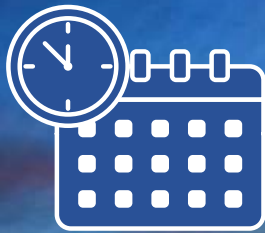


# TRAILING WIRE

## NEWS LETTER

In Collaboration with TACAMO Community Veterans Association

# VETERANS & ACTIVE DUTY MEET UP 2023



24th-27th  
AUG

## TACAMO Reunion Returns to OKC

DISCUSSIONS  
**AND INSIGHTS**

The purpose of the reunion is to inform TACAMO veterans and active duty about TACAMO Community Veteran Association. Discussions to consist of scholarships, history, membership, projects, ...etc.

More information  
coming soon



# So TSA Needs a President - Sky King, Sky King....Do NOT Answer

by Vern Lochausen

After attending a TSA (TACAMO Survivors Association) mini-reunion in Memphis 2010, everyone agreed we should have a reunion in Pax with some kind of dinner that included wives, in addition to the normal picnic at Solomons. Late in 2010, I volunteered to talk with Buff about it all and learn from him, the Master of Pax reunions. During our shared dinner, he passed along the gouge and some reservations about having a banquet also. After our discussion I worked with Dana at D.B. McMillans Irish Pub in Pax to set-up a banquet. Cheryl worked a deal on rooms prices at the Sleep Inn, owned by Dana's parents. Sleep Inn was kind enough to allow us to put up a 20'x20' canopy brought in by the Vos's to hold gatherings and make it our reunion home base. Cheryl also planned the Solomons picnic of the reunion.



At the reunion on Labor Day weekend of 2011, everyone gathered outside the Sleep Inn under the canopy to have breakfast that first morning. We had an informal discussion of future reunions and the future of the organization was discussed. The discussion participants were: Mike Davidson, Jack Bowers, Mike and Cheryl Vos, Jim Gallagher, T.K. Klosterman, John Alger, John Cotter and others. The consensus was, we needed to up our game on reunion. Mike Davidson had the best set of ideas about restarting the association.

**TACAMO Survivors Association**  
"Back to Pax" Reunion  
September 2-4, 2011  
"The Illus Suite-TACAMO" AirExpo

**ACTIVITIES**

**PLAN OF THE DAY**  
(Colors of the day: "Golden Working Blue")

**THURSDAY - September 1**  
12:00 Reunion Committee meeting at Sleep Inn

**FRIDAY - September 2**  
8:00 Registration Open at Sleep Inn (under the tent)  
8:30 Start & Cover of DB McMillan's  
9:00 Dinner at DB McMillan's (our independent catering - "First Friday in Knoxville", Knoxville, September 2nd Day)

**SATURDAY - September 3**  
8:00 Association "MUSTY" meeting at Sleep Inn (under the tent)  
8:30 Start & Cover of DB McMillan's  
9:00 Dinner at DB McMillan's (our independent catering - "First Friday in Knoxville", Knoxville, September 3rd Day)

**SUNDAY - September 4**  
8:00 Reunion ends through the Sleep Inn & Culture  
8:30 Photo Opportunity Reception at Sleep Inn  
9:00 Live show by "The Illus Suite" independent musicians

Please see attached for more details

At the banquet, we ran a PowerPoint presentation I had created of TACAMO images I had been collecting. It was a packed house filled with TACAMO Veterans. Our waitress was the daughter of a British gal from Mildenhall and her spunk matched her background in terms of attracting smart aleck comments from TACAMO veterans. It was a great success and confirmed adding a banquet to future reunions was a great idea.



Post-reunion phone calls with Mike, Cheryl, and Jim Gallagher followed during which we decided we had a good reunion model. We later met at my farm in Hollywood, Maryland to codify our BoD, our goals, and our 2012 reunion plans. We also decided to change the association name, TACAMO Survivors Association, which used the TSA acronym. *TSA is the acronym for the Transportation Security Administration, an American governmental agency that is responsible for travel safety, especially air travel.* The TACAMO Veterans submitted ideas and JJ Caruso came up with the winning name: TACAMO Community Veterans Association using the acronym of TCVA.

