter you from remaining a member of TCVA.

To help manage some of the changes of 2024, we have brought onto our Board of Directors, Bob Wicker. Bob was Commodore "Irish" Keilty's Command Master Chief and is a fixture in the Retired Chiefs Mess. Bob will begin assisting Cheryl Vos as our "Asst. Admin VP" and be an integral part of our modernization effort. Thanks, Bob for bringing your skill set to our association.

Recently, I attended Bob "Skillz" Majoris' Change of Command to the incoming Commodore Britt Windeler and Deputy Dave Gardener, at Tinker AFB. It was a nice ceremony and an introduction of the new "Air Boss", VADM Cheever. He had just visited the TACAMO upgrade facility at Lake Charles, LA and as his first act as Air Boss, witnessed the STRATCOMMWING 1 Change of Command. It appears we have his attention. Fair winds and following seas, Commodore Majoris.

TCVA's President, Dennis "Coach" Warren's focus is on bringing the TCVA to our Active Duty shipmates. We hope to help bring a better experience to their Navy career, no matter how long they serve. Our alumni membership is packed with leaders and mentors. I hope we can inspire our younger shipmates to be the leaders they want to see. We just need to introduce ourselves. Standby for "routine traffic" about our experiences meeting this goal.

In closing, I'd like to thank our entire membership for their support over the 27 years of our association's "official" existence. And the 60+ years old dedication to our strategic mission and the community that surrounds it. We're "One Together".

Stay safe and have a great 2024.



# 2024 Dates to Remember



## TACAMO Dates for Active Duty Events

- 1 Mar LS1 Nakosha Embry Commissioning Ceremony, 1000, CNATT HiBay
- 15 Mar AWFCM Brock Corcoran Retirement Ceremony, 1100, CNATT HiBay
- TBD Apr Navy League Golf Tournament, TBD
- 10 May VQ-3 Change of Command, 1000, Hangar Bay 2
- 17 May VQ-4 Change of Command, 1000, Hangar Bay 3
- 17 Oct Navy Birthday Ball, 1800-2200, Reed Convention Center, Midwest City

## Important Military Holidays and Observances

- March 3 – Navy Reserve Birthday
- March 13 - K-9 Veterans Day
- March 25 - Medal of Honor Day
- March 29 – Vietnam Veterans Day
- April 5 – Gold Star Spouses Day
- May 1 – Silver Star Banner Day –“Official Day to honor wounded, ill, and injured Veterans”
- May 10 – Military Spouse Appreciation Day
- May 13 – Children of Fallen Patriots Day – A Day to honor the children left behind by the brave men and women who gave their lives while defending our freedom.
- May 18 – Armed Forces Day Observed on the third Saturday every May, this is a day dedicated to paying tribute to men and women currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.
- May 27 – Memorial Day A solemn occasion to honor the men and women who died while serving in the military.
- June 6 – Anniversary of the World War II Allied invasion in Normandy, France, now known as D-Day.
- June 14 – Flag Day – A Day to celebrate the adoption of the U.S. flag.
- **June 21 – TACAMO Memorial Day – On this day, TCVA remembers all fallen TACAMO sailors, especially TACAMOPAC Crew 4**
- June 27 – National PTSD Awareness Day – A Day to bring awareness about issues related to PTSD.
- July 4 – Independence Day
- July 27 – Korean War Veterans Armistice Day
- Aug. 7 – Purple Heart Day
- Sept. 11– Patriot Day – An annual observance to remember and honor those who were injured or killed during the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.
- Sept. 20 – POW/MIA Recognition Day
- Sept. 29 – Gold Star Mother’s and Family’s Day – A Day to honor the families of fallen Servicemembers.
- Oct. 13 – Navy Birthday
- Oct. 26 – National Day of the Deployed
- Nov. 11 – Veterans Day
- Dec. 7 – Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- Dec. 21 – National Wreaths Across America Day



Michael A Dudzinski:  
E-6B Test Team with  
“Naval Force Aircraft Test  
Squadron”. 1998.



# Community Hero Honored During 2024 'Living the Dream' Event "Cedrick Jessup"

HONORING LOCAL HEROES WHO CARRY THE TORCH  
OF DR. KING'S LEGACY



# LIVING THE DREAM

*A Tribute to Motown Music*



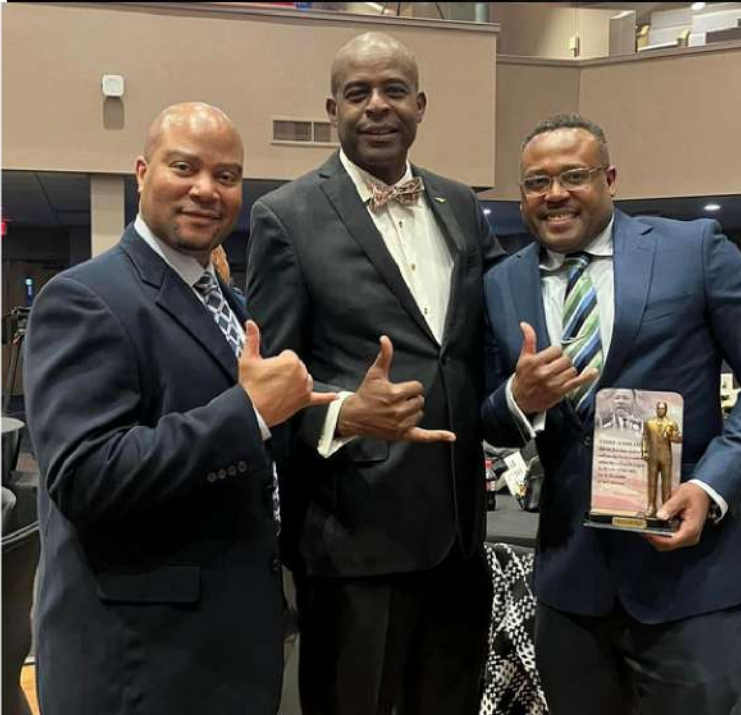
JANUARY **13** 2024

BROWNSVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER  
3200 W DESOTO ST  
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA 32505

**The Pensacola community recognized 11 people  
for helping carry out the dreams of  
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.  
Each were honored for contributions they are  
making to better our community.**



*Captain (ret) Cedrick L. Jessup*



## Cedrick Jessup Gives Thanks

Thank you to the Pensacola, Florida Living the Dream Committee for the recognition of this years MLK Living the Dream Award. Truly honored and humbled to be amongst the other distinguished awardees of this honor. May we all continue to be a light in the darkness and a servant where there is a need.

Cedrick Jessup is a former Commodore of Strategic Communications Wing ONE



# "SPOTLIGHT A SHIPMATE"

TACAMO Community,

I ENCOURAGE ALL OF YOU TO "SPOTLIGHT A SHIPMATE"..

Two of the main reasons we enjoyed our time in TACAMO are the friendships and experiences we shared. WE MUST NEVER lose sight of what an honor it was to serve in TACAMO.

## TACAMO MY SPOTLIGHT THIS MONTH GOES OUT TO TOMMY "ROCKET" MASER

Let's take a flight back in time to the Mid- eighties.....

So, one day 43 years ago, walking on a flight line in Pensacola, Florida, the Skipper said to the young "Sailor ever thought about being an Officer and the ECP Program.". Well, the Sailor thought about it and applied for ECP and was accepted to ECP. That same year, he was selected for Chief. He had a big decision to make. So Master Chief brought him into the Chief's Mess and asked this "Sailor of the Year" "Blue Angel of the Year" for the Blue Angels "Well what will it be? Tommy " Rocket " Maser said, " I am going to be a Naval Officer"..... And with that decision there would be thousands of TACAMO Sailors and Families whose lives and careers were changed in an instant and forever when Rocket became a Naval Officer. Rocket earned his Wings of Gold and he quickly became a Naval Flight Officer and came to TACAMO. He checked out as a Nav, ACO, MC, and Instructor. Rocket knew the mission. He knew how to fight the Herc and Merc, he trained us all to fly-fight-win. Most of all, Rocket knew how to lead. He was a winner, a mentor, an innovator, and a champion of excellence. He was one of the best leaders in the air and in the hangar. As a JO, DH, and Skipper, Rocket always was a "Sailors' Sailor". So many of us including me are better Sailors and better people because Tommy Maser was in our life. Tommy is retired and lives with his wife Sharon in Pensacola Florida.

By the way if you look closely in the crew pic you will see Rocket Maser with TACAMO Hall Of Fame Sailors Jim Meppelink, and Terry Frank. Can you tell who is who?

Keep your knots up,  
"Irish" John Keilty



**"Four Blue Angels of the Year"  
are TACAMO Guys.  
Terry Frank, Tom Messer,  
Tim Hehrer and Jerry Czubinski.  
Wow!!**



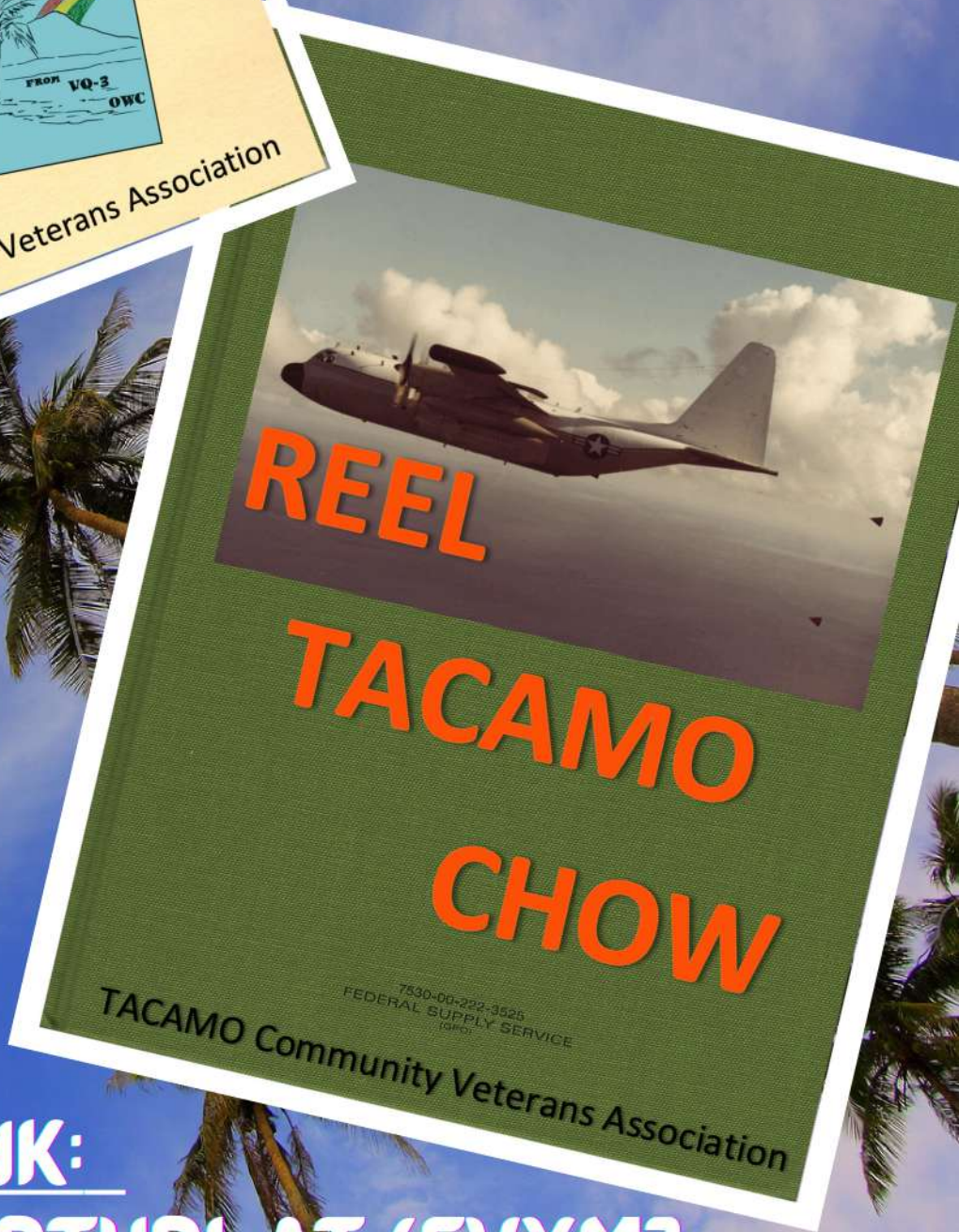
# TACAMO HERITAGE COOKBOOK



TACAMO Community Veterans Association

# \$25

ONE Book  
contains  
2 books



**PURCHASE LINK:**

**[HTTPS://SHORTURL.AT/FVXM2](https://shorturl.at/fvxm2)**



# Future TACAMO Aircraft Naming



## Name the Future TACAMO Aircraft

PMA-271 and SCW-1 has opened the future TACAMO aircraft naming to the TACAMO Community (TCVA, SCW-1 and PMA-271 only). We're requesting naming submissions by 1 MAR for leadership consideration. More details are included on the attached flyer. It would be wonderful to get the thoughts and ideas from the association's members.

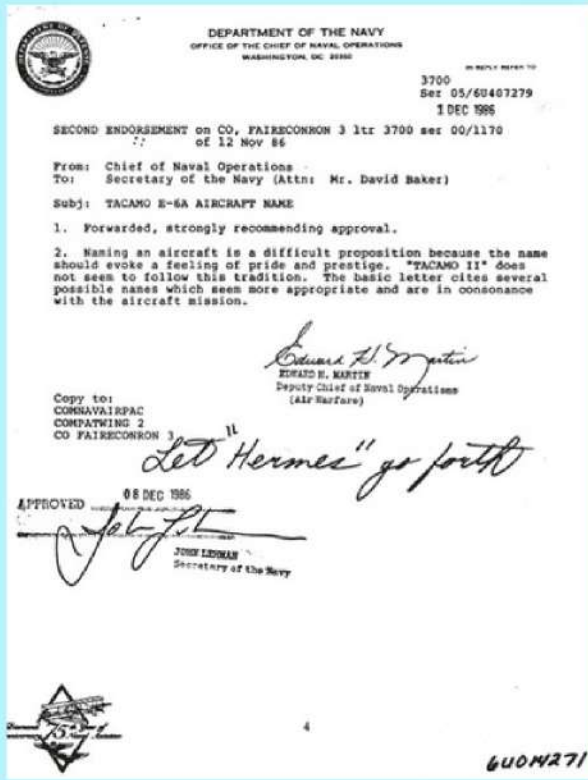
Again, I'd greatly appreciate your help to make this naming event available to the TCVA.

