

LINKS - [TACAMO.ORG](http://TACAMO.ORG) - [LINKED-IN](https://www.linkedin.com/company/tacamo/) - [PAX RIVER TESTER](https://www.paxriver.com/) - [NAVYTIMES.COM](https://www.navytimes.com/)





# NEW POLOS

**BUY NOW**



## AIRCREW

VQ-3

VQ-4

VQ-7

TACAMO



## NFO

VQ-3

VQ-4

VQ-7

TACAMO



## Pilot

VQ-3

VQ-4

VQ-7

TACAMO

# REUNION



## TACAMO Reunion Patuxent River



# TACAMO

Community Veterans Association

2022 Labor Day Weekend

"SEPT 1 to 4"

### September

[2022 Reunion Link](#)

#### 1 Thursday



Early Bird Arrivals:

- Check in & Evening Gathering Location TBA

click here

#### 2 Friday



- Golf Outing Location TBA

#### • TACAMO Room Commissioning at Pax River Museum

- Limited # of Tickets will be sold
- Time: 5:30 to 7:30pm



#### 3 Saturday



- TACAMO Day @ Pax River Museum
  - Time: 10AM to 5PM
  - Hall of Fame Inductions
  - Lunch for Purchase at Food Trucks
  - Flight-line Exhibitors & Static Displays



#### • Share Your Story - Remembering the Life Ron Carlson

- Time: 4PM to 7PM
- @ the home of Arlene & Ron Carlson
- Bring your stories to share



Evening Gathering @  
Pax River Ale House

#### 4 Sunday

### Mandatory Fun Day

FOOD, FRIENDS & FAMILY  
LOCATION TBA

LET'S  
CELEBRATE



#### 5 Monday

- Departures



[www.tacamo.org/2022tacamoreunion](http://www.tacamo.org/2022tacamoreunion)

POSSIBLE  
ADDITIONS



PENTAGON Tour: On  
hold for Thursday due to  
no access at this time



TENTATIVE Tour: E-6 &  
VQ-4 DET Facility tour, if  
Navy will support



# 2022 TACAMO Reunion Hotels

## 2 Hotels in Pax River

Rate is Good for:  
AUG 29th to SEPT 7  
Book by: Wednesday 8/1/2022

Both hotels **\$96** per night plus taxes  
Includes free breakfast, Wifi and parking

Location: Lexington Park MD



**Fairfield Inn**  
Room Types:  
1 King Bed or  
2 Double Beds

## Fairfield Inn by Marriott

Beautifully renovated hotel located next to Home2 Suites & across from the Patuxent Naval Air Station. Spacious guest rooms with a desk, microwave & refrigerator, in-room hair dryer, iron, ironing board and coffee makers Complimentary High Speed Internet Access & Free Breakfast  
Rooms Types: 1 King bed or 2 Double beds

**Fairfield Inn  
Reservation Link**



**WALKING DISTANCE TO PAX RIVER ALE HOUSE & TACAMO OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES AT HOME2 SUITES**

## Home2 Suites Inn

Beautifully renovated hotel located next to Fairfield Inn & across from the Patuxent Naval Air Station. Take advantage of your in-suite kitchen, hair dryer, iron, ironing board and coffee makers. Complimentary WiFi & breakfast  
Room Type: Queen Bed Studio



**Home2 Suites Inn**

Room Type:  
Queen Bed Studio

**Home2 Suites Inn  
Reservation Link**





# TACAMO Memorial Visitors

Located in the Honolulu, Hawaii in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, also known as the Punchbowl.

In 2017, TCVA dedicated the monument honoring the TACAMO fallen and remembering TACAMOPAC Crew 4 who perished off of Wake Island, June 21, 1977.

