



Congratulations to the 2019 TACAMO HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

TCVA SELECTS FIRST MARRIED COUPLE INTO TACAMO HALL OF FAME



TACAMO Sailor — Dorsey Martin & Deb Martin — TACAMO Sailor



**Bill Okoniewski
TACAMO Sailor**



**Jay Gallamore
TACAMO Sailor**



**Jay McCormick
TACAMO
Government
Civilian &
Posthumous**



**Roger Kilgore
TACAMO Contractor**



Join TCVA in DC on
Saturday, September 5,
2020 at the Hyatt
Regency to Celebrate the
2019 TACAMO Hall of
Fame Inductees

[Link to Reunion Information](#)



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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From the Executive Director

Aloha TACAMO Shipmates,

2019 has been a great year for TCVA. Dennis "Coach" Warren moved into the Vice President slot, seamlessly. His work towards our getting Pensacola's Naval Aviation Museum to recognize TACAMO is only equaled by his 204 plus hours of TCVA volunteer time to earn Southwest Airlines tickets for TCVA to raffle off, with that sort of work. Thanks, Coach!



Mike Vos

At Pensacola last May, we honored another great shipmate, Ron Carlson and his trusty "Round-the-World" steed from 1964, EC-130/G BUNO 151891. Our friends at the Pensacola's Naval Aviation Museum had no real idea how significant their "Fat Albert" display truly was. But, the large TCVA turnout at the museum and the presentation that Vern Lochausen gave educated them not only about 891, but also the passion the TACAMO community has for its history and the significance to our nation's strategic defense.

Now, we look forward to making an impact at the Patuxent River Naval Air Museum. Our exhibit there promises to be ready to visit by the time of the 2020 reunion. Our mission is to educate museum visitors about the important mission we all participated in and is still 'standing the watch' for the future.

That said, the Barbers Point Naval Aviation museum is in peril. Fortunately, our exhibit there is reasonably movable. We may be in search of a new home for it somewhere nearby. Sadly, developers are looking at other purposes for the land that the museum sits on. The museum's curator and greatest advocate, honorary TACAMO shipmate, Brad Hayes is doing his best to keep the museum intact. TCVA is helping Brad with his efforts the best we can. Semper Fi, Brad!

Congratulations are due to the 'Class of 2019 inductees into the TACAMO Hall of Fame. Please see the article in this newsletter. Our Hall of Fame is representative of a cadre of shipmates, contractors and leaders that helped make the TACAMO mission viable. If you were a mentor or protege or shipmate of a Hall of Famer, we hope you recognize the contribution they've made to our important mission. Please see page 5 for nomination information.

I'd like to thank the entire TCVA membership for their hearty participation in all of our activities. From reunions to raffles, it's y'all that make this Association work and help give the TCVA's Board of Directors a purpose.

Happy New Year! We hope to see you at the 2020 reunion in Fairfax, VA and Pax River in September.

Stay safe and healthy,
 Mike



REQUEST TO JOIN

Due to the overwhelming hacks of FB pages being stolen, to join the TCVA FB page or group TCVA has set up a few questions to ID you are from TACAMO. The questions **must** answered at the time of your request to join.

If the questions are not answer, no access will be given. TCVA has received may friend request and send FB messages individuals. Once the information is obtained, the request will approved. Thanks for your understanding on this situation.

TCVA Facebook Page
 TCVA Facebook



Naval Air Museum Barbers Point



Brad Hayes,
Executive Director
at Naval Air
Museum Barbers
Point and has been
working at the
museum for over 20
years. Brad is also a
Marine Veteran & a
**Honorary
TACAMO Sailor.**

Naval Air Museum Barbers Point is being wrongfully evicted from our home of 20 years at Kalaeloa Airport on the former NAS Barbers Point. The museum was 1998 technical and operational in 1999.

We have solid documentation and legal precedence that the State of Hawaii Airport Division's position is completely defective and we are seeking legal counsel for protection and defense against this wrongful eviction. We need your help in supporting our non-profit in funding this legal defense. Any and all donations you can make will help us and we thank you in advance.

Our history here at the former NAS Barbers Point should never be forgotten. Our Veteran's, KIA, WIA, MIA and BNR (Bodies not recovered) should NEVER be forgotten. Our children and students should not miss out on learning their history. Preservation of our historical aircraft and the memories we share, fulfill that mission.

More information about Naval Air Museum Barbers Point (Hawaii Museum of Flying): Our mission is to preserve and share the history of the former Naval Air Station Barbers Point and other Navy and Marine bases and aviators in the Hawaii region. We are dedicated to providing in-depth, hands-on experiences that allow visitors and students to engage with history, appreciate the work and sacrifices of American service members, learn important scientific concepts, and experience the world of aviation.

Mahalo from all of us at Naval Air Museum Barbers Point! Brad Hayes

Save Naval Air Museum Barbers & the History of VQ-3!!

View video

**ON 17 SEPTEMBER 2019
THE NAVAL AIR MUSEUM
BARBERS POINT
RECEIVED AN EVICTION LETTER
FROM HAWAII**

NAVAL AIR STATION BARBERS POINT 1942-

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

**BRAD HAYES & OTHERS HELP YOU
UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF
THE MUSEUM IN THIS VIDEO**



Naval Air Museum Barbers Point

Save Naval Air Museum Barbers & the VQ-3 History



Kimberly DeBartelo is the Public Affairs Officer/Marketing & BOD Member at Naval Air Museum Barbers Point is looking for your support to save the 20 year museum. Kimberly is a member of the TACAMO Family by marriage and a Veteran based at Barbers Point in HSL-37 from 1984 to '88. The museum educates and is home to many artifacts, including the TACAMO VQ-3 Display. In 2016, TCVA revealed the history of TACAMO

and VQ-3 on a history display that stands outside the office of the museum. This display of history will need to be moved or maybe the DOT will dismantle for trash.