Julie Copsy  
Sr Communications & Multimedia Specialist

Barry corrected Vern's memory. " In early November '86 Boeing and the Navy announced that the Rollout ceremony for the first E-6A would be held on 18 December 1986 and that the new airplane's name would be "TACAMO II". I took great exception to that name, which I thought was stupid. Because of the short time available, I wrote a letter directly to SECNAV John Lehman, requesting that name be changed. He agreed with me! My letter, SECNAV's decision ("Let Hermes go forth!") and a couple of the endorsements I retained are attached for your entertainment. Note that Lehman's decision was dated 8 Dec 86 - only 10 days before the Rollout. So it was a close-run thing to get an acceptable name."

And the rest of the story from Vern Lochausen: Only all the news in those days was HERPES, a fact that drove the JOs crazy. Hence, Mike Davidson and I drafted a letter to CNO via the chain of command to revert to MERCURY and it happened.

This Here is not your grandkids GRANDPA Herc. It's better, faster, longer, more digital and hopefully just the thing we need.



Submit your suggested names by **1 MAR 1700 EST**

Leadership from the Airborne Strategic Command, Control and Communications Program Office (PMA-271) and Strategic Communications Wing 1 (SCW-1) will select their top three names to submit to the Secretary of the Air Force (SECAF) for selection. The submitter of the selected name will be contacted and acknowledged.

Submissions are limited to members of the TACAMO community



<https://forms.osi.apps.mil/fr/UBwATTaZ>



To review the full naming instruction, visit [https://static.e-publishing.af.mil/production/1/af\\_a8/publication/af16-401/af16-401.pdf](https://static.e-publishing.af.mil/production/1/af_a8/publication/af16-401/af16-401.pdf)  
Copyrighted material will not be considered.

**Click on the graphic below to vote**

## Name the Future TACAMO Aircraft

The Navy is developing the next generation of "Take Charge and Move Out" (TACAMO) aircraft – currently referred to as E-XX – to replace the current E-6B Mercury fleet. The E-XX will integrate TACAMO mission systems into a C-130J-30 aircraft and deliver survivable, reliable and endurable airborne command, control and communications for the president, secretary of defense and U.S. Strategic Command.

E-XX will be a TACAMO-only aircraft and will not fly the Looking Glass mission. Looking Glass will remain an E-6B mission until the aircraft's shutdown.

The E-6B Mercury was named for the Roman god Mercury, the messenger of the gods. The E stands for Electronic and 6B is the series number.

Please provide your naming submissions by **Friday, March 1, at 5 p.m. EST** for consideration. Leadership from the Airborne Strategic Command, Control and Communications Program Office (PMA-271) and Strategic Communications Wing 1 (SCW-1) will select the top three to submit to the Secretary of the Air Force (SECAF) for selection. The submitter of the selected name will be contacted and acknowledged.

To review the full naming instruction, visit [https://static.e-publishing.af.mil/production/1/af\\_a8/publication/af16-401/af16-401.pdf](https://static.e-publishing.af.mil/production/1/af_a8/publication/af16-401/af16-401.pdf). Copyrighted material will not be considered.

\* Required

1. The MDS popular name characterizes the military aircraft missions and aids communications and media references. It must consist of 1-2 distinct words (e.g. Mercury in E-6B Mercury or Advanced Hawkeye in E-2D Advanced Hawkeye)

What popular name(s) (up to three) do you suggest for the future TACAMO aircraft and why? \*

Enter your answer

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARIES OF THE AIR FORCE ARMY AND NAVY



DEPARTMENT AIR FORCE INSTRUCTION 16-401, ARMY REGULATION 70-50, NAVY AIRINST 13100.16

3 NOVEMBER 2020

Operations Support

DESIGNATING AND NAMING DEFENSE MILITARY AEROSPACE VEHICLES

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

To view the full naming instructions go to: <https://shorturl.at/kwKV3>



# TACAMO TCVA PARALOFT



[tacamo.org/paraloft](http://tacamo.org/paraloft)

More items for purchase on the Sale Page  
[tacamo.org/sale-items](http://tacamo.org/sale-items)

SERE Patch		VQ-3 Sticker		VQ-7 Patch Eagle Version (velcro)		TACAMO (drogue) hat	
FASO Det Brunswick Patch		VQ-7 Sticker		VQ-7 Patch Roughneck Version		2106 Hawaii Reunion hat	
SERE Brunswick Patch		TCVA Sticker		Old TACAMO PLE patch		EC-130Q Yoke Disc	
STRATCOM Wing 1 patch		STRATCOMWING 1 Sticker		VQ3 Change of guard patch		EC-130Q Yoke Plaque	
Verdin Patch		STRATCOMWING 1 TF-124 Sticker		Reel Op for life patch (Velcro)		E-6 tail VQ-4 desk placque	
VQ-4 Airborne Blackshoe		Ground Maintenance Sticker		VQ-7 Pin		Tinker shirt	
TACAMO Ground Maintenance		VQ-3 Hat (generic) Black		VQ-4 Pin		TACAMO JOE print (gloss)	
VQ-3 (old) Patch		TACAMO NFO hat Black		2017 OKC Reunion pin		TACAMO JOE print (matte)	
VQ-3 (new) Patch		VQ-3 TACAMO NFO hat Blue		2016 HI Reunion pin		Reunion 2016 Hawaii Bag	
VQ-4 Patch		VQ-4 TACAMO NFO hat Blue		STRATCOM 1 pin			
VQ-7 Patch Eagle Version		VQ-4 TACAMO Pilot hat Blue		VQ-3 (new) pin			
		TCVA hat (white)		VQ-4 Sticker			

**TACAMO AUTO  
MAGNET  
ONLY \$5**  
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INCLUDES SHIPPING)





# SCW-1 Holds Change of Command Ceremony

Capt. Britton D. Windeler relieved Capt. Robert "Skillz" Majoris as Commander, Strategic Communications Wing (SCW) One commodore, in a change of command ceremony at Tinker Air Force Base Feb. 2, 2024.

In attendance were Vice Adm. Daniel Cheever, Commander, Naval Air Forces, Col. Abigail L. W. Ruscetta, 72nd Air Base Wing Commander, Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma, The Honorable Brenda Stanley, Oklahoma Senator 42nd District, The Honorable Matt Dukes, Mayor, Midwest City, OK and other state and city officials.

During the ceremony, Cheever offered words of wisdom to Windeler and praised Majoris for his leadership while in command. He also thanked the crew and their families for their continued sacrifice and loyal devotion to the TACAMO mission.

"It's great to be here with the red dirt Navy, what a mission, what a team," said Cheever. "Today we recognize 'Skillz' amazing leadership, we add Britt as commodore, 'Checklist' as deputy, and thank CMC Stovall for his steadfast leadership."

As it was Majoris' retirement ceremony in addition to a change of command ceremony, Majoris was presented with the Legion of Merit and a gift from the SCW-1 Chief's mess before providing final remarks and reading his orders.

"I would like to thank all of the TACAMO Sailors, civilians' contractors, and families. It has been the honor of my life to serve with and beside you, for more than 24 years," said Majoris. "The importance of what you provide for the nation, as you operate the mighty E-6B, cannot be overstated, executing this mission has been a privilege.

During his tenure, Majoris expertly led more than 2,300 personnel in the execution of 3,652 sorties, encompassing 26,360 flight hours, resulting in unprecedented levels of operational readiness in direct support of the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, United States Strategic Command, and United States Fleet Forces Command. He accomplished all of this while maintaining an excellent command climate and developing his team into better leaders.

"Captain Majoris has been an amazing leader and mentor for me during my tour," Command Master Chief Jacob Stovall, SCW-1, command master chief.

"His professionalism, patience and calm demeanor, and inclusive leadership style are all qualities I try to emulate and pass on to my Sailors. He is truly one of the best officers I have had the pleasure of serving with and it has been an honor to be his CMC during his last tour in the Navy."

Upon assuming command, Windeler thanked Majoris for his dedication to the TACAMO mission and greeted the squadrons and staff with a poignant message.

Captain Majoris served 25 honorable years in the Navy as an aviator, he was SCW-1's 20th commodore. He plans to retire in Oklahoma, with his wife and children. SCW-1 is a tenant command of Naval Air Forces Command, made up of three squadrons and a wing staff; providing maintenance, security, operations, administration, training, and logistic support for the E-6B Mercury aircraft fleet.



**TACAMO Commodores, Past & Present at the SWC-1 Change of Command:** *Left to Right:* Dan Seesholtz, Mike Black, Dwight Shepard, Bob Majoris and new Commodore Britt Windeler, Tony Barnes, Chocko Baker, John "Irish" Keilty



# SCW-1 Commodore, Deputy and CMC



Captain Britton  
"Britt" Windeler -  
Commodore, Strategic  
Communications Wing 1

Captain Britton Windeler is a native of Marietta, Ohio and graduated from Tufts University in 2000 with a Bachelor of Science in Geology. He also holds a Master of Environmental Science from Miami University and a Master of Business Administration from Oklahoma State University. He was designated a Naval Flight Officer in 2001 upon completion of flight training at Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola, FL and Randolph Air Force Base (AFB), Texas.

His sea duty assignments include tours with the "Ironmen" of Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron Three (VQ) 3, Tinker AFB, Oklahoma as a junior officer qualifying as an E-6B Airborne Communications Officer Instructor and Mission Commander Evaluator; Assistant Air Operations Officer at USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70), deploying in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom; department head with the "Shadows" of VQ-4; and as Executive Officer and Commanding Officer of VQ-3.

Windeler's shore duty assignments include instructor at Miami University NROTC, responsible for training future Navy and Marine Corps officers; department head with the "Roughnecks" of VQ-7; and branch chief at United States Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM) where he served in the J6 directorate as functional manager of the E-4B and E-6B aircraft.

He most recently reported to USSTRATCOM in 2019, serving as J36 Deputy Division Chief, J3 Special Projects Officer, and Looking Glass Mission Commander. He assumed the role of J36 Division Chief upon promotion to Captain in January of 2020, where he was responsible for all USSTRATCOM command center functions.

He assumed duties as Deputy Commodore, Strategic Communications Wing (SCW) 1 and Task Group (TG) 114.2 in August of 2022.

Windeler has amassed more than 3,500 flight-hours in the T-34C, T-43A, and E-6B aircraft. Personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (five awards), Navy Achievement Medal, and other service and unit awards.



Captain David M. Gardner  
Deputy Commander, Strategic  
Communications Wing 1

Captain David "Checklist" Gardner is a native of New England, North Dakota and graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 2001 with a Bachelor of Science in Political Science. He also has a Master of Science in National Resource Strategy from The Eisenhower School and a Master of Business Administration with Finance from Bellevue University. He was designated a Naval Flight Officer (NFO) in 2003 upon completion of flight training at Naval Air Station Pensacola, Florida and the 562nd Flying Training Squadron at Randolph Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

He began his operational flying in 2003 with the "Ironmen" of VQ-3 at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma. In 2005, he was selected as the Strategic Communications Wing One NFO of the Year. He then served as the Flag Aide to Deputy Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command in Norfolk, Virginia. In 2008, he reported to USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74) in Bremerton, Washington as a Catapult and Arresting Gear Officer and was underway for the 2009 Western Pacific deployment. Gardner then reported in 2010 to United States Strategic Command at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska for a joint tour where he served as the Communications Officer for the Airborne Command Post. He then reported to the "Shadows" of VQ-4 at Tinker Air Force Base as a department head in 2012 where he completed his tour as the Operations Officer. He was then assigned to Naval Air Station North Island in San Diego, California in 2015, where he was the E-6B Readiness Officer for the Commander, Naval Air Forces, Pacific Fleet. In 2017, he reported back to Tinker AFB to assume the duties of Executive Officer and then Commanding Officer of the "Shadows" of VQ-4.

He most recently reported to the Pentagon in 2020 and served on the OPNAV N2N6 staff as a Requirements Officer for Nuclear Command, Control and Communications (NC3), the E-6B weapons systems, and the new E-XX aircraft.

CAPT Gardner has amassed more than 2,500 flight-hours in the T-34C, T-43A, and E-6B aircraft. His personal awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), Joint Commendation Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (five awards), and various other unit and personal awards.



Command Master Chief Jacob N. Stovall  
Command Master Chief, Strategic  
Communications Wing 1

Command Master Chief Jacob N. Stovall, a native of Denver, Colorado, Master Chief Stovall enlisted in the Navy in February of 2001 and attended RTC in Great Lakes, Illinois. After completing RTC, he received his aviation technical training at Aviation Electrician's Mate "A" school in Pensacola, Florida. After "A" school, he attended H-60 Seahawk specific "C" school in San Diego, California.

His sea duty assignments include Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light 51 (HSL-51 Warlords) in Atsugi, Japan, embarked on the USS Chancellorsville (CG-62) and the USS Kitty Hawk (CV-63); Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light 48 (HSL-48 Vipers) in Mayport, Florida; Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light 46 (HSL-46 Grandmasters) in Mayport, Florida, embarked on the USS McInerney (FFG-8), USS Anzio (CG-68), and USS Bulkely (DDG-84); and Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 26 (HSC-26 Chargers), embarked on the USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71), USS Ponce (ASFB(1)-15) and deployed to Manama, Bahrain in support of logistics operations in the Persian Gulf.

His previous shore duty assignments include Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit (CNATTU JAX) in Jacksonville, Florida; Air Test and Evaluation Squadron Two-Three (VX-23) in Patuxent River, Maryland; Air Test and Evaluation Squadron Two-Four (UX-24) in St. Inigoes, Maryland; Air Test & Evaluation Two Zero (VX-20) in Patuxent River; and Naval Test Wing Atlantic (NTWL) Maryland Patuxent River, Maryland. He is currently serving as Command Master Chief, Strategic Communications Wing ONE, Tinker AFB, Oklahoma.