Somehow, probably because of the 'hey Vern those were some good ideas that played well' comments, I was asked if I would consider leading a future one. That evolved into "Okay y'all, I will lead for now, until we can find a president." I had just ignored the warning Sky King was given 'Do NOT answer'.  
....the rest is history, Vern Lochausen

# Vern Retires as President of TCVA But will remain as TCVA Historian



**Vern Lochausen's  
Retiring as  
TCVA President**

**Join TCVA at the OKC Reunion  
August 24 to 27, 2023  
to celebrate Vern's 12 years as  
TCVA President**

## Epilogue:

So, it has been a MARVELOUS 12-year run since I violated the Sky King warning. But I wouldn't change a thing. Buff, Barry Coyle, Mike and Cheryl, and Jim Gallagher had a vision that was contagious and I was severely infected. We added events, missions, goals, lots of new members and of late a stellar group of veterans to our Board of Directors that have made us SO much better. Imagine what adding a couple of Master Chiefs, Senior Chiefs, a Commander and another Captain could do. One goal, no consideration for previous pay grades but total appreciation and APPLICATION of experience and points of contact have made today's TCVA an AWESOME organization. My secretly held dream-reach out to Sailors, connect with them and connect them to their mates, and help honor their service. As I step down and become your duty Historian, I am grateful for the experience, the support of veterans of Navy, civilian, and industry backgrounds. Not going away, just moving to the man the rails to watch and support those on 'The Bridge. 'Full speed ahead, TCVA. Vern.....Out'

## 891 Painting's New Home

**Great News! Frank Baker, Jr's donation of his dad's 891 silk painting is now in Pax River Museum waiting to be hung in the TACAMO room. Thank you to Mike Neri for rescuing the painting from Pensacola storage.**



TCVA Raffle  
2 Roundtrip  
Tickets on  
Southwest Airlines  
within the  
Continental USA

# Travel

**DRAWING**  
**APRIL 24TH**

No Blackout dates! Use  
until MAR 5, 2024 to  
travel anywhere  
Southwest flies within  
the Continental United  
States. Total value  
\$800! There is no limit to  
the number of tickets  
sold to one person.

**RAFFLE  
TICKETS**

1 ticket for \$25  
5 tickets for \$100



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[tacamo.org/southwest-raffle](https://tacamo.org/southwest-raffle)

Accepting:



Purchase by mail. Write check to TCVA  
& mail to TCVA c/o Cheryl Vos  
PO Box 6126, Ocean View, HI 9637

# 238 Years

## TCVA Board of Directors

Click on Photo to read Biography



**Executive Director**  
**Mike Vos**  
& Founding Member



**President**  
**Vern Lochausen**  
& TCVA Historian  
*'TACAMO Hall of Fame Inductee'*



**Executive VP**  
**Dennis "Coach" Warren**



**VP Fleet Outreach**  
**Jim "Mepp" Meppelink**  
& TACAMO Hall of Fame  
*'TACAMO Hall of Fame Inductee'*



**VP Admin**  
**Cheryl "Chief" Vos**  
& Reunion/Event Planner



**VP Veteran Outreach**  
**Mike Neri**



**VP Merchandising**  
**John Alger**



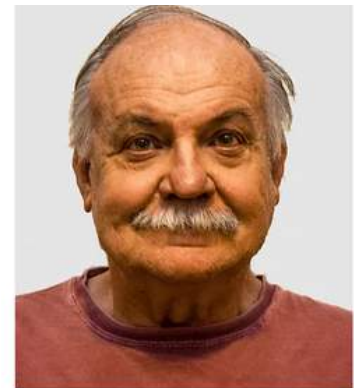
### Other Volunteers

Reunion Planner Assistant  
**Joan Alger**

Database Builder  
**Cathy Neri**



**Secretary**  
**John "Mom" Burgoon**



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

OF • COMBINED • TACAMO • EXPERIENCE

# Women in Naval Aviation

## Women in Aviation International

### Bravo Zulu and CONGRATS, Trish Beckman!

Trish Beckman retired from the United States Navy after serving 28 years. She is the first woman to qualify as a crewmember in the F-15E program and the first American woman to qualify as a crewmember in the F/A-18D. As a Naval Flight Officer, Trish flew in 67 types of aircraft. She helped influence the United States Senate to repeal combat exclusion laws and change executive branch policy, allowing women to fly aircraft engaged in combat missions.

Based in Seattle, Washington, Trish flies for Boeing Commercial Airplanes Group and has flown over 5,000 flight hours in 71 total aircraft types.

She is a founding board member of #WomeninAviationInternational and was inducted into the WAI Pioneer Hall of Fame in 2010.

[WAI.org/phof-directory](http://WAI.org/phof-directory) #IamWAI #WeAreWAI #WomeninAviation



**Quote by Vern Lochausen:** LT Trish Beckman was clearly GOING places when we served together in VQ-3 Special Projects Dept in the early 80s. So proud to have served with her, a joy to see her succeed, and glad to see this well deserved recognition. While working for Boeing, I visited her in Seattle to see that she was Boeing's Flight Test systems check Navigator, ensuring commercial jet NAV/COMM systems worked as designed before delivery to airline customers. What a RIDE! Bravo Zulu and CONGRATS, Trish.