Help save the TACAMO history and all the work Brad Hayes has put into this museum since found in 1998 and opening in 1999. A museum filled with the history of Barbers Point.

GoFund Me Link & FB Page

Save the VQ-3 History!!

Naval Air Museum Barbers Point Exhibit

TCVA is proud to announce the creation of an exhibit at Naval Air Museum Barbers Point. An outdoor information kiosk sitting near Hangar 110, the home of VQ-3 (1980-1992) & VR-21 DET. It commemorates the history and shipmates that "stood the guard" over the Pacific and the transition from the Herc to the Merc.

Designed to be a permanent marker on the old NAS Barbers Point base. The kiosk was designed and constructed by Mike

Vos. The photo display was created and assembled by Cheryl Vos. It's a recognition of the people that worked and played on this little corner of paradise.

Special thanks goes to Brad Hayes, the executive director and curator of the museum. Brad was totally supportive of the project and provided logistic support, as well. In thanks, TCVA awarded Brad with the dubious honor of "Honorary TACAMO Sailor". Welcome aboard, Brad.



TACAMO HoF & Membership

2020 NOMINATIONS DUE JUNE 1

Presentation of TACAMO Hall of Fame Inductees will be held at the 2020 Reunion TACAMO Hall of Fame Banquet September 5th at the [Hyatt Regency Dulles, VA](#). Nominations can be Submitted Year Round



Criteria for Induction

Guidelines for TCVA Hall of Fame induction:

- Minimum 2 tours in TACAMO
- Contributed to the mission/aircraft/morale/good reputation of TACAMO
- Technical/professional/personal leadership - a mentor
- Performed task or event that shaped the TACAMO mission
- Community Service
- Generally recognized as

deserving of this award

Categories

- TACAMO Sailor
- Industry Partner
- Government Support
- Posthumous
- Community Service

SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATIONS

+ [ONLINE CLICK HERE](#)

+ [WORD DOC CLICK HERE](#)

TACAMO Community Veterans Association

Home [Join TCVA or renew your Membership](#) [2020 TACAMO Reunion](#)

Pay Membership

Fill in information below via Paypal or mail them to
TCVA, PO Box 6126, Ocean View, HI 96737

TCVA Membership \$20 per year
Your annual tax deductible contribution of \$20 helps us keep the lights on and the website running.

*Email Address
*First Name
*Last Name

[Submit to pay \\$20.00](#) [Click Submit and a NEW Tab will Open for you to Pay](#)

\$20 per year supports TACAMO history, displays, events, and much more research and projects.

Every membership strengthens the association's goals.

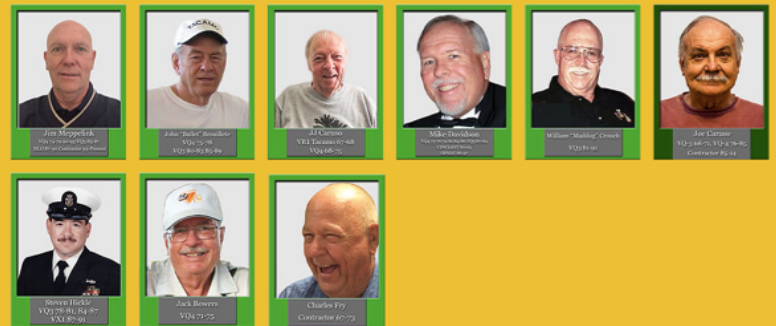
Whether you have the time or not to be personally involved, your membership dues support the actions of TCVA members who work to better the association, reunions, and preserve TACAMO's history. As a member, you make everything we do possible.

Current TCVA Members

As a member you can have your picture posted on this page. If you wish to be added, please email Joe Caruso with a picture and your Tacamo history. No need to crop the picture, Joe will edit it and combine it along with the text in the attached format. Please email it to Joe.Caruso.Membership@Tacamo.org

Joe Caruso, TCVA Treasurer & Membership

CLICK ON THE PHOTO TO VIEW TACAMO HISTORY



To Join or Renew your membership go to tacamo.org. Click on "About" and scroll down to Join TCVA, this will take you to a PayPal page to allow you to make your annual contribution. Dues can also be mailed via check to TCVA, PO Box 6126, Ocean View, HI 96737. Membership dues are deductible for income tax purposes.

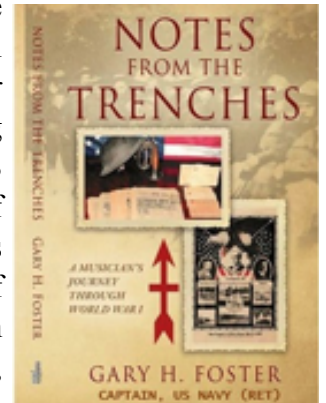
As an active member, your photo can be added to the TACAMO site. If you wish for your photo to be added to the Members page, please email your picture and TACAMO history to Joe Caruso @ tacamocommunity@gmail.com. No need to crop the picture, Joe will edit it and combine it along with the text as seen above.

