

# PLANESIDE

The Quarterly Magazine of the Maritime Patrol Association

2025: Issue 1





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## Cover Photo

Patrol Squadron 10 (VP-10) Red Lancers (May 2024) #USINDOPACOM forces stand ready and postured today to ensure a #freeandopenindopacific alongside Allies and Partners. #readytodayIPC (Photo courtesy of VP-10 public affairs via Facebook.)



PLANESIDE is a quarterly online magazine published for the Maritime Patrol Association, Inc. Copyright 2012-2025.



Enhancing critical electronic support  
measures that enable advanced  
targeting in the maritime battlespace.



# Info & Benefits

## What's in Your Wallet?

Renew your annual membership today and enjoy the benefits of free monthly member happy hours, a quarterly magazine, discounted event tickets and participation in an organization that was established to preserve the history and legacy of the Maritime Patrol & Reconnaissance community.

With more than 1,000 members across the country that represent the spectrum of pay grades, active and retired, uniformed and civilian, the member networking opportunities are invaluable. And the association also supports dependents of current and former community members through a partnership with the Wings Over America Scholarship Foundation. Since 2012, MPA has awarded nearly \$100,000 in scholarships.

Join or renew today at:  
[www.maritimepatrolassociation.org](http://www.maritimepatrolassociation.org)

### PLEASE UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFO!

Log-in to the Membership page of our web site or by using our app to access the secure member directory and other features. Don't forget to update your contact information in your online profile each time you change locations or positions, or general contact info. MPA Membership cards are mailed out each time you renew. We need your updated mailing address to make sure you get yours!



## Proven Commercial Solutions to Increase Operational Readiness



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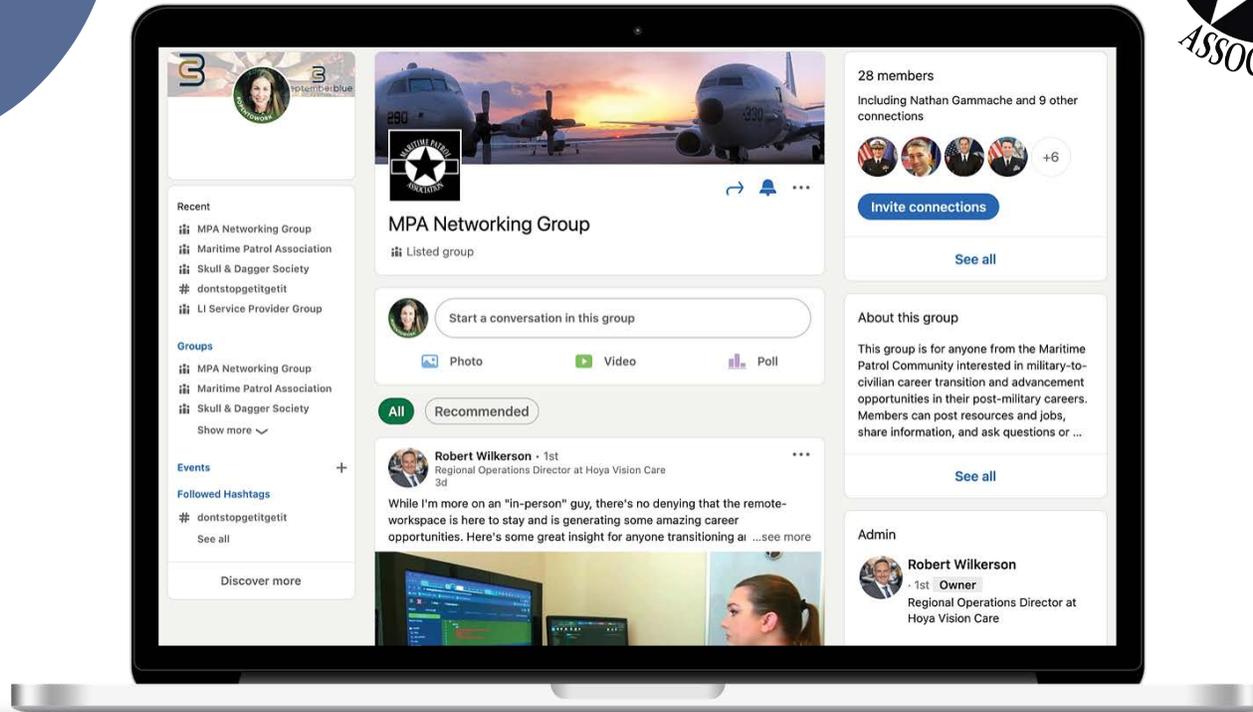


Explore more here →

## Win the first battle

Podded survivability delivers end-to-end fused multi-spectral threat detection, countermeasures, and route planning solutions to significantly improve survivability. Win the first battle – the battle for the electromagnetic spectrum.

