



## Volume 1 Issue 11 JANUARY 2019

"SUBCONSCIOUS"  
(1924 - 1993)



### Elected Officials

Position	Name	Email
President	Hank Herbig	<a href="mailto:President@vp-6.org">President@vp-6.org</a>
Vice President	Terry Snyder	<a href="mailto:VicePresident@vp-6.org">VicePresident@vp-6.org</a>
Treasurer	Tom Mullins	<a href="mailto:Treasurer@vp-6.org">Treasurer@vp-6.org</a>
Secretary	Don Bailey	<a href="mailto:Secretary@vp-6.org">Secretary@vp-6.org</a>
Web Master	Randy Silbaugh	<a href="mailto:WebMaster@vp-6.org">WebMaster@vp-6.org</a>
Ships Store	Stuart Woodward	<a href="mailto:Patron6store@vp-6.org">Patron6store@vp-6.org</a>
Newsletter Editor	Pamela Silbaugh	<a href="mailto:Newsletter@vp-6.org">Newsletter@vp-6.org</a>
Membership	Gary Wertz	<a href="mailto:Membership@vp-6.org">Membership@vp-6.org</a>
Historian	Brian Tourville	<a href="mailto:History@vp-6.org">History@vp-6.org</a>
Reunion Chairman	Jim Lamers	<a href="mailto:jim.lamers@comcast.net">jim.lamers@comcast.net</a>
Reunion Coordinator	Dewey Vigus	<a href="mailto:usnawc@hotmail.com">usnawc@hotmail.com</a>
Raffle Chairman		(need a volunteer or someone will be voluntold)
VP-6 Website		<a href="http://www.vp-6.org">www.vp-6.org</a>

## President's Opening

### **"Flight" to "All Stations"**

Aloha BLUE SHARKS,

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year BLUE SHARKS! I can report to you that our association is continuing to become stronger and stronger with each passing month. You will notice the learning that took place last year by your active volunteers is being reflected this year in a great many ways, including most obviously in the Reunion Committee work.

Most of the reunion work is being done specifically: Tom Mullins (Association Treasurer), Jim Lamers (Reunion Chairman), and Dewey Vigus (2019 San Antonio On-Site Reunion Coordinator), and Don Bailey (Association Secretary), among others.

These member volunteers have been working very diligently on our next reunion and many other items needed for our association. Randy Silbaugh (Webmaster), as usual, is quite busy with all things as almost everything we do nowadays touches on our website in some way. Woody Woodward is busy working on new items for our Ship's store. He reported uptick in sales of our PSBSA BLUE SHARKS fleece-lined windbreakers at the Cincinatti reunion. Check the Ship's Store tab on our website for Woody's new items as they become available. Gary Wertz is now our new Membership Chairman. We expect he will get a new assistant soon.

Please thank Dawn Tourville, when you see her or when you comm with her, for her time she gave to us volunteering before Gary stepped up into the Membership Chairman job. Pam Silbaugh has sent out another of her awesome newsletters. She is still working two jobs, as well. Some of us know what that

requires in terms of sacrifices. So thank her, too. Please tell all of these volunteers that you/we appreciate their hard work, when you see them or when you comm with them.

\*\*\*\* It is not too early to begin planning for the 2019 San Antonio Reunion! Probably early October. Hopefully you have already been saving for that big-time blow-out gathering of fellow "birdmen types" and our supporters and family and friends! \*\*\*\*

I hope to see all of you there. It will be another great time.

All the best,  
Hank Herbig (Association President)

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## Vice-President

### **ALL Engines Ahead FULL**

Aloha,

Terry Snyder AW1 (NAC/AW) USN Ret.  
VP-6 Era November 1982 - February 1987

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## Secretary

### **Memo's**

Greetings fellow shipmates,  
Don Bailey  
VP6 Photographer

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## Treasurer

### **The Bucks Stop here**

Tom Mullins

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## Membership

### ***Gam o' Sharks***

Active:  
Expired:  
Pending:  
RIP's:

Gary Wertz

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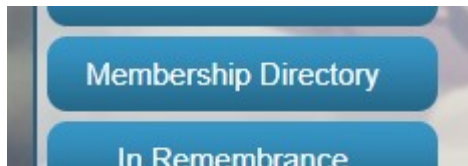
## Webmaster

