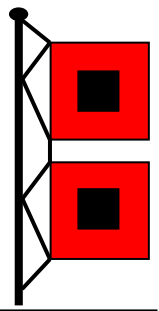


HURRICANE HUNTERS NEWSLETTER



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From the President's Desk...

Hello All. It is that time again to mark your calendars for the 2016 Annual Hurricane Hunters Reunion. It will be held in Jacksonville, Florida, September 29 through October 02, 2016. It will be held at the Hilton's Doubletree Hotel (The old Crown Plaza, where we had the 2014 reunion). I was assured that the staff and service will be the same as the 2014 reunion, which we will all agree was just great..

The Jacksonville reunion team and I have negotiated a multi-year contract so that our expenses will remain intact for several years. I know this is welcomed news by our members who are on a fixed income and can expect not having their fees to increase year after year. I know that the Jacksonville team has some really exciting stuff for the members to enjoy while attending this year's reunion.

We will be welcoming a brand new member to our group this year, Mr. Dennis (DC) Jones. He lives in the Jacksonville area and has volunteered his services to help make this year's reunion special. I sincerely hope all our members welcome him into our group.

Please remember it is imperative upon each member to make his-or-her own room reservation at the hotel for your room choice. You may call them at 904-398-8800. If you would prefer to make your stay in the Jacksonville area longer our guaranteed room rate will hold for three days prior and three days after our reunion dates. Early check-in for the reunion will be September 28, 2016.

It will be my pleasure to welcome each and every one of you to the reunion and hope all renew their friendship with crewmates and squadron members and hope all will have a fun-filled time in Jacksonville area this fall.

Special Request... Does any member know what has happened to the following members:

Andrea Jackson, Dr. Arlen K. Snyder? If so, would you please let me know at ereaton77@aol.com

Fair Winds and Following Seas

Ennis R. Eaton
President
US Navy Hurricane Hunters.



DoubleTree Riverfront Site Of Future Reunions

The DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Jacksonville Riverfront is the headquarters location for the upcoming and future U.S. Navy Hurricane Hunter Reunions. It is a modern Jacksonville hotel set in the commercial and business district of the city center, on the Southbank of downtown Jacksonville. It is surrounded by historic districts including San Marco, Riverside, and Avondale, all of which offer boutique shops, sidewalk cafes and cultural attractions.

The hotel boasts 12,000 sq. ft. of event space, including an elegant ballroom and a stunning terrace Overlooking the St. Johns River. This luxurious

See "DoubleTree Riverfront Site Of..." on Page Two

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downtown Jacksonville hotel is ideal for conferences, such as our reunion, and meetings and weddings for up to 500 guests. The hotel features state-of-the-art Audio/Visual technology, inspired catering, and a dedicated staff to ensure a smooth and effortless experience.

The DoubleTree Riverfront offers spacious guest rooms and suites featuring complimentary Wi-Fi, a flat-screen HDTV, and a walk-out balcony offering wonderful views. Also available are Junior Suites for more space, superior views, and additional amenities, including a sleeper sofa, a microwave, and a mini-fridge.

Hunters seeking a truly memorable evening dining experience can find it in the DoubleTree Riverfront at the iconic Ruth's Chris Steak House. There you can savor the finest corn-fed, custom-aged Midwestern beef, and pair your meal with a bottle of wine from the award-winning list. Or if you prefer, you can enjoy casual Jacksonville dining and fast, friendly service at St. Johns Provision Co., grab a hot drink in the Starbucks Coffee Bar, and unwind with a signature cocktail in the Lobby Lounge. Finally, you can energize body-and-soul with contemporary equipment in the 24-hour fitness center, swim in the sparkling outdoor pool, or relax on a lounge under a palm tree.



Dale Eggers, Tony Broyles, Ned Broyles (Tony's dad), and Ed Marble attending "Bald Eagle" monthly luncheon at NAS JAX.

Hunters Attend "Bald Eagles" Meeting At NAS JAX

The Bald Eagles, described as a bunch of old Navy types that get together to relive their "glory Days" and listen to a guest speaker, meet every second Tuesday of the month at NAS Jacksonville. Hurricane Hunters Dale Eggers, Tony Broyles, Ed Marble, and Ned Broyles, Tony's dad, attended the February 9, 2016, meeting and heard what Ed Marble described as "quite a presentation" by Cliff Judkins from Atlanta, Georgia. Judkins is a retired Delta pilot, having retired after thirty years of flying with that airline. He is probably best known for making headlines for falling 15,000 feet into the Pacific when the F-8 fighter jet he was flying blew up and his parachute failed to open. Judkins had a great chat with Tony's dad and discovered he was born the same year the elder Broyles got his Navy Wings, 1937!

HURRICANE HUNTERS, INC.

A non-profit Florida corporation 501.c.19

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Front and Back Views of Hurricane Hunter T-Shirts being made available by Hunter, Dennis Jones

New Member Brings New Ideas For HH Reunion

Our newest member Dennis Jones, a Hunter from VW-4 in the mid-1960s, has taken it on himself to offer something that many Hunters have asked for every year since Bill Reynolds closed his concession several years ago – Hurricane Hunter T-Shirts.