**BAE SYSTEMS**



# Connect With Us

## & PLUG INTO AN ELITE NETWORK

The MPA Networking Group on LinkedIn is a forum for discussion, and a place to bring both your questions and expertise.

Know of a great networking event? *Share it here!* Looking for a job or looking to hire? *Post it here!* Need some guidance or want to share some insight? *This is the place!*



Build a strong network of connections across various industries and locations.



Mentor members in the group to increase their success.



Access numerous networking events in your location and/or area of interest.



Follow interests, companies and people that increase your visibility.



Give and receive tips and best practices for a career transition.



**MPA Networking Group : [www.linkedin.com/groups/9074240](http://www.linkedin.com/groups/9074240)**

# Checking on Station



Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Warriors Past and Present,

I trust everyone survived the holidays and embracing the New Year with a renewed sense of hope and vigor!

This first edition of Planeside 2025 marks not only a milestone on the calendar, but highlights the many contributions that your Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Force (MPRF) makes day in and day out to keep the nation safe. Everyone – including Combatant and Fleet Commanders – love what our P-8A and Triton aircrews bring to the fight – and because our people perform at such a high level, they only want more.

With less than half of the twenty-four active duty and thirteen reserve VP squadrons that remained at the end of the Cold War, we are constantly being asked to stretch what our force structure can provide. Today's MPRF is experiencing an operational tempo that rivals that seen in the 1980s. While our new state-of-the-art systems are more reliable, the pace of operations still places a strain on deployed and at-home units. With the full understanding and support of higher headquarters, we temper the insatiable demand to maintain the required combat surge capability, meet deployed requirements, and avoid exhausting our people.



Add to the deployed P-8A footprint the stand-up of three operational Triton detachments in 5th, 6th, and 7th Fleets, and you have a potent combination that provides near continuous coverage of the world's hot spots. As a result, the quantity and quality of Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) products provided to decision makers is unrivaled and improving every day. So, it was no surprise when our new Commander-in-Chief called for more support on the Southwest Border of the United States, and the answer to "more cowbell" was the P-8A Poseidon.

In response to this call, and within 24 hours of notification, our CONUS Wings and talented Ops staff here at CPRG provided a coordinated plan that included air-to-air refueling to produce daily P-8A reconnaissance flights along our southern border. Rest assured that no one is doing more to support National Command Authority and enhance security during this declared national emergency. In fact, we are fielding requests to bring Triton on board to support this new mission, which may prove difficult given the limited inventory currently available. However, the persistence of the MQ-4C makes it well suited for this mission.

It is often said that, "We stand on the shoulders of giants." That is certainly true of all that fly P-8A and MQ-4C Triton. The end of March will mark the final sundown and disestablishment of the World Watchers of VQ-1. For seven decades VQ-1 has flown the preeminent airborne SIGINT platform for the United States Navy. Flying in times of war and peace, the expertise of our VQ aircrews and intelligence analysts is unmatched. As we fully transitioned to a Triton and P-8 Increment 3 force, we have worked with vigor to harvest the vast experience and incorporate both the people and lessons learned from VQ into our new platforms. On this front, real progress is being made and we are evolving into a more potent and lethal force. While the MQ-4C Triton Unmanned Aerial System can never fully replace the EP-3 Ariès, it will bring a distinct set of skills and leverage the new Distributed SIGINT Operations architecture of our Intelligence Community.

We are experiencing the birth of a new era in Maritime Patrol Aviation. It is quite different in many ways, but also very

much the same. The dedication and pride of our aircrews, maintainers and support personnel is the same today as during the height of the Cold War. Every mission is important and receives the same commitment to success that many of you showed when you last served.

I will be forever grateful for the honor and privilege to grow up in and eventually lead this great community, and hope that you will join me in Jacksonville this April for the springtime MPRF Symposium.

Details and registration can be found on the MPA website:  
[www.maritimepatrolassociation.org](http://www.maritimepatrolassociation.org)

Until then we will remain: Trusted, Ready, and Lethal.

With Great Respect,

Brett Mietus

Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy  
Commander Patrol and Reconnaissance Group/Patrol and Reconnaissance Group Pacific

Disclaimer: The views presented are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of DoD or its Components.



# WOMAN SCHOLARSHIP 2025

Taking off for college?

★ **This application is for you.** ★

We're looking to propel some promising students into their future with some extra funds to foot the college bill. If you are the dependent of Navy personnel who currently or formerly served in the Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance community, we just might be your wingman.