### ***Get Your Geek On***

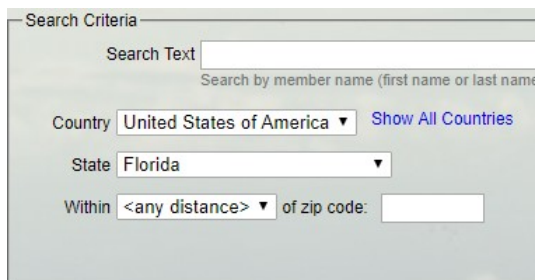
Want to see how many Blue sharks are circling your house? (this is not public information; only members can see this).

Log in to the website

1) Click 'membership Directory'



2) Select a Country, and state.



Search Criteria

Search Text

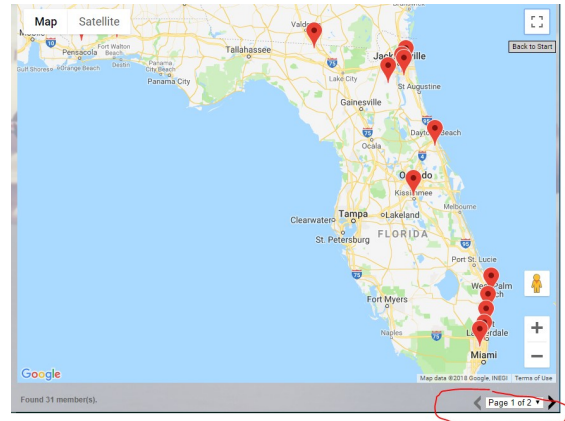
Search by member name (first name or last name)

Country  [Show All Countries](#)

State

Within  of zip code:

3) Be sure to check to see if there are multiple pages at the bottom.



Don't see yourself listed?

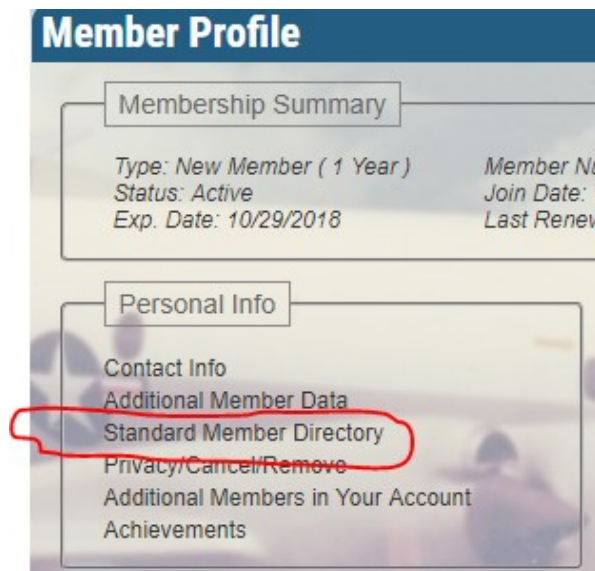
4) Check your profile and change the settings, sometime you may need to toggle the option; the setting is set and you are not visible on the map, just select another option from the drop down menu and then either leave it at that setting or save it and set it back to the original setting.

5) Click your name and select "profile" from the dropdown menu.



## Upcoming Reunion

6) Select "Standard Member Directory"



7) Select one of the options from the drop down menu.



NOTE: Only Blue Shark members can see this information, this data is not made public.

For those of you who attended the last reunion, if you had any issues with the registration process please email the webmaster Randy (the most trustworthy name) at [WebMaster@vp-6.org](mailto:WebMaster@vp-6.org). Make sure to log in to the website and update your profile ASAP.

Randy Silbaugh

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## **San Antonio, Tx Oct 2019**

Reunion Chairman:

Jim Lamers

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Reunion Coordinator:

Dewey Vigus

Local Area Reunion Coordinator

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## Obits

### **RIP: Farewell & Following Seas**

ATC Bill Margerum (Margerum, William E.)

Served in VP6 from July 1950 - January 1951

Obituary: William E Margerum

Death: 8 March 1971

Residence: San Diego, CA.

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## Veterans Affairs

### **Agent Orange Update**

Heads Up for VA Benefits!

