



**NEWSLETTER**

**#156**

**FEBRUARY**

**2025**

**HTTP://RESHIRTATION.COM**

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NATIONAL AAO  
LEADER NOTES  
PRESIDENT

CAPT Matt Arnold, USN  
nationalaaopres@gmail.com

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nationalaaovp@gmail.com

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USN (Ret)

nationalaaosec@gmail.com

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CWO4 Todd Pendleton, USN (Ret)  
nationalaaotreas@gmail.com

CHAPLAIN

Steve Varga  
gunner.varga@yahoo.com

Board of Directors

Amber L. Roth- nationalaaobod1@gmail.com

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Supreme Commander Service/  
Membership/Locator **5**

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Aviation Ordnancemen(AAAO) **9**

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QR CODE:



REDSHIRTNATION.COM

RED SHIRT ARTICLES  
20 JANUARY, 1 MAY, 20 SEPTEMBER

FRONT COVER:  
Chapter eight Holiday Party

Greeting fellow warriors, past and present, and your family members. I hope all is well with you and yours and that the beginning of this year has brought you many blessings and opportunities. It is hard to believe that we are already in the first months of 2025. I am thankful for the opportunity to continue to serve each of you and this great organization as its president. I challenge each of you to look for new opportunities to improve our Navy and Marine Corps, further promote our great organization, honor our veterans, and support the citizens of our great nation.

We have started the planning process for the upcoming convention. Many of the elected officers and committee members met in Laughlin, Nevada, in January to discuss the arrangements for the event. A multitude of topics were discussed over the weekend in an effort to improve both the convention and the Joint Navy and Marine Corps Aviation Ordnance Managers and Leaders Continuum. I was not able to attend this year, but Tim Zimmer and the rest of the officers were able to complete the planning in a short period of time. I want to take this opportunity to publicly thank the attendees for their efforts in support of our organization. I would like to offer a special thank you to Tim Zimmer for leading the planning effort in my absence. As usual, this event offered the participants a chance to socialize and break bread together. The food and adult beverages were both good and very plentiful, and I believe everyone had a good time.

I continue to be amazed by both the sheer quantity and quality of work being performed by our members throughout the organization. I continually receive

information about our chapters actively participating in “Adopt-a-Road” programs, conducting charity events of their own or supporting the events of other organizations, coordinating professional development and mentorship activities, and offering a helping hand to struggling members of our armed services or the less fortunate in our communities. I commend all of you for your efforts and offer my personal and professional appreciation for your continued service. Each of these efforts serves to increase the visibility of our organization within our community while also enriching the lives of others and making our cities, states, and nation a better place in which to live. Please utilize the “Red Shirt” to recognize our members and identify their good works. I look forward to reading about your work in the next issue.

In closing, I wish you and yours Fair Winds and Following Seas throughout the coming months. I ask that you keep our Sailors, Marines, and civilian employees, wherever they are stationed or deployed, in your thoughts and prayers. Please continue to support this organization, its members, and our Navy and Marine Corps Aviation Ordnance Team. Sail Safe.

IYAOYAS,

Matt



Howdy!

Sitting here in Laughlin on Sunday after another successful and enjoyable Board of Directors and convention planning meetings. It was unfortunate that we weren't able to have all of our officers physically attend this year but for those that did we had a good time hanging out, telling sea stories and imbibing in a little grog (some of us more than a little SHIPMATE!). The Board of Directors had to perform an act that we hate doing, disestablishing Chapter LHD-8 Makin Island. For everyone's awareness, every chapter must abide by the following minimum requirements:

\*All Chapter officers must be members of the Association.

\*Chapters must hold meetings at least bi-monthly.

\*Chapters must submit meeting minutes, financial reports, and all other information as required by the Association.

\*The Chapter will, at The Association's general business meeting, report its goals, functions, and progress to the general membership. If no Chapter member can attend The Association's annual general meeting, they shall submit a written report to The Association Secretary, to be read at the general business meeting.