## *Etched on Memorial:*

DEDICATED TO ALL WHO SERVED THE TACAMO MISSION

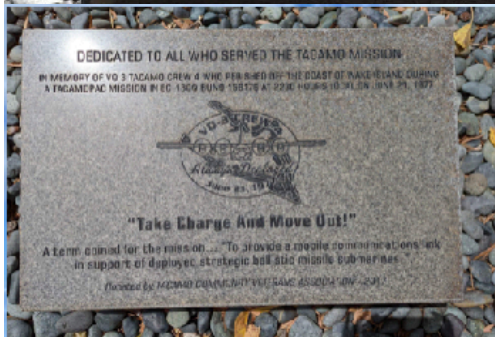
In memory of VQ-3 TACAMO Crew 4 who perished off the coast of Wake Island during a TACAMOPAC mission in EC-130Q BUNO 156176 at 2230 hours local on June 21, 1977



Left: Bill Osborne, VQ-3 March 1983 to April 1986

Below Left: Nicole White, daughter to Susan Barker White & niece of Andrew Barker (TACAMOPAC Crew 4)

Below Right: Chuck Moore, AT2 in VQ3 from 1975 to 1979





# TACAMO FAMILY



## Julie Thomas VQ-4 Aircrew, daughter of Peter Rourke

*Submitted by Pete Rourke, VQ-4 1983-'86 & 1990-'93 & Lockheed 1998-2015*

"Many of the VQ-4 aircrew over the past 20 years have likely met my Daughter, Julie Thomas. She provided logistic support to the alert crews as needed. Julie started working for the TACAMO DET in 1998, working there as a Supply Logistician issuing parts to VQ-4 crew dogs.

Julie started working for Boeing at Pax River in 1998. The E-6 Support contractors changed many times over the years, so she changed companies, but kept her job. She was instrumental in keeping the TACAMO parts database up to

date and training users. Julie has now accepted a new position and is leaving the program. She received a farewell gift from the VQ-4 Chief's Mess, which told me just how important she was to the Chief's community. Fair Winds and Following Seas to my TACAMO daughter."

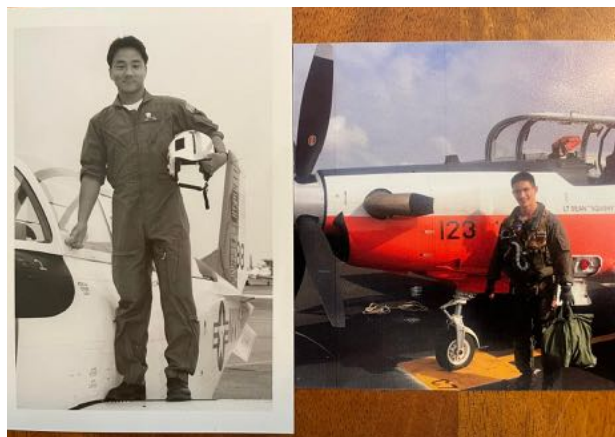


## Alexander Lee, son of Pete Lee

*Submitted by Pete Lee, VQ-3 June '85- Jan '90 An extended tour due to production issues with the E-6 and the squadron needing experienced Herc pilots to stay.*

"Recent events had me going through old photos that have been stashed away. Came across a black & white I've been looking for. Different airplanes, different generations but same squadron and flight. Squadron is VT-27, NAS Corpus Christi, commemorating first solo flights while in US Navy flight school. Would have loved to have flown his T-6 Texan. BZ son. My son now flies Cobra attack helicopters for USMC."

Photo: On left Pete Lee and on right, his son Alexander



## Keilty Family - Filled with Military Tradition

*Submitted by John "Irish" Keilty, VQ 3 1979 - 82, 1988-90, 1990-92, Wing Commander 1999-2001 & TACAMO Hall of Fame Inductee*

Photo on right: Jack's winging in Meridian Miss. (second from left) - now LCDR Jack "Uncle Rico" Keilty- F-18 super Hornet pilot VFA 211 Checkmates. Presently on USS Truman supporting NATO Operations in the Ukraine War. US Navy LSO of the Year 2021.

Married a high school girlfriend and has 3 beautiful little girls. (third from left): Chief Air Traffic Controller USNR Kim Keilty, (fourth from left):: Kate Keilty Morgan is an University Professor, who has been Head Swim coach at Aviano Air Base, Moody Air Force Base and will soon be Ramstein Air Force Base. (second from right): Chief Hospital Corpsman USNR Kelly Keilty. Emergency Room RN-BSN Nurse in Virginia Beach. & (first on right) LTCOL Nick Morgans ( Kates husband) Commanding Officer 38th Pararescue Squadron. In 2017 selected USAF Combat Rescue Officer of the Year.



Above photo: Kelly's Chief pinning ceremony (Jack, Irish, Chief, & Mom(Kim))  
Photo below Chief Pinning: Kim as honor recruit from Boot camp.