He has qualified as a Master Training Specialist and Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist. He is a graduate of the Naval War College Primary Professional Military Education course; Senior Enlisted Academy (Class 205); Naval Leadership and Ethics Center CMC/COB course (Class 17140); and 2019 USN Executive Leadership Symposium.

His personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (3), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (7), Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal (1) and various other unit and campaign awards.





# TACAMO Squadrons Leaders

## LEADERS



**Commander Matthew R. Lovick**

Commanding Officer



**Commander Joshua B. Sink**

Executive Officer



**Command Master Chief Cory Ervin**

Command Master Chief

## LEADERS



**Commander Matthew G. Thompson**

Commanding Officer, Fleet Air  
Reconnaissance Squadron (VQ) 7



**Commander Ryan Heykens**

Executive Officer, Fleet Air  
Reconnaissance Squadron (VQ) 7



**Command Master Chief  
Glenn T. Erkenbrack**

Senior Enlisted Leader, Fleet Air  
Reconnaissance Squadron (VQ) 7



## LEADERS



**Commander Kirby Williams**

Commanding Officer



**Commander Cody M. Scarborough**

Executive Officer



**Command Master Chief  
(AW/SW) Leonard C. Eugene**

Command Master Chief



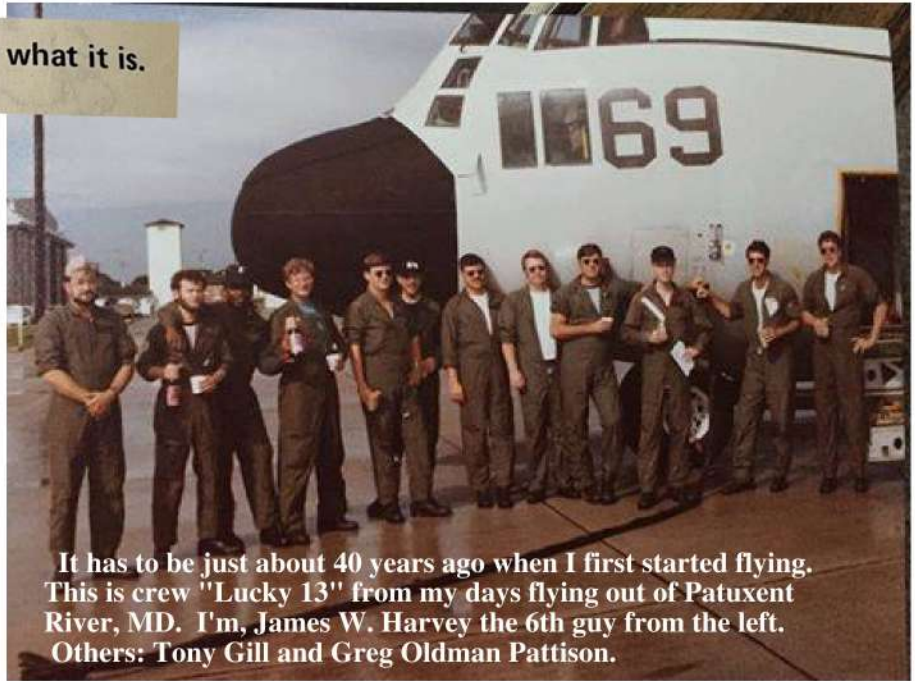


# Memories

Our job is so secret we don't even know what it is.



Randy Thomas in an old photo of himself cooking on the plane he flew in the 90s.



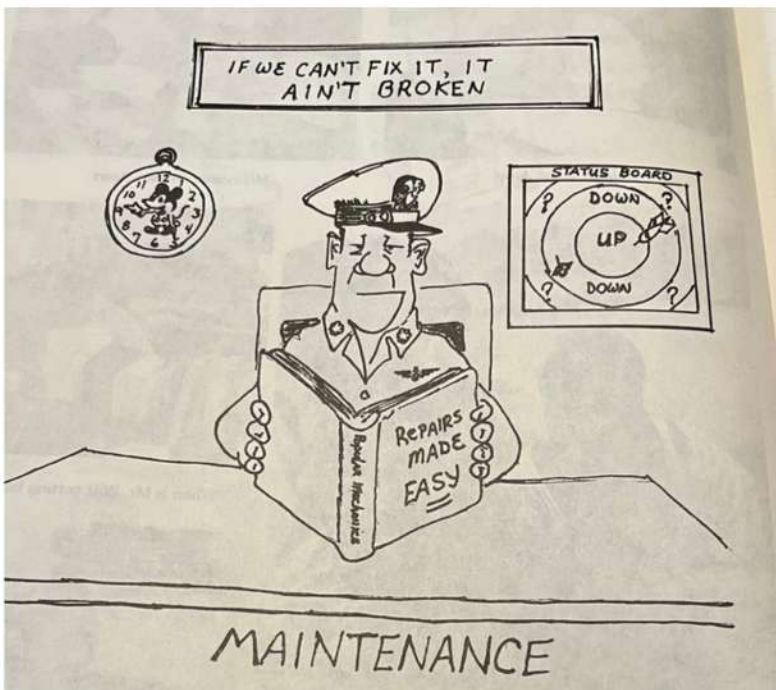
It has to be just about 40 years ago when I first started flying. This is crew "Lucky 13" from my days flying out of Patuxent River, MD. I'm, James W. Harvey the 6th guy from the left. Others: Tony Gill and Greg Oldman Pattison.

Left: TACAMO Flight Engineer and Hall of Famer, the late Shane Mansor, shared that Toby and his kids were classmates. Toby hosted them at his acreage in Norman often. Toby was appreciative of and comfortable with us regular folks. RIP and BRAVO ZULU for supporting the likes of us in uniform.

Submitted by Vern Lochhausen, TACA Historian



Toby Keith passed peacefully last night on February 5th, surrounded by his family. He fought his fight with grace and courage. Please respect the privacy of his family at this time.



## New logo shows VQ-3's larger role

by LCDR Ron Yates

Since changing homeports from Guam to NAS Point in August 1981, VQ-3 has reached several milestones in its growth to a full-size TACAMO squadron. New aircraft have been added to the squadron's assets, and squadron personnel have nearly doubled. Soon VQ-3 will be tasked with providing 100% airborne communication coverage of the Pacific Ocean.

As a result of its increased size and mission responsibilities, VQ-3 has developed a new logo. The new logo, recently approved by CNO, appears a little busy or cluttered at first. Each item, however, symbolizes an aspect of VQ-3's mission.

The background is the Pacific ocean from California to Japan, illustrating the operating area of TACAMOPAC. The ironman is retained from the squadron's previous logo and symbolizes the brute power of the C-130 airframe. The chains held aloft by the ironman represents the communication link that TACAMO provides from the CINC'S to the operating forces at sea.

The wings in the center of the logo represent the airborne nature of the TACAMO mission and all the aircrew positions manned by VQ-3 personnel.

Each mission requires at least five officers and eight enlisted men and women.

Last but not least is the Trident, at the bottom of the logo, representing TACAMOPAC's role in support of the Trident submarine, the newest addition to the Pacific Fleet's deterrent force.

At a recent ceremony at VQ-3, LCDR R. C. Horner, squadron Communication/Tactics Officer, presented a command plaque, with the new logo, to CDR J.W. Gerard, Commanding Officer. The plaque was donated by members of the Communications Department and is now displayed on the podium in the squadron's briefing room.





# One Together TACAMO Association Patch

Mike Vos, TCVA EX Director was in OKC for SCW-1 Change of Command. While there he connected with active duty to hand out wooden TCVA Challenge coins and the new "One Together" TACAMO Association patch. James Youngblood, "YB" received a patch and has it displayed on his flight suit. Photo above.

At the SCW-1 Change of Command, TCVA was represented by: Mike Vos (EX Director), Tony Barnes (Vice President / TACAMO Heritage Foundation Stand-up), Jim Meppelink (Vice President Fleet Outreach & TACAMO Hall of Fame/Life Member & TACAMO Hall of Fame Inductee), and Ryan Skaggs (Active Duty Representative).



## TACAMO Community Veterans Association

M	K	U	W	S	D	O	T	L	Y	S	N	O	R	D	A	U	Q	S	M
I	J	Q	J	F	D	W	F	A	H	R	G	L	E	I	T	M	Y	T	E
L	V	E	V	O	V	Y	O	I	G	E	D	E	I	E	R	P	I	O	R
I	K	H	S	U	A	S	L	R	G	N	A	I	T	L	A	R	N	B	C
T	A	L	T	N	W	A	A	O	A	T	Z	A	X	F	I	E	D	V	S
A	S	H	C	D	A	I	R	M	P	R	C	M	Z	F	L	S	U	W	S
R	S	P	A	A	R	L	A	E	Z	A	T	C	V	A	I	E	S	J	P
Y	O	I	F	T	T	O	P	M	M	P	F	X	C	R	N	R	T	X	I
Z	C	H	I	I	I	R	M	O	Y	T	A	H	O	T	G	V	R	F	H
H	I	S	T	O	F	S	P	M	T	N	L	A	O	S	W	E	Y	T	S
E	A	R	R	N	A	A	E	A	U	E	L	L	K	E	I	T	P	Y	R
R	T	E	A	Z	C	N	T	C	D	M	E	L	B	W	R	A	A	S	A
C	I	B	N	C	T	D	I	A	E	N	N	O	O	H	E	C	R	N	L
S	O	M	R	D	S	N	S	T	V	R	U	F	O	T	J	A	T	O	O
K	N	E	I	R	S	Y	B	B	I	E	B	F	K	U	Q	M	N	I	H
U	W	M	B	M	L	K	E	A	T	V	S	A	R	O	J	O	E	N	C
4	X	G	W	I	D	R	W	E	C	O	J	M	A	S	G	G	R	U	S
C	O	M	M	U	N	I	T	Y	A	G	I	E	X	P	Z	M	S	E	E
Q	F	A	S	T	R	A	T	C	O	M	W	I	N	G	1	G	Z	R	X
H	F	Z	S	K	X	M	U	S	E	U	M	D	I	S	P	L	A	Y	S

## Word Search

- TCVA
- HERCS
- ASSOCIATION
- MERCS
- STRATCOMWING 1
- SQUADRONS
- SCHOLARSHIPS
- INDUSTRY PARTNERS
- SAILORS
- FAMILY
- COMMUNITY
- ACTIVEDUTY
- VETERANS
- TRAILINGWIRE
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM DISPLAYS
- ARTIFACTS
- FALLEN
- REUNIONS
- WEBSITE
- PARALOFT
- COOKBOOK
- PRESERVE TACAMO
- TACAMO MEMORIAL
- FOUNDATION
- HALL OF FAME
- MEMBERSHIP
- SOUTHWEST RAFFLE
- MILITARY
- TACAMOPAC CREW 4
- GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



# Collins Aerospace to Continue Development of Future VLF Communications with Submerged Missile Submarines

PATUXENT RIVER NAS, Md. – U.S. Navy strategic communications experts needed upgraded enabling technologies to communicate with submerged nuclear ballistic missile submarines and with national command authorities in wartime. They found their solution from Collins Aerospace in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Officials of the Naval Air Systems Command at Patuxent River Naval Air Station, Md., announced a \$34.3 million order Thursday to the Collins Aerospace segment of Raytheon Technologies Corp. (RTX) to continue work to support a strategic Very Low Frequency (VLF) communication system. Collins will perform critical design analysis and studies for an updated VLF system for the future E-6B TACAMO Recapitalization Program (E-XX). The order calls for Collins to support VLF design and obsolescence mitigation for the E-XX airborne VLF system modernization. The Navy chose Collins Aerospace in April 2022 to develop the VLF communication system for the E-XX project as part of Navy's Take Charge and Move Out (TACAMO) weapons system. Collins E-XX VLF communications work involves enhanced security measures for advanced and emerging threats, and seeks to meet size, weight, power consumption, and cost (SWaP-C) requirements for VLF system integration into a C-130J-30 aircraft, as part of initial E-XX platform testing. TACAMO uses VLF radio waves transmitted from a wire trailing behind the C-130J aircraft to communicate with submerged ballistic missile submarines. VLF radios transmit a 50 baud submarine command-and-control broadcast which is the backbone of the submarine broadcast system, Navy officials say.