\*Chapters shall submit items of interest to the Redshirt. (Goal is to submit an article for each edition so all members know about the good things going on in each chapter

We have quite a few more that are in danger of being deactivated so please help us keep chapters alive by ensuring yours is abiding by these few obligations. Also, reach out to other chapters to make sure they know what they're supposed to be doing. Often times we hear that there is little to no turnover when new chapter officers are elected so they just don't know that they are supposed to be sending us this information. We all need to do whatever we can so that we continue to be a

strong organization. This year's convention will be held 31 July-3 August at the Silver Legacy in Reno. We are still waiting on cost data from the Legacy so we don't know how much ticket prices will be yet. We're fighting to keep them the same but if they raise dinner prices, we have no choice. As soon as we get that information, it will be posted on the website. The Aviation Ordnance Managers Leadership Continuum (AOMLC) will run 28-31 July. And remember, if you're attending AOMLC, you are authorized to extend and attend convention as well. You would just be personally responsible for your hotel costs through Sunday the 3rd.

This year there are (3) offices up for election, President and (2) Board of Director positions. If you wish to nominate anyone for one of these positions, go to the Association website (redshirtnation.com), click "2025 National AAO Officer Nominations" and fill out the information. Another way is to send me an email (nationalaaovp@gmail.com) with the nominee in the CC line. I will respond to get the candidate's consent. Nominations for the above-mentioned offices must be received by 1 April 2025. At convention, nominations will also be taken from the floor during the General Business Meeting (GBM). All nominees must be present at the GBM unless their absence has been previously approved by the Board of Directors. Once nominations close, the website will change from nominations to absentee voting. Also, the May Redshirt will contain an absentee ballot.

As always, you have questions/comments/recommendations/bitches/complaints or just want to say "Hey!", shoot me an email at

[nationalaaovp@gmail.com](mailto:nationalaaovp@gmail.com).

I Y A O Y A S

Tim 2001 CRUISE ON USS  
CONSTELLATION



Greetings, Shipmates and Marines – I hope you all are well with you and yours and that you had an outstanding holiday season with friends and family. We had good numbers in Laughlin for the Convention Planning Meeting and saw some new faces. A BIG thank you to everyone who attended the Martin Luther King Weekend. It was a good time for all of us to catch up, socialize, and break bread because, in Reno, we are pretty busy attending to the multitude of things that come up. We turned the reins over for hosting to Tim & Teresa Zimmer, and Bill & Sue Taylor. THANKS for the outstanding job hosting the meeting. We will again be there over the MLK weekend next year, so save the date.

Start NOW to make plans for this year’s Convention to be held at the Silver Legacy Resort, Reno, NV, from July 30th through August 3rd. NOTE: ALL hotel reservations and registration, Social, and Award banquets MUST be made through the AAO website (redshirtnation.com). See the flyer elsewhere in the Red Shirt.

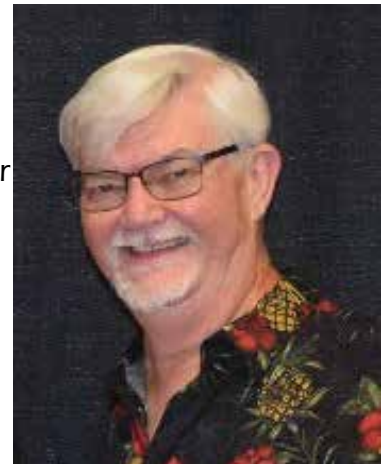
The Auxiliary leadership (Teresa Zimmer, President) stepped up big time and is covering the giveaways again this year. Please support the Auxiliary through their fund-raising venues to raise money for the various things they do to support the Association. A big THANK YOU from the Association. Because of this, the Association was able to contain the costs of the meals even though the service fees went from 20 to 22%. The Association cannot afford to lose money on the Convention.

Tess (my bride) and I have taken over

from Kirk Brado as the Convention Committee Chairman. If there are any issues we can help you with once onsite in Reno, please see Tess or myself. Chapters must contact me (nationalaaosec@gmail) to reserve tables to sell their merchandise. Every year, at least one Chapter that did NOT reserve a table shows up. If you don’t reserve a table, we cannot guarantee a table. Better yet, show up Monday (July 28th) to sell at the Continuum!

Chapter Officers – It saddens me to report that Chapter LHD – 8 (Makin Island) has been disestablished –. It was voted on by the Board of Directors (BOD) IAW the National By-Laws (Article IX). You are required to submit your minutes to me and submit Red Shirt articles. Do not let this happen to your Chapter!

Serving as your Secretary for the past 11+ years has been a privilege. Thank you for your continuing confidence and support.