For more details, eligibility requirements, and to apply, visit:

**[www.maritimepatrolassociation.org](http://www.maritimepatrolassociation.org)**

Wings Over America (WOA) administers the Maritime Patrol Association (MPA) scholarship. Applicants who are eligible for the MPA scholarship will also be considered for available WOA scholarships. Application for the 2025 award year opens in October 2024.



# MARITIME PATROL ASSOCIATION

## Membership

The premier, non-profit professional organization for the Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance community, providing recognition and enhancing the prestige of the MPR community by harnessing the power and support of our members and the community's industry partners.



**FIND** news and info from the active duty community, as well as your personal contacts, via PLANESIDE magazine and social media posts.



**NETWORK** with more than 1,000 members via in-person events, social media, and a dynamic membership directory.



**REUNITE** with current and former colleagues and squadron mates at bi-annual symposiums and local chapter events.

For more information and to sign-up:

[maritimepatrolassociation.org](http://maritimepatrolassociation.org)





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Learn more at [boeing.com/p-8](https://boeing.com/p-8)





## **THE NEXT TIDE**

Innovate / Integrate / Inspire

### **MPA Member Meeting**

Wednesday, April 30th at the O'Club.  
Join us to review financials, present new ideas & set goals for the year.

### **Scholarship Golf Tournament**

Thursday, May 1st at the NAS Jax Golf Course. This event will sell out!

### **Heritage Dinner**

Wednesday, April 30th in Historic Hangar 117. Guest Speaker VADM Daniel Cheever.

### **Flight Suit Social**

Friday, May 2nd at the O'Club.  
The ultimate social gathering for the community. Don't miss this event!

2025 Maritime Patrol Association Symposium

**APRIL 29 - MAY 2, 2025**

**ON BOARD**

**NAS JACKSONVILLE**

Register for these events & more at:

**MARITIMEPATROLASSOCIATION.ORG**



**THE NEXT TIDE**  
Innovate / Integrate / Inspire

# HERITAGE DINNER

**APRIL 30, 2025**  
**AT HISTORIC HANGAR 117**

## GUEST SPEAKER

Vice Admiral Daniel Cheever, AirBoss

## DETAILS

Cocktail Hour Begins at 1800

Award Presentation to include:

- MPRF "of the Year" Awards
- MPA Hall of Honor Inductee

Discounted MPA Member event pricing available!

Register for this event & more at:  
**MARITIMEPATROLASSOCIATION.ORG**

# ACTIONABLE INTELLIGENCE

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With superior range, survivability and targeting capabilities, Long Range Anti-Ship Missile (LRASM) provides maritime dominance and the capability our Warfighters need to accomplish their mission in any region, today and far into the future.

# AHEAD OF READY





**THE NEXT TIDE**  
Innovate / Integrate / Inspire

# SCHOLARSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT

**MAY 1, 2025**  
**AT THE NAS JAX GOLF COURSE**

## Details

Tournament benefits the MPA Scholarship Fund!

Check-In: 1200-1245

Shotgun Start: 1300

Ticket price includes:

- 18 Holes & Cart
- Boxed Lunch & Buffet Dinner
- Beer Kegs Throughout Course
- Hole Contests & Prizes
- Swag Bags Courtesy of Corporate Sponsors

Discounted MPA Member event pricing available!

Register for this event & more at:  
**MARITIMEPATROLASSOCIATION.ORG**

# Community

## VP-30 Welcomes Military Family Life Counselor

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (January 13, 2025) Patrol Squadron (VP) 30 welcomed Military and Family Life Counselor (MFLC) Noel Clark into the ranks in 2024.

The MFLC Program provides free, confidential, non-medical counseling to Sailors and their families on or near military installations. Clark was trained to work with the military community, with the goal of delivering valuable counseling services, briefings and presentations to the VP-30 staff and students.

"There are so many things that seem insurmountable, that I can help with," said Clark, who served in the Marine Corps from 1980 to 1988. "No matter whether you are officer or enlisted, active duty or reserves, this job can be stressful. I can provide the tools and references to help mitigate the emotional roadblocks that can stifle a Navy career."

Clark has focused on confidential, solution-based guidance for service members, of all rates and ranks, covering a wide-range of subjects including mental health, relationship issues and challenges balancing military and family life.

"We are doing everything to remove the stigma from mental health in the military," said Clark. "Visiting with me doesn't mean you have a mental health problem. It's just a proactive check-in. Anxiety and stress are normal and they only become a big deal if they are left unchecked and ignored."

Clark emphasized the importance of being in the present without focusing on past mistakes or possible negative outcomes in the future.

"He really cares and makes a difference for Sailors," said Aviation Structural Mechanic 1st Class Kate Hoover, assigned to VP-30. "He goes out of his way to make sure anyone who needs his help feels valued and knows they matter."

