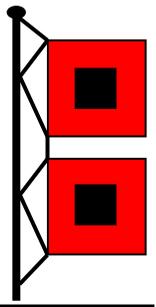


HURRICANE HUNTERS NEWSLETTER



Publisher E.R. Eaton

Volume No. 13

Issue No. 2

Summer

From the President's Desk

Summer has just begun and time to get those beach bodies and super tans going just so we will be looking good at our 2018 Reunion. A quick note about this year's reunion: please try and make your reservations as early as possible. True that we set aside rooms for as many people as we think are going to attend, but this year we are hoping for a higher turn out rate than the previous three years. What makes early registration necessary is this year the Jacksonville Jaguars will have a home game on Sunday September 30, 2018, and they are the Champions, so home game attendance will definitely increase. Our hotel is just across the river, so they will be pretty-well booked up. I have arranged it so that if you want to extend your stay through that Sunday, you can do so at our reduced rate, so that you may attend the game. Please make your registration through the hotel's number at 800-222-8733.

This year we are setting up a walking guided tour of the Budweiser Brewing Plant in Jacksonville, Florida. It will be on our at-will day, Friday, the 28th at 10:00 am. Because the guided tour takes us to a lot of the inside workings of the plant, be FOREWARNED, there will be a lot of walking. The cost of the tour will be \$5.00 per person.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am looking forward to meeting and greeting each and everyone of you. This year, if all goes as planned, we will have three new members to introduce to the membership. It has been a very long time since we have brought on board new members. Let's make them feel welcome and at home.

If anyone has anything to add to our *Newsletter*, please contact our editor Paul Tilson at paultilson@aol.com and put "HH" or "Hurricane

Hunters" in the subject line.

Fair Winds and Following Seas
Be kind to one another

Ennis Eaton
President
US Navy Hurricane Hunters



JAX DoubleTree Riverfront Hotel Site Of 2018 Reunion

The Hurricane Hunters' 2018 reunion, scheduled for September 26 - 30, will once again be held at the Jacksonville DoubleTree Riverfront Hotel.

For those who haven't attended previous reunions at what has become our *de facto* headquarters will find a modern hotel is set in the commercial and Business district of the city center, on the south bank of the St. Johns River in 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 Double Tree Riverfront offers spacious guest rooms and suites featuring complimentary Wi-Fi
See "JAX DoubleTree Riverfront..." on Page Two

Letters To The Editor

Editor's Note: The following letter is not just to the Editor, but to all "Hunters."

Dear Shipmates,

Despite my hopes, I regret that I will be unable to make the next reunion.

My lung cancer has returned and this time it was not operable. I endured a series of chemo treatments and 35 radiation treatments over 8 weeks, which left me very weak and with blood clots in both lungs and leg.

After a week in the Hospital at Moffitt Cancer Center, I returned home but my condition worsened. I developed pneumonia and was rushed the VA Hospital at Bay Pines, Florida, (a great facility) where I spent the next two weeks.

I am now home on palliative care, on constant oxygen and heavy blood thinners which limit my ability to go anywhere.

I hope that you have a good turnout and think of all the good times I had at past reunions. Those of us from VX-4 still hope that someday the Museum will locate a PB-1W to add to their collection in Pensacola.

Please extend regards to all of my friends.

Carleton L "Woody" Weidemeyer
VX 4 and VW 1 USN

JAX DoubleTree Riverfront Hotel Site Of 2018 Reunion

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and flat-screen HDTV's, and excellent views of the St. Johns River or the City. 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's 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 Ruth's Chris' award-winning wine list. Or if you prefer, you can enjoy casual Jacksonville dining and fast, friendly service at St. Johns Provisional Co., the hotel's other restaurant. You can also grab a hot drink in the Starbucks Coffee Bar,

Early check-in is Wednesday, September 26, with reunion registration available in the ready room by mid-afternoon. The Ready Room opens Thursday, September 27, at 0900 for registration and socializing with old shipmates. That evening will feature the Wine and Cheese Party.

Friday, September 28, once again finds the Ready Room open at 0900 with the day free to explore the many offerings of Jacksonville's Riverfront and surrounding neighborhoods. A tour of the JAX Budweiser brewery has been arranged by our planning team. The Hurricane Hunters organization has agreed to underwrite one-half of the \$10 cost of admission for the tour, so the cost to your will only be \$5.00 per person.

Saturday, September 29, will find the Ready Room open at 0900, and the day will kick-off with General Membership Meeting for All Hands with the location of the meeting to be announced at Registration. That evenings festivities will begin with a cash bar Social Hour followed by our annual Banquet.

The menu for the banquet will feature choices of Flank Steak, grilled medium rare topped with a Burgundy wine and mushroom sauce and served with garlic mashed potatoes and steamed asparagus; Roasted Chicken with *mirepoix au jus*, served with herb roasted fingerling potatoes and vegetable medley; and Potato and Herb Crusted Grouper, local line-caught, with an oven dried *beurre blanc* with rice pilaf and steamed asparagus.