TACAMO STORY

Former Shadow Skipper Follows Grandfather's World War I Footsteps

By Gary Foster, Captain, USN (Ret)

Former Shadow Skipper (2004-2005) Captain Gary Foster, USN (Ret) and his wife Melodie recently visited France where they visited friends that they met under some unusual circumstances. What began with a book about a La Crosse, Wisconsin, native and former Mayor of the Foster's hometown of Neillsville, Wisconsin, who served in the Army during World War I has developed into a chance friendship with two French natives and a retired US Marine Corps Sergeant Major who runs the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery in the village of Seringes-et-Nesles, located about 60 miles northeast of Paris, France. The book titled "Notes From the Trenches: A Musician's Journey Through World War I," published in December of 2017, is an account of Leo W. Foster, a bugler with Company C of the 121st Machine Gun Battalion, US Army 32nd Division. Captain Foster, the grandson of WWI veteran Leo Foster, wrote the book based on letters that Leo had written to his mother and sisters during the war.



Recovered dog tag
belonging to Bugler Leo
Foster

In Château-Thierry, France, a young man named Castelyann "Yann" Moreno is a World War I enthusiast and historian in his own right. He collects artifacts and puts them on display to honor the sacrifice made by the Doughboys who fought over 100 years ago. In November of 2018, a friend and fellow artifact collector of his found the remains of a container in a heavily wooded area near the town of Le Charnel, France. What was once housed in the container, most likely a wooden box, had rotted away and left a stash of old metal dog tags from soldiers who were assigned to Company C of the 121st Machine Gun Battalion. The tags were found by a metal

detector in the woods and buried approximately two feet in the area where the soldiers were staying prior to the Aisne Marne offensive that began in late July of 1918. Yann and another friend of his whose name is Mathieu "Mat" Baudoin, another World War I enthusiast and historian, began an exhaustive search to identify the dog tags and find out where each of the soldiers had come from to see if they could put together a story of the soldiers' war experience. Both Yann and Mat are war soldier reenactors who don French and American Doughboy uniforms for various celebrations, such as Armistice Day on November 11th each year.



Yann (left) and Mat (center) at
2018 Centennial Armistice Day
celebration

Yann conducted numerous Google searches online and Mat contacted the Wisconsin Veterans Museum in Madison attempting to establish the origin of each of the soldiers. A number of the dog tags yielded La Crosse as the city of origin of soldiers who were originally serving in the Wisconsin National Guard and in the "Old Wisconsin" 3rd regiment, and reassigned into the 32nd Division, which was created in September of 1917 in Waco, Texas. In his research, Yann came across some pictures online of bugler Leo Foster's shadowbox and saw pictures from Captain Foster's book. By chance and using Facebook, Yann then established a connection with Gary, but he does not speak fluent English. Mat works for the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC) Oise-Aisne Cemetery and has picked up the English language, so he contacted Gary and began a dialogue centered around the 121st MG Battalion. Mat's boss at the Cemetery is Retired US Marine Corps Sergeant Major Hubert "Bert" Caloud, who commended Mat and Yann on their extensive project.



Sgt Maj Bert Caloud (ret) USMC, Capt Gary
Foster, (ret) USN, and Mathieu Baudoin retiring
colors at the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery
November 10, 2019

With Yann's help, Mat built a plaque that displays all of the dog tags that were found. All of the tags have been physically altered in one way or another prior to being buried in the dirt, and this was done in 1918 before the Aisne Marne offensive began. It was most likely done as a protective measure to keep information from falling into German hands if a soldier was killed or captured. Only one of the soldiers from Co. C killed in action is buried at the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery.

Continued on page 7

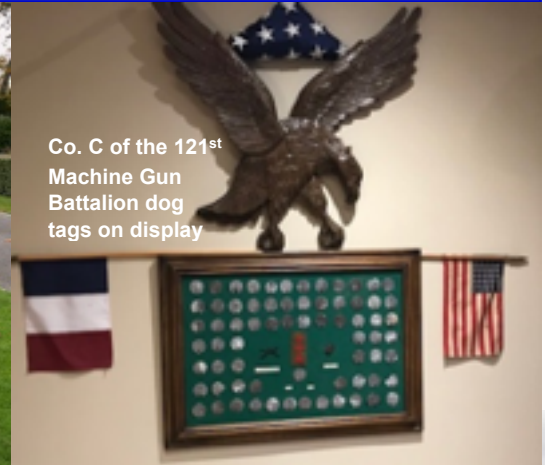
TACAMO STORY

Continued from page 6

In November of this year, Gary and Melodie met Bert, Mat, and Yann and their families. They toured the battlefield where Leo Foster was wounded in action on August 1st, 1918, and declared killed in action by mistake. They were taken to the exact location where the dog tags were found. The wooden X marks the spot where they were located by a man named Jean-Pierre.



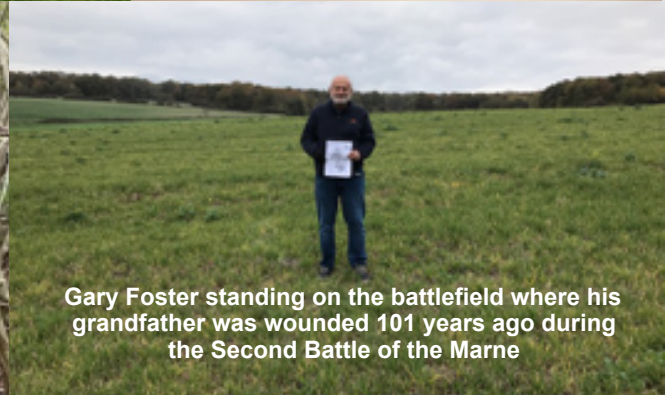
Mat, Gary, Bert paying tribute to Private Bert Harpham, the only casualty from Co. C, 121st Machine Gun Battalion buried at Oise Aisne Cemetery



Co. C of the 121st Machine Gun Battalion dog tags on display



L to R: Yann, Jean-Pierre's wife Evelyne, Gary Foster, Jean-Pierre, Mat



Gary Foster standing on the battlefield where his grandfather was wounded 101 years ago during the Second Battle of the Marne

The following picture shows Gary and Melodie pointing north towards the battlefield just outside the town of Cierges, France. Comparing this photograph to a picture from roughly the same location back in 1918, the battlefield was an ominous open field on a 30 degree slope. The German army was solidly in command at the top of the hill. The wooded area was known as Bellevue Farm. There were numerous casualties on this date, including several men from the Neillsville, Wisconsin, area fighting for the 32nd Division.