**"So proud of all of our servicemen and women." John "Irish" Keilty**

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## Team TACAMO, Pax Museum Room Set-up

### Additions to the TACAMO Room

Mike Vos took a week in February, to build corner cabinets with Joe Caruso. The cabinets will display models of a Herc and a Merc with trailing wires communicating with a submarine and a missile.

In April, Cheryl Vos took a few days out of her 2022 Reunion Planning to work on the patch/sticker border and added two new displays left: A rotating t-shirt and pins display and right: A TACAMOPAC Crew 4 display.



<https://www.tacamo.org/2022tacamoreunion>



## TACAMO Adventures

### "Blue Nose"

The "Order of the Blue Nose" is a Navy tradition which dictates that when Sailors cross into the Arctic Circle, they enter the realm of Boreas Rex, King of the North.

The crew list submitted by Jon Morrison

Nora Tyson, Murray Jones, Jeffery Jatozak, Kathryn Ozimek, Donald Morgan, Jon Morrison, Michael Huentas, Greg Church, Alvin Cruz, Craig Titus, Gregory Schumacher, Darrin Gienger, Shawn Mosqueda, Shaw Quin & Daniel Beurie.

POS	RANK	NAME
MC	LCDR	TYSON, NORA W
AC	LT	JONES, MURRAY K
	ENS	JATOZAK, JEFFERY T
	LT	SHIPLEY, JOE C
NAV	LCDR	OZIMEK, KATHRYN L K
FE	AD1	MORGAN, DONALD D
	AD1	MORRISON, JON E
	AE1	HUENTAS, MICHAEL A
ACS	RM2	CHURCH, GREG E
FT	AT2	CRUZ, ALVIN M
	AT1	TITUS, CRAIG A
	AT1	SCHUMACHER, GREGORY W
	AT3	GIENGER, DARRIN S
RO	AMS3	MOSQUEDA, SHAWN O
	AE1	QUINN, SHAW P
	AMS2	BEURIE, DANIEL J

AND NO OTHER



[Submit your Sea Stories Click Here](#)

### Iced In

At preflight time at a mid-south AFB, the crew found our Herc covered with ice. The FE called base ops for a deicing truck only to find out that, being mid-south, they did not have one. When the powers at large called the Operations Control Center, the instructions were, "get the closest deicing truck." The closest deicing truck was approximately 30 miles and about an hour away; cost an exorbitant amount to rent; and had a high per-mile cost to get to and from the AFB. The commercial deicer was ruled out and the guidance was, "Get the ice off the aircraft anyway you can." In a true Improvise, Adapt, Overcome spirit, the crew took the push brooms, went out the forward overhead escape hatch, and beat the ice into submission. As the ice



broke up, we swept it off the wing. Ice free, we continued our preflight and flew our mission.

### Mistaken Identity

During a stop at a northeastern AFB during the Iranian Hostage Crisis, the crew Flight Engineers (FE1, FE2) and the Reel Operator (RO) went to the club for dinner and some refreshment. It is important to note that FE2 was pure Italian with an olive complexion and black, curly hair. On the taxi ride back from the club, the seating was as follows: FE1, front right, FE2, rear right, RO rear left. We were chatting with the driver until FE2 made some crude remark. At that point, FE1 exclaims, "You Iranians, we cannot take you anywhere!" The cab driver looked over his shoulder, then did a double take. He did not talk to us for the rest of the trip. The guilty party will remember; the RO does.

Stories courtesy of John "Mom" Burgoon, VQ-3 1972-74, VQ-4 1977-80, VQ3 1981-84 & TCVA Secretary



## HerCs in Boneyard

Boneyard Safari shares photos of TACAMO HerCs in Graveyard of Boneyard Safari

**Boneyard Safari posted: "Some TACAMO humor for you, this is on a previous aircraft EC-130Q"**



Ramon Purcell, Honorary TACAMO Sailor & Video Producer of the VQ-3 TACAMOPAC Crew 4 Memorial Video, has introduced a C-130 Boneyard Safari sticker and TACAMO C-130 photos. Click [SHOP](#) to purchase yours today. Check out the photos of TACAMO's C-130s for sale on the website. Click on Link to [Purchase Photos](#).