He has aimed to find the root cause when stressors impact Sailors significantly and he gives them a toolbox and mental database for how to handle these situations and who to speak with if they become too much to handle.

"It may sound cliché, but go talk to him," said Naval Air Crewman 3rd Class Derris Key, assigned to VP-30. "He has a lot of great information that can really help you. You can talk to him early, before you're at the height of your anxiety. He assured me what I was experiencing was normal."

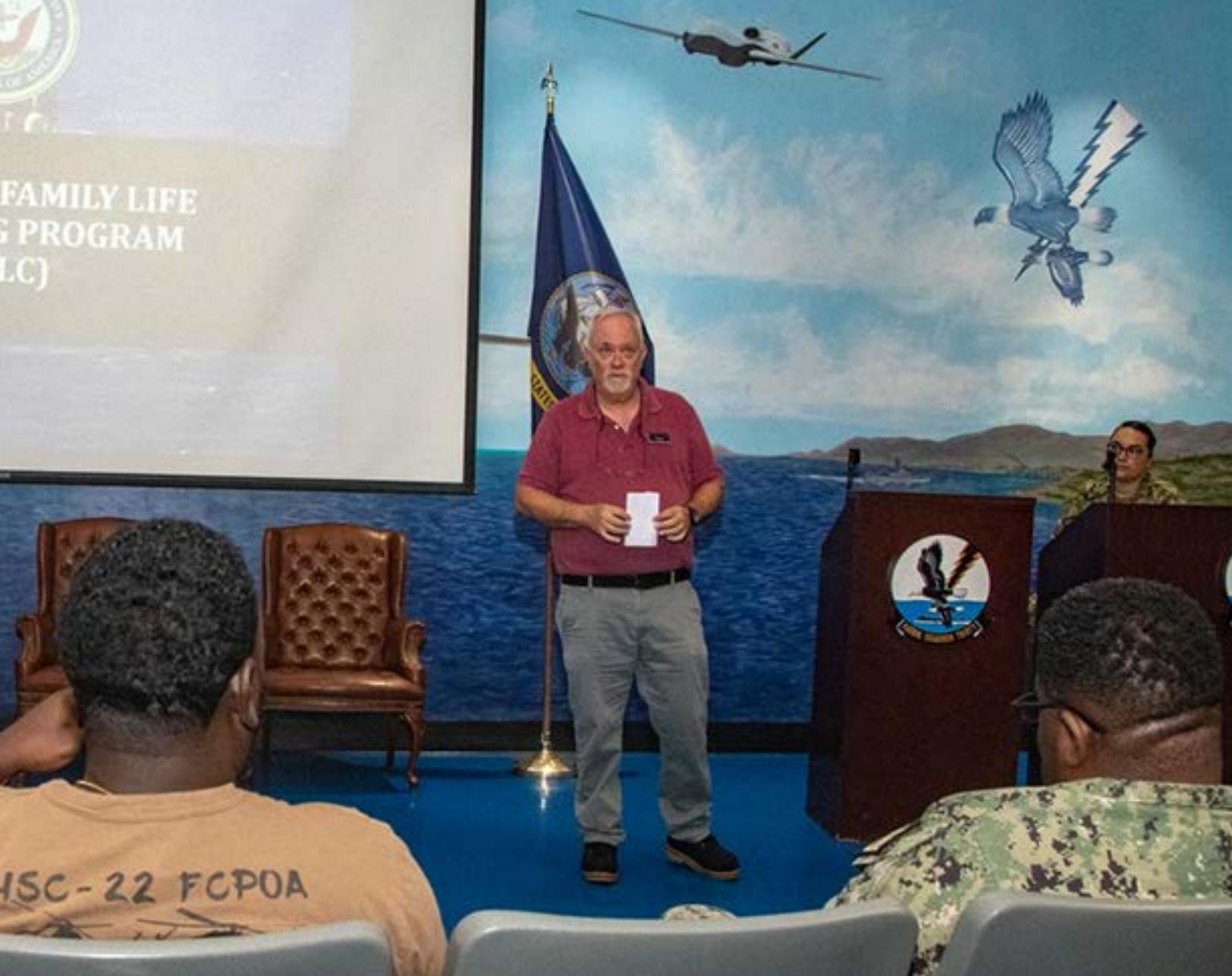
For more information about the MFLC community in other regions, or if you need to speak with someone, please visit, <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/benefits/military-family-life-counseling-program/>

VP-30, based in Jacksonville, Fla. is the Navy's Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Fleet Replacement Squadron (FRS). VP-30's mission is to provide P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft and MQ-4C UAS specific training to pilots, Naval flight officers, and enlisted aircrew prior to reporting to the fleet.