[https://www.militaryaerospace.com/communications/article/14303877/raytheon-technologies-corp-communications-ballistic-missile-submarines-vlf?o\\_eid=8432I0822612E2C&oly\\_enc\\_id=8432I0822612E2C&rdx.ident\[pull\]=omeda|8432I0822612E2C&utm\\_campaign=CPS240123002&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=MAE+Newsletter&fbclid=IwAR1jAuJHmKQtWern7\\_gE2v92NyF9fyzZ4CN381K\\_Waplc9U1dAJ8pMn1I3o](https://www.militaryaerospace.com/communications/article/14303877/raytheon-technologies-corp-communications-ballistic-missile-submarines-vlf?o_eid=8432I0822612E2C&oly_enc_id=8432I0822612E2C&rdx.ident[pull]=omeda|8432I0822612E2C&utm_campaign=CPS240123002&utm_medium=email&utm_source=MAE+Newsletter&fbclid=IwAR1jAuJHmKQtWern7_gE2v92NyF9fyzZ4CN381K_Waplc9U1dAJ8pMn1I3o)





**TACAMO Association**  
**INDUSTRY PARTNERS**  
*As of November 2023*

**We recognize our Industry Partners Support**



**Collins Aerospace**



**BONEYARD SAFARI**



**We Thank All Supporters!!**

**TACAMO Reunions Industry Partners**

**2013**

Southside Seattle with **Boeing** employees who built the Merces  
 Sponsor: Boeing

**2014**

Marietta, GA with **Lockheed** to celebrate 50th anniversary since the delivery of first Hercs  
 Sponsor: Lockheed

**2015**

Tucson, AZ with **Boneyard Safari** to visit the TACAMO Hercs and collect TACAMO Herc artifacts  
 Sponsor: Boneyard Safari

**2017**

OKC with active duty  
 Sponsor: Boeing, Collins Aerospace LongWave, OKC Navy League Council, Midwest City Chamber of Commerce and Marcum's Nursery and Tree Farm

**2022**

Patuxent River, MD TACAMO Gallery Grand Opening  
 Sponsor: Lockheed & Collins Aerospace

**2023**

OKC with active Duty  
 Sponsor: Lockheed & Collins Aerospace, Northrop, Navy League OKC Council, LongWave & V2X

**2025**

Marietta, GA  
 Sponsor: Lockheed

**2027**

Oahu, Hawaii  
 TACAMOPAC Crew 4  
 50th Year Remembrance



TACAMO Association welcomes our Industry Partners to sponsor and host TACAMO Reunions





# Information for Past Travis Det Folks



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**  
FLEET AIR RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON THREE  
731 VANDENBERG ROAD BLDG 355  
TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA 94535-2944

5000  
N00  
2 Nov 23

**From:** Officer in Charge, Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron THREE Detachment Travis

**Subj:** ASBESTOS, LEAD BASED PAINTS, AND LEAD CONTAINING MATERIALS REPORT

- Ref:**
- (a) Titan Environmental Solutions Demolition Survey Report dtd 1 Feb 23
  - (b) 29 CFR 1926.1101 OSHA Asbestos Abatement and Removal
  - (c) 29 CFR 1926.62 OSHA Lead Exposure in Construction Rule
  - (d) 40 CFR 61.141 National Emissions Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP)
  - (e) 8 CCR 1529 California Code of Regulations (Asbestos Abatement)
  - (f) 8 CCR 1532.1 California Code of Regulations (Lead Exposure)
  - (g) CA Health & Safety Code §25915.2 (Asbestos Notification)

1. Purpose. In compliance with reference (g), and based on the Asbestos Assessment Survey Report conducted by Titan Environmental Solutions, Inc. on January 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023, this notice is published to provide notification of Asbestos Containing Materials (ACM), Lead Based Paints (LBP), and Lead Containing Materials (LCM), contained within buildings 1174, 1175, and/or 1176 on board Travis AFB, CA.

2. Background. On 15 April 1988, VQ-3 Detachment Travis AFB, CA was established to provide a permanent facility to support Strategic Communications Wing ONE (SCW-1) as known as "TACAMO" to support Ready Alert and other forward deployed aircraft. On 1 January 2023, U.S. Navy possession of buildings 1174, 1175, and 1176 were transferred to Travis AFB, CA officially ending SCW-1 operations in the aforementioned locations.

3. Amplifying information. A summary of the detailed report contained in ref (a) is provided below.

a. Building 1174. Asbestos analytical results detected Chrysotile (NESHAP Category I) throughout the entirety of the structure. LBP and LCM were also detected throughout the structure.

b. Building 1175. Asbestos analytical results detected Chrysotile (NESHAP Category I) throughout the entirety of the structure. LBP and LCM were also detected throughout the structure.

c. Building 1176. Asbestos analytical results detected Chrysotile (NESHAP Category I) throughout the entirety of the structure. LCM was detected throughout the structure.

4. Regulatory Information. The completed Asbestos Assessment Survey Report, conducted by Titan Environmental Solutions, Inc. is available for electronic distribution by contacting VQ-3 Det Travis Admin Office at (707) 424-2955.

5. Records Management. Records created as a result of this notice, regardless of media or format, must be managed per Secretary of the Navy Manual 5210.1 of January 2012.

H. B. HANKS



# Another TACAMO Sea Story

by Ed Hamshire

With the recent death of Navy Pilot and Astronaut RADM "TK" (Internet refers to him as Ken) Mattingly I thought about all the conversations I had with him when we both worked in PD 40 of SPAWAR. He was PD 40, Director of the Space and Sensor Systems Directorate, and I was his deputy for following seven of the systems he was responsible for. This period was between December 1987 to July 1989, after I left VQ-4 and before I went back to NAVAIR. Ken flew as a Command Module Pilot on Apollo 16 orbiting the Moon 64 times and two Space Shuttle missions.

I was the only other active duty Naval Officer (and pilot) in RADM Mattingly's office and he often needed to get away from his desk and "unwind" so he would come into my office to "shoot the breeze" for a while. One of his remarks that really stuck with me through the years was: "It's hard to keep motivated when you peaked as a LCDR at age 36 looking back out of your Apollo space capsule window at the Moon and the "full Earth". This statement was very similar to a statement I was told by the person in my Sea Story below. Thinking about RADM Mattingly made me think of this other extraordinary man I had met years ago on a TACAMO stay at Dallas, TX.

Since this another TACAMO Sea Story, I must start out with "Now this ain't no lie" as opposed to a Fairy Tale that starts out "Once upon a time". For most people reading this, you won't understand the story's significance unless you're of an older age group or you know a little bit about WW II aviation history. I became very interested in WW II aviation history because my father was a WW II US Navy pilot flying F-4U Corsairs. SO.....

Now this ain't no lie, at a time very many years ago in ancient TACAMO land around late 1972, I was doing some TACAMO IVB VLF Dual Trailing Wire Antenna prototype flight testing out of the Collins Radio modification facility in Dallas, Texas. One evening after a day of flying out over the Gulf of Mexico, the crew returned to the Holiday Inn where we were staying during this testing. After cleaning up, some of us met at the bar to have a beer before dinner. This is where this Sea Story starts.

Some of us sat down at a table next to the bar. It was probably around 5:30 to 6PM when we sat down to order our drinks. We were going to have



a beer and then go to the dining room and eat dinner. My seat was facing the bar. I kept looking at a man that was sitting there alone at the bar having a drink. He looked very familiar to me but I didn't know why. I finally figured out why he looked so familiar to me and that's the story below.

I finished my beer and waited for the rest at our table to finish their drinks before we moved to the dining room. We all stood up to move to the dining room and I stepped over to the bar next to the man and said something like "Has anyone ever told you that you look just like a WW II German fighter pilot "Ace" named Adolf Galland". He turned to me and said "Well that's very good because I am Adolf Galland". I never made it to dinner that evening with the rest of our table. I had one of the most memorable conversations I ever had with a WW II veteran. These are the things he told me during our conversation that I can recount.

Adolf Galland started in the Luftwaffe in the early 1930s and actually flew with the German State Airline for a few years to gain flying experience since Germany wasn't supposed to have any air forces due to the WW I peace treaty. At this time Hitler was secretly building up the air forces and he started building and flying military fighter type aircraft. Adolf Galland polished his skills as a fighter pilot in the Spanish Civil War. He soon rose in the ranks as a Messerschmitt 109 fighter pilot and by the time of the "Battle of Britain" in 1940 he was a wing commander of fighters at the age of 26 years old. At the age of 29 years old, he became the General of all of Germany's fighter forces under General Herman Goering.

At this point he was essentially relegated to General Staff Duties with very little flying. He very much hated this situation but seemed powerless to change it. Here's where the similarity with RADM Mattingly comes in. Adolf Galland told me he "peaked" too early in his career and it took him away from the flying that he really loved and almost cost him his life. He disliked being on the General Staff that took him away from flying.

His strong feelings against using the new Messerschmitt 262 as a bomber instead of a fighter were known and he was eventually fired from his position as General of all of Germany's fighter forces. (He had initially flown the new Messerschmitt 262 in April 1943 and was very impressed.) Goering and Hitler then sent him back to flying in a Messerschmitt 262 squadron doing what he thought was a wrong use of the Me 262. He said it was amazing that he wasn't shot instead of removed from his position. He said few survived a disagreement with Goering or Hitler.

For background information for non-aviation history buffs, in 1943 the new Me 262 was developed and started operational testing. This was a twin jet engine aircraft with a slightly swept wing that could fly almost 550 mph. The Me 262 was faster and more heavily armed than any fighter of WW II. Once airborne, it was fast and maneuverable but its high speed was initially a problem in combat because of its too fast closing speed on its adversary. It gave little time to aim and fire its guns or rockets. The Me 262 had its highest vulnerability during takeoff and landing when it was slow and maybe out of fuel if landing. These were the times that the Allied fighters would wait for trying to shoot them down.

It took several months to develop tactics to use against bombers and fighters. The new Me 262 was initially developed as a fighter but Adolf Hitler wanted it to be a bomber. This slowed production and fielding of the Me 262. The engines were very unreliable due to a lack of a rare earth metal used to make a heat resistant alloy for the jet turbines. About 25-30 hours of use before a failure was a very high time engine. Towards the end of the war, fuel was very limited in supply and the jet had an advantage here. They could make the fuel for these jet engines by fermenting potatoes and mixing the resultant alcohol with gasoline. This became prevalent by the end of the war.

When all is said and done in one's aviation career, it is easy to look back on it and as Mattingly, Galland and even Ed Hampshire will say, "I miss most those hours with air under my wings and blue sky above me." All else was just work.



# Naval Air Development Center (NADC)

## Unsung Heroes of TACAMO

by TCVA Historian Vern Lochausen

It is likely that many TACAMO Veterans haven't heard of or don't recall the significance of NADC to the TACAMO mission. Let's look at what the dedicated military, civilians, and contractors at NADC accomplished.

In the beginning... Before the Hercs, came NADC/NAS Johnsville, Pennsylvania to design and conduct a proof of concept. It was early 1962 and the project was known simply as "CNO's Number One Priority Project. LCDR Walt Reese (TACAMO Hall of Fame Class of 2012) was tasked to bring a nearly abandoned Lockheed WV-121 Super Constellation from the back flight line at NAS Patuxent

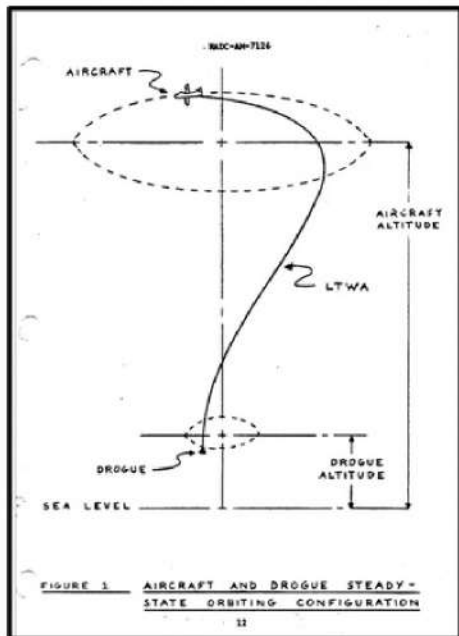


River up to flying condition, strip out all the weather and warning gear, and bring it up to PA for a Very Low Frequency, (VLF) long wire 'winch' installation. That done, Walt along with Project Engineer Leo Markushewski and Communications Engineer Lou Pelosi Sr. undertook flights along the US East Coast with Navy Auxiliary Air Station Chincoteague, VA (now NASA Wallops Island) monitoring VLF and radar tracking of the aircraft. Wires went out, radar images and the rudimentary data was collected. Orbits were flown, a moving block of airspace was often reserved with the FAA, and most of today's VLF operations issues were discovered. Those included lightning strikes, icing on the wire, wind shear, failure to retract (cut and drop the wire), and overfly of a carrier battle groups' airspace. The charts and graphs from those flights are among PMA-271's library holdings that are the 'birth certificates', certified by NADC engineers, for TACAMO VLF.

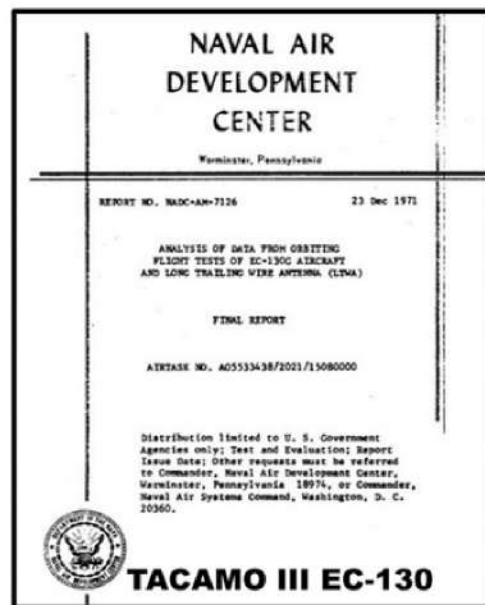
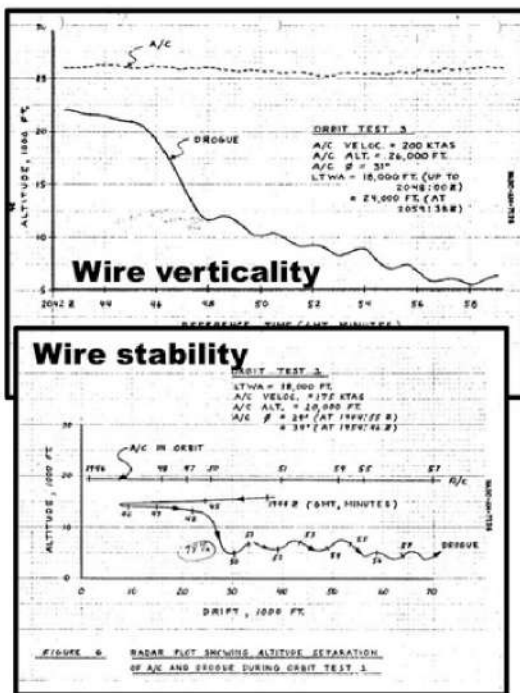
## Tactics Development - The C-130 Data



### Refinement of tactics for C-130 - 1971 tests



Orbit side view



By May of '62, Navy put Collins Radio of Dallas, Texas on contract to develop a prototype, TACAMO I system. In mid '62, LT Jerry Tuttle showed up in the Submarine Communications office in the CNO's part of the Pentagon. Fresh out of Naval Post Graduate Schools Communications Engineering program, Jerry was instructed by his admiral there to Take Charge and Move Out (TACAMO) on the CNO's Number One Priority Project. So came the name we have today. By November of '62, Collins had 3 vans installed in KC-130 148806 and LT Tuttle took it all over the Atlantic with a flight crew, small comm crew, and some Collins reps. With subs and shore stations monitoring their VLF, Tuttle and crew proved VLF propagation and the Collins VLF set. Once again, with Navy Chincoteague monitoring, the WV-121 orbits were repeated and adapted for the Hercs, with NADC doing the analysis and test reports.