# Updates



## 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>



## HELP TCVA COLLECT THE HISTORY OF TACAMO VETERANS



By entering your information you can ask for access to TACAMO Website and FB TCVA will accomplish two objectives: This will accomplish two objectives:

- 1) Collect TACAMO service history
- 2) Keep unauthorized people out.

**Link**  
**to Access Website**

## TCVA WANTS YOUR TACAMO MEMORABILIA

Don't throw them away, throw them our way. If you have TACAMO artifacts, please consider donating them to TCVA. [Click Here to donate TACAMO Memorabilia](#)

## Member Registration & Time in TACAMO

TACAMO Shipmates, Family Members, Industry Members & Civil Service Members who support(ed) TACAMO

First Name	Last Name	Middle Name
Duty Status *		Family Member(s) and to
Email address	Duty Status	

### Military Service

Squadron *	Command	Years in this Command i.e. 1979-72	Who did you serve with?
Squadron	Command	Years in this Command i.e. 1973-79	Who did you serve with?
Squadron	Command	Years in this Command i.e. 1973-72	Who did you serve with?

### Industry Partners

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

### Civil Service

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

Comments

Submit



## Update: Hearing Loss & Tinnitus Claims

Aloha TACAMO shipmates,

I was reminded by my VSO (Veterans Service Officer), in a recent conversation, that the Dept. of Veterans Affairs is the single largest bureaucracy in our government. And, that they receive thousands of disability claims per day. "Patience is required".



My case has been on file for over two years now. I have submitted all of the evidence that TCVA has compiled and offered to our membership, as well as a "buddy letter" from a long time colleague and a second VA sanctioned hearing test. I also sent a firmly written letter stating my sincerity and stated that I was insulted that my claim was initially denied. My VSO believes that I have made a good case and has elevated it to the next level of review.

I asked what my next step would be, should I be denied again. She responded that a hearing before a judge was the next step. And if he/she denies ... it's time to "suit up" and hire a lawyer.

**Moving forward ... TCVA is working on getting a VSO to attend the September reunion to answer questions and guide our members to the correct people and forms necessary to file and track claims.**

To track your claims go to <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 [tacamocommunity@gmail.com](mailto:tacamocommunity@gmail.com) to request the evidence package to support your claim.

Several of our members have been successful and are considered disabled from hearing loss and tinnitus. Others have been denied this status with no real evidence to support the denial. Stay strong, shipmates! Together we can get the recognition of our common, service-related injury.

Mike Vos, TCVA Executive Director and Founding Member

# TACAMO Career

**JOHN ALGER**, One-Tour Wonder (*Only Served One Tour*) & TCVA Vice President for Fleet Merchandising



**What influenced your decision to join the military?** Navy recruiting team visited the ERAU campus every semester, administering exams and taking applications.

**What was your service career path?** Aviation Officer Candidate School, pilot pipeline, selected for jets. Earned wings in 1974 at NAS Chase then assigned as an instructor to VT-24 flying the TA-4J Advanced Jet trainer. Next came an assignment to the NAS Chase Training Department in charge of all training devices on the station including 16 flight simulators. In 1979 I went to VA-174 for transition to the A-7E. That didn't work out and I changed designator to NFO (1320). This took me to VQ-3 following stops in Newport RI and Patuxent River MD. The squadron was less than happy that I was not attending NAV school in Mather. However, 6 months after reporting aboard I was qualified 1<sup>st</sup> NAV and a couple of months later a NAV instructor.

**Of the medals, awards, and qualification badges or devices you received, what is the most meaningful to you? Why?** My pilot wings – a lot of work went into earning those.

**Did you participate in combat operations? If so, could you describe those which were significant to you?** No. When I earned my wings in AUG 74 Vietnam was winding down. One of the reasons I got stuck in the Training Command.

**Of the TACAMO squadrons you were assigned to, which one evokes the fondest memories? Why?** VQ-3 – the only one I was in!



**What particular memory stands out from your entire service career? Why?** That would have to be my first carrier qualification. Because the USS Lexington was in a yard period when I went through basic jet (T-2C), we were just field qualified and moved on to advanced jet (TA-4J). Therefore, my first qual period was in the TA-4J. A few years later, the squadron allowed me to qual again prior to reporting to VA-174 at NAS Cecil.