JJ LaMaitre  
AAO Secretary

IN SUPREME COMMANDERS SERVICE

MRS. KAREN LUCAS\*\*\*

AOCS RICKY SHEETS\*\*\*

AOC MICHAEL LYNN HARRIS\*\*\*

AO2 BRIAN OLIVER LESTER\*\*\*

AOCS MIKE TUCKER\*\*\*

Our 2025 Convention planning meeting in Laughlin went well. Thanks to all who attended and gave their input. Our current finances are in good order.

Please consider coming to the 2025 Convention, 31 July-3 Aug 2025, but decide early and get registered completed as soon as possible. The hotel reservation under Group Code (found on the registration form) cut-off date for hotel reservations is 30 Jun 2024 through the link on [www.redshirtnation.com](http://www.redshirtnation.com). Don't call the hotel; you probably won't get the Group rate on your final bill; use the link before the cut-off date.

The cut-off for Convention Registration will be 18 Jul 2024. After that date, a late fee of \$10 will be charged for Registration only, NOT any additional fee for each meal; the meal prices will remain the same. Look for all the updated information on the website after 1 Feb 2025.

Chapter Officers, look at your current membership status and encourage your non-National members to join National. It is easy now; go to [www.redshirtnation.com](http://www.redshirtnation.com) and join via the website. If you are an inactive member, please contact me via email and get current on your annual dues or consider becoming a Life member. We want you to stay involved and contribute what you can: knowledge, time, expertise, or donations. Remember, all elected Chapter Officers are required to be National members in good standing to hold their office, per the National by-laws.

The Annual Chapter Financial Reports are due at the General Business Meeting in Reno. Chapters should submit their annual financial report to the National Treasurer after the end of May 2025 and before 18 Jul 2025. If your chapter has yet to submit the FY22-23 or FY23-24 Annual reports, do so. Those reports are part of our income tax filing and records. Chapter Treasurers, if you need the Form

for the annual report, email me as soon as possible, and I will send you the format.

Also, a new procedure in Appendix A was approved for all Chapters regarding Chapter Bank accounts. DO NOT open bank accounts using someone's name and SSN. Contact me for the Tax ID (EIN) 501(c)(6) and open an Association account for your Chapter. We do not want the IRS to come to a member or former Chapter Officer again to pay taxes on a Chapter's account income.

Have you been promoted, changed your status (recently retired), or changed your contact info? If so, go to the website, print out the membership form, fill out all the information on the form, scan or take a photo of the form, and email it to me with a note on the form "Info Update Only." When I get a Renewal Notice card or Red Shirt returned to me, I am removing that person from the Red Shirt list until I have a current mailing address. Let them know if you see someone's name on the locator list. Sign up to get your Red Shirt electronically via the "Info Update Only" method!! You can make the updates by filling out a membership form from the website ([www.redshirtnation.com](http://www.redshirtnation.com)), noting "Info Update Only," and emailing them to me at [nationalaaotreas@gmail.com](mailto:nationalaaotreas@gmail.com). If you see your name on the Locator list, please email your updated address so you can get the next Red Shirt. If you see somebody you know on the Locator, I don't have their current mailing address or email address and can't send them updated materials.

IYAOYAS!

Thanks,

M. Todd Pendleton

(360) 632-7828

[nationalaaotreas@gmail.com](mailto:nationalaaotreas@gmail.com)

National AAO Treasurer



NEW LIFE MEMBERS

AO2 Ronald J. Matonovich	AO1 Christopher A. Washington
AO2 Jon D. Kress	AOC Michael W. Priest
AO1 Brittaney M. Hernandez	AO1 Kolton C. Pang
SGT Jonathan D. Jones, USMC	LCDR Brian J. Schwandt
AO3 Zackery M. Nightfeather	AO1 Jaree D. Cokley
AO3 Kenneth E. Leffler	AOC Leonardo D. Vasquez
AOCM Jess E. Bradbury	CWO4 Gregory A. Walker