# TCVA Membership

Membership dollars help TCVA defray the costs of recognizing TACAMO's significance contributions to the strategic defense of our country. Membership dues also support the actions of TCVA Board of Directors, who work to better the association, reunions, and preserve TACAMO's history.



# Southwest<sup>®</sup>

Southwest Airlines Raffle

**Free Southwest  
Raffle Ticket  
With Your  
Membership**  
*if purchased before April 24, 2023*

**M E M B E R S H I P**



[tacamo.org/membership](https://tacamo.org/membership)



**BECOME A MEMBER**



 **Annual  
Membership  
are \$25 Dues**

# SHARE YOUR TIME TACAMO

**1961 TACAMO Begins**  
**"TAke Charge And Move Out**

What Commands you were in?

What Squadrons were you in?

What is the Name of the Industry Partner Company?

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

What Years did you work for the Civil Service Partner?

Military Service:  
Where did your adventure in TACAMO begin?

What Years were you in each Command?

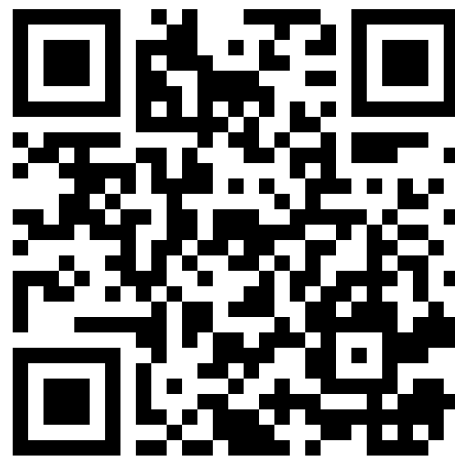
Industry Partners:  
Where did your adventure in TACAMO begin?

What Years were you in Industry Partner Company?

What is the Name of the Civil Service Company?

*How many people served in TACAMO?*

Help TCVA collect the history of all those who served in TACAMO on their journey in the NAVY



**LINK: [tacamo.org/tacamotime](http://tacamo.org/tacamotime)**





# TCVA Announces Scholarship Program

**Mission Statement:** The TACAMO Community Veterans Association (TCVA) will award annual scholarships to financially in-need 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 must be sponsored by an “Active” (Dues paying) member of the TCVA or be an Active Duty Sailor (or dependent) under the command of STRATCOMMWING 1.
- The applicant must demonstrate financial need and determination to utilize the award towards his/her/their education costs.
- The applicant must be accepted and enrolled in the school of choice that meets TCVA’s accreditation requirements.
- The applicant must agree to an interview by the TCVA 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 TCVA Scholarship Committee.

**Ineligibility:** Anyone related to a person in the TCVA Selection Committee, whether by marriage/significant other or parent/step-parent is ineligible for this scholarship program.

**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.

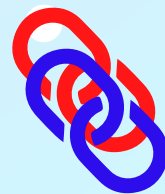
**Sponsored Awards:** Awards in the name of a sponsor, such as the “Jane Doe Scholarship Award” must come with a donation from the sponsor of at least two year's support of that award.

- The sponsor will determine the number and amount of the annual award(s). (No less than the unnamed 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 board 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.

Application Form Coming Soon to  
[tacamo.org/scholarship](http://tacamo.org/scholarship)



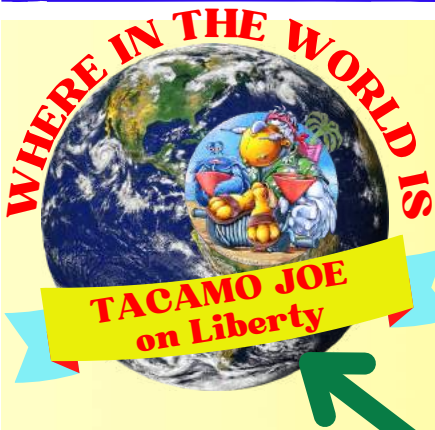
## Accepting Donations to the Buff Crowell Scholarship Fund



If you want to make a donation to Buff's Scholarship fund go to [tacamo.org/buffscholarship](http://tacamo.org/buffscholarship) or scan the QR code



# "TACAMO Joe on Liberty"



Take "TACAMO Joe on Liberty" On the Road with you!!!

Share Your Photos

Share photos of your adventure, outing, road-trip with TCVA!

Please include photos, names & location

- Email [tacamocommunity@gmail.com](mailto:tacamocommunity@gmail.com)
- Post on FB
- #tacamojoe

Need a TACAMO Joe T-shirt??