**Which individual from your TACAMO service stands out as the one who had the biggest impact on you?**

**Why?** That would be two: John Keilty and Vern Lochausen. John was plane commander on my crew and was a great motivator for the entire crew. He loved fun but that never got in the way of our business. Vern came a bit later after we moved to Hawaii. His influence was more subtle and not realized until later, but he gave me the confidence that I was better than some others thought.

**How has military service influenced the way you have approached your life and career?** I began my aviation career at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University which lead me to the Navy. The skills learned at both gave me a career that spanned nearly 50 years.

**In what ways has TCVA helped you maintain a bond with your service and those you served with?** At our reunions we have re-connected with past friends and made many new ones!



## 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?



# NAS Patuxent River TESTER



## Naval Air Station Patuxent River TESTER

Sidorovich recognized  
with NMCSA

Page 2

Providing strategic  
nuclear comms

Page 3

MQ-25 Stingray  
ground control

Page 4



Vol. 79, No. 8

Celebrating 78 Years of Community Partnership

February 24, 2022

## Tester ends production after 79 years

Dear Readers,

NAS Patuxent River's Tester newspaper will be ending its production run after 79 years. In its place, Adams Publishing Group will run a monthly magazine featuring news from NAS Patuxent River and its mission partners.

In its nearly 80-year run, Tester has featured information from groundbreaking achievements in flight to the personal achievements of staff and residents. We appreciate our readers sticking with us all this time, and the personnel who have made the publication what it is.

We continue to release information on our social media feeds at [www.facebook.com/NASPatuxentRiver](https://www.facebook.com/NASPatuxentRiver) on Facebook, @NASPatuxentRiverPAO on Twitter, and nas\_patuxent\_river, and @nas\_patuxent\_river on Instagram. Other sources for Pax River information is available on our command DVIDS page at <https://www.dvidshub.net/unit/NASPR> and on the CNIC website at [https://www.cnic.navy.mil/regions/ndw/installations/nas\\_patuxent\\_river/news/news\\_releases.html](https://www.cnic.navy.mil/regions/ndw/installations/nas_patuxent_river/news/news_releases.html).

Very Sincerely,

Patrick Gordon

NAS Patuxent River Public Affairs Officer

## SAD NEWS REPORT

Tester has ended publication.  
Fitting TACAMO made it in, again.



The E-6B Mercury provides an important link in the nation's strategic nuclear deterrence.

U.S. NAVY PHOTOS BY ERIK HILDEBRANDT

## Providing strategic nuclear communications link now, future

From NAVAIR Public Affairs

The E-6B Mercury provides an important link in the nation's strategic nuclear deterrence. It allows survivable communication between the president and the triad of nuclear weapon systems — bombers, missile fields, and ballistic missile submarines.

Sustaining this mission while preparing for the future is becoming even more important as global competition grows.

"This is a critical time for our country," said Chief of Naval Operations Operations Adm. Mike Gilday in a prepared statement to the House Appropriations Committee, Jan. 12. "The People's Republic of China and Russia are using all elements of their national power to undermine U.S. interests in the global commons."

Keeping the link of communication open is a "no-fail" mission and one the Airborne Strategic Command, Control and Communications Program Office continues to help accomplish by sustaining the E-6B while also preparing for the future with a recapitalization aircraft.

"Our people understand the mission and the importance of sustaining this vital asset," said Capt. Adam Scott, program manager. "They know why these aircraft always need to be ready to go."

During the past year, the program office made several significant sustainment efforts to support the fleet. Spar chord corrosion and stress corrosion cracks were discovered during in-service and depot maintenance. The current spar chord material became obsolete and the team quickly qualified a new material. Manufacturing new spar chords required converting the original 2D drawings into 3D digital files.

An additively manufactured fuel dump manifold was approved for use on the aircraft. The component replaces casted hardware that has been a sustainment concern while saving lead-time over the re-development of traditional casting tooling.

"Being able to look at and attack these sustainment issues as an enterprise has really helped us," Scott said. "The collaboration across

the Naval Aviation Enterprise has been invaluable."

In September, the fully qualified additively manufactured water separator was approved for use on fleet aircraft. The units are replacing legacy separators that had been a top concern for the past two years.

The program procured a United Kingdom E-3D for use as an E-6B trainer aircraft, which will help increase aircraft availability and readiness.

"The aging aircraft is making it more of a challenge to maintain but we continue to find ways to get the job done and provide operational readiness," Scott said.