Sunday, September 30, the Ready Room opens at
See "JAX DoubleTree Riverfront..." on Page Three

JAX DoubleTree Riverfront Hotel Site Of 2018 Reunion

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0900. That day is a home game for the Jacksonville Jaguars who play in the stadium just across the river from our hotel. The planning committee has arranged for those desiring to stay over for the game to extend their stay until Monday, October 1, at our special rate, but make reservations early as the hotel fills up quickly on home game days.

HURRICANE HUNTERS, INC.	
A non-profit Florida corporation 501.c.19	
OFFICERS	
PRESIDENT	E.R Eaton
VICE PRESIDENT	Juan Blanco
SECRETARY	Arvid Nelson
TREASURER	Byron Biddle
DIRECTOR	Don Cone
DIRECTOR	J.D. Manion
DIRECTOR	Paul Tilson
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Paul Tilson
<p>Newsletter is published three times annually. Association dues are \$25.00 annually payable on January 1st or thereafter.</p> <p>Association address: Hurricane Hunters, Inc. P.O. Box 506 Vernon, Florida 32462</p>	

TAPS

It is with a heavy heart that we post the following:

Mrs. Mary McNeal Reese passed away peacefully on April 4, 2018. She was the wife of nearly 72 years of CAPT Walter Reese, USN (Ret), former Commanding Officer of VWW-4. Mary and Walt had three boys, Steve, Chuck, and Bob. They were active in their community and traveled widely to see children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews, as well as to attend Navy League meetings and Hurricane Hunter reunions in all corners of the United States.

Mary served as an elder at Milton First Presbyterian

and later at Pace Presbyterian churches, and she was particularly honored to serve as the Moderator of the Florida Presbytery from 1995 to 1996. She was very active in Presbyterian Women. Mary enjoyed singing in choral societies and church choirs at their many duty stations, directing the choirs at Milton First Presbyterian and also Pace Presbyterian. She also enjoyed many active years in the Milton Garden Club.

ATN2 Bill (BD) Martin departed this life April 02, 2018, in Thayer, Missouri. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Ellen Martin; two sons, Mark Ryan Martin of Thayer, Missouri and Scott Eric Martin of Nashville, Tennessee; five grandchildren, Grant Martin, Nicklaus Martin, Gabriel Martin, Jack Martin, and Megan Martin; two brothers, Jerry Martin of Springfield, Missouri, and James Martin of Thayer, Missouri. Bill flew as 1st Radio on the Skipper's plane '61-'63

ATN2 Donald P. Cone crossed into Heaven on May 02, 2018. At his passing, Don was a member of the Board of Directors of Hurricane Hunters, Inc. He attended the University of Hartford before enlisting in the US Navy where he served as a Hurricane Hunter. After his tour in the Navy, he worked as an engineer at Pratt & Whitney in East Hartford, Connecticut. He served as the chairman of the East Lyme Veterans Council. He was a 50-year member and past commander of the American Legion Turner Tinker Post 128, as well as a former commander of the VFW Kari Hill Post 5849. The State of Connecticut General Assembly honored him with a Volunteer of the Year Award for his outstanding contributions to the town of East Lyme and his tireless efforts on behalf of veterans.

Don is survived by his wife Athena, son Donald Howard Cone of Adamsville, Maryland; daughter Chrysanthe Moore of East Lyme, Connecticut; grandchildren Evangeline Moore, Colvert Moore, Donald Cone, and Alex Cone; and two sisters Lorraine Atwater and Janet McWilliams.

Don flew on several crews in VW-4 and was assigned to the Radio Shop '63-'66

ADCS John E. Fulford August 13, 2017. John flew as Flight Engineer on several VW-4 crews

U.S. NAVY HURRICANE HUNTERS
Jacksonville, Florida
September 26th - 30th

Registration Form

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Address _____ Phone Number _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

E-Mail Address _____

Spouse/Guest (s) Name _____

Squadron (s) served in and years _____

	Price	Number	Total
Registration Fee per attendee	\$25.00	_____	\$_____
Wine & Cheese Party (Sep 27)	\$15.00	_____	\$_____
Budweiser Brewery Tour (Sep 28)	\$ 5.00	_____	\$_____
Banquet Dinner Selection (Sep 29):			
Flank Steak	\$25.00	_____	\$_____
Roasted Chicken	\$25.00	_____	\$_____
Potato & Herb-Crusted Grouper	\$25.00	_____	\$_____
Check Total for all Reunion costs			\$_____

Dues \$25.00/year (Please enclose a separate dues check) \$_____

Make all checks payable to: Hurricane Hunters, Inc.

Mail this form and checks by August 15, 2018 to:

Hurricane Hunters, Inc.
P.O. Box 506
Vernon, FL 32462