**Story by Petty Officer 1st Class Curtis Spencer VP-30 Public Affairs**





**JACKSONVILLE, FLA. (June 28, 2024) Noel Clark, Patrol Squadron (VP) 30 Military Family Life Counselor speaks to Sailors assigned to VP-30 as part of a scheduled training, June 6, 2024. VP-30's mission is to provide P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft and MQ-4C UAS specific training to pilots, Naval flight officers, and enlisted aircrew prior to reporting to the fleet. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Curtis D. Spencer.)**



NOW AVAILABLE

# MPA LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP TIERS



**ACTIVE DUTY O3  
& BELOW:**  
**\$350**



**ACTIVE DUTY O4  
& ABOVE:**  
**\$450**



**RETIRED/RESERVIST  
/VETERAN:**  
**\$500**



**65+**  
**\$150**

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**MARITIMEPATROLASSOCIATION.ORG**

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CAPT Bill Allyn  
LCDR Cecil Alton  
CDR Rickard Amundsen  
CAPT Tommy Anaston  
Mr. Mike Andersen  
CDR Bjorn Anderson  
CAPT Thomas Arminio  
CDR William Atherholt  
AWCS Stuart Babins  
LT James Bailey  
LT Bradley Bailey  
LT Chris Baker  
Robert Barclay  
AVCM Bruce Barney  
RADM Jon Bayless  
CMC Denny Behr  
SR. CAPT. Dino Belfiore  
RADM Kenneth Belisle  
CAPT David Bellamy  
CDR Michael Bender  
LT Daniel Bennett  
LCDR Alan Bentley  
CDR David Bettinson  
CAPT Paul Blunt  
Matthew Boensel  
CAPT Dan Boman  
LCDR Dean Bong  
LCDR Robert Booth  
CAPT Molly Boron  
CAPT Lee Boyer  
RADM Stanley Bozin  
CAPT John Bramer  
CDR James Brigden  
RADM Richard Brooks  
CDR Derrick Bruce  
LT Eric Buchanan  
VADM Sean Buck  
LCDR Richard Burgess  
CAPT Mark Burns  
LCDR Carson Burton  
LCDR Brett Butterfield  
CDR Michael Callahan  
LCDR Christopher Calvanico  
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CDR Mel Carpenter  
RADM Matthew Carter  
CAPT Charles Cassidy  
CDR Ralph Cavalieri  
Mr. Robert Champoux  
CAPT Robert Chandler  
ADRC Barry Chase  
LT Michael Clark  
CDR Edward Cleary  
CAPT Chris Cluster  
LT Andrew Coen  
CAPT John Coffey  
RADM Jon Coleman  
LCDR Zachary Collver  
LT Lance Cook  
Jeremy Cooper  
Admiral Kyle Cozad  
AOC Roger Creamer  
CAPT Mark Creasey  
CDR George Currie  
LT James Curtis  
CAPT "Noel ""Tink"" Dahlke  
Collin Darwin  
CAPT Henry Davis  
CAPT Steve Deal  
LCDR Thomas Dean

CDR David Demming  
CAPT Mark Denari  
CAPT Keith Denman  
AW1 Dennis DePriest  
RADM Ken Deutsch  
LCDR Andrew Dierks  
AD 1 Flight Engineer Randy Dixon  
ATCS (AW) David Donaldson  
CDR Megan Donnelly  
Gary Donoher  
CAPT Thomas Donovan  
CDR Lane Drummond  
LT William Duncan  
CAPT James Dvorak  
CAPT John Dziminowicz  
RADM Steve Eastburg  
CDR Seth Eisenmenger  
LT Mark Ellis  
CAPT Mark Ensor  
CAPT Rodney Erler  
CAPT Erik Estenson  
CAPT Randal Farley  
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AO1(NAC/AW) Ernest Fillipucci  
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CDR Stephen Fraser  
CAPT Matt Frauzzimmer  
CDR Kurt Fredland  
LCDR Fredrick Gage  
CDR Sam Gage  
Paul Gallagher  
CAPT Albert (A.J.) Gallardo  
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Mr. Scott Garlington  
ENS Fletcher Garrison  
CDR Patrick Gegg  
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AWCS John Hampel  
CAPT Patrick Hansen  
AWCS John Hardy  
ADM Harry Harris  
LTJG Jordan Harris  
VADM Michael Haskins  
CDR John Hassinger  
CAPT Rich Heimerle  
CDR Matthew Hepfinger  
CDR Charles Hewgley  
CDR Robert Hill  
CAPT Howard Hilley  
LT Jenna Hillman  
CDR Ronald Hilson  
CAPT Paul Hockran  
RADM Michael Holmes  
CAPT Jed Holzapfel