Scan QR Code or Click on Link



LINK to Purchase a TACAMO Joe T-shirt

LAST CALL! FOR FREE SHIPPING

Until June 1st, 2023

All \$\$ go to the Buff Scholarship Fund

TACAMO Joe tours Hawaii  
TACAMO Joe visited the Volcano National Park and Akaka Falls with Mike & Cheryl Vos & Joan & John Alger



John & Joan Alger taking TACAMO Joe on tour of the Hawaiian Islands

Charles Lindbergh's Grave, at Palapala Congregational Church, Kipahulu, Maui, HI.



TACAMO Memorial Stone  
Located in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Honolulu  
Etched on Memorial: "Dedicated to all who served the TACAMO Mission in Memory of VQ-3 TACAMO Crew 4 who perished off the coast of Wake Island during a TACAMOPAC Mission in EC-130Q BUNO 156176 at 2230 hours local time on JUNE 21, 1977

Check out TACAMO Joe's adventures

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

# TACAMO FALLEN – The Jerry Moore Story

## By TCVA Historian Vern Lohausen

In our TACAMO careers, there are those colorful individuals who stand out as great memories. LT Jerry Moore is one of those from my earliest days in VQ-4. He was, as we say, a ‘one-tour wonder’ and quite a character.

Jerry was from Searcy, Arkansas and possessed that country boy, clean persona that caused one to like him at once. A total athlete and skilled instructor pilot, Jerry taught a lot of folks how to handle the Herc and get the mission done well. Always smiling and joking when joking was appropriate, Jerry was famous for his quick wit and common sense wisdom. He was the consummate athlete and country gentleman. He flew many a mission on the early 1970s VQ-4 Crew 10 with then LT Jim Orsini. The only two Arkansas



bubba in the squadron and both bachelors, they literally ran together in the mornings on deployment stops. They were so close that Jerry was in Jim’s 1974 wedding and sang there. Jim said the song was of Jerry’s spur of the moment choice: Hank Williams “Your Cheatin’ Heart.”

I vividly recall Jerry at my first Dining In, an officers’ only formal dinner designed to build esprit de corps as well as teach some formality of conduct. Our XO, CDR Peterson, interrupted the formal procedures at the beginning, and recognized the soon to transfer Jerry. “LT Moore, before these proceedings can go further, I am asking you to call in the hogs.” With that, Jerry stood and let out a bodacious rendition of the University of Arkansas cheer.... “Wooooooo.... Pig....SooiEE!” That pretty much ensured an appropriate setting of levity for the night. Jim Orsini shared that calling the hogs was also ‘popular’ at some pretty classy deployment liberty venues like the Hofbrau Haus in Munich, Germany.



Later, leading TACAMO LANT Crew 13, Jerry and crew, according to Jim Perry’s account was Jerry at this very best. Jim and 2P John Urban loved St Andrews Scotland and played golf there, so if not scheduled into nearby RAF Leuchers, they sometimes found a

reason to divert there. As reported by Jerry’s instructor pilot, MC/AC peer, Frank Caruso, Chief Bill Toomey, their Flight Engineer, and his wife Ruth essentially adopted Jerry and were his Maryland ‘family’. As only Bill Toomey could ‘arrange’, there were those ‘diverts’ into Leuchers. They had lots of fun on the golf course and the RAF Leuchers BOQ breakfast and bar were hubs of joyous activity – when they were out late, the Brits would leave the bar open for them after they closed - only the beer taps worked, the hard stuff they were wise enough to lock up. In Jim’s words, “Jerry was a great guy to fly with - always a gentleman, a pro aviator, and just a super guy to be around.

One of best pilots I ever flew with in TACAMO.” A number of later stellar pilots learned at Jerry’s hand including Mike ‘Tree’ Clemens. A TACAMO legend, Ken deGraffenreid reported, “Jerry was a great pilot and popular crew leader. I inherited Crew 13 from him when he transferred. Jerry was a champion wrestler, as evidenced by having bested me in the Bermuda BOQ on one of our alert periods there.”

One of Jerry’s peers, TACAMO Instructor Pilot Bruce Borland, a retired Delta Captain, said “Jerry was a good friend, flew a lot together and we usually went to the base gym to play basketball on a leg of our deployment. Jerry was a member of VQ-4’s championship intramural base basketball team with Mike Clemens, Kent White, Jim Klepper, Dick Fentress, and Charlie Phillips. Bruce said “I found out about Jerry’s stadium honor when my wife and I stopped at a rest stop on I-75 coming home from Florida. The Harding College band pulled in and I just happened to see the head honcho disembark. Asked him if he knew Jerry Moore, his eyes got big and said hell, yes and they named the stadium after him. I visited with Jerry in Virginia where he went as a recruiter after VQ-4, he was only 30, what a pity. I got lucky and got hired by Delta, stayed in the Atlanta area since 1977.” Bruce’s share of the attached link, brought me this story via the email blast of our former VQ-4 Air Intelligence Officer, Jack Bowers, who later retired as a Captain in the Navy Dental Corps.