The airframe has been around for more than three decades with the Navy accepting the first E-6A in 1989 to perform the Take Charge and Move Out mission. The aircraft were then modified into the E-6B with added workstations and specialized equipment. The first E-6B aircraft arrived in 1997 with the fleet modification complete by 2003.

"Sustaining our readiness has never been more vital to our nation's future," Gilday said. "Meanwhile, our force design requires a relentless focus on modernization to keep our platforms relevant."

With that in mind, the program has been working on a recapitalization aircraft (E-XX) that will take over the TACAMO mission. The program will use a variant of the militarized C-130J Super Hercules for E-XX TACAMO testing.

The Department of Defense currently uses the C-130J in multiple services, and it is deployed at various bases worldwide. The program office will be acquiring three non-configured aircraft for testing.

The program is also working on communications and mission systems integration contracts for the recapitalization aircraft to help modernize the strategic nuclear deterrent.

"For the nation and our allies, we are making sure the president can reach our strategic forces now and in the future," Scott said.



Let's celeb



# TACAMO ACTIVE DUTY

# CELEBRATE



February 6, 2022  
Celebrated 34 Years



March 11, 2022  
Celebrated 29 Years

## VQ-3 May, 2022 Change of Command



*The Commanding Officer  
Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron THREE  
requests the pleasure of your company at his  
Change of Command Ceremony where  
Commander Conor Heely, United States Navy  
will relieve  
Commander Roger Davis, United States Navy*



## Celebrate Retired Vice Admiral Robin Braun



### DOD ANNOUNCES DACOWITS RESTORATION AND NEW LEADERSHIP CADRE

March 22, 2022

Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III has appointed Ms. Shelly O'Neill Stoneman to serve as the new Chair of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS) and lead its restoration. Stoneman is a seasoned organizational leader and government affairs professional with two decades of executive branch and congressional experience on defense and foreign policy matters.

In addition to Ms. Stoneman, the DACOWITS' leadership cadre will include:

• **DACOWITS Vice Chair, Retired Vice Admiral Robin R. Braun, U.S. Navy** (She was assigned to Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron (VQ) 3, NAS

Barbers Point, Hawaii, serving as a mission commander, aircraft commander, and instructor pilot in the EC-130Q aircraft and providing airborne communications to strategic forces.)

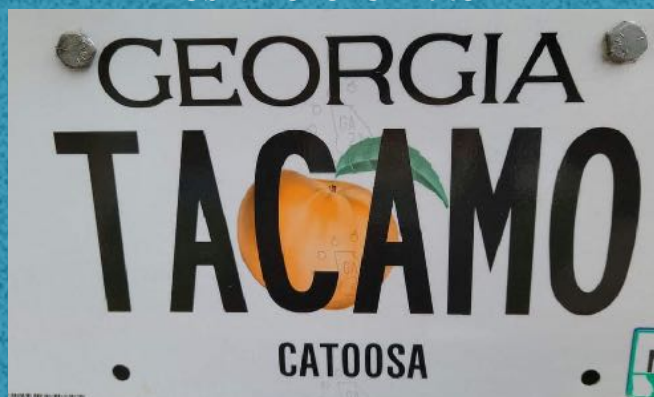
- DACOWITS Recruitment and Retention Subcommittee Chair, Retired Lieutenant General Kevin W. Mangum, U.S. Army
- DACOWITS Employment and Integration Subcommittee Chair, Retired Command Master Chief Octavia D. Harris, U.S. Navy
- DACOWITS Well-Being and Treatment Subcommittee Chair, Retired Brigadier General Jarisse J. Sanborn, U.S. Air Force

The entire story can be found by going to <https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/2974832/dod-announces-dacowits-restoration-and-new-leadership-cadre/>

### John "Mom" Burgoon's Plate



### Bob Wicker's Plate



LICENSE PLATES  
SUBMITTED AS OF THE  
LAST NEWSLETTER

Other Submitted Plates...