LT Brian Howard  
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LCDR Adam Howe  
CDR Kevin Hudson  
Mr. George Hughes  
AWC James Hunnewell  
CAPT "Claude ""Dave"" Hunt  
CAPT John Hunt  
CAPT Jerry Huss  
LT Richard Hutyra  
LCDR Sergio Ibarra  
CAPT Jim Imlah  
CDR John David Inman  
CAPT Walter Jackson  
CAPT Francis (Ted) Jacobs  
CAPT Chris Janke  
CDR Charles Jedlicka  
CWO4 Ronald Jerasa  
CAPT James Johnston  
CWO3 ROGER Jurack  
CDR Michael Kamas  
CAPT Dale Kaser  
LCDR John "Jack" Keane  
CAPT Gregory Kelley  
CDR Kevin Kennedy  
AW3 Robert Kepka  
CDR Douglas Kettler  
CDR Jon King  
Lt Charles King  
Andrew Kirchert  
RADM Richard Kirkland  
Ted Klapka  
CAPT William Klett  
CDR Patrick Kluever  
AW2 Viktor Kraenbring  
LT Thomas Kulp  
CAPT Greg Landers  
CAPT Barry LaVigne  
LT Anthony Leap  
LTJG Kyuwon Lee  
AWC John Leinhauser  
CDR Robert Lightstone  
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VADM Walter Massenburg  
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J. Michael McKinney  
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LCDR Katie Medford-Davis  
AW2 Van Melroe  
CDR Grant Mestnik  
CAPT Greg Miller

LT Alexander Miller  
LCDR James Miller  
CDR Scott Miller  
CAPT Andrew Miller  
LCDR Clint Miller  
CWO3 Randal Miner  
CDR William Miner  
LCDR Douglas Mitchell  
CDR Bradley Monger  
CDR D Mori  
CAPT Kenneth Morrell  
AWC Frank Morris  
Capt Richard Munro  
CDR Leo Murphy  
CDR Robert Murray  
CDR Karl Murray  
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CAPT Charles Nute  
Ed O'Brien  
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ADC Rod Oldenburg  
CDR Michael Olenick  
CAPT John Orem  
CAPT Daniel "Danno" Papp  
ATC (NAC) Robert Park  
CAPT James Parks  
CDR Michael Plageman  
CAPT David Porter  
CAPT Richard Porter  
CAPT Ventzel Potochnik  
LT Michael Prince  
RADM Brian Prindle  
CDR Nicholas Pulignano  
CDR James Rather  
LTJG Cameron Ray  
LTJG Charles Richmond  
LCDR Edward Ripper  
LT Larry Robinson  
CAPT Tim Rocklein  
Mr. David Rodriguez  
CDR Ned Rogerson  
Dr. Carrie Root  
CDR James Root  
LT William Rudiger  
CAPT Ronald Rumfelt  
AT1 John Rushin  
CAPT Matthew Rutherford  
CDR Scott Sabau  
LCDR Jordan Saverse  
LT Kelly Sawielski  
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CAPT Bill Schneider  
LCDR Jim Schneider  
CAPT Brian Schneider  
CAPT John Schuller  
CAPT Robert Scott  
RDML Lance Scott  
CDR John Sherwood  
CAPT Aaron Shoemaker  
CDR David Shultz  
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CAPT Fred Smith  
CDR Janvier Smith  
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CAPT Kent Smith  
CDR Lex Smith  
CAPT Ernest Snowden

CDR Joseph Snyder  
CDR Stephen Solkshinitz  
CAPT Walt Spearman  
CAPT G. Thomas Spink  
RDML Jeff Spivey  
CAPT Jon Spore  
CDR William Squires  
CAPT Zachary Stang  
CDR Don Stanton  
CDR Tom Stanton  
LT Michael Stegge  
CAPT Mark Stevens  
Mrs. Sheila Stevens  
Mr Jesse Stiggins  
LCDR Jason Stillwell  
CAPT Ric Stonesifer  
CAPT Kenneth Sullivan  
Lisa Sullivan  
CAPT David Sutton  
CDR Jerry Swartz  
CDR Paul Tarantino  
AXC Bruce Teerlink  
LT Branden Thomas  
CAPT Tim Tibbitts  
CAPT Harold (Hal) Tickle  
MCPO Gene Toffolo  
CDR John Tomkovitch  
CAPT Will Toraason  
AMCS Donald Tullar  
AOCS Thomas Valdez  
CDR David Van Kampen  
CDR Frank Verducci  
AFCM Paul Waeghe  
CDR Steve Walsh  
David Warren  
LCDR Brian Warren  
AX-1 Paul Watts  
LT Sara Wedemeyer  
CDR Wayne Weller  
Nathen Whisler  
CDR Curtis White  
CAPT Robert Whitmire  
CDR Ves Whittemore  
LCDR John Wilde  
CDR Rob Wilkerson  
CAPT David Williams  
CDR Neil Wingert  
CAPT Mark Wisniewski  
AFCM Edward Witt  
Dr. William "Woody"  
Woodruff  
CAPT Glen Woods  
CAPT Frank Word  
CAPT Wayne Wright  
CAPT Perry Yaw  
CAPT Rusty Yeiser  
LT James Yi  
CAPT Mark Zematis  
William Zuna