### So what’s the story on a stadium in Jerry’s honor?

After VQ-4, Jerry went to Navy Recruiting Command in Virginia, then left the Navy and returned home to Searcy, Arkansas. Jerry went to college there at Harding College and was a 4 year letterman on the Harding College Bisons baseball team. He never married and was probably trying, as were thousands of others at that time, to get hired by the airlines. He had 6,000 flight hours to his credit and all the FAA ratings that would help him qualify. While instructing a student pilot at Searcy airport, Jerry was demonstrating engine out go around procedures in a Piper PA-31 Navajo, twin engine aircraft, his student lost control of the aircraft over the airport and crashed into trees beyond the end of the runway. Jerry and the student did not survive. That was in 1978.

According to Harding College head baseball coach, Patrick McGaha, the college leadership decided to name the just completing baseball complex “Jerry Moore Field” in his honor. Coach McGaha is very proud of the great facility and recognized the outstanding career Jerry had at Harding. A bronze plaque at the facility entrance tells Jerry’s brief story. Coach McGaha tells you more about it in this YouTube video. [https://youtu.be/GMM\\_FVOGAg4](https://youtu.be/GMM_FVOGAg4)

We SALUTE our fallen comrade, LT Jerry Moore as does his hometown of Searcy,

Arkansas and his alma mater, Harding College. Saint Peter probably has Jerry on standby for calling in the hogs when necessary.



Appreciation to Jim Orsini for contributions of deep insights and several photos for this story as well as Jim Perry, Bruce Borland, Frank Caruso, and Ken deGraffenreid for their contributions.

# TACAMO Sports over the years

Share your TACAMO Sports Photos & Stories  
Send your photos to [tacamocommunity@gmail.com](mailto:tacamocommunity@gmail.com)



VQ-3 - District II 1980 Slowpitch Champions



### SLOWPITCH SOFTBALL

Like it ... I love it!!

For four consecutive seasons, the Slowpitch Softball team has managed to capture the Naval Air Station Softball Championships. This includes a record of 93.7, for a win loss record of 879 over a one year season. A team of 13 talented players, all that kept the team winning for the fourth time. VQ-3 personnel that kept spirit high and bats booming. BU ROW, TACAMO!!!!

League champs for the fourth time

Captain Turbulence, the Popcorn kid and I install the Terrible display a well earned trophy

### ON THE GROUND ON THE FIELD

### FLAG FOOTBALL

Champs again!

In the two seasons covering 1977 to 1978, the VQ-3 Flag Football Team dominated the Naval Air Station league. The 1977 team easily took the league championship, but had to fight a long and brutal three game set to win the NAS Tournament. 1978 saw an even more skilled team, who lost only one game to take the NAS Crown. Playing in the COMNAVSTAR 1978 tournament, the team took home the trophy from the loser of the island title bracket to share the honor with the NAVCAM WESTPAC who has an identical tournament record.





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


**More items for purchase on the Sale Page**

[tacamo.org/sale-items](http://tacamo.org/sale-items)

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FASO Det Brunswick Patch	
SERE Brunswick Patch	
STRATCOM Wing 1 patch	
Verdin Patch	
VQ-4 Airborne Blackshoe	
TACAMO Ground Maintenance	
VQ-3 (old) Patch	
VQ-3 (new) Patch	
VQ-4 Patch	
VQ-7 Patch Eagle Version	