Gary and Melodie Foster in Cierges, France



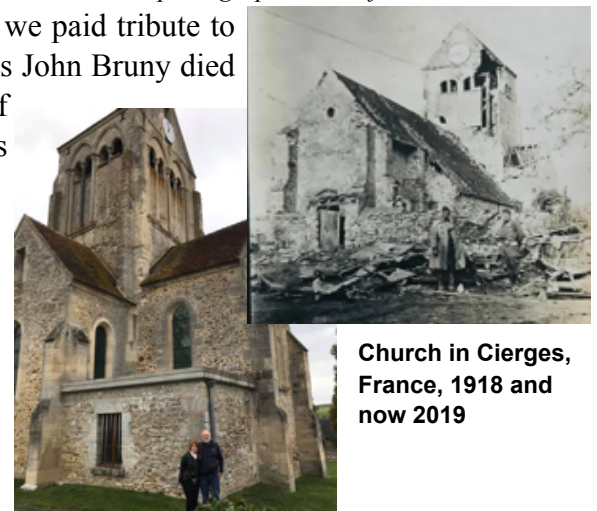
The Second Battle of the Marne Battlefield north of Cierges, France

Notice the house to the right in the above picture. The same house is still standing, as it is visible in the photograph, below, from 1918.

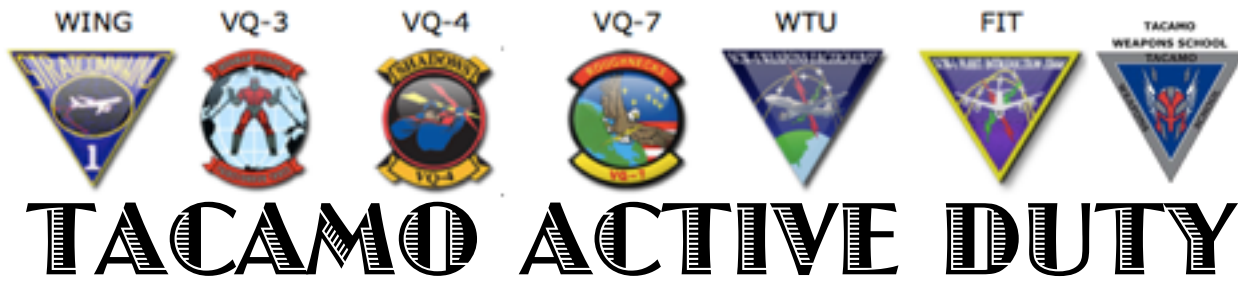
While visiting the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery in Seringes-et-Nesles, we paid tribute to two soldiers from the Neillsville area that died in France. Private 1st Class John Bruny died in March of 1918, shortly after arriving in France. He was a casualty of the pandemic Spanish Flu, which killed hundreds of soldiers and millions of people world-wide from 1917-1919. *Continued on page 10*



The Foster's paying tribute to soldiers from their hometown



Church in Cierges, France, 1918 and now 2019



TACAMO Active Duty UPCOMING EVENTS

- 3JAN20** ABEC Milless Retirement Ceremony, 1030, CNATT HiBay
10Jan20 AWFC Scott Barrow Retirement Ceremony, 1000, CNATT HiBay
22Jan20 Rear Admiral Daniel W. Dwyer, Chief of Naval Air Training visit

VQ-7 CELEBRATES 20 YEARS – 11 FEBRUARY 2020

Formerly known as the Naval Training Support Unit, and established as a fleet replacement squadron seven on 11 February 2000, VQ-7 is the aircrew training command of Strategic Communications Wing 1. The goal of the VQ-7 Roughnecks provides a constant flow of highly qualified aircrew to TACAMO's operational squadrons, VQ-3 & VQ-4.

VQ-7 accepts students from initial entry, advanced training pipelines, or from other U.S. Navy fleet platforms. These students are tasked with completing four to twelve months of rigorous training, ensuring proficiency in their respective aviation specialties. Only after mastering their syllabus and passing final evaluations will they be sent to the operational squadrons to serve as aircrew on the E-6B.

To accomplish this training and provide the fleet with the best possible product, an elite handpicked corps of instructors and staff work nearly around the clock. VQ-7 uses a myriad of tools to execute aircrew training, including classrooms, laboratories, E-6B aircraft, full motion high fidelity flight simulators, weapons systems trainers, and various computer-based training aids. In addition, as the E-6B model manager, VQ-7 is charged with ensuring training and operational standardization among all users of the E-6B aircraft weapons system.

The foundation of an effective force is always solid training, and training begins, and continues, with the Roughnecks of VQ-7. Adapting daily with the ever-changing threat to our nation's defenses, the professionals of VQ-7 stand ready to train the next generation of our country's servicemen and women.