*\*List to-date through  
2/15/25*



**THE NEXT TIDE**  
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# TICKET PRICES

**APRIL 29 - MAY 2, 2025**  
**ON BOARD NAS JAX**

## EVENT

## MPA MEMBER | NON-MEMBER

Heritage Presentation & Tours	\$0	\$0
Heritage Dinner	\$55	\$70
Spouse Symposium	\$5	\$5
Scholarship Golf Tournament	\$80	\$95
Scholarship Social	\$20	\$30
Flight Suit Social	\$35	\$50

Bringing a guest? Paying for two pays for the membership!

It pays to be a member!!

Register for this event & more at:  
**MARITIMEPATROLASSOCIATION.ORG**

# Events»» Reunion Groups



## **VP-1 POPS (P-3 Orion Pioneers)**

### **Join/Renew your VP-1 POPS Membership:**

Check out membership information at: [www.vp1pops.com](http://www.vp1pops.com)

## **ANA Patriot Squadron, Boston, MA**

**Monthly Meeting & Lunch @ 11 am, last Saturday of the month at the museum:** This group operates a small naval aviation museum on the site of former NAS South Weymouth called the Shea Naval Aviation Museum. A number of members were formerly VP-92 and predecessor reserve patrol squadrons that were based at NAS South Weymouth.

For details see: [www.anapatriotsquadron.org](http://www.anapatriotsquadron.org)

# Optimizing Technology for **INFORMATION ADVANTAGE.**



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# Events»»Chapter Events

## Jacksonville Chapter

### VP of Region:

Mark Stevens

**Stay tuned for upcoming events!**



## Norfolk Chapter

### VP of Region:

Kevin Hudson and Chris Purcell

**Stay tuned for upcoming events!**



## Pax River Chapter

### VP of Region:

Dan Papp

**Stay tuned for upcoming events!**



## Pensacola Chapter

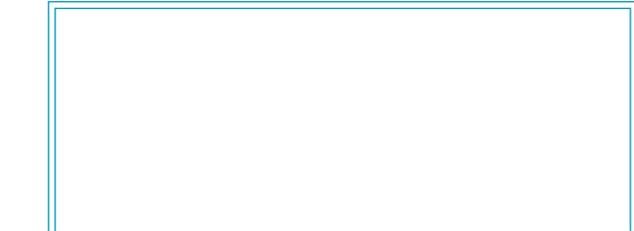
### VP of Region:

Lance Scott

**Stay tuned for upcoming events!**



# Events»»Chapter Events



## Moffett Chapter

**VP of Region:**

CAPT Tom Spink, USN (Ret.)

**Stay tuned for upcoming events!**



## Washington DC Chapter

**VP of Region:**

Marc Wallis

**Stay tuned for upcoming events!**

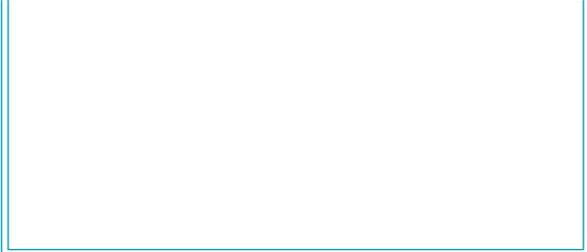


## Whidbey Chapter

**VP of Region:**

Perry Yaw

**Stay tuned for upcoming events!**



# VP Images Around the Globe



**(TOP LEFT) NAS SIGONELLA, Sicily (Jan. 31, 2025) Fleet Master Chief Lateef Compton, U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa Fleet Master Chief, speaks with Patrol Squadron (VP) 26 Chiefs during a static display of the P-8A Poseidon. The VP-26 "Tridents" are based in Jacksonville, Florida, and are currently forward deployed to Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily. The squadron conducts maritime patrol and reconnaissance, as well as theater outreach operations, as part of a rotational deployment to the U.S. 6th Fleet area of operations. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Aubrey Stueven)**