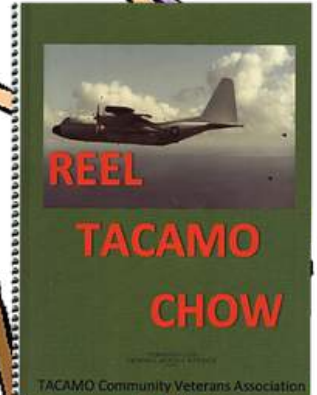
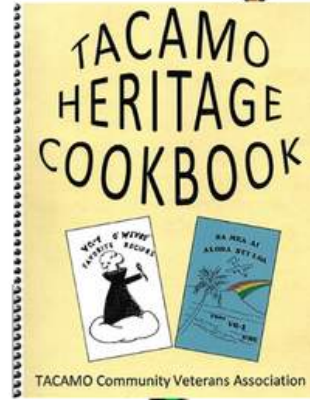
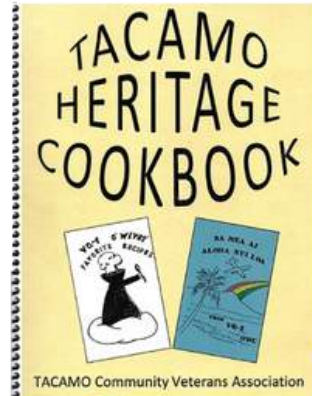
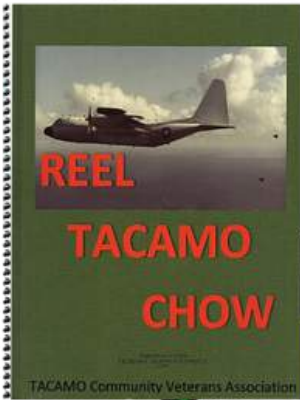
VQ-3 Sticker	
VQ-7 Sticker	
TCVA Sticker	
STRATCOMWING 1 Sticker	
STRATCOMWING 1 TF-124 Sticker	
Ground Maintenance Sticker	
VQ-3 Hat (generic) Black	
TACAMO NFO hat Black	
VQ-3 TACAMO NFO hat Blue	
VQ-4 TACAMO NFO hat Blue	
VQ-4 TACAMO Pilot hat Blue	
TCVA hat (white)	

VQ-7 Patch Eagle Version (velcro)	
VQ-7 Patch Roughneck Version	
Old TACAMO PLE patch	
VQ3 Change of guard patch	
Reel Op for life patch (Velcro)	
VQ-7 Pin	
VQ-4 Pin	
2017 OKC Reunion pin	
2016 HI Reunion pin	
STRATCOM 1 pin	
VQ-3 (new) pin	
VQ-4 Sticker	

TACAMO (drogue) hat	
2106 Hawaii Reunion hat	
EC-130Q Yoke Disc	
EC-130Q Yoke Plaque	
E-6 tail VQ-4 desk placque	
Tinker shirt	
TACAMO JOE print (gloss)	
TACAMO JOE print (matte)	
Reunion 2016 Hawaii Bag	

# TCVA's Garden is Sprouting Cookbooks!!

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



## Two Cookbooks in One Book \$25

(Includes Shipping)



**COMING SOON**



# Del City High School NJROTC Cadets Hosted by TACAMO



**Del City NJROTC by John "Irish" Keilty**  
Awesome day with active duty sailors. 30 Del City High School NJROTC Cadets were hosted by the Strategic Communications Air Wing at TinkervAir Force Base. The cadets flew the E-6 sim, learned about the TACAMO mission( nice job Skippers Heely and Duran) and had an aircraft tour. Highlight of our school year being with these Sailors. Thank you. Afterwards our cadets enjoyed lunch at CC's. It was a great Navy Day at NAS Tinker.



# Women in Naval Aviation



**Becky Pritchett-Condon. A/C  
Commander TACAMO Nose-  
Gear Up Landing - Griffiss  
AFB - Rome, NY - 1983**



14 — The Northern Hills Press — Wednesday, October 11, 1978

*Mt. Healthy graduate*

## Navy picks Pritchett for flight training

Ensign Rebecca Pritchett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald A. Pritchett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald A.

Pritchett of 9175 Ranchill Dr., Mt. Healthy, is one of 15 women nationwide to be selected for the U.S. Navy flight training program.

Ensign Pritchett, who earned a B.A. degree with a double major in aeronautics and mathematics from Miami University in May 1978, will report to the Naval Aviation Training Command, Pensacola, Fla. in December.

Currently the 1974 graduate of Mt. Healthy High School is temporarily stationed in Oxford with the Miami Naval Reserve Officers' Training Corps (NROTC) unit. Ensign Pritchett, who worked toward attaining a private pilot's license during her senior year at Miami, was one of three selected from NROTC units.

Women chosen for the flight training program are selected on the basis of academic standing, military aptitude, physical fitness and background.



Ensign Rebecca Pritchett



# Other News



**John & Joan Alger**

## TACAMO Memorial Visitors

In 2017, TCVA dedicated a memorial honoring the TACAMO fallen and remembering TACAMOPAC Crew 4 who perished off of Wake Island, June 21, 1977. The memorial is located in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, also known as the Punchbowl, in Honolulu, Hawaii.