As seen in the picture above, the shirts carry the VW-4 logo and identify the wearer as being associated with the World Famous U.S. Navy Hurricane Hunters (yes, wives, children, and grandchildren will want them too). On the front, the shirts can be personalized with name, insignia, and Hurricane Hunters identity. To date Dennis has insignia for Air Crew and Pilots. He is working on getting Meteorologist's and Naval Flight Officer insignia.

The shirts are high-quality, made of 100% cotton, and are available in a variety of colors. The shirts will be available in a variety of colors that will be described in our next Newsletter along with ordering information and Reunion Registration Forms.

Dennis is looking at two production methods and prices for the shirts, depending upon the response he

receives to his proposal. If response is tepid, he will provide ordering information directly to the respondent and each individual will be responsible for contacting the manufacturer directly. Those limited-run shirts will be digitally printed as shown in the pictures above, and the purchaser will pay for the shirt plus postage which is estimated to be around \$30 per shirt.

If the response is for fifty-or-more T-Shirts, the backs of the shirts will be printed with the higher quality silk screen process and the shipping will be free. Estimated price for the bulk-order shirts is around \$25 per shirt. All shirts, regardless of printing process used, will be personalized with name and choice of insignia

Those Hunters interested in purchasing one-or-more should contact Dennis at stormchaserfive@aol.com either by clicking this link if you are receiving this *Newsletter* digitally or by mailing a response to Paul Tilson, 1934 Independence Ave., Viera, FL 32940 if you are receiving the print edition of the *Newsletter*.

Depending upon responses received, ordering information will be provided in the *Summer 2016 Newsletter* along with complete Reunion information and

Registration Forms.

JAX Team On-Track For 2016 Reunion At Our New “Official Home Hotel”

In the Winter 2015 Newsletter we reported that due to changing demographics, a less-than-helpful reception by the new management at the Naval Aviation Museum, and a disappointing turn-out for the 2015 Reunion in Pensacola, Florida, the decision was made by our officers and directors to hold future reunions in the Jacksonville, Florida, area. The officers and directors also discussed and agreed to pursue the establishment of an “Official Home Hotel” in much the same way civic organizations such as Rotary, Kiwanis, or the Lions Club have Official Home Hotels or Restaurants where they can always count on having a reserved meeting place at the same time each week or month and the hotel or restaurant can count on the same business each week or month.

The officers and directors agreed that the best plan was to approach a hotel, hopefully the Crowne Plaza, now DoubleTree Riverfront, site of our very successful 2014 Reunion, with the proposal that in exchange for setting aside the same time frame each year for our reunion, we would guarantee to hold our Annual Banquet in that hotel, rent space for our “Ready Room” for the duration of our stay, and secure as many rooms as possible for attending members.

Our President E.R. Eaton and our Jacksonville Team consisting of Juan Blanco, Vice President, and Arvid Nelson, Secretary, looked at and discussed their proposal to several hotels in the Jacksonville area and finally reached an agreement with the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotels Riverfront to establish the DoubleTree Riverfront as our official home. Having been burned by not meeting our contractual guarantee for occupied rooms in Pensacola last year, the Jacksonville Team made it clear to the DoubleTree management that since we are an organization of diminishing membership, we could not guarantee a set number of rooms, but could guarantee having our banquet and ready room in their hotel each year and that we would fill as many rooms as possible. For

that the DoubleTree would likely receive a plaque to be presented by our President at the 2016 Reunion naming the Jacksonville, Florida, DoubleTree Riverfront “The Official Home of the World Famous U.S. Navy Hurricane Hunters” and all the bragging rights that go with it.

Meanwhile, the Jacksonville Team ably assisted by CDR Tom Hampton, the individual who has supplied the engraved pens for attendees at previous Reunions, and Dennis C. “DC” Jones continue to work out details for the reunion such as the Wine-and-Cheese Party, refreshments for the Ready Room, menus for the banquet, as well as speakers and entertainment, and proposed activities attending Hunters may want to pursue during their free time at the Reunion.

In addition to his work with the Jacksonville Team, “DC” Jones has designed and arranged for the manufacture and purchase of Hurricane Hunter T-Shirts and has established an informal VW-4 web page on facebook. The web page has a lot of pictures of Super Connies and their flight crews. This page can be reached at <https://www.facebook.com/US-Navy-VW-4-Hurricane-Hunters-1656921771243009/>

To date, there are over 1,000 followers of this web page.

TAPS

It is with a heavy heart that we report the passing of our members that served so honorably.

Lt. James "Jim " Harvey Jordan departed this life on Monday December 21, 2015. He was a flight officer in the VW-4 in 1964-65.

John Hanlon Passed away on June 22, 2015. Notice was sent to us by his wife with no other details.

AG1 Thomas (T.P.) Morgan who served in the squadron in 1966-69. AG1 Morgan's passing was reported by Bud Horn with no further information.