# Naval Air Development Center (NADC) Unsung Heroes of TACAMO

by TCVA Historian Vern Lochausen



Meanwhile, Navy Electronics Command (NAVELEX) manager Lyle Bercier went to Lockheed Marietta and signed for 4 C-130E models whose Air Force side numbers became Navy Bureau of Aeronautics BUNOs 151888-891. Delivered to TACAMO Dets at Barbers and Pax River in late 63 and early 64, these birds later flew to Addison Field where Collins installed the TACAMO II vans. After testing and crew training, the new Hercs returned to base and began operating as directed by regional submarine headquarters.

From 1962 on, the Navy contracted with Collins Radio for ever more capable VLF TACAMO systems. TACAMO III in development and production between April 67 and October 69, TACAMO IVB between 71 and 76, TACAMO Improvement Programs and II (74-82), Electro Magnetic Pulse protection (78-83) and VLF High Power Transmit Set (HPTS) (86). At each stage of these developments, the TACAMO Laboratory, at...you guessed it...NADC supported requirements generation, specification development, system evaluation, and along with various NAVAIR test units, proved out the new systems. Several other lesser known projects included evaluation of VLF Scattergain, Transverse/Trans Electric VLF receivers, and some things I can't write about. NADC engineers flew with the squadrons over the years to better understand how the systems were operated. These led to early "Human Factors Engineering" that went into layouts and systems integrations. That kind of work also informed early E-6 design and integration concepts.



But the role of NADC didn't stop with all of these TACAMO mission systems upgrades. When the Navy started looking for a Herc replacement aircraft, who better to do some Analysis of Alternatives than the TACAMO experts in the NADC TACAMO Lab? Comparisons of a variety of jets were conducted and briefed to the NAVAIR Program Office and Pentagon leaders. NADC analysis of some preliminary flight testing showed that a Boeing 707 with CFM 56 engines was 'a serious candidate for the Airborne VLF mission.' Once the ECX program began, NADC engineers and managers led by Harry Ubele were there, shoulder to shoulder with PMA-271 folks at design reviews, evaluations, and more. When it came time to consider other missions, as directed by the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Secretary of Defense, NADC TACAMO Lab folks put together a team that worked with Fleet and Air Force folks to figure out what to select from Air Force Airborne Command Post equipment and how to cross deck and integrate it along with the E-6B MILSTAR and HPTS architecture. It seemed like if TACAMO needed upgrades or evaluations, NADC was the team to call. But then enter the Congressionally mandated Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) commission. Yes...that is a four letter word. BRAC reasoned that Pax River and other Navy development and acquisition agencies could do the TACAMO work. The NADC laboratory facilities and some of the TACAMO personnel transferred to Pax and San Diego. NADC became a ghost town, and finally over the years transitioned into an industrial park, Warminster Community Park and other community and commercial activities. The airfield was closed and also converted to commercial use including hotels, a seniors' center and stores.

Near the end of NADC's career, Mickey DiPasquo (TACAMO Hall of Fame Class of 2014) and team gathered and transferred what has become a treasure trove of documents, decision papers, requirements documents, and key analyses and test results. They reside in the TACAMO Program Office Library at Pax. Those empowered this story and some of the recent considerations underway in the Program.

**Author's Note:**



*This story was prepared in conjunction with a briefing I am giving to the South East Pennsylvania Cold War Historical Society which includes NADC veterans and families. It was my honor and pleasure to work with the TACAMO Lab at NADC during my time in TACAMO. Great credit is due to TACAMO Hall of Famer, Mickey Dipasquo for her significant leadership in many NADC projects, most importantly the E-6A acquisition and E-6B ABNCP. And her kind editing of this story, giving credit to her NADC peers by name.*



**Lyle Bercier**



**Vern & Colleen Lochausen with  
Walt Reese (TACAMO Hall of Fame Class of 2012)**



**Mickey DiPasquo  
(TACAMO Hall of  
Fame Class of 2014)**







# TACAMO Hall of Fame Committee Report



The TACAMO Hall of Fame (HoF) was instituted in 2012. It is designed to recognize outstanding and enduring people who helped develop, execute, and sustain the TACAMO mission.

So, what does it mean to nominate someone for the TACAMO Hall of Fame (HoF)? It means that you and your peers believe your nominee belongs in the HoF. The TACAMO Community Veterans Association (TCVA) Board of Directors (BoD) receives HoF nominations that range from just a nominee's name to full-blown, detailed write-ups, and everything in between.

If you and your peers believe your nominee belongs in the HoF, please submit detailed write-ups that cover the criteria listed on the HoF Nomination form:

- Minimum two tours in TACAMO (or equivalent time)
- Contributed to the mission, the aircraft, morale, and the good reputation of TACAMO
- Demonstrated leadership – technically, professionally, and personally. A mentor
- Performed some sort of extraordinary task or event that shaped the TACAMO mission
- Generally recognized by his/her peers as deserving of this award
- Performed community service or recognized for other notable achievements

The nomination form can be found on the TACAMO.org website. Detailed nomination forms provide the HoF Selection Committee with the information they need to determine HoF eligibility and selection. Of the five criteria, Peer Recognition is the most heavily weighted, which makes a second-source nomination/ critical. HoF nominations without a second nomination or endorsement do not move forward.

TACAMO veterans, an HoF nomination is peer recognition, therefore, you cannot nominate yourself.

Spouses, TCVA appreciates your dedication and support to your spouse's career but, unless you served in an active-duty TACAMO role, TCVA cannot accept your HoF nomination.

## TACAMO Hall of Fame Inception:

In the Summer of 2011, Commodore Chocko Baker, a true baseball fan, asked TCVA if we could create something to honor the best of the best in TACAMO. He had been to the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY and seen how the greats' careers had been summarized and plaque or other display captured the information. Chocko, Buff Crowell and Vern Lochausen spent several hours in a conference determining what could be done.

The list started with the Pioneers like, Walt Reese and Ron Carlson and extended past our beginnings to several other pioneers like our first Naval Air Systems Command Program Manager, Ed Hampshire and first Commodore Andy Riddile. Then, the team decided a must to include TACAMOPAC Crew 4, who gave all for TACAMO. At the end of our planning, a list and plan to start the TACAMO Hall of Fame at the upcoming 2012 TACAMO Reunion in OKC was completed. At the reunion, there were 29 people inducted into the TACAMO Hall of Fame. Sixteen of them were the TACAMOPAC Crew 4 members."

The TACAMO Hall of Fame has grown over the years to include Government Civilians and Industry Partners.

**TACAMO Hall of Fame  
Nominations  
[tacamo.org/hall-of-fame](http://tacamo.org/hall-of-fame)**



**Application  
Form**



## 2024 TACAMO Hall of Fame Inductees Announced May 27



NATIONAL

# AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

Established in 1926 as Negro History Week, President Gerald R. Ford expanded the celebration in 1976 to include the entire month of February. This year, Navy commands are encouraged to celebrate and reflect on the theme "A Century of Black Life, History, and Culture."

## AFRICAN-AMERICAN SAILORS

fought on every every kind of Union warship, accounting for

**10 TO 20%**  
of each ship's crew

and included

**8 MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS**



### CIVIL WAR 1861 - 1865

### THE GOLDEN THIRTEEN



**MAR 1944**

**12** prior-enlisted black servicemen were commissioned as ensigns

AND A

**13<sup>TH</sup>** was made a warrant officer

**1<sup>ST</sup>** group of black servicemen to complete officer training in the Navy and led the way for future African-Americans.

**BY THE END OF THE WAR 64** African-Americans had become officers in the Navy

### WORLD WAR II 1939 - 1945

## DORIS MILLER



The **1<sup>ST</sup>** African American

to receive the **Navy Cross** for his act of bravery during Pearl Harbor (December 7, 1941)

1942



## EDNA YOUNG

The **FIRST** Black woman

- ★ to enlist in the regular Navy
- ★ to achieve the rank of petty officer

1948

## WESLEY A. BROWN



The **FIRST** Black Graduate of the **UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY**

**CLASS OF 1949**

1949

## ADMIRAL J. PAUL REASON

The **1<sup>ST</sup>** Black Naval Officer to wear **4 Stars**



AND assumed command of the **Atlantic Fleet**

- ★ 300 warships
- ★ 1,500 aircraft
- ★ 122,000 men & women based at 18 major shore facilities



DECEMBER 1996

## CARL BRASHEAR

The **FIRST** African American to become a

**U.S. Navy Master Diver**



1970



The **FIRST** African American

- to command a **NAVY SHIP** *USS Theodore E. Chandler (DD 717)*
- NAVY WARSHIP** *USS Fulgout (DE 924)*
- NAVY WARSHIP UNDER COMBAT CONDITIONS** *USS Tessing (DD 746)*
- NAVY MAJOR COMMAND WARSHIP** *USS Jossett (CG29)*
- NUMBERED NAVY FLEET** (*Third Fleet*)

**VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVELY JR.**

34 YEARS OF SERVICE (1965 - 1999)

## ADMIRAL MICHELLE HOWARD

The **FIRST** African American Woman

- ★ to command a U.S. Navy ship
- ★ promoted to two-star and three-star admiral
- ★ to serve as Vice Chief of Naval Operations
- ★ to be a four-star admiral



1982 - PRESENT



## REAR ADMIRAL DWIGHT "SHEP" SHEPHERD



- ★ Operational squadron -VQ-3
- ★ Operational Wing and Task Force- SCW1/TF 124
- ★ First Male and African American Admiral from TACAMO

The **FIRST** to Command TACAMO

## AFRICAN AMERICANS

continue to serve with distinction

now comprising more than **17%**

of our active duty Navy total force end-strength

PRESENT DAY



# PMA-271 celebrates 50 years of Women in Naval Aviation

## Airborne Strategic Command, Control and Communications Program

The mission of the Airborne Strategic Command, Control and Communications Program Office (PMA-271) is to deliver and support survivable, reliable and enduring airborne command, control and communications for the president, secretary of defense and U.S. Strategic Command. The program's vision is to provide national security and deterrence through assured airborne strategic communications.



Link   
<https://www.navair.navy.mil/news/PMA-271-celebrates-50-years-women-naval-aviation/Fri-12292023-1320>

This year marks the 50th anniversary of women in naval aviation, an anniversary that celebrates when the first women began flight school in Pensacola, Florida, back in 1973.

In the years since those “first six” donned their flight suits, women’s role in naval aviation has expanded to serve and lead in every aspect of the enterprise.

“They fly and fight in all strike missions, hunt submarines, protect the integrity of our nuclear triad, supply essential cargo and personnel to every corner of the globe, and rescue those in distress at sea and ashore. They command aircraft carriers, carrier air wings, squadrons, and missions to space,” according to U.S. Navy’s “50 Years of Women Flying in the Navy.” “In 2023, we reflect on our Naval Aviation history and pay tribute to all of our women Naval Aviators- “The First Six”, and all those who have come after them. Our Nation and our Navy is stronger because of their service.”

A lesser known part of this history is the role that women have played in support of the Move Out (TACAMO) mission, which links the president and secretary of defense with naval ballistic missile forces during times of crisis.

Throughout the years, TACAMO has been ahead of the curve in its inclusion and promotion of women, said Vern Lochausen, a retired commodore and longtime member of the TACAMO community who now serves as a consultant for PMA-271, TCVA Historian and past president.

As far back as 1989, women made up roughly one-fourth of the operational squadrons that fly the TACAMO mission, according to an April 1989 article in Proceedings magazine. They helped pave the way for women in other aviation communities and advocate for women to be allowed to serve in combat.

Among them were women such as the first TACAMO squadron pilots, Lt. Janine Igou and Lt. Sue Harter. TACAMO women also included Vice Adm. Nora Tyson, the first woman to command a carrier strike group and the first to serve as 3rd Fleet commander; Rear Adm. Margaret “Peg” Klein, the first woman commandant of midshipmen at the U.S. Naval Academy; and Vice Adm. Robin Braun, the first woman to command the U.S. Navy Reserve.

Today, that tradition is carried on by the women still serving the TACAMO mission, including those at Naval Air Systems Command’s Airborne Strategic Command, Control and Communications Program Office (PMA-

**Cmdr. Rebecca Anderson, the military assistant program manager for logistics at Naval Air Systems Command's Airborne Strategic Command, Control and Communications Program Office (PMA-271).**



271). The program office is an acquisition command that delivers capabilities to the warfighter by maintaining the E-6B Mercury fleet. It’s also fielding the next generation of TACAMO aircraft through TACAMO Recapitalization Program, E-XX. PMA-271’s mission is to deliver and support survivable, reliable and enduring airborne command, control and communications for the president, secretary of defense and U.S. Strategic Command.

They include Cmdr. Rebecca Anderson, PMA-271’s military assistant program manager for logistics (APML). Anderson, a native of Catonsville, Maryland, enlisted in the Navy 20 years ago, working in maintenance and logistics and earning her officer commission in 2010. She joined the PMA-271 team at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Maryland, in 2022.

She has made an indelible impact on the E-6B Mercury fleet’s depot reform, leading the team to reduce turnaround time from 595 days to 372 days.

For the 50th anniversary of women in naval aviation, Anderson answered some questions about her journey as part of the naval aviation community.

**Why did you join the Navy?** I joined the Navy because I was bored as a teacher, where I taught various computer courses at an adult technical school. They were short, six-week-long classes and, despite enjoying the interactions with the students, the material was the same again and again. I have always loved to travel and felt the military would provide that opportunity.

**Why did you decide to pursue a career in naval maintenance and logistics?** I began my Navy career as an avionics technician. My dad worked for the airlines and I grew up with a fascination of airplanes. My first command was the Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department at Naval Air Station Oceana in Virginia Beach, Virginia, where I learned to run and fix gear across maintenance benches. It wasn’t until I deployed for the first time aboard the aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73) that I truly fell in love with what I do. I’m passionate about doing things that make a difference. I may have had a very small part in the overall mission, but I knew that I contributed and wanted to have a bigger role. I looked at the leaders around me and began to research earning a commission. I applied to Officer Candidate School in 2009 while on deployment on the aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69)



# PMA-271 celebrates 50 years of Women in Naval Aviation

and, thankfully, was selected upon my first submission. **What's been your favorite job in your naval career so far?** Serving as the maintenance office at Strategic Communications Wing 1 (SCW-1) at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma. It was the first position I held where I felt I made a difference on the larger scale as I'd dreamed of doing as a young second class petty officer. I love the TACAMO mission. In this role, I briefed the SCW-1 commodore regularly on the status of our aircraft and improvement initiatives.