NEW MEMBERS

AO2 Eddreena C. Tuggles	AO1 Saudia M. Sutton	AOAN Ta’Niyah L. Lester
AO1 Sherod J. Dickson	AOCM Rudoff L. Liverpool	AO2 Kennethe L. Silkey
AO3 Stacie M. Booth	AO1 Derrick L. Minnittsharp	AO2 Katie M. Nichols
1st LT Stephen P. Gentry, USMC	AO2 Shane J. Dunn	AO Raekwon K. Wright
GySgt Tony L. Neeley, USMC	AO1 Jared P. Harmer	AO1 Colin R. Bosley
AO2 Dianna A. Criado	AO1 Wanda E. Carrasquillo	AO1 Dominique S. Robinson
AO2 Manuel D. Pina	AOAN Tafari M. Clark	AO1 Cedar A. Orlando
AO1 Isaiah R. Martinez	AO1 Sophia M. Mattos	AO1 Isaiah D. Sawyers
AOAA Elijah M. Mendiola	AO2 Zaria Sandria Frazil	AO1 Newman T. Johnson
AOAN Paige M. Turner	LSS2 Cody T. Smegner	AO1 Olivia S. Livingston
SSgt Rance M. Rea	AO2 Alissah N. Hickman	AO1 Tarrin J. Daniel
AO2 Ty-Uana M. Brown	AO2 Anai C. Hudgens	AO1 Gilmore A. Estrill
AO1 David J. Duprey	SGT Lowelyne C. Cadiz, USMC	AOC Jamal B. Thompson
AO1 Julian T. Colbert	AO3 Jerry A. Cornell	AOC Breona N. Carter
AO1 Jamonte Stewart	AO1 Taj G. Stanley	AO2 Hanna P. Getz
AO1 Ashley B. Ketchup	GySgt Jessica H. Brewer	

LOCATOR

Can you help? Know where any of these members can be located? Let them know to go to redshirtnation.com, fill out the membership form to update contact info and if you have a mailing address or phone number, please contact me at nationalaaotreas@gmail.com, snail mail or give me a call.

LT RAY A. BERNAL (NC)	AO3 ROBERT L. BENNETT (RN)
AO1 DEVON D. MERRITT (RN)	AO2 TIMOTHY A. MATTHEWS (NC)
AO2 STEPHANIE G. SANDRIA (NC)	AOAN CALVIN J. CLARK (RN)
AO3 CHASE A. SPRINGETT (RN)	AO3 FREDDY A. SANCHEZ (RN)

NOTES: (RN) = RENEWAL NOTICE RETURN / (RS) = RED SHIRT RETURN / (NC) = 2 YEARS NO CONTACT

## Chaplain's Corner

Sheryl and I enjoyed seeing the “usual suspects” at the Convention Planning Meeting in Laughlin this past weekend. One of the things we love about the AAO is when like-minded folk with shared experiences get together and tell those coveted “sea stories” (that never get old). When you are in a room with many wonderful Ordies (and their running mates) who have “been there, done that the tee shirt” from shared (and many previous) decades in our rating's history, you realize that the common themes are taking care of your shipmates and working as a team.

We can all agree that life as Aviation Ordnancemen is exciting and challenging but also filled with trials (in and out of uniform) that can tax our emotions and abilities to maintain an even keel. I think the opportunity to gather together and talk about “anything” can be a great tool for drawing on other's experiences to help ease our minds and find solutions to the problems we face.

We are Sailors and Citizens and have twice as many avenues to seek a sympathetic ear that can help us through those trials. Never hesitate to reach out to a shipmate, leader, friend, family member, neighbor, counselor, mentor, or chaplain (yours indeed included) when you need to talk and work things out. God is always listening to you; know that you are loved wherever you are and whatever you face.

Steve Varga

AAO National Chaplain

Hello,

I hope this finds all of you doing well and surviving your winter. For us on the West Coast, it's been good. Our hearts go out to those affected by the devastating fires in LA. We send out prayers for all who are fighting those battles.

We had our planning meeting in Laughlin this past weekend, and I am thrilled to say we have some great ideas for this year's convention. I hope to see you all there!

If anyone is planning to donate items for our auction, please keep in mind that the items sometimes have to fit in a suitcase or carry-on. We love

receiving unique and homemade items and appreciate your generosity and dedication.

Until next time, I want to give a shout out to all of our outstanding auxiliary cabinet members who support and help make it all happen. Thank you, and to all the fantastic folks who continue to support us year-round.

Sincerely,

Teresa Zimmer

AAAO President





# 2025 AAO CONVENTION

WHERE: Silver Legacy Resort, Reno, NV

WHEN: July 30th through August 3rd.

NOTE: ALL hotel reservations and registrations, Social, and Award banquets MUST be made through the AAO website, redshirtnation.com .

NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NLT 01 APRIL 2024

At the 2025 general business meeting, the offices of President, Board of Director #1 and #2 are up for election. Current incumbents are:

President- Matt Arnold

BOD #1 - Amber Roth

BOD #2- Steve Kashuba

Matt Arnold deferred his nomination; Steve Folsom accepted his nomination for the office as President.

Amber Roth declined her nomination.

Steve Kashuba, Larry Hurbert, Lindsey Smack and Lindsey Rodriguez were all nominated and have accepted to run for the offices on the BOD for 2025.

If you would like to nominate anyone not already nominated please do so here at <https://www.redshirtnation.com> from any smart phone or computer.

NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NLT 01 APRIL 2024

Committee	Deadline	Committee Chairmen
Scholarship	15 JULY 2025	Rick Garza (rgarza511@gmail.com)
HOF	23 JULY 2025	Jeff Sassone (nationalaaobod5@gmail.com)
AOY	23 JULY 2025	Amber Roth (aoychairman@gmail.com)

\*dates subject to change

## RED SHIRT ARTICLES

**20 JANUARY, 1 MAY, 20 SEPTEMBER**

# CHAPTER LISTING

FIND YOUR LOCAL CHAPTER OR START ONE IN YOUR AREA.  
GO TO [WWW.REDSHIRTNATION.COM/](http://WWW.REDSHIRTNATION.COM/) FOR THE APPROPRIATE GUIDLINES.

MANY CHAPTERS ARE DELINQUENT OF MINUTES NOT BEING SUBMITTED.

AS PER THE AAO NATIONAL BYLAWS, IF MINUTES, CORRESPONDENCE, AND TREASURER REPORTS HAVE NOT BEEN RECEIVED FOR ONE (1) CONSECUTIVE YEAR, THE CHAPTER WILL BE SENT A WARNING LETTER OF DISESTABLISHMENT. IF CORRESPONDENCE IS STILL NOT RECEIVED, THE CHAPTER WILL BE OFFICIALLY DISESTABLISHED

Chapter 1 - Lemoore, CA  
President-Christopher Hathaway  
Vice-President- AOC Christopher Masterson  
Secretary-AO3 Evet Gutierrez  
Treasurer-Johnny Wheat  
Fleet Reserve Club, D Street, Lemoore  
3rd Thursday, 1730

Chapter 3 - Whidbey Island, WA  
President- AO1 Bodiford  
Vice-President- AO1 Granaas  
Secretary- Emilee Lamb  
Treasurer- Walter Johnson  
VFW Post 3037  
Fourth Wed of the month, 1130

Chapter 4 - Virginia Beach, VA  
President- AOC Jason Young  
VP- AO2 Chancellor Ellis  
Treasurer- AO1 Maggie DeSpain  
Secretary- AO2 Ryan DaviesVA Beach VFW #392, 2408 Bowland Pkwy  
3rd Wednesday, 1800

Chapter 5 - China Lake, CA  
President-AOC Casey Wheelock  
Vice President- AO2 Rudy Ortiz  
Secretary- AO3 Isaac Herzog  
Treasurer- AO3 Javion Turner  
chapter5chinalake@outlook.com  
VFW 4080, 117 N. Alvord  
Last Flex Thursday of Month, 1800

Chapter 8 - San Diego, CA  
President- AO1 Tristan Granaas  
Vice-President- AO2 Jane Park  
Secretary- AO3 Jose Luna  
Treasurer-Barry Stemler  
bstemler36@gmail.com  
BOD- CWO4 (Ret) Gunner Goose, CWO4 (Ret) Lester Gipson, AO1 (Ret) Diane Mcqueen-Gipson, AO1 (AD) Quentin Tabb, AO1 (AD) Max Mistecka  
American Legion Post 255, National City  
1st Thursday, 1900

Chapter 9 - Jacksonville, FL  
President-AO1 Shadoe Culclager  
Vice President-AO2 James Maultsby  
Secretary-LCDR(Ret) Steve Cashat  
ordy04@yahoo.com  
Treasurer-AO1(Ret) Rick Wyman  
Fleet Reserve, Collins Road  
3rd Thursday, 1900

Chapter 11 - Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii  
DISESTABLISHED

Chapter 21 - Fallon, NV  
President- AO2 Arin Felton  
Vice President- AO2 Christopher Bennett  
Secretary- AO2 Bailey Kennedy  
Treasurer- AO2 Ashley Li  
American Legion Post 16 Fallon, NV.  
1st Wednesday, 1830

