



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 30, 2018

Maritime Patrol Association Opens Registration for 2018 Symposium

JACKSONVILLE, FL. – The Maritime Patrol Association (MPA) has launched its online registration for the 2018 Symposium this week in preparation for three full days of events that will celebrate this year’s theme of *Family of Systems Unite: Triton, Poseidon, Orion and Aries*.

The 2018 MPA Symposium will take place April 25-27, 2018 on board Naval Air Station Jacksonville. The delivery of the first two TRITON aircraft to VUP-19 and successful completion of their Safe for Flight inspection has resulted in the first fleet events with TRITON as it prepares to forward deploy later this summer. TRITON’s arrival, while not marking the end of our transition, does mark the uniting of our future with our past, as the community continues to transition squadrons from the P-3 Orion to the P-8 Poseidon and the TRITON continues development as the replacement for the EP-3 Aries.

“It is an honor to accept these new aircraft from the Northrup Grumman Corporation on behalf of the US Navy”, said CDR Benji Stinespring, the first Commanding Officer of VUP-19. “Our aircrews and maintainers are eager to push this platform to see how far we can go in supporting the fleet.”

Symposium attendees can register for a host of events, including the Scholarship Golf Tournament and 5K Run, Flight Suit Social, aircraft tours, and historical community presentations, as well as the Heritage Dinner.

The guest speaker for the April 25th Heritage Dinner will be Admiral Bill Moran. Admiral Moran is a P-3 pilot who served across the Maritime Patrol community and commanded Patrol Squadron 46 and Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing TWO. As a flag officer he has commanded the Patrol and Reconnaissance Group, served as Director, Air Warfare, N98 and 57th Chief of Naval Personnel prior to attaining the rank of Admiral and entering his current position as the 39th Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

Past and present, American and allied maritime patrol aviators will attend this event and join in celebrating the MPRF Pilot, NFO, Aircrewmembers and Maintainer of the year awards, a lifetime achievement recipient to be named by the Military Officers Association of America, and the induction of the newest members of our MPRF “Hall of Honor.”

On Thursday, April 26th, golfers and runners can participate in MPA’s annual scholarship fundraising events on the NAS Jacksonville golf course and in the 5K race on the base perimeter. Net proceeds of all funds collected at these events go directly to the MPA Scholarship Fund, which is facilitated by the Wings Over America Scholarship Foundation and benefits outstanding student dependents of MPRF personnel, past and present.

For a complete schedule of events and details about the 2018 MPA Symposium, as well as to register for events online, visit: <http://www.maritimepatrolassociation.org/symposium.html>

A 501(c)(3) Florida non-profit corporation established in 2011 and headquartered in Jacksonville, FL, the Maritime Patrol Association is the premier professional organization representing the U.S. Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance community by promoting the use of the patrol and reconnaissance aircraft in the United States Navy. For more information about membership or sponsorship opportunities, contact Kristen Heimerle Kirkland, Director at MPA, at (904) 318-8800 or info@maritimepatrolassociation.org; or check out the MPA website at www.maritimepatrolassociation.org.

###