**(RIGHT) OAK HARBOR, WASH. (Jan. 6, 2025) Chief Aviation Ordnanceman Jose Ramosmercado, assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 46, is pinned with a Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal by Capt. J.T. Pianetta, Commodore, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing (CPRW) 10, at the Skywarrior Theatre at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Wash., Jan. 7, 2025. Ramosmercado was recognized for his leadership of 19 Sailors and the successful completion of the 2024 Conventional Weapons Technical Proficiency Inspection (CWTPi) which garnered a perfect score of 400 out of 400 across all administrative, practical, and torpedo exercise phases. Additionally his team received outstanding remarks for their full ordnance proficiency and compliance with zero discrepancies, certifying the team's readiness to deploy. Ramosmercado's exceptional professionalism, initiative, and dedication to duty reflected credit upon him and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jacquelin Frost)**



U.S. NAVY



**OAK HARBOR, WASH. (Dec. 18, 2024)**

**(TOP LEFT)**

**Chief Aviation Structural Mechanic Edwin Pearson, Flight Deck Chief, adjusts a radio on Aviation Ordnanceman 3rd Class Joshua Morales, Plane Captain, in front of a P-8A Poseidon, aircraft 348, at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Wash., Dec. 18, 2024. VP-46 inherited aircraft 348 back in May 2024 with 446 discrepancies preventing it from flying. VP-46, the 'Grey Knights,' resolved over 400 of those discrepancies and were preparing for a functional check flight. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jacquelin Frost)**

**(TOP RIGHT)**

**Aviation Ordnanceman 3rd Class Joshua Morales, assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 46, signals to the Aviators sitting in the flight deck a P-8A Poseidon, aircraft 348, for engine checks at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Wash., Dec. 18, 2024. VP-46 inherited aircraft 348 back in May 2024 with 446 discrepancies preventing it from flying. VP-46, the 'Grey Knights,' resolved over 400 of those discrepancies and were preparing for a functional check flight. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jacquelin Frost)**

**(BOTTOM RIGHT) Lt. Sean Krasovic and Aviation Ordnanceman 3rd Class Joshua Morales, assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 46, remove pins on a P-8A Poseidon, aircraft 348, on the flight line at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Wash., Dec. 18, 2024. VP-46 inherited aircraft 348 back in May 2024 with 446 discrepancies preventing it from flying. VP-46, the 'Grey Knights,' resolved over 400 of those discrepancies and were preparing for a functional check flight. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jacquelin Frost)**







**OAK HARBOR, WASH. (Dec. 16, 2024)**

**(TOP) Aviation Machinist Mate 1st Class Trevor Lyons, assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 46, sets up an engine wash cart for engine washes on aircraft 348 at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Wash., Dec. 17, 2024. VP-46 inherited aircraft 348 back in May 2024 with 446 discrepancies preventing it from flying. VP-46, the 'Grey Knights,' resolved over 400 of those discrepancies and were preparing for a functional flight check. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jacquelin Frost)**

**(LEFT) From coordinating logistics to managing resources, they've gone above and beyond to esurLt. Carl Schmidt, assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 46, inspects the engine inlet of a P-8A Poseidon as part of ground checks for a functional check flight at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Wash., Dec. 17, 2024. VP-46 inherited aircraft 348 back in May 2024 with 446 discrepancies preventing it from flying. VP-46, the 'Grey Knights,' resolved over 400 of those discrepancies and were preparing for a functional flight check. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jacquelin Frost)**

**(NEXT PAGE) Aviation Machinist Mate 1st Class Trevor Lyons and Aviation Machinist Mate 2nd Class Allison Lane, assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 46, take locks off a compartment door of a P-8A Poseidon at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Wash., Dec. 17, 2024. VP-46 inherited aircraft 348 back in May 2024 with 446 discrepancies preventing it from flying. VP-46, the 'Grey Knights,' resolved over 400 of those discrepancies and were preparing for a functional flight check. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jacquelin Frost)**







**OAK HARBOR, WASH. (Dec. 11, 2024)**

**(TOP) U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Kealan Trainor, assigned to 1st Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company (1st ANGLICO), assists Naval Aircrewman Operator 2nd Class Zion Smith, assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 46, load sonobuoys on a P-8A Poseidon flying over the Pacific Ocean, Dec. 11, 2024. Marines from 1st Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company (1st ANGLICO) and 1st Intelligence Battalion were riding with the Patrol Squadron 46 for Steel Knight 2024 to gain systems understanding and inter-branch interoperability. (U.S Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jacquelin Frost)**

**(RIGHT) U.S. Navy Lt. Reagan Reitmeier, assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 46, talks to U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Spencer Alvarez, assigned 1st Intelligence Battalion, about systems in the flight deck of a P-8A Poseidon attached to Patrol Squadron 46, the 'Grey Knights,' at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Wash., Dec. 11, 2024. Alvarez was riding with VP-46