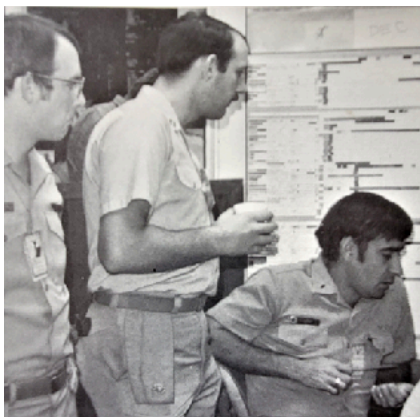
[Click Here](#)



### Jim Barney's Plate



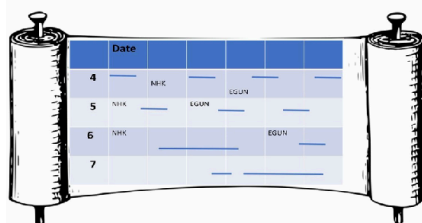
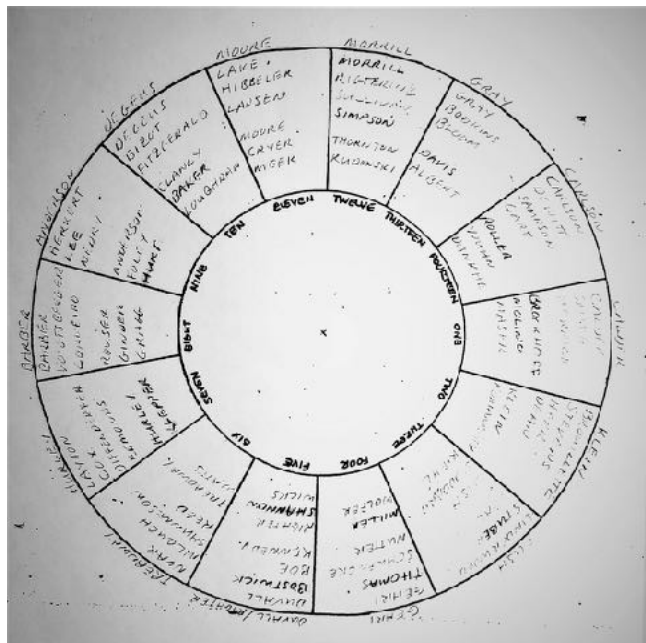
## Good Times



### FLASHBACK FRIDAY:

Submitted by Vern Lochausen, TCVA Historian View conversation on FB page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/tacamo.veterans>

The secret/sacred 'scroll' was a tool developed in OPS to layout 100% Coverage. Literally a roll of graph paper with a green grid, The Scroll was created by a group of RM and JOs, graphically displaying crew, date and time, mission length, departure and landing locations and duration of crew rest. Then the standard classified message to bases were created by the RMs and sent out. And then when all approved the whole schedule went to headquarters. Bribes, begging, snivel chits, favors, beers, seniority, etc. sometimes influenced who went where when. The Crew Wheel ensured key jobs in the squadron, DH



and assistant were 'port and starboard' in the office to keep things running. When computers came in the 80, as brand new OPS BOSS in 3, I scrolled down the print out with a ruler and discovered we had scheduled a 'BUST' or gap in coverage. I then created a cardboard template with windows cut out showing first crew's land time and next crew's takeoff so I could ensure they overlapped. My Flight Officer, LT Mark Barber had it bronzed and presented at my farewell. Ah.....those were the days!

Submitted by Joe Caruso: Years ago, these former VQ-3 and VQ-4 Skippers held a 4 striper reunion of their own at a Wing Change of Command. Photo of George Hoffer, Sue Davies, Nora Tyson, Bill Okoniewski and Jay Gallamore







**BUY NOW**

**ON SALE NOW**

**Great gift for the family!**

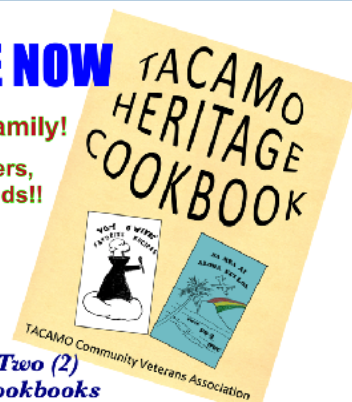
**Don't forget teachers,  
neighbors and friends!!**

TCVA is proud to offer a treasured collection of family recipes. If your original VQ-3 or VQ-4 cookbook is tattered and torn, you are going to want this cookbook.