### Etched on Memorial:

DEDICATED TO ALL WHO SERVED THE TACAMO MISSION

In memory of VQ-3 TACAMO Crew 4 who perished off the coast of Wake Island during a TACAMOPAC mission in EC-130Q BUNO 156176 at 2230 hours local on June 21, 1977

[tacamo.org/memorial](https://tacamo.org/memorial)

## Submit your TACAMO Career

If you would like to be featured in our Trailing Wire newsletter, please submit your career information by answering the following questions. Then, send your Questions & Answers to [tacamcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:tacamcommunity@gmail.com)

- What influenced your decision to join the military?
- What was your service career path?
- Of the medals, awards, and qualification badges or devices you received, what is the most meaningful to you? Why?
- Did you participate in combat operations? If so, could you describe those which were significant to you?
- Of the TACAMO squadrons you were assigned to, which one evokes the fondest memories? Why?
- What particular memory stands out from your entire service career? Why?
- Which individual from your TACAMO service stands out as the one who had the biggest impact on you? Why?
- How has military service influenced the way you have approached your life and career?
- In what ways has TCVA helped you maintain a bond with your service and those you served with?



Track your claim:

<https://www.va.gov/resources/how-to-check-your-va-claim-appeal-or-decision-review-status-online/>

We would appreciate anyone who has found success in the claims process to share their success story and the evidence they presented to get there. Please send an email or post your story on our Facebook page. Together, we will find the key that unlocks this door.

How to find a VSO (Veterans Service Officer)  
<https://nvf.org/veteran-service-officers/>

TCVA is here to support you in this challenge. Members have helped bring evidence, both anecdotal and objective, to aid in VA disability claims. Once you are registered with the VA and your claim has been filed, please contact us at [tacamcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:tacamcommunity@gmail.com) to request the evidence package to support your claim.

### Docents Needed

Patuxent River Naval Air Museum (PRNAM) is looking for docents. Backgrounds in any and all aspects of Naval and TACAMO aviation, engineering are a plus!!! Interested, click on the link and fill out the form <https://www.tacamo.org/docents-pax>



TCVA is looking for License Plates for the next newsletter. Email photos to: [tacamcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:tacamcommunity@gmail.com)



**Buff Crowell**

[LINK: License Plates](#)

# VQ-3 TACAMOPAC Crew 4 Pathway

On a recent visit to "NAS OKC" Mike & Cheryl Vos met with Bob Holland, Ryan Skaggs, Senior Chief Fennell, VQ-3 XO Matt "McLovin" Lovick and others to review the conditions of the VQ-3 Crew 4 Pathway.

Senior Chief Fennell have replaced the picture frames. Other changes and additions will be: Framed photo of the Memorial Stone, lights at entrance way from hangar and spotlight on cabinet with pictures on stone, and replace the original (Now faded) Flight Schedule.



## Mission Statement

The purpose of the Association is to provide fraternal, social and recreational activities for the members and guests and encourage and support the preservation of the history of TACAMO.

### **Contact Info:**

[tacamocommunity@gmail.com](mailto:tacamocommunity@gmail.com)

Mailing Address:  
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President/Historian/Life Member &  
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### **Dennis “Coach” Warren**

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### **Cheryl Vos**

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Secretary  
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## LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Aloha,

Well, it's been a long time since the original TSA board of directors first discussed a scholarship program. It was one of those ambitions we had, but put other priorities ahead of it. But now it's here; a scholarship program for TACAMO active-duty, their families, and our membership family members.

Currently, we're offering two, \$1000 scholarships for students in a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math) curriculum and/or accredited certification programs at trade schools. We hope to increase the number and/or value of the scholarships as participation increases.

That participation would come from benefactors who want to leave a legacy to TCVA and the TACAMO community. We encourage our members with means to make a tax-deductible contribution to our scholarship funds. Or, better yet ... create a named scholarship of your own that will make a difference in a student's life. TCVA would be proud to partner and administer it for you.

Interested? Please email your desire to help to [tacamocommunity@gmail.com](mailto:tacamocommunity@gmail.com) Thanks for your participation.

In other news ... this year's reunion will be at NAS Tinker in Midwest City, Oklahoma. Home of our active-duty contingent. And it's all about them. Our mission is to connect with our active-duty shipmates to learn what motivates them and how we, the alumni, can support them. After all, they are our future.

They will be taking the next generation of C-130's off to patrol and protect our country.

And lastly, our friend Vern Lochausen will be retiring as TCVA's President at this reunion. After 12 years of leading our team, he will not just “fade away” ... he will remain on as our historian.

Just can't get rid of this guy ... Dennis “Coach” Warren will “fleet up” and fill the president's position for at least the next two years. Best wishes to both of them.

Stay strong and healthy,  
Mike



# Choose VA

## VA Health Care Eligibility Myth Busters

**MYTH:** I didn't serve in combat and I wasn't injured during my military service, so I won't be eligible for VA health care.

**FACT:** You don't have to be a combat Veteran, or have been injured during your military service, to be eligible for VA health care. This is why we encourage all Veterans to apply for VA health care.



**MYTH:** I already have my own health insurance and a community provider, so there's no reason for me to apply for VA health care.