Chapter 22 - Patuxent River  
President: AO2 Emmanuel (EJ) Yiaadeyadoga  
Vice President: Vacant  
Treasurer: Rob Pavel  
Secretary: Ellen Bailey  
BOD: Tom Brouwer, LT Chris Shelton, Mike Bruns, and Mel Swartz  
VFW, Post 2632 California, MD  
3rd Wednesday, 1800

Chapter 34 - Pensacola, FL  
President-AO1 Zachary Snider  
chapter34ordie@gmail.com  
Vice President: AO1 Victor Tovar  
Treasurer (NAVY): AO1 Ashley Brown  
Treasurer (USMC): SGT Nathan McLain  
Secretary: AO1 Kyliegh Love  
Public Affairs Officer: AO2 Nicole Ruskbonilla  
Master at Arms: AO2 Jeremiah Acosta  
O'riley's Irish Pub downtown  
321 S Palafox St, Pensacola, FL  
1st Wednesday, 1830

Chapter 35 - Lightning Chapter  
President-AO1 Garrett Ly-Kinhan  
CNATT Det Eglin JSF F-35 ATC  
3rd Thursday, 1500

RED SHIRT

Chapter 39 - Dude Gilbert  
Beaufort, SC  
President-Rob Farmer  
Vice-President-Chris Hooper  
hoop9777@gmail.com  
Treasurer-Del Tingley  
Secretary-Jason Grayson  
After Burners Staff NCO Lounge  
1st Thursday 1645

Chapter 671 - Guam  
President-Mikko Delosreyes,  
mikko.m.delosreyes.mil@  
us.navy.mil  
Molly McGee's onboard Naval  
Base Guam  
3rd Thursday, 1900

Chapter 805- Point Mugu

Chapter Desert Southwest -  
El Centro, CA.  
DISESTABLISHED

Chapter LHD 4 - Gator Chapter  
DISESTABLISHED

Chapter LHD 7 - USS Iwo Jima  
President-AO1 Rosalie A.  
Lashley  
On Board

Chapter LHD 8 - USS Makin  
Island  
DISESTABLISHED

Chapter CVN 68 - USS Nimitz  
President- AOC Wilson Leiva  
Secretary- AO1 Brandon Barber  
Treasurer- AOC Andrew  
Reimund  
PAO- Tyler Nicolet  
On Board

Chapter CVN 69 - USS Dwight D  
Eisenhower  
President: AO1 Justin Rives  
ssphiend08@gmail.com  
Vice President: AO1 Adrienne  
Anderson  
Secretary: AO2 Alvaro Benitez  
Treasurer: AO2 Brian Michel  
On Board

Chapter CVN 70 - USS Carl  
Vinson  
President: AO1 Kittles  
VP: AO1 Halcomb  
Sec: AO1 Oclima  
Tres: AO2 Blackmon  
MA: AO1 Masolo  
On Board

Chapter CVN 71- USS Theodore  
Roosevelt  
President-AO1 Jose Pando  
On Board

Chapter CVN 72 - USS Abraham  
Lincoln  
President-AO1 Roden  
On Board

Chapter CVN 73 - USS George  
Washington  
President- AO1 Derrick  
MinnittSharp  
Vice President- AO1 Ashley  
Ketchup  
Secretary- AO1 Wanda  
Carrasquillo  
Treasurer- AO1 Julian Colbert  
Master-at-Arms- AO2 Christian  
Carter  
On-Board

Chapter CVN 74 - USS Stennis  
President-AO1 Benjamin  
Llewellyn  
On Board

Chapter CVN 75 - USS Harry S.  
Truman  
President-AO1 Dixon  
Vice President-AO1 Flowers  
Master at Arms-AO1 Everett  
PAO-AO3 Nichols  
Secretary-AO3 Bates  
Treasurer-AO2 Crider  
On Board

Chapter 76 - USS Ronald Reagan  
President-AO1 Justin Fallone  
On Board

Chapter 77 - USS George H.W.  
Bush  
President-AO1 Rebecca Wright  
On Board

Chapter CVN 78 - USS Gerald  
Ford  
President - Thomas Amyx  
VP - Nicholas Storie  
Treasurer - Justin Cortez  
Secretary - Keith Shell  
VFW Post 3160 111 A View,  
Norfolk, VA  
Last Thursday of every month,  
1400

Chapter Southernmost -  
Key West, FL  
Sunset Lounge, at Sigsbee  
ANNEX

Chapter Spartan - Souda Bay,  
Greece  
President-AO1 Gilmore Estrill  
Meeting Time and Location  
Varies  
3rd Thursday of the month

Greetings from Chapter ONE in Lemoore, California.