**Have you had any mentors along the way?** My first mentor was Cmdr. Mike Barriere. He was the maintenance material control officer on the Dwight D. Eisenhower and was instrumental in my selection as an aviation maintenance duty officer. He also came to Naval Station Newport, Rhode Island, for my commissioning and continued to mentor me until he retired. Capt. Michael Mulhern is my current mentor. He was instrumental in my growth as a young lieutenant on the aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) and continued to mentor me from afar through my lieutenant commander tours and selection for commander.

**What led you to join the TACAMO community?** I knew of others who had been in TACAMO. I looked up the "doomsday plane" on YouTube and was fascinated by what I learned. Once I was in place as the wing maintenance officer at SCW-1, I never looked back. I have worked to develop the path I am currently on to continue my support of this critical national security mission.

**What's your day-to-day like as the APML for PMA-271?** As the military APML at PMA-271, I conduct and attend a lot of meetings. That may sound monotonous, and some days it can be, but most days I'm leading a team of teams to resolve issues in the fleet or the depot line. The teams I work with are filled with a wealth of knowledge and expertise. I collaborate with them to find the best paths forward and deliver solutions to the fleet, ensuring that they can continue to execute their mission. These teams include people from NAVAIR, the Fleet Support Team, SCW-1, Boeing, our contractor logistics support provider, Boston Consulting Group, Northrup Grumman and more.

**What's your favorite part of your job?** I enjoy working with the teams to drive us forward toward our common goal of aircraft readiness.

**What skills and/or traits have helped you be successful in your career?** Humility and relationship development. My enlisted time spanned just short of seven years. I have never turned a wrench on an aircraft, and yet I have led maintenance efforts on multiple platforms: the F/A-18 Super Hornet, E-2D Advanced Hawkeye, P-8A Poseidon, H-60 Seahawk and the E-6B Mercury. I have humbled myself and built relationships with maintenance experts, and I owe any success to them. Leading teams of teams, the path forward can be both dynamic and challenging. Listening to each entity and understanding the different constraints and implications has been essential.

**Have you faced any unique challenges as a woman in the Navy?** I have never felt discrimination in the Navy. In my experience, those who work hard are part of the team and instrumental to mission accomplishment, regardless of their gender.

**Do you have any advice for women who want to pursue a career in the Navy and/or Navy logistics and maintenance?** Do it! Do your job. Work hard. Let your work speak for itself. I offer that same advice to anyone wanting to pursue a naval career.

**With this year marking the 50th anniversary of women in naval aviation, what do you think about the contributions that women have made to the Naval Aviation Enterprise over the last 50 years?** I am thankful to be here and contribute to the NAE mission. I understand there have been women who have paved the way for the opportunities I have had in my career.

**Anything else you would like to share?** I'm looking forward to the day when each individual is valued for their accomplishments and demographics are not part of the narrative. I want my work to simply speak for itself. Shared by: PMA-271 consultant Vern Lochausen contributed to this report.

## TACAMO Women Mentioned in Article



Right: Vice Adm. Robin Braun, the first woman to command the U.S. Navy Reserve.



First TACAMO squadron pilots, Lt. Janine Igou and Lt. Sue Harter.



Left: Vice Adm. Nora Tyson, the first woman to command a carrier strike group and the first to serve as 3rd Fleet commander



Right: Rear Adm. Margaret "Peg" Klein, the first woman commandant of midshipmen at the U.S. Naval Academy



# AirWaves Podcast Highlights E-6B Modification Program Success



## NAVAIR

<https://www.navair.navy.mil/news/AirWaves-podcast-highlights-E-6B-modification-program-success/Fri-01262024-1205>

Left to right: Cmdr. Jeff Desmond and Capt. Adam Scott from the U.S. Navy's Airborne Strategic Command, Control and Communications Program Office (PMA-271) participate in a recording of AirWaves, the podcast for Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR), hosted by Mikel Lauren Proulx. (U.S. Navy photo by PMA-271 Public Affairs Officer Kathy Hieatt)

The team responsible for improving modification times on the U.S. Navy's critical E-6B Mercury fleet shared how "Get Real, Get Better" behaviors paved the way for their success in this week's all new episode of AirWaves.

AirWaves is the podcast of Naval Air Systems Command and features stories from throughout the command. This week's episode features the Airborne Strategic Command, Control and Communications Program Office (PMA-271), which sustains the Navy's E-6B Mercury fleet. It highlights how PMA-271 embraced "Get Real, Get Better" practices to dramatically reduce turnaround times for upgrades to the fleet, known as Block II.

Capt. Adam Scott, the PMA-271 program manager, shared lessons learned and how to put "Get Real, Get Better" into action. He was joined by Jaimie Grubb, PMA-271 principal deputy program manager, and Cmdr. Jeff Desmond, PMA-271's E-6B mission communications systems lead.

"Get Real, Get Better' success is improved mission outcomes," Scott said in the podcast. "We do not apply these principles just for fun."

The podcast centers on how PMA-271 reduced the turnaround times for the E-6B's Block II upgrade from an average of 475 days to 255 days and is nearing its requirement of 180 days. Block II is a complex set of modifications and upgrades to the aircraft that encompass multiple engineering change proposals.

To hear the full story, listen on your favorite streaming service, including Apple Podcasts, Spotify and SoundCloud.

The E-6B Mercury is a communications relay and strategic airborne command post aircraft. It executes the no-fail Take Charge and Move Out (TACAMO) and Looking Glass missions. TACAMO connects the president, secretary of defense and U.S. Strategic Command with naval ballistic missile forces during times of crisis. Looking Glass facilitates the launch of U.S. land-based intercontinental ballistic missiles using an airborne launch control system. Together they provide strategic nuclear deterrence against America's adversaries.

The E-6B Mercury fleet, which started as the E-6A in 1986, has been in service for 38 years and requires upgrades to continue effectively executing its missions. The ECPs included in Block II provide more secure, modernized communications systems.



Capt. Adam Scott, the program manager for the Navy's Airborne Strategic Command, Control and Communications Program Office (PMA-271), discusses how the program put "Get Real, Get Better" principles into action to dramatically reduce turnaround times on modifications to the E-6B Mercury fleet. (U.S. Navy photo by PMA-271 Public Affairs Officer Kathy Hieatt)

**Link:**

<https://shorturl.at/fjuEO>





# Need Transportation or Escort to a TACAMO Reunion?

Sometimes life situations do not provide us the opportunity to attend a TACAMO reunion. So ask a family member for the gift of escorting you to a reunion. Your family member will enjoy hearing new stories and learning about TACAMO. TCVA will wave the registration cost for your escort.

At the 2023, Ralph Carlson was given the gift of attending the reunion by his son, Scott. He was unable to drive, so his son escorted him. Scott and Ralph were joined at the reunion other family members: TACAMO Hall of Fame Inductee, Gerry Greer and wife LaDonia Carlson and many other family members. While Ralph shared stories about his time in TACAMO, family members enjoyed hearing new stories and meeting other TACAMO attendees.



## Gift Certificate

*Good for one (1) escort to attend  
the TACAMO Reunion with their  
TACAMO family member*

To: TACAMO Reunion Attendee

This certificate is good for one (1) person providing  
transportation for a you to attend a TACAMO Reunion.  
Value: Registration Fee into reunion

From:

*TACAMO Reunion Committee*



**NEXT**  **TACAMO REUNION!**

**MARIETTA, GA  
NOVEMBER 7 TO 12, 2025**



# 2025 TACAMO REUNION MARIETTA, GA DATES: NOVEMBER 7 TO 12



## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

- **THUR NOV 6: EARLY BIRD ARRIVALS & EVENING GATHERING**
- **FRI NOV 7: TOUR / EVENING GATHERING**
- **SAT NOV 8: TOUR / EVENING GATHERING**
- **SUN NOV 9: BANQUET BRUNCH / EVENING GATHERING OR OUTING**
- **MON NOV 10: LOCKHEED-MARTIN TOUR & EVENING GATHERING**
- **TUES NOV 11: TACAMO ATTENDEES WILL WALK IN THE VETERANS DAY PARADE**

**Attending?? Email Cheryl to get your name(s) on the list  
[tcva.reunions@gmail.com](mailto:tcva.reunions@gmail.com)  
Attendee List: [tacamo.org/2025-tacamo-reunion](http://tacamo.org/2025-tacamo-reunion)**



# TACAMO Scholarships

## TACAMO Community SCHOLARSHIPS

Funded by TACAMO Community Members



William "Buff" Crowell  
III Scholarship Fund

[Click here for More Information - LINK](#)



Start a Scholarship  
Fund in Your Name



Start a Scholarship  
Fund in Your Name



Excellence in  
Technology & Arts  
scholarship dedicated to  
Vern and Colleen  
Lochusen

[Click here for More Information - LINK](#)

**Mission Statement:** The TACAMO Community Veterans Association (TCVA) will award annual scholarships to students in a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics) related curriculum or technical certification (example: HVAC, Automotive Technician, Sous Chef, etc.).

**Eligibility:** Applicants may apply for this award by submitting an application through the [tacamo.org](http://tacamo.org) website.

- The applicant may be either an Enlisted Active Duty Sailor under the command of STRATCOMMWING 1, or a child, stepchild or grandchild of an Active (in good standing with annual dues) TCVA member.
- The applicant must be accepted and enrolled in an accredited school of choice. See <https://www.ed.gov/> for colleges and universities, or <https://www.accsc.org/> for trade schools.
- The applicant must agree to an interview by the Selection Committee, either in person or virtually.
- Selection will be based on previous scholastic performance and strong character that reflects positively on the scholarship.
- Selection will NOT be influenced by the applicant's race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, political affiliation, or religious beliefs.
- Other criteria may be included as deemed necessary by the TCVA BoD and Selection Committee. Changes in criteria will be published on the TCVA website and take effect at the next term of the Scholarship Committee.

**Ineligibility:** Anyone related to a person in the selection process, whether by marriage/significant other or parent/stepparent is ineligible for this scholarship program.

**Selection Committee:** The Selection Committee will consist of no less than three members recruited by the TCVA BoD to serve one-year terms, beginning on January 1st of that year.

- The Selection Committee will be chaired by a member of the TCVA BoD.
- The Selection Committee will verify the applicant's school choice and its accreditation.
- Selection Committee members may opt-out at the end of their term (December 31) or continue at the discretion of the TCVA BoD.
- Retirement from the committee, during a term, should come with a 30-day notice to the TCVA BoD.
- Removal from the Selection Committee, during a term, may occur with a majority vote of the TCVA BoD, for reasons of inappropriate behavior as determined by the TCVA BoD purposes.

**Awards and amounts:** The number of annual awards and their amounts will be determined by the TCVA BoD at its annual meeting, based on the value of the Scholarship Fund. Awards are limited to one per individual. Different scholarships can be focused on different types of education or certification.

Example: A general scholarship for students in a two-year Associate's degree program and a grant program to achieve certification in a skill, such as ASE or HVAC licensing.

**Sponsored Awards:** Awards in the name of a sponsor, such as the "Jane Doe Scholarship Award" must come with a donation from the sponsor of at least two years' support of that award.

- The sponsor will determine the number and amount of the annual award(s). (No less than the established TCVA awards)
- The recipient of that award cannot be related to the sponsor of the award.
- Corporate donations to a scholarship fund will be recognized as "Co-Sponsored by XYZ Corp".

**Scholarship Fund:** A separate bank account will be established for the exclusive use of the Scholarship Program. Any/all deposits to that account are welcome. Any/all withdrawals are granted only by vote of the TCVA BoD. 100% of all deposits are to be dispensed to awardees.

- This account will be managed by the TCVA Treasurer and Admin VP and reported to the TCVA BoD at their occasional meetings.
- Funds for the Scholarship Fund will be raised by TCVA through fund raisers and direct solicitation.
- Donors to the Scholarship Fund will be advised of the tax-deductible status of their donation and given our EIN, for tax purposes.

## **TACAMO SCHOLARSHIPS** **Applications Deadlines:**

Accepted June 1st to January 31st  
Closed February 1st

Selection Time Frame February to April 30  
Scholarship Announcement in May



## Communications/Marketing Coordinator

### Job Description

The TACAMO Community Veterans Association (TCVA) is looking for a talented Marketing/Communications Coordinator Manager. The TCVA Marketing/Communications Coordinator Manager coordinates the organization's marketing/communications activities and initiatives and oversees the creation of promotional materials to build and develop the TCVA brand identity.



### Job responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Develop strategic marketing initiatives and activities.
- Implement marketing plans that include print and online content.
- Create branded advertising campaigns and support marketing and design by coordinating and collating content from TCVA committee chairpersons.
- Traffic advertising efforts to the appropriate TCVA committee chairperson.
- Develop and manage the TCVA Board of Directors' internal communications system
- Create, maintain, and strengthen TCVA's overall brand through media avenues.
- Organize and streamline service offerings into user-friendly concepts.
- Maintain strict confidentiality of sensitive information.
- Simplify complex data into a user-friendly format such as graphs, charts, and other visual aids for TCVA members and the Board of Directors.
- Respond to incoming emails in a timely manner

### Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in marketing/communications or related (desired), or two years' experience in content management, creative writing, advertising concepts, and media negotiations.
- Critical thinker with strong problem-solving and research proficiencies.
- Ability to comprehend and interpret competitor strategies.
- Ability to gather large amounts of data and convert it into meaningful analysis.
- Solid organizational skills and detail oriented.
- Ability to work under pressure and meet strict deadlines.
- Creative mind with superb written and verbal communication skills.
- Ability to simplify complex information into a user-friendly format.
- Proficient in Canva graphic software and WIX.

## Social Media Manager Volunteer

### Job Description

TCVA is searching for a talented social media manager to represent our association by building a social media presence for our Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram brands.