NTSU Officer in Charge

CDR Jack Pohl
 CDR Mark Peterson
 CDR Edward M. Barber
 CDR Jay S. Gallamore
 CDR Richard J. Coston
 CDR Christopher L. Frasse

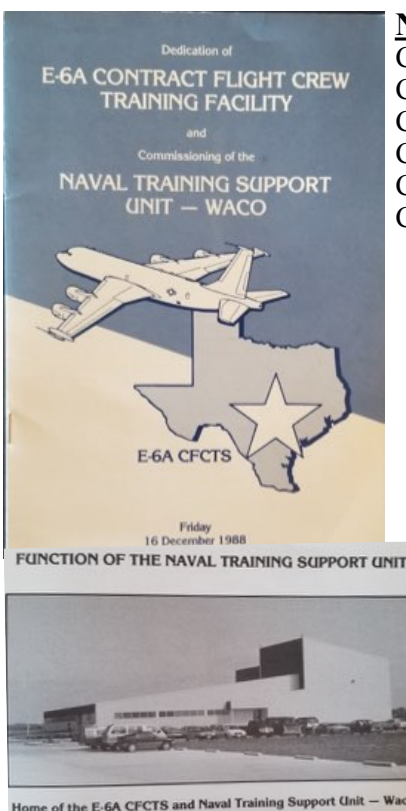


Dennis "Coach" Warren, TCVA Vice President was CO of VQ-7 from June 2007 to 2008. Photo of Crew 4 Memorial Service, organized by Coach



VQ-7 Commanding Officers

CDR Christopher L. Frasse
 CDR William D. Sanders
 CDR Michael J. Ottinger
 CDR Norb Tornes
 CDR Guido J. Lastra
 CDR James Macy
 CDR Darren Olson
 CDR Dennis Warren
 CDR Steven Dradzynski
 CDR Mark Mayerske
 CDR Frank Volpe
 CDR Mark Hustis
 CDR Kevin Snode
 CDR Matt Sniffin
 CDR Mark Brophy
 CDR Jim Schroeder
 CDR G. Carlo Rossi
 CDR Hector Laus



TACAMO SEA-STORIES

RONALD N UMAI FOX ASK, "ANYONE RECOGNIZE THIS?"



[Jim Bassett](#) Looks like the last time I was in Plattsburgh, NY in the winter on a TACAMO bird. LOL...

[Danny Pierce](#) Ron - that brings back memories.

[Rayburn Brooks](#) For sure tail flash TC= VQ-3 (Top Cat). Looks like a TACAMO 3 drogue.

[John Mscisz](#) How about this picture.



[Steve Murzen](#) I remember that view John. This picture brings back allot of memories.

[Ronald N Umai Fox](#) That is a painting from a picture taken in Osan Korea. Late 70s.

[Steve Murzen](#) That looks like Guam to me.

[Ronald N Umai Fox](#) The pic with snow is Korea. The pic with 4 birds is Guam. I think I was there when it was taken.

[Steve Murzen](#) I agree, that picture is circa 1970 - 1971 of the four of them. All depends which picture you are looking at.

[David DeMoor](#) Ray is glad the props are dressed. Aircraft was not in Palau for that Picture/painting.

[Mark Reichwein](#) I had 121.1 hours on 156172 in the 80's :)

[Lewis Reyna](#) Put in a lot of hours in this old bird. 172 & 495 were my favorites.

[Mark Reichwein](#) AC 161495 was my fav!! I had a total of 62 flights on her for 536.5 hours - the most by far of any Tacamo Aircraft I flew on. I have my flight record on a spreadsheet so that is why I can site this info so fast. :)

[Neil R. Jordan](#) My first flight was in 72...

[Mark Reichwein](#) My first flight was on her sister 170 :)

[Mike Ruby Wagoner](#) I know I flew a lot on 172 or 174 in VQ-4 - also a lot on 888. Thanks for posting this. Do you know where this was taken? Great picture. [Jim Gallagher](#) and [Neil Carbery](#) may know if it was 172 or 174 that we flew a lot on? I did not fly with Jim that often but flew a lot with Neil.

[Mark Reichwein](#) Triple Crate!!

[John Mscisz](#) The picture I posted was 1971 on Guam.

[Greg Utech](#) Bruno 156172 a great bird, unlike triple crate

[Mark Reichwein](#) yup 151888 was always a problem child for us Techs but she was a "G" bird not a "Q". I loved it when the newer models

came out - so much nicer to fly in!

[Richard Cadger](#) I know the plane well, but where is it in this pic? Snow?.

[Bernd Lubosch](#) probably Goose Bay LOL

[Tim Lane](#) I remember 72 and 888 888 had a grimlin A ghost

[Michael Schroeder](#) 190 hours on 172. Never flew on 888 until my very last deployment.

[Joe Bacarella](#) In VQ-3 from 1974-1977

BUNO 156172 was THE Hanger Queen. It was always broken, that or parts were taken off her to keep the others airborne...don't think I ever saw four aircraft together. Was the period when TAC 3 was being upgraded to TAC IV and VQ-4 had priority.

[Jim Gallagher](#) Mike. Wagoner.....this was VQ3's bird when the pic was taken..prob back in '73 to 74 timeframe. VQ4's tail was

HL, although we did have 172 in VQ4 for some time.

[Michael Schroeder](#) I flew in 83 & 84 at VQ-4.

[Rayburn Brooks](#) I remember 172 to be like Joe Bacarella while in VQ-3. Way too much hanger time. SF-6 leaked big time, when TAC-4B came on the scene. URG 1&1/2 1 kw Hf (Rockwell term) for slice radios were a BIG problem also, found out why after I joined with Rockwell...[See More](#)

[Neil Carbery](#) My first TACAMO flight was 10.4 hrs on 151888. My last was on 156173 for 2.4 hrs.