We hope everyone had wonderful holidays with your loved ones, and to those that are deployed THANK YOU! for standing the watch. Before the New Year started we had to cancel our Annual holiday party, due to low attendance. Let's hope this year is different and encourage everyone out in the Lemoore area to come out and join us at our next chapter meeting.

Welcome home CAG-9 from your deployment, glad you made right in time for the holiday season. To all our Squadrons and CAG's here in Lemoore who are training and preparing for deployment, be safe and keep your head on a swivel. We truly do appreciate the sacrifice and hard work that you all do.

Chapter ONE will be having their Semi- Annual Adopt- a- Highway cleanup on January 17th. Please come out and help us keep our highways clean.

NMC DET LEMOORE will be having a building dedication at their training building on Feb 19th, (time TBD) for our great brother LCDR Chuck Onken. We would love to see everyone here in Lemoore or if you are in the area to please do so as well.

Membership is still low so if you find yourself in our area or need some place to go on a third Thursday of each month. Please spread the word to our Lemoore AO Brothers and Sisters. Take care and stay safe until we meet again.

IYAOYAS,

Juan Dominguezgarcia

Chapter ONE Vice-President

AAO Chapter 3 Red Shirt Inputs for Dec 24 - Jan 25

Greetings from Chapter 3, Whidbey Island, Washington!

Over the past two months, we have successfully conducted two meetings, held on the third Wednesday of each month, under the leadership of our President, AO1 Duprey. During this period, Chapter 3 has made notable progress, including the sale of one medium shirt and patch and the complete sale of all ten commemorative coins. We are also pleased to welcome five new members: AO1 Abacca, AO2 Rodriguez, AO2 Untalon, AO1 Bosley, and AO1 Deppe.

While our activities remain unofficial, our current objective is establishing our cabinet formally before proceeding with further initiatives. We acknowledge that communication and member involvement have been areas needing improvement, and we are committed to enhancing these aspects as we move forward. This is just the beginning of a thriving Association in the Pacific Northwest.

Chapter 3 extends its best wishes to all members and hopes you enjoyed a wonderful holiday season. Here's to a prosperous New Year! Until next time, let us continue our mission of excellence since 1926. IYAOYAS!

Respectfully,  
AO1 (AW/SW) Collin Bosley  
Secretary, Chapter 3

On the 14th of December 2024, the first cemetery was added to the national registry of wreaths Across America. A historic community for military service members and veterans. Ceremonial wreaths were proudly presented for each branch of the military. The United States Navy's wreath was presented by Chapter 4 members AO1 Brittney Hernandez and AO1 Kristen Brown.

Chapter 4 was the lead donator of balsam wreaths in the city.

Our Mayor and Navy Capt. (E-2 Pilot) provided inspiring and moving remarks.

I deeply believe that this event is noteworthy for publications in the next REDSHIRT issue.

I could be reached if additional information is needed

Joe Mahachek (LT retired)

IYAOYAS



## AAO Chapter 8 Red Shirt Inputs for Oct-Dec 24

Greetings from Chapter 8 in sunny San Diego, “Where it all started.”

Since October our Chapter’s membership has continued to grow, and we have added 8 new Lifetime Members.

At our Nov. 7th AAO Chapter meeting, AO1 Tristan Granaas was awarded our AO of the Quarter, 3rd Quarter 2024! We would like to congratulate and acknowledge her for her selection and consistent dedication and hard work in support of the Chapter.

On November 9th, 10 Chapter members attended a Veterans Day ceremony at Mount Soledad where this year’s theme was to honor Korean War veterans. Chapter member Tom Crosby was Korean War Veteran and our Chapter Vice President, Jane Park’s, nationality is Korean so this ceremony held a special significance to them. After the ceremony, Tom Crosby showed the Chapter his personal plaque that is on permanent display at Mt. Soledad.