The TACAMO Heritage Cookbook recipes are compiled from the VQ-4 Officers Wives Club, VQ-4 All Wives Club, VQ-3 Officers Wives Club, and TACAMO family recipes from Guam, Hawaii, Patuxent River, and Oklahoma.

REEL TACAMO CHOW (RTC) shares recipes from Reel Operators and other crew positions who cooked and fed their crews inflight and in the hooch. We are grateful for their contributions to the crews' well-being and the recipes in this cookbook. Spoiler Alert, there are honest Sea Stories scattered throughout the book.

Over 200 pages of appetizers, soups, salads, side dishes, main dishes, desserts, gravy and sauces. The Reel TACAMO Chow features recipes for the 16-20 person crews, suitable for large gatherings.

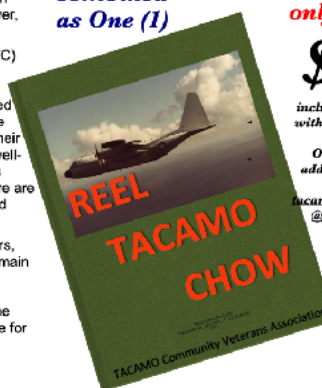


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**EC-130Q Form**

### E-6

- E-6A
- E-6B

**E-6 Form**



# Letter from Executive Director

## 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.**

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# TACAMO Family

Aloha TACAMO Family,

Yes, we are family, a family of families, all joined together by our mission and common TACAMO experience. Whether you are/were deploying flight crew, ground pounder, or detachment personnel, or served the mission as civilian or industry worker, families were left back home. Even if it was for a short time, our families were back home stayed strong, supported the mission, and your commitment to your job. The former "wives clubs" and now "spouse clubs" got together to provide additional support for the other families who were temporarily without their "sailor". Whether it was to watching the kids while shopping was done, or picking up a child from school, or just to lending an ear to a lonely and frustrated neighbor, The TACAMO families supported and continue to support each other.

TCVA wants to recognize the unsung heroes' support and sacrifices that keep morale high and make life a little easier for the entire community. Spouses and children are as much a members of our Association as the sailor/veteran.

We were all brought together accidentally by a detailer selected by our qualifications and availability. It was each of us, as individuals, who found the way to be the right cog on the wheel, to drive our mission to success. A 'Band of Brothers/Sisters', working together, to perform a difficult, complex, and significant mission. That spirit of companionship extended beyond the mission, to the individuals and their families that we relied on to keep us safe, in flight, and in our neighborhoods. This is the glue that holds this community together.

Again this year, we celebrate this fraternity, after a few years of COVID restrictions. Anxious to hug our longtime friends and raise a glass to those who couldn't attend. This is the spirit that Bill "Buff" Crowell inspired with his many reunion picnics. That spirit was the genesis of our Association. We will raise a glass to Buff and celebrate the family he helped bring together. Our TACAMO family!



Mike Vos

See you in September,

Mike

\*\*\*\*\*



**Family Memory Submitted by John Burgoon:** "I am sure the flight crews did not realize how much the deployments affected the home life. We were doing our jobs. Bill hammered it home one day in Hawaii. VQ-3 held its children's Christmas party in the hangar. Among the gifts the kids got were two miniature C-130s. Soon after that, the family got in the car to go somewhere. Patty had two C-130s, Bill had one. Patty asked Bill where his other C-130 was. Without missing a beat, Bill replied, "It's deployed!"

Linda and I just looked at each other in amazement." *John "Mom" Burgoon, VQ-3 1972-74, VQ-4 1977-80, VQ3 1981-84 & TCVA Secretary*

## ***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 nights,

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**

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# Veterans Benefits

**VA****U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs****VA » Veterans Benefits Administration » Benefits A-Z**

## Benefits A-Z

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

**All links to VA Benefits, Click Here:**

**<https://www.benefits.va.gov/atoz/>**



### [VA Burial Benefits And Memorial Items | Veterans Affairs](https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials)

<https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials>

**VA burial benefits can help service members, Veterans, and their family members plan and pay for a burial or memorial service in a VA Cemetery...** you are guaranteed a space in that cemetery, but not a specific spot. Spot is assigned when someone notifies the cemetery that the veteran has passed. Having that arranged takes part of the load off the family. The burials-memorials link also explains how to apply for a burial allowance to help pay for a Veteran's funeral services, burial, and transportation costs.