[Paul Trombetta](#) Joe.. when you and I first arrived at VQ3 in the fall of 1974, we had only one airplane. TC 171. Never left Guam for a year. Finally, when we got a trash hauler in 1975, crew 2 flew up to Yokota for a couple of days. What fun that was. Prior to getting the second aircraft, the big fear was the aircraft going down somewhere and no back up aircraft to bring parts or whatever. Seems like a silly reason since the good 'ol air force was always available with parts and rides for people. During that year there were three major dets to Pax River (I made the second one) to provide support while VQ-4 transitioned to Tac IV. During that year, I think 171 was the best maintained, shiniest airplane in the Navy.

[Ralph DuBreuil](#) Ah yes... An early Q model.

[Mike Ruby Wagoner](#) I know it was said that this is probably Goose Bay on of my favorite places but does anyone know for sure where this photo was taken???? Tks - Mike

[Ronald N Umai Fox](#) The photo was taken in Osan, Korea. And this particular picture is a painting from that photograph taken in Korea. The ground power unit was in the original photo and the power unit was removed by the painter.

[Mike Ruby Wagoner](#) OK - much appreciated. What a great picture. I am thinking about asking my wife to paint it for me. I just seem to remember that I really liked flying on 172 and 174 but it was a very long time ago (for me).

[Keith Wang](#) worked on that puppy tween 72-75.

[Pat O'Brien](#) I flew in 72 many times from 7-71 to 5-74.

[Jack Reese](#) Many hours in her

[Mike Neri](#) Quite a few hours in this one.

[John Jordan](#) Flew and worked on her from 73-76

[N. Dale Hurt](#) Spent a lot of time nursing that plane around the deployment circuit.

[Frank Weitzel](#) Me too, Mike!!!!

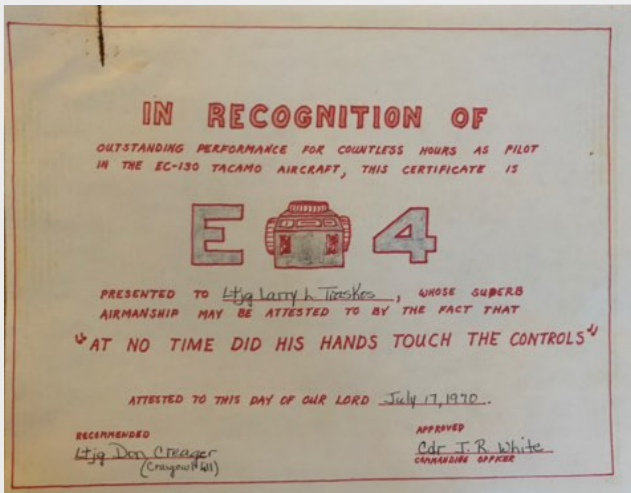
[Charlie Wooddy](#) In my log book

[Roger Rininger](#) a lot of geed times on this bird,, some not so good

TACAMO STORIES

Larry Traskos memories of VQ-4 49 years ago!

TACAMO was a seat of the pants operations into bases we should never have went in too!! Ballykelly, Ireland for one! No de-icing service! Big snow the night we were there. We were all on the wing with brooms, taxiing in deep snow, an experience. I was a JG and all the O's of the crew were JGs! Buying a VHF radio from the Norwegians for a bottle of scotch to fly over Ireland! Getting a hydraulic line from the engine shop at the AFB in Madrid... again a bottle of scotch for our then hydraulic reel! "Can do... crew2"! Our airplanes literally emptied Air Force C-130 parts in the Azores and Mildenhall, England!! We limped 149806 and 891 around the Atlantic, in fact 806's nick name was 80sick"! 😂😂 The art of ".com shaw" and "jury rig" was an art in those days!



This was developed and drawn by Don Creager. (We flew often together and rode our dirt bikes on the power line South of the main gate.) The E-4 was the autopilot we had and was what held us in a 30 degree angle of bank for hours while the Nav slept!! This resulted in our brains likewise, being in a bank, that caused such periods of foolishness!! 😂😂

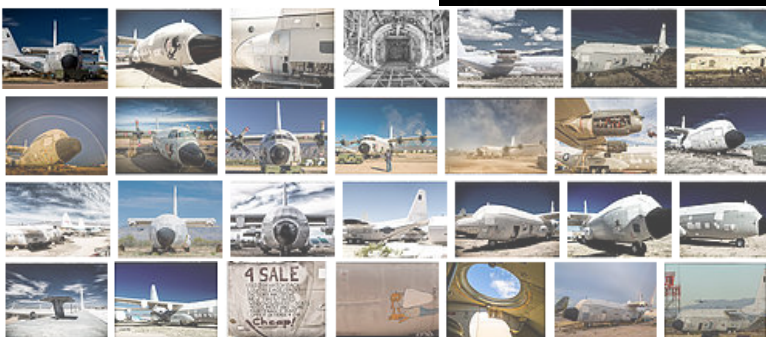
THANKS LARRY FOR YOUR SEA-STORY -
If you have a Sea-Story to submit email
them to tacamocommunity@gmail.com



**Mat and the Foster's at the Armistice Day
celebration in Epernay, France**

Private 1st Class Otto Haugen was killed in action in the Second Battle of the Marne on August 1st, 1918. On November 11th, Armistice Day in France, where they recognize the liberation of their country, we attended a ceremony to honor the French soldiers that were killed or served during the war. The ceremony was in the city of Epernay, roughly 90 miles east of Paris. Our friend Mat was marching as a French soldier in the parade.

It was an extremely memorable trip for Captain and Mrs. Foster. "To walk in the very places that his grandfather stood over 100 years ago, and then to see the battlefield where he was wounded, was one of the most humbling moments of my life."