On December 4th the chapter held its annual Family Holiday Party. The event was held at an Old Town restaurant named Pizza Bella Italian Bistro and our event drew over 35 local Ordies and their guests. It was an evening filled with wonderful moments as we came together with our families and friends. Highlights included, Ms. Prezlei Granaas for being made an Honorary Junior Member of AAO Chapter 8 and the USS ESSEX (LHD-2) for being the Chapter’s 2024 recipient of the “Lone Sailor Award” This award is presented to the San Diego command that provided the Chapter with the most presence at meetings, volunteer activities, and overall support during the year. This was the USS ESSEX (LHD-2) second year in a row to receive this award and we extend our heartfelt thanks for your ongoing dedication and participation.

During November and December, the Chapter held it’s annual Jason P. May Holiday Hand Up. The Chapter awarded 12 AO families in November and three families in December \$100 VISA gifts each to help them through the holidays. The Chapter would like to thank AO1 Granaas, and Barry Stemler for presenting the gift cards to the various commands and the board of directors for their superb coordination.

Until next time, may our chapter continue to flourish and thrive. IYAOYAS!

Chapter 8’s current Leadership.

President: AO1 Tristan Granaas

VP: AO1 Jane Park

Sec: AO3 Jose Luna

Treas: CWO3 (Ret) Barry Stemler

BOD:

CWO4 (Ret) Gunner Goose

CWO4 (Ret) Lester Gipson

AOCM (Ret) Diane Mcqueen-Gipson

AO1 (AD) Quentin Tabb

AO1 (AD) Max Mistecka

V/R

Jose M Luna

AO3 Jose Luna Chapter 8 Secretary



RED SHIRT ARTICLE; SEP 2024 and JAN 2025

Greetings from Chapter 9. All is well here in Jacksonville, 'ORDIELAND', at the start of 2025. Since our September article didn't get published, this will cover some of that time as well. The Helo and patrol communities are very busy with work-ups and deployments. The retired AOs are the glue that keeps Chapter 9 operating month by month.

Congratulations to retired Chief Ed Murphy from Chapter Nine, who was inducted into the National Hall of Fame at the latest AO Convention, honoring his 50 years of service to the Navy as an AO, 20 active, and 30 more in civil service. Thank you for that service, Chief. Don't forget to make plans to attend the 2026 Convention; history will be made; our United States will be 250 years old, the AO rate will turn 100, and AAO will turn 50.

It is with great sadness that I must report that our oldest member, USN retired LT Robert Bohnstengel, who turned 100 earlier in 2024, passed away in September. Next in line was retired USMC LT. Robert Soldner also passed away in November. You both will be missed. What stories did they share about their WWII and Korean War experiences? Last but certainly not least, we honored AO3 Devon Jeter during the November meeting. AOC Lindsey Smack made the Recommendation to posthumously award AO3 Devon Jeter as our AO of the Quarter for Chapter Nine. Gunner Ryan Boose, Vp-10's Gunner, and the entire shop were present, and let's just say there weren't many dry eyes during that meeting.

Normal activities included our annual family picnic in August, Blue Angel air show fundraiser in October, last highway/FOD walk down in November, helping local AO families with Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday gift cards, and donating to "Wreaths across America" and "Operation Lazarus," which are helping local vets get back on their feet.

The Chapter Board of Directors decided to move our monthly meeting times earlier by 2 hours to make it more convenient for active duty members to attend as their normal work day ends rather than come back some hours later. We hope to encourage more attendance with this change.

2024 was a good year; 2025 is on the fast track, and each year seems to pick up more speed. Look out for each other and be proud of the AO legacy. IYAOYAS!!!!!!

AOCM Richard Wyman (USN, Ret)



RED SHIRT



Here's some photos from WEPS so far on deployment.

CVN 70 SSOQ 4th QTR AO1 Kittles

WEPS SOQ AO2

Frocking

AO1 Brogni

AO2 Atkinson

AO2 Montejo

AO2 Moore

AO2 Hemsworth

V/R,

AO1 (AW/SW) Kittles

WEPS G-1 LPO



CVN 70  
SAILOR OF THE  
QUARTER  
DINNER.

Annual Chapter Financial Reports are due at the General Business Meeting in Reno. Chapters should submit their annual financial report to the National Treasurer after the end of May 2025 and before 18 Jul 2025



Annual AAO planning meeting dinner; Laughlin, NV, 2025

# THE RED SHIRT

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