Blue Sharks 1970-1972

To: VP-6 Shipmates who served at Cam Ranh Bay Detachment.

The Veterans Administration (VA) has recently relaxed their requirements of proof for exposure to the herbicide Agent Orange.

As of June 1, 2018, the VA now includes ALL In-Country Vietnam personnel as eligible for the presumption of Agent Orange herbicide exposure. This means ALL of our VP-6 shipmates who were positioned at Cam Ranh Bay anytime from 1970 - 1972 are now

included (if they have heart issues or Type II diabetes). Also important to note is Box-26 of your DD-214-- as it must include "Vietnam Service Medal" and "Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal".

I was informed that a former VP-6 shipmate who I helped with an in-country certification letter is now receiving appropriate monetary compensation at a VA disability rate of 100%. And I am thrilled for him! In his case it equates to almost \$3,500 monthly tax free for life. To my knowledge, this is one of the very first VP guys recognized by the VA due to Agent Orange exposure. The VA lists hundreds of naval ships and water craft whose personnel are eligible for compensation but list NO Navy Patrol Squadrons.

Here are the primary diagnosed health conditions the VA would consider (specific to Agent Orange): Heart - Coronary Artery Disease, aka Ischemic Heart Disease or Atherosclerotic Heart Disease; Any bypass, stents or unstable angina; Also Type II mellitus Diabetes. Complications such as, Hypertension, Peripheral Neuropathy or current and past cancers. Also, any other injuries/diseases you think might be related to military service.

How to file a claim. All VA forms are available online.

Informal Claim: FIRST- use VA Form 21-0966 (Intent to File a Claim for Compensation). This will preserve the effective date of a claim and also to compute any earned retroactive pay.

Formal Claim: Medical evidence should be submitted with the formal claim. This may include your doctor's heart evaluation and evaluation of the Type II

Diabetes. Use VA Form 21-526EZ (Application for Compensation). Also a copy of your DD-214, and if married - a copy of your marriage certificate via VA Form 686C. Veterans may electronically file using the portal located at:

[www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/homepage](http://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/homepage)

Experienced filing assistance is provided free via your county Veterans Service Office (VSO). If you're already receiving VA benefits but didn't qualify for the 'In-Country' - status at that time, it would be well to go to:

[www.ebenefits.va.gov/](http://www.ebenefits.va.gov/)

and review the section for 'Increased Disability Compensation'.

Important: I have searched for our shipmates e-mail addresses and have only gathered a few hundred -- far short of all our deserving veterans. If you would review the above addrees and recognize a few shipmates that I've missed...please forward this to them. I plan to post this info on the Patron Six website and try to snag a few more. I will probably also use VPNAVY.com (VP-6 section) and possibly Navy Times. You have earned this benefit if your health has been, or is now, an issue. By the way, this is not unique to only VP-6 but applicable to any veteran who served In-Country Vietnam.

Should it turn out that the VA requires a letter certifying your In-Country service, please contact me at [bcastro2710@yahoo.com](mailto:bcastro2710@yahoo.com) and include your:

Full name

Rate or rank (at the time of In-Country)

Service number (not SSN)

Aircrew number or assigned Division

Time period (mo/yr's) assigned to VP-6

Acceptance by the VA, although a slow process, with a significant medical rating...will open new additional facilities for improved medical help and probably some amount of financial compensation; benefits all of which you have earned.

Thank you,  
Bill Castro  
Captain, USN, ret.  
Former VP-6 Commanding Officer 1971-'72

all this info in on the VP-6 web site click the link below

[https://vp-6.clubexpress.com/content.aspx?page\\_id=22&club\\_id=309126&module\\_id=326629](https://vp-6.clubexpress.com/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=309126&module_id=326629)

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## History

### ***History o' Sharks:***

Citation: Mangerum, CAET William E.  
General Orders: All Hands - June 1953

The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Flying Cross to Chief Aviation Electronics Technician William E. Mangerum, United States Navy, for extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight while serving with Patrol Squadron SIX (VP-6), during operations against enemy aggressor force in Korea from 8 July 1950 to 28 January 1951. Completing thirty-five missions during this period, he participated in patrol and reconnaissance flights over an active combat area in the face of grave hazards and contributed materially to the success of his squadron. His skill, courage and devotion to duty throughout were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

Thanks to Tom Palmer for sharing!