The social media manager will drive engagement by creating high-quality original content for notices, ads for the Paraloft, Hall of Fame Nominations, and other items of interest to the TACAMO community. The right candidate will possess a wealth of marketing experience, engage influencers, manage our community by responding to comments, and oversee our customer service across all platforms.

### Job responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Running the association's social media campaigns.
- Formulating high-quality novel written and visual content for each social media campaign.
- Building a social media presence by maintaining a solid online presence.
- Collaborate with other TCVA committees, like Membership, Scholarship, Sales, and Customer Service to ensure brand consistency.
- Monitoring the association's brand on social media.
- Building brand awareness by engaging relevant influencers.
- Managing our online communities to ensure respectful and appropriate engagement.
- Responding to comments on each of our accounts.
- Overseeing Customer Service provided via social media.
- Analyzing data to determine whether social media campaigns have achieved their objectives.
- Coaching TCVA Board of Directors on content creation best practices.
- Respond to incoming Facebook messages in a timely manner.

### Requirements:

- Experience developing social media strategies.
- Experience as a Brand Manager on social media.
- Experience developing and working with a marketing plan.
- Ability to develop the right voice for each social media platform.
- Proven ability to build social media communities.
- Understanding of graphic design principles.
- Ability to measure the success of campaigns.

**Submit Resume to:  
tacamocommunity@gmail.com**





## Newsletter Manager Volunteer

### Job Description

TCVA's Newsletter Manager is responsible for creating engaging newsletters, managing subscriber databases, planning, and implementing email campaigns, and analyzing campaign performance.

### Job responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Write, edit, compile, and produce TACAMO Trailing Wire quarterly newsletters, working independently as well as closely with the TCVA Board of Directors, TACAMO Historian, and others as needed
- Work with the TCVA Board of Directors to determine quarterly newsletter content, create short-term and long-term newsletter schedules, and a newsletter workflow calendar.
- Collect and edit newsletter articles; write articles as necessary
- Monitor key metrics to help inform the TVCA Board of Directors of the ongoing newsletter strategy.
- Help develop ways to gain new members and re-engage inactive members
- Meet deadlines for the email blast, posting on webpage, and Facebook page and groups

### Requirements:

- Background in Journalism, English, or Communications preferred.
- Three to five years of editorial experience, preferably writing and editing newsletters
- Ability to adapt to TCVA's style guidelines.
- In-depth understanding of audience engagement strategies.
- Proficiency in Canva and Adobe PDF.

## Southwest Raffle Manager

### Job Description

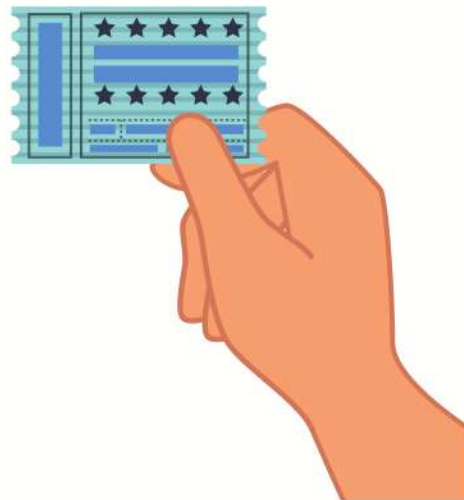
TCVA is looking for a Raffle Manager to promote our Southwest Airlines ticket raffles. The right candidate will have a strong background in marketing on social media. If you are a self-starter, with a desire to promote TCVA, we want to hear from you.

### Job responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Maintain and manage contact with Southwest via email.
- When notified Southwest tickets are available via email, click on link in email then agree to accept Southwest flight e-passes.
- When Southwest emails confirmed flight e-passes, login and set date on when flight e-passes are issued. (They are good for one year after the date set.)
- Set date for Raffle with TCVA Board of Directors direction.
- Create social media and WIX blog raffle ads including raffle teasers then post ad on social media and email ads to website manager.
- Update the names of those who purchased ticket(s), \$100 (5 tickets) & \$25 (1 ticket).
- Contact winner and provide tickets vouchers to them via email.
- Announce the winner and thank everyone who participated.
- Respond to incoming emails regarding tickets promptly.

### Requirements

- Experience working with and developing a marketing plan.
- Understanding of graphic design using Canva.
- Compile, write, edit, and produce ads and teasers.



**Submit Resume to:  
tacamocommunity@gmail.com**



## Museum Exhibit Coordinator

The Museum Exhibit Coordinator provides design direction and leadership for all indoor and outdoor installations, exhibitions, and core galleries, ensuring design work is inspiring, educational, surprising, meets the needs of each project and supports the TACAMO mission.

Job responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Research museums possibilities to present to the TCVA Board of Directors.
- Coordinate, design, budget and construct exhibits in TCVA approved museums. (For example, must be knowledgeable in art, history, design, lighting, and possibly carpentry.)
- Oversee the acquisition and care of the displays artifacts.
- Keep track of all museum objects and maintains records of ownership.
- Recruit volunteers to assist in display room during special events held at the museum.

Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in industrial design, architecture, interior design, or exhibit design
- 3-5 years of experience in exhibit design or a related field
- Creative thinking that results in innovative design solutions
- Ability to investigate and resolve design problems
- Ability to execute design directions
- Ability to read and understand design control and architecture drawings
- Ability to produce design detail drawings
- Knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel, and Canva
- Excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to communicate effectively with designers, clients and TCVA Board of Directors



## Comptroller Coordinator

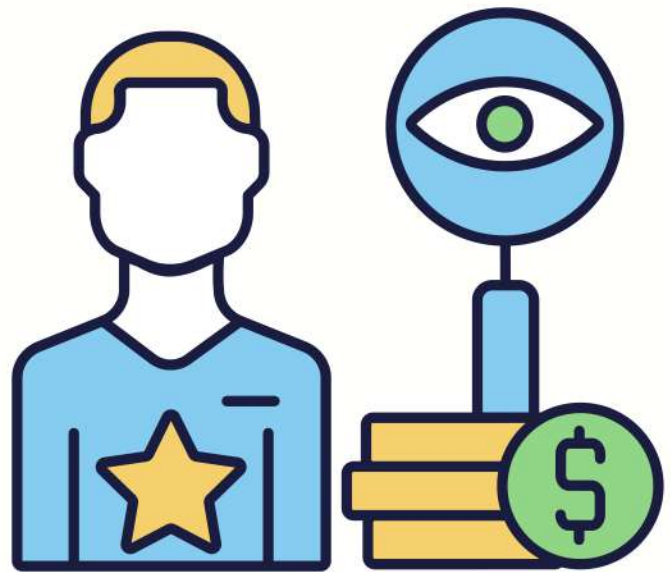
The Comptroller Coordinator oversees the TCVA accounting tasks and financial reporting procedures. The comptroller oversees all transactions to help the treasurer maintain the accounting records.

Job responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Monitoring and controlling cash flow
- Developing and maintaining financial policies and procedures
- Providing information to the treasurer to complete financial reporting
- Overseeing accounts receivable and payable
- Monitoring debt/credit
- Create a reimbursable expenses for BoD members and track them in a spreadsheet

Requirements:

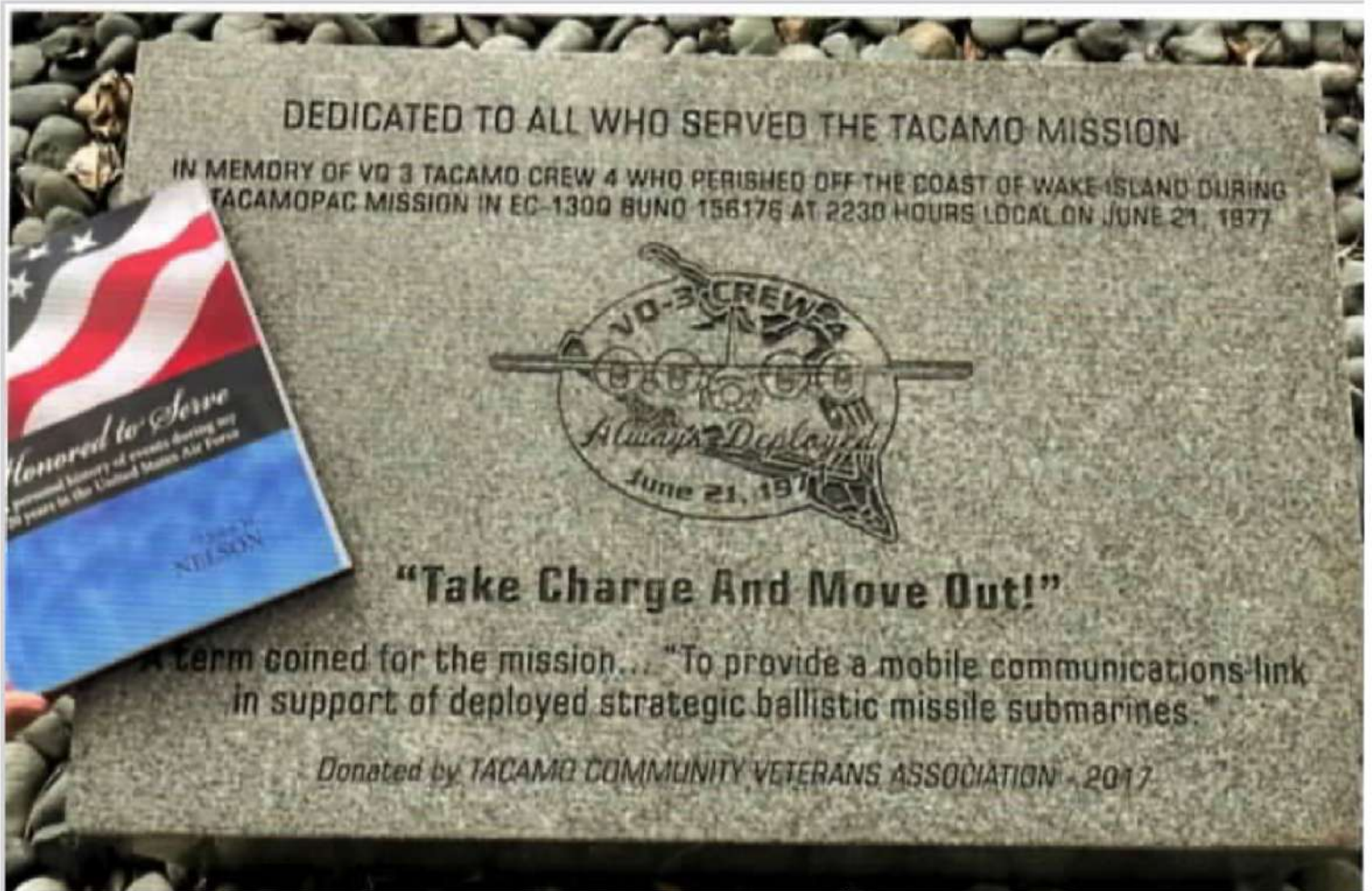
- Bachelor's degree in accounting or finance or equivalent
- Expert knowledge of accounting and financial principles, regulations, and best practices
- Excellent understanding of governmental guidelines and tax laws that affect the TCVA's nonprofit status
- Proficient in Microsoft Office with an emphasis on Excel
- Proficient with data analysis, critical thinking and problem-solving
- Highly organized with keen attention to detail
- Excellent collaboration, communication, and teamwork skills



**Submit Resume to:  
[tacamocommunity@gmail.com](mailto:tacamocommunity@gmail.com)**



# TACAMO Memorial



## TACAMOPAC Crew 4 and TACAMO Fallen Memorial Location



Last month I related the story of Crew 4 to some neighbors. They have a son, a junior in high school interested in history. In telling the Crew 4 story this young man's interest really perked up. We told them about the Punchbowl Ceremony and Crew4 Memorial. They then told us that since they were going to Hawaii for Christmas they would include a visit to the Punchbowl.

After viewing the video link I sent them made by BoneYard Safari at the memorial service, they wanted to specifically visit the Crew 4 Memorial and were very impressed. They brought back the attached picture (*Photo above taken by neighbors son.*) and told us what a moving experience it was to visit this hallowed place. This young man and his family now have a greater appreciation of what military service entails and the cost of the freedoms we all enjoy today.

We hope that the new year is good to you both and that you have good health and happiness.

Admiral (John Nelson, the last person to enjoy time with TACAMOPAC Crew 4 on Wake Island





HALE KOA HOTEL

# TACAMO REUNION

# 2027

Hawaii  
"TACAMOPAC CREW 4"  
50 Year Remembrance



**TWO** Hawaiian Islands Reunion

June 18 to 22 **Oahu**

**Big Island** June 22 to 26

Check out the Tentative Schedule [tacamo.org/2027tacamoreunion](http://tacamo.org/2027tacamoreunion) or use the QR code



Hilo Farmer Market



# 2027



Kilauea Volcano Tour



Scenic Island Tour



Hilo & Beyond Tour



# TACAMO.org Website Access

If you would like to explore the TACAMO Association Website, you must fill out your time in TACAMO



First Name     Last Name     Maiden Name  
 Status \*     Family Member related to  
 Email Address     Duty Status

## Military Service

Squadron \*          
 Commander Naval Air Forces Pacifi...          
 Command    Years in this Command i.e. 1970-72    List the names you served with in this Squadron. Place a comma between names  
 Squadron          
 Command    Years in this Command i.e. 1970-72    List the names you served with in this Squadron. Place a comma between names

## Industry Partners

IndustryPartner      
 Industry Partners    Years worked i.e.1990-2007

## Civil Service

Civil Service      
 Civil Service    Years worked i.e.1990-2007

# TIME IN TACAMO

1961 TACAMO Begins  
"Take Charge And Move Out"

**Military Service:**  
Where did your adventure in TACAMO begin?

What **Commands** you were in?

What **Years** were you in each Command?

What **Squadrons** were you in?

**Industry Partners:**  
Where did your adventure in TACAMO begin?

What is the **Name** of the Industry Partner Company?

What **Years** were you in Industry Partner Company?

**Civil Service Partners:**  
Where did your adventure in TACAMO begin?

What is the **Name** of the Civil Service Company?