C-130 Stickers and Other Gear

Ramon Purcell, Honorary TACAMO Sailor & Video Producer for VQ-3 TACAMOPAC Crew 4 Memorial Video has introduced a C-130 Boneyard Safari sticker for \$4. Go to <https://www.boneyardsafari.com/shop> to purchase your's today. There are also photos of TACAMO's C-130s for sale on the website. Go to <https://www.boneyardsafari.com/tacamo-forever> to purchase your photos.

TACAMO 2020 REUNION

2 Locations, Twice as much FUN

		DAY	EVENING
DC - DULLAS AREA	Wednesday 9/2	Pre-reunion arrivals	Pre-reunion arrivals
	Thursday 9/3	On your own touring - Early Arrivals	Evening Registration & Welcome Meet & Greet Reception
	Friday 9/4	Pentagon Visit - Pentagon 9/11 memorial - Arlington Cemetery Tomb of Unknown Soldier, WWII, Vietnam &	Evening with TACAMO
	Saturday 9/5	Morning Docent tours of National Air and Space Museum near Dulles Airport	TACAMO Hall of Fame Banquet — Recognizing 2019 & 2020 Inductees
Lexington Park	Sunday 9/6 — Pax River Museum TACAMO Dedication	Breakfast & Check-out of Hotel — Depart for Pax River	1pm Pax River Museum Ribbon Cutting and Reception - TACAMO Dedication (Flight Suite Liberty & Reception)
	Monday 9/7 Labor Day	TACAMO Hall of Fame Picnic - Location TBA	
	Tuesday 9/8	Winery, golf, fishing, herb farm, river cruise, visit friends or drive around Southern Maryland on your own	

Everyone staying at the Official 2020 Reunion hotel in DC area will receive:

- Fresh new deluxe accommodations and world-class service at the newly renovated hotel
- Comp'd Breakfast Buffett in NoVa Grill (\$16 per person savings)
- NoVa Grill & Bar - Hotel Guest ONLY 25% off food purchased in restaurant.
- High-speed Internet access both wired and Wi-Fi, throughout the hotel
- Mini-frig & Coffee maker
- Free Parking
- Guest rooms: 316 **suites** with separate seating area and deluxe amenities
- Spacious NoVa Bar has over 2,400 square feet and seating for everyone to mingle for drinks or craft beer and dinner.
- Outdoor patio with tables & chairs for gathering.
- 55" HDTV in your suite

\$99
per night plus tax

Click Here

DC Area Tours & Tourist Info



Click Here

**DC /Dulles
Hotel
Information &
Reservations**

**HYATT
REGENCY®**

In Fairfax County the craft breweries are bustling with locals & visitors seeking out locally brewed beer. There are two wineries in the county, and dozens more in the surrounding Virginia countryside.



TACAMO 2020 REUNION



**Need a hotel room
in Pax River Area,
[Click Here](#) Please
include dates
needed.**



[2020 REUNION WEBSITE - CLICK HERE](#)

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A TACAMO REUNION AND MINI-REUNION?

Reunion

At a Reunion, TCVA presents the TACAMO Hall of Fame inductees with recognition and thanks for their contributions to TACAMO.

mini-Reunion

At a mini-Reunion TCVA host a Banquet but no TACAMO Hall of Fame awards are presented.

Why Stay at Official Reunion Hotel?

The official reunion hotel is the center of reunion activities. It provides opportunities for networking with reunion attendees and it makes it easy to return to your room. That's obvious. But there are other reasons that you need to consider before you look at another hotel. In return for the use of the hotel's meeting facilities, the reunion guarantees the hotel that a certain percentage of attendees will stay in that hotel. The hotel generally discounts the rate for reunion attendees from their normal charges.

If the reunion attendance does not meet the contracted sleeping room commitment, the hotel gets paid anyway.

Unfilled rooms can cost TCVA thousands of dollars. Not only do these financial penalties hurt the current year's reunion, but the next reunion cannot negotiate as beneficial a hotel contract. In both cases the registration fee is then under pressure to increase unreasonably.

What if we don't contract for sleeping rooms? Attendees will pay more to stay at the reunion hotel. The reunion will incur additional expenses for meeting room rental fees, which can be quite costly. The hotel will not hold a block of rooms for attendees, which may leave some people quite a distance from the conference venue. In short, the reunion ends up with higher expenses; many of those attending will pay a higher price for their hotel rooms, future conference registration fees will be pushed higher.

Please support the reunion and TCVA by staying at the reunion hotel.

TACAMO Heritage Center

HERITAGE CENTER MISSION

Mission:

- Collecting and cataloging artifacts donated by members

History:

- In 2012 a project to build a TACAMO Heritage Center began. Creating a place to house the Hall of Fame Inductees Plaques, the archives and memorabilia of the 50 years (and counting) of TACAMO would be the goal.

The inauguration of the TACAMO Hall of Fame was the first step towards the eventual construction of a Heritage Center where we TACAMO sailors can see and share our "Glory Days" with friends and families. At the 2012 TACAMO Reunion the inauguration of the TACAMO Hall of Fame came about by Commodore Chocko Baker desiring to continue the legacy by adding to Commodore Vern Lochausen's Hall of Fame and Commodore Irish Keilty's completion of foundations for a wall of fame in Herc Park. Bureaucratic issues so far prevent the completion of the vertical parts of the wall and placement of TCVA-provided Hall of Fame tiles.

Vision:

- Find a space that can be furnished to display artifacts donated by our membership and affiliates

Funding:

- Direct "tax deductible" money contributions
- Other, yet defined "fund raisers".

