

VP-44 NEWSLETTER SPRING 2006

MARINER / MARTIN ASSOCIATION

Gene Thanks for the note ref my order. I have some information I am sure others would be excited about. I belong to the Mariner/Marlin Association. It is an organization that puts out a terrific magazine that deals only with the Flying Boats. It is a national organization and has a lot of pictures submitted by previous crewmembers of PBMS AND P5MS. I also has some of the P2Vs and P3s. We are almost finished with the restoration of a PBM (with wheels) at the PIMA AIR MUSEUM in Tucson and starting work on a P5M at Pensacola. The organization has a directory of members that include 60 former VP 44 crewmen. I highly recommend joining the assoc and enjoying the magazine and info. Lots of tall tails are included and lot of banter among members regarding the photos that are in the magazine. The Chairman of the association is: Ronald A. Sommerdorf, Telephone: 320-328-5734. email: ronkaren@hutchtel.net. He can send out applications. Sorry, I don't have the dues at my fingertip, but they are not much for what you get. They have their reunion May 9-14 in Seattle, WA for 2006. Maybe you could pass this along to others. They have their reunions all over the country, Florida to Seattle and Tucson. Good opportunity for VP 44 members to have a mini-reunion. Glen Campbell

UPDATE ON LARGE PLAQUE AS OF APRIL 15, 2006

--Hi Mr. Beck! The manufacturer has it in progress - we have approved their manufacturer's proof and the fellow there is telling me it will be here in a month or so. I'll let you know as quickly as it comes it - thank you folks so much for helping us here, Marty

ITEM FOR MUSEUM?

I have a complete P-2V/P3A mad antenna on the storage stand in my basement. If a museum could use it , I'd donate it.

Gerald Zell
Email = puccini@comcast.net

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LOOKING INTO MY DAD'S PAST

Just curious, did you happen to know Olin Neil Edwards? He was an A E 1 Chief Petty Officer from Jamestown New York. He was in the VP44 Maintenance Crew. Do you happen to have any photos or know where to get any photos? Thank you very much. His son-Jon Edwards

You can contact Jon @ jonraz@cox.net
Jon,

This information helps. I have copied several of our Midway & WW2 Vets on this reply that may have known your father on this reply. Jon's father is Olin Neil Edwards - He was an A E 1 Chief Petty Officer from Jamestown New York and was in the VP44 Maintenance Crew. If any of you knew Olin, Jon is interested in photos of information regarding him. Your assistance is appreciated.

Gene - this is more info for the newsletter.

Jon, please send the photos and I can upload the to the website.

Good hunting,

Ray Beck

jonboy wrote:

> Mr. Beck,
>
> Thank you for responding so quickly. I do have some of my fathers
> information. My mom had some of his records and these are some of the
> dates:

> Dec. 1941-43 Ford Island, Hawaii-I know that he was on Midway
> Island 2 weeks before Pearl Harbor, but his records do not reflect that.
> May 1944-47 Kanehoe Bay, Hawaii
> Oct. 1947-48 San Diego, California
> May 1948-52 Patrol 46 San Diego
> Aug. 1952-53 Mirimar, California
> Feb. 1953-56 Jacksonville, Florida

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- > Mar. 1956-60 Cecil Field, Florida
- > June 1960-61 Patrol 44 Norfolk, Virginia
- >
- > Thanks again,
- > Jon Edwards
- >
- > PS. I do have several photos. I can copy or email them to you if you
- > would like.

MARINER MODEL

Gene,

For those who served on Mariner A/C They might want one of these
<http://store.tailwinds.com/marinermodel.html>

Ralph "Mr. President" Cook

REUNION 2007

We cannot make reservations at the Embassy Suites until we are one year out from the reunion. I will have everything set up, registration and hotel reservations, after our mini reunion cruise the first of June. If I can be of any help for information on Indianapolis or surrounding area, please let me know.

I am open for business year round and will be glad to ship as soon as your order is placed. Check us out at www.vp44goldenpelicans.com. One of the best ways we can search for other shipmates is with a car decal or VP-44 hat while we travel around. It will help our reunion fund grow and you never know whom you might run into. I am always looking for ideas so send me an email or give me a call. Thanks, Gene

Gene R. Toffolo VP-44 December 18, 1965-April 22, 1969, Crew Five & Six
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