What **Years** did you work for the Civil Service Partner?

<https://www.tacamo.org/tacamotime>



[tacamo.org/tacamotimelist](https://www.tacamo.org/tacamotimelist)



# TACAMO Fallen

AFCM Oscehurst  
 Al Albertson  
 Al Dowling  
 Al Paraita  
 Albert Duckworth  
 Albert Wilkerson  
 Alex Calder  
 Allen R. Shuff  
 Allyre "Al" L. Jean  
 Anthony (Tony) Felician  
 Artie Greenauer  
 Ben Micou  
 Ben North  
 Betty Warren  
 Bill "Buff" Crowell  
 Bill Mize  
 Bill Toomey  
 Bill Weinhardt  
 Bob Downey  
 Bob Lucas  
 Bob Niederstadt  
 Bobby Milano  
 Brigitte Jacobson  
 Bruce Colby  
 Bruce Cunningham  
 Bruce Ernest Davidson  
 Bruce Hauenstein  
 Bruce Holden  
 Bruce L. Cloud  
 Bruce Nordwall  
 Carl Brandt  
 Charles O. Gwin, Jr.  
 Charlie "Tom" Walton  
 Charlie Merz  
 Charlie Moeller  
 Charlie Quillan  
 Christopher Fagan  
 Chuck Fitchet  
 Chuck Harless  
 Chuck Osier  
 Cindy Alderson  
 Claude Blackwell  
 Cliff Greer  
 Conn Berkshire  
 Craig Leonard Mellies  
 Curt Seltzer  
 Dale Baker  
 Dale Tutko  
 Dale VanRonzelen  
 Dan Ruberti  
 Daniel "Dan" Buckner  
 Daniel "Danny" Larkin, III  
 Daniel Lange  
 Dave Allen  
 Dave Closson  
 Dave Dick  
 David Aaron Summer  
 David Durkee  
 David Edwards  
 David Edwin Taylor, Jr.  
 David Hammond Fincannon  
 David Wright  
 Debra Roob Costello  
 Diane Kay Vanaman  
 Dick Buckner  
 Domingo Lind  
 Don Hansen  
 Don Sears  
 Don Sifford  
 Donald Disharoon Sr.  
 Doug Kipp  
 Douglas Mitchell  
 Dunton Wyatt, Jr  
 Dutch Schultz  
 Dwight Lee Moyer  
 Earl Jones Jr.  
 Earl Solomon  
 Ed Fisher  
 Ed Harlan  
 Eddie Laitch  
 Edward Flynn  
 Edwin Munger  
 Edwin Munger, Jr.  
 Elias "Fred" Rafael Fernandez  
 Englebert G. Pezzei,  
 First CO of VQ-4  
 Eric Baluk  
 Erik Gordan  
 Ernie Norie  
 Franklin Forrest  
 Fred Niklaus  
 Fritz Jones  
 Gareth Rieth

Gary Lynn Baird  
 General Ensley  
 George W. Iwasko Jr.  
 George Wesson  
 Glenn Coker  
 Gramps Hayslip  
 Grant Eric Hepner  
 Greg Georges  
 Gregory Spaulding  
 Gus Ulrich  
 Guy Payne  
 Harold Lee "Hal" Willard  
 Howard Winger  
 Howard "Izzy" Gantz  
 Jack F Jones  
 Jack Kasalonis  
 Jack MacMullen  
 Jack Sughrue  
 Jack Thompson  
 Jake Ausec  
 James Amsden  
 James B. Mulligan  
 James Clark  
 James E Maddox  
 James Franklin William  
 James Jordan  
 Jay F. McCormick  
 Jeff Fuller  
 Jeff Hughes  
 Jeff Hunter  
 Jeff Pilnicki  
 Jeffrey Paul Alcott Sr.  
 Jeffrey Pilnicki  
 Jerry Johnson  
 Jerry L Barnes  
 Jerry Moore  
 Jerry Owen Tuttle, U.S. Navy,  
 Vice Admiral (Retired)  
 Jeryl Brooks  
 Jim Bolin  
 Jim Downs  
 Jim Hastings  
 Jim Kingery  
 Jim Landy  
 Jim Peterson, Boeing Engineer  
 Jim Scott  
 Jim Tilton  
 Jim Vandenbos  
 Jimmy Kugler  
 Jody Griffin  
 Joe Bagby  
 Joe Forsyth  
 Joe Moscaro  
 John "Toby" Rask  
 John "Manny" McKeon  
 John (Johnny) Francis McNamara  
 John Barkwill  
 John Burton  
 John E. Moschell  
 John Fletcher  
 John G. Nuesmeyer  
 John Garreston  
 John Martin  
 John Ontko  
 John Roneth Engle  
 Jon Kaniza  
 Jon Shay  
 Joseph Dziewit Jr  
 Joseph Paul Innis  
 Joseph Wojnarwshy Jr.  
 Ken Koehler  
 Ken Link  
 Ken Whitten  
 Kevin Ward  
 Kim Brandon  
 Lance Aikens  
 Lance Marshall Scott  
 Lance Sirmans  
 Larry Groff  
 Larry Johnson  
 Larry Wagar  
 Laurie Shappie  
 Leo "Dennie" Reed  
 LeRoy (Lee) Heinz  
 Lou Ciochetto  
 Luther Bryant  
 Lyle Alan Tracy  
 Lyle Bercier  
 Lynwood "Lyn" Zepik  
 Maria "Toni" Ramirez  
 Marshall Ardis  
 Marvin "Smokey" Longstreet  
 Max Williams

Michael Cullina III  
 Michael Leach  
 Michael Ottinger  
 Michael Thompson  
 Mike "Rooster" Wetzell  
 Mike Besse  
 Mike Kenney Sr.  
 Mike Musser  
 Mike Roach  
 Mike Taylor  
 Norman James Waldo  
 Oren Guidry II  
 Pat Cannon  
 Pat McGettigan  
 Paul Markle  
 Perry Ogle  
 Phil Comeau  
 Ralph Ward  
 Rance Dunmire  
 Raymond "Jack" Reel  
 Raymond "Ray" Gabay  
 Raymond "Ray" Gabay  
 Rey Sanchez  
 Richard "Wheats" Wheatley  
 Richard Allen Mohler  
 Richard C. McIntyre  
 Richard Mathews  
 Rick Longoria  
 Robert "Bob" Brooks  
 Robert "Bob" Rotzinger, Jr.  
 Robert "Skinny" Cole  
 Robert Boles  
 Robert Frost  
 Robert Lee Thomas, Jr.  
 Robert Morrisette  
 Robert Stanley Shalsky  
 Robert Wisotzkey  
 Robert Zook  
 Rocky Wrather  
 Roger Bradford  
 Roland D. Parish  
 Ron Brown  
 Ron Collins  
 Ron Rego  
 Ron Schaefer "Chet"  
 Ron Woolsey  
 Ronald Ray McDonald  
 Sandra Richardson  
 Scott Dickenson  
 Scott Ely  
 Scott How  
 Stephen Joseph Schuyler, Sr.  
 Stephen Scott Pope  
 Stephen William Coy  
 Steve Thompson  
 Sue (Palmer) Elquist  
 Terry N. Winger  
 Theodore "Jake" Jachens  
 Thomas G. Cooper  
 Thomas Holland  
 Tim Grace  
 Tim Keane  
 Todd Cox  
 Todd Latshaw "Biff"  
 Todd Massey  
 Tom Cass  
 Tom McLutch  
 Tom Rivenburgh  
 Tom Stout  
 Tony Johnson  
 Tony Martin Cheesebrew  
 Trader John  
 Troy Woodbury  
 Ty Tyler  
 Vince Ullrich  
 Vincent Corona  
 Wade Rowe  
 Walter Beattie  
 Walter E Lysaght  
 Wayne Fisher  
 Wayne Levesque  
 Weldon Yannayon  
 Wes Young  
 Whyalon Crago  
 Will Caskey  
 William Missler  
 Willard "JR" Caldwell  
 William "Bill" Fromme  
 William Clark  
 William F Hess



## TACAMO Hall of Fame Inductees

TACAMOPAC CREW 4\*  
 \*Andrew Barker - 2012  
 \*Andrew Yaroschuck - 2012  
 \*Aubrey Russell - 2012  
 \*Bob Bond - 2012  
 \*Christie Metcalfe - 2012  
 \*Daniel Miner - 2012  
 \*David Cofer - 2012  
 \*David Paige - 2012  
 \*Dennis Mura - 2012  
 \*Godfrey LeDoux - 2012  
 \*Jack Strunk - 2012  
 \*James Faul - 2012  
 \*Mark Searing - 2012  
 \*Monte Nichols - 2012  
 \*Richard Eastwood - 2012  
 \*William Juergens - 2012  
 Bill "Horse" Harsanyi - 2012  
 Dave Buck - 2012  
 Don Lindeman - 2013  
 Ed Preston, CO VQ3- Number  
 One & Ironman ONE- Number  
 One - 2018  
 Frank Baker Jr. - 2012  
 Gareth Reitz - 2012  
 Jack McKenzie - 2012  
 Jay McCormick - 2019  
 John Kilroy - 2012  
 Ken Gray - 2020  
 Mike Duvall - 2018  
 Mike Kemp - 2016  
 Norm Tindall - 2017  
 P.A. Moore - 2014  
 Paul Collins - 2013  
 Phil Miller - 2018  
 Rick Filz - 2012  
 Ron Carlson - 2018  
 Ross "Rossie" Coleman - 2013  
 Scott Ely - 2021  
 Shane Mansour - 2012  
 Stan Grant - 2015  
 Steve Hickle - 2016  
 Tom Klosterman - 2016  
 Walt Reese - 2012 /Flew very  
 first VLF airborne transmitter  
 flights in 1962  
 William "Buff" Crowell II, - 2021  
 & TSA/TCVA Founding Member

[tacamo.org/fallen-shipmates](http://tacamo.org/fallen-shipmates)







# TCVA Board of Directors & Committee Members



**Mike Vos**  
Executive Director &  
TSA/TCVA Founding Member  
TACAMO Heritage Foundation  
Stand-up Committee



**Dennis Warren**  
"Coach"  
President




**Tony Barnes**  
Vice President  
TACAMO Heritage Foundation  
Stand-up Committee



**Cheryl Vos**  
Vice President Administration &  
Reunion/Event Planner  
TACAMO Heritage Foundation  
Stand-up Committee




**Jim Meppelink**  
Vice President Fleet Outreach &  
TACAMO Hall of Fame/  
Life Member  
*TACAMO Hall of Fame Inductee'*



**John Alger**  
Vice President Merchandising &  
Scholarship Committee  
TACAMO Heritage Foundation  
Stand-up Committee




**Mike Neri**  
Vice President Veteran Outreach &  
Time in TACAMO




**Joe Caruso**  
Treasurer & Membership  
*TACAMO Hall of Fame Inductee'*



**John Burgoon "Mom"**  
Secretary &  
Scholarship Committee



**Ryan Skaggs**  
Active Duty  
Representative



**Bob Wicker**  
Admin Assistant &  
Membership Committee



**Vern Lochausen**  
President Emeritus /Historian/  
Life Member  
TACAMO Heritage Foundation  
Stand-up Committee  
*TACAMO Hall of Fame Inductee'*




**Database Builder**  
**Cathy Neri**



**Reunion Planner Assistant**  
**Joan Alger**



**Buff Crowell**  
Scholarship Committee  
**Trish Crowell**



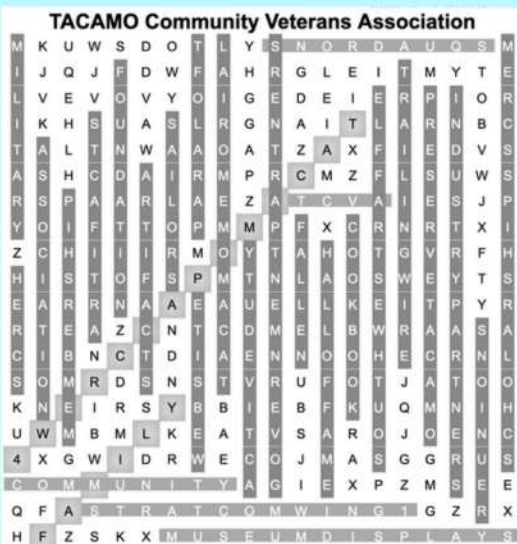
**Buff Crowell**  
Scholarship Committee  
**Jay Gallamore**

## TSA Founding Members

- President Emeritus - Barry Coyle
  - TACAMO Hall of Fame inductee in 2014
- Vice President Emeritus - Bill "Buff" Crowell
  - 2021 TACAMO Hall of Fame inductee
- Executive Director - Mike Vos
  - Founding member of TSA and TCVA
- Sue Davies
- Franklin Forrest
- Lynwood Zepik
- John Cotter

## Former TSA/TCVA Board of Directors Members

- Jim Gallagher Vice President 2005-18
  - 2018 TACAMO Hall of Fame Inductee
- President Emeritus - Vern Lochausen
  - 2017 TACAMO Hall of Fame Inductee





## *Fallen Shipmates*

### **I FLEW**

by *Brad Baker*

When the last checklist's run and the bag drag is done,  
I'll reminisce on the days I once knew,  
I won't remember the oh-three-hundred alerts,  
But only that I flew!

I will not remember the crew rest in tents,  
Nor recall how cold Arctic winds blew,  
And I'll try not to remember the times I got sick,  
But only that I flew!

I will never forget when nature became angry,  
To challenge my intrepid crew,  
I'll always remember the fear I felt,  
And the pride in knowing I flew.

I'll remember the sights my mortal eyes saw,  
All colored in multiple hues,  
Those beautiful lights on cold winter lights,  
Seen only by those who flew.



God was extremely good to me,  
He let me touch his face,  
He saw my crew through war and peace,  
And blessed us with His grace.

So when I stand at St. Peter's Gate,  
And tell him that I'm new,  
I know he'll smile and welcome me,  
Because he knows  
I FLEW!

**[LINK: TACAMO FALLEN LIST](#)**



# TACAMO

Active Duty, Veterans,  
Government Civilians, Families,  
and Industry Partners