TACAMO Heritage Center
webpage Click Here

Heritage Center Goal: To fill in the verticals walls in Herc Park completed by Commodore Irish Keilty in 2000 with all TACAMO Hall of Famers. At the present time only 2012 TACAMO Hall of Famers are in place below



TCVA ARTIFACTS WANTED

Don't throw them away, throw them our way. If you have TACAMO Artifacts, Please consider donating them to TCVA. Email us tacamocommunity@gmail.com



Donation to TACAMO Heritage Center a E-6 Tail piece from 782 From Ed Hampshire



Donation to TACAMO Heritage Center a Teletype Machine from Rockwell Collins
TACAMOMates: Jim Meppelink, Denise Ramsey & Jerry Sumerday

2021 TACAMO MINI-REUNION

Greetings TACAMO,

In October of 2019, I was fortunate to attend a Military Reunion Planners Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico to scout hotels, venues, possible day trips, and balloon rides for a 2021 reunion. While the National Museum of Nuclear Science and History, Old Town, and the Veterans Memorial Park (covering over 25 acres) were quite impressive.

Pre-scouting the Ramada Plaza by Wyndham hotel quoted \$99 per night (plus tax) for Sunday to Thursday during the balloon fiesta. I was a guest at the Ramada Plaza and did not find it up to TCVA standards, needing much needed renovating to the rooms, corridors, and HVAC system. While there, I contacted the scouted hotels and was informed the lowest room rate would start at \$180 per night (plus tax). The balloon rides are \$400 per person (weather dependent & only one vender permitted) and over the 10 day festival in 2019 the balloons were grounded three of those days due to weather. I foresee Albuquerque being a better venue for a reunion outside the dates of the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta. For these reasons the board has decided to table Albuquerque to another year as a non Balloon Fiesta event.



As your event planner, I strive to coordinate intriguing events in comfortable accommodations with value in destinations you want to visit.

It's time for TCVA to hop into the wayback machine with our the 2021 mini reunion destination. We thought that our members may need a little crew rest on beaches unlike any other in the world with crystal-clear waters, endless blue sky, and rum swizzles. Want to hit the road? Rent a moped or electric car and cruz around 21-square miles of natural beauty and experience colorful island culture. Don't forget to pack your reef-safe sunscreen because we're going to...

Thanks again, Cheryl Vos Reunion /Event Planner

What about a 2021 Cruise?



2021 TACAMO MINI-REUNION



What about a Cruise to Bermuda?



St. George's Port is across from St. David's Island, prior home to



7 Days Cruise with 2 Port Stops

Ship: Empress of the Seas

Departing Port: Cape Liberty, NJ

Day 1	Mon	May 31	Bayonne/Cape Liberty: EMBARK	4:00 pm
Day 2	Tues	June 1	Cruising: CRUISING	
Day 3	Wed	June 2	St. George/Bermuda: DOCKED	2:00 pm
Day 4	Thur	June 3	St. George/Bermuda: DOCKED	
Day 5	Fri	June 4	St. George/Bermuda: Depart	6:00 am
Day 5	Fri	June 4	Hamilton: DOCKED Arrive	7:30 am
Day 6	Sat	June 5	Hamilton: Depart	2:00 pm
Day 7	Sun	June 6	Cruising: CRUISING	
Day 8	Mon	June 7	Bayonne/Cape Liberty: Arrive & DEBARK	8:00 am

Pricing Per Person
prices are Cruise
Only w/Gov't Taxes
and Fees included.
Insurance based on
Cruise Total and/or

Interior (4V)
\$795.87 per
person in
cabin for 2

Ocean View (8N,
Partially Obstructed
View) \$895.98 per
person in cabin for

Ocean View
(4N) \$925.87
per person in
cabin for 2

Gratuities are Additional and due at Final Payment. These cabin rates are good through Jan 31, 2021, unless Royal Caribbean Cruise line (RCCL) pulls the cabins from our hold if RCCL see the cabins are not being sold. Final payments w/be due 3/2/2021

[Website with Reservation Form](#)

2021 TACAMO MINI-REUNION

Join us for TCVA's 2021 mini-Reunion on a board the Royal Caribbean, Empress Of The Seas. Bring back your memories of the old base, NASA Beach, St. George, Hamilton and the Swizzle Inn.



TCVA is holding 30 Cabins
Interior 4V — Ocean View 8N — Ocean View 4N
 (Partially Obstructed View)

Deposit: \$250 Per person to reserve & select your Cabin
Cancellation: \$50 per person

\$795.87 Interior Cabin Category 4V (Decks 7,8, & 9)

\$895.98 Ocean View Cabin Category 8N (Partially Obstructed View) (Deck 8)

\$925.87 Ocean View Cabin Category 4N (Decks 3,4,7,8, & 9)

Deluxe Suite - Contact Lisa for pricing

TCVA Cruise Group Organizer: Cheryl
 Vos Email tcva.reunions@gmail.com

Lisa Coleman ~ Independent Leisure
 Travel Consultant DIRECT (757)
 342-1903 ~ lcoleman@ciazumano.com

**NOTE: THIS IS MEMORIAL DAY
 WEEKEND CRUISE AND IT FILLS
 UP FAST**

**For Best Cabin BOOK
 NOW!**

**WEBSITE WITH
 RESERVATION
 FORM LINK**

TACAMO FALLEN

Fallen Shipmates

Passings received after last Newsletter

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!

Fallen TACAMO Shipmates

Presented in no particular order.

FALLEN LINK

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



TACAMO
Active Duty, Veterans,
Government civilians, Families,
and Industry Partners