Brian Tourville

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## Newsletter Editor

### ***Helpful Information***

Thanks to all of those who sent me noteworthy shares from the squadron's past. It is what makes the newsletter interesting and informative. Keep them coming.

Pamela Silbaugh

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## Shark Shares

### ***Military Tradition***

If any of you have ever been to a military funeral in which taps was played, this brings out the meaning of it. Here is something every American should know. We in the United States have all heard the haunting song, Taps. It's the song that gives us the lump in our throats and usually tears in our eyes. But, do you know the story behind the song? If not, I think you will be interested to find out about its humble beginnings.

Reportedly, it all began in 1862 during the Civil War, when Union Army Captain Robert Elli was with his men near Harrison's Landing in Virginia. The Confederate Army was on the other side of the narrow strip of land. During the night, Captain Elli heard the moans of a soldier who lay severely wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the Captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back for medical attention. Crawling on his stomach through the gunfire, the Captain reached the stricken

soldier and began pulling him toward his encampment.

When the Captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead. The Captain lit a lantern and suddenly caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son. The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, the boy enlisted in the Confederate Army.

The following morning, heartbroken, the father asked permission of his superiors to give his son a full military burial, despite his enemy status. His request was only partially granted. The Captain had asked if he could have a group of Army band members play a funeral dirge for his son at the funeral. The request was turned down since the soldier was a Confederate. But, out of respect for the father, they did say they could give him only one musician.

The Captain chose a bugler. He asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth's uniform. This wish was granted. The haunting melody, we now know as 'Taps' used at military funerals was born. The words are:

Day is done  
Gone the sun  
From the lakes  
From the hills  
From the sky  
All is well  
Safely rest  
God is nigh

Fading light  
Dims the sight  
And a star

Gems the sky  
Gleaming bright  
From afar  
Drawing nigh  
Falls the night

Thanks and praise  
For our days  
Neath the sun  
Neath the stars  
Neath the sky  
As we go  
This we know  
God is nigh

I too have felt the chills while listening to 'Taps' but I have never seen all the words to the song until now. I didn't even know there was more than one verse. I also never knew the story behind the song and I didn't know if you had either so I thought I'd pass it along. I now have an even deeper respect for the song than I did before. Remember Those Who Have Served and Returned, and for those presently serving in the Armed Forces.

Thanks Dave Masters for sharing!

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## **Ships Store**

***Get Your Swagger on***

If you would like to order any of the items you see, follow the instructions at the ships store. You basically email the Store-Keeper Stuart Woodward and arrange payment and shipping via email.

To view items in the ships store click on: <http://www.vp-6.org>

There you will see the picture below. Click on the picture on the [website](#) not here!



New Item:

The long awaited and so often asked for  
Drum roll -----!

\*\*\*\*\*Low Profile Ball-Cap \*\*\*\*\*



Get yours while their hot!

## Shark Tales!

### **The Day Kennedy was Shot**

I was the radio operator on Crew 3, PC3, on the day President Kennedy was shot. We were doing sub chaser training out toward Johnston Island, I think, when I got a Yankee message in KAAK (code) which I sent up to the pilot to decode. He came on the intercom and said that the President had been shot in Dallas and that we were to abort our Jez and Julie training and return to Barbers Point.

I couldn't pick up the radio station in Honolulu but I found one out of Samoa but there wasn't much additional information available. I later got another message I sent to the pilot and he said the president was dead and that we were to refuel on landing and proceed to the ordnance area to be armed with live ordnance.

When we taxied over to the weapons dump, the cannon cockers didn't know if we were to get bombs or mines so we just sat there with the props turning waiting for someone to make a decision. Apparently the pilot was called by ground control and said we were to cease arming (we hadn't started) and taxi back to our squadron area and shut down. From what the pilot told us, all US forces were on full alert worldwide.

From Dennis Carter AT2, VP-6 1961-64.

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## Cincinnati Reunion

*See Website for more photos*



These Sharks Prefer to be out of the water!



All present and/or accounted for!



Cincinnati Sparkles at night!



A gam of sharks that didn't miss "ships movement"