**FACT:** You don't have to give up your health insurance or current providers when you apply for VA health care. VA and community providers frequently work together to ensure a Veteran's health and wellbeing. This is called Co-Managed Care. VA health care can also provide an important safety net later in life. Why not apply now, so you don't have to worry about it later?



**MYTH:** I'm a woman, and the VA is for men. They won't "get" me.

**FACT:** Many women who have served don't self-identify as a Veteran. If you served, you are a Veteran. And the VA is here to serve you, with a Women Veterans Health Program designed to meet your unique needs, from primary care to specialized care for chronic conditions or reproductive health.

**MYTH:** I don't need VA health care—I'm healthy and I feel fine.

**FACT:** You don't have to be sick, been injured during military service or have a chronic condition to apply for VA health care. In addition to providing a full range of health care services, the VA specializes in providing the primary care that is important for any age. **In the future, should you have an accident, develop a condition or suffer something debilitating, like a stroke, you and your family will have peace of mind knowing that you are already enrolled for VA health care.**

**MYTH:** There are other Veterans out there who need help more than I do. I should leave my spot open for them.

**FACT:** You can actually benefit your fellow Veterans by using VA health care. An increase in the number of Veterans served will result in increased funding for important VA programs and services that benefit all Veterans.



**Choose VA: Apply Today!**  
Scan with a QR Code  
Reader to learn more.

You can also visit [va.gov](http://va.gov) or call 1-855-976-9618.



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration  
VA Maryland Health Care System



Life is full of challenges and rewards. Everyday life events such as working, family relationships, and finances, can all be overwhelming at times. When you feel overwhelmed, remember that you are not alone. You do not have to go through life's challenges by yourself. It is okay to take a moment, reach out and ask for help.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) empowers Veterans to connect with resources you may need now to better respond to challenges you may face later. Veterans are driven and resilient, but everyone needs help sometimes. It is not always easy to ask for help, but there are people who want to listen.

If you are having a difficult time, VA encourages you to reach out for peer-to-peer support, clinical care, or counseling.

### **Finding Support**

If you are looking for peer-to-peer support, clinical care, counseling or something else, you can reach out in the following ways:

- Call, text, or email a friend or family member to ask for support through a tough time. Veterans can find ways to get started on REACH OUT.
- Connect with a fellow Veteran to talk about what they are going through.
- Use these resources to find support through life challenges:
- VA Solid Start: Qualified Solid Start representatives will call Veterans three times in their first year of separation to walk through the benefits available to them.
- MyVA411: Veterans, their families, and caregivers can call 1-800-MyVA411 (800-698-2411) to easily access information on VA benefits and services.
- Make the Connection: More than 600 Veterans and family members from across the country have shared their stories of strength and recovery. It only takes a few seconds to find a story to which Veterans can relate.
- SAMHSA Behavioral Health Treatment Services: This tool, which is confidential and anonymous, allows people to search by ZIP code for local treatment facilities that focus on substance use/addiction and/or mental health issues.
- Self-Check Assessment: People cope with stressful situations in different ways. This confidential, anonymous risk assessment can show if stress and depression are affecting Veterans.
- National Call Center for Homeless Veterans: Veterans who are homeless or at risk of homelessness can get free, confidential support through the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans. Call or chat online 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

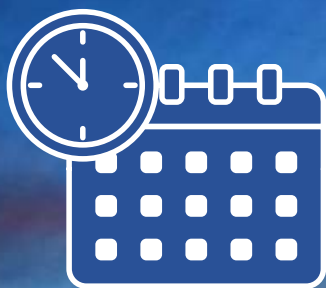
If you know a Veteran who is in crisis, call the Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 and press 1.

If you find yourself in crisis, do not hesitate to reach out for immediate help. Emergency care is available by calling 911 or going to your nearest emergency department. The Veterans Crisis Line is available 24/7 and can be reached by calling 1-800-273-8255 (Press 1 if you are a Veteran) or chat online here or text 838255.

988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Dial 988 and press 1 or go to <https://988lifeline.org/current-events/the-lifeline-and-988/>

and <https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/>

# VETERANS & ACTIVE DUTY MEET UP 2023



24th-27th  
**AUG**

## TACAMO Reunion Returns to OKC

DISCUSSIONS  
**AND INSIGHTS**

The purpose of the reunion is to inform TACAMO veterans and active duty about TACAMO Community Veteran Association. Discussions to consist of scholarships, history, membership, projects, ...etc.

More information  
coming soon



# *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**  
Community Veterans Association  
**Celebrating Our 25th Anniversary**

TACAMO Community Veterans Association  
PO Box 6126  
Ocean View, HI 96736



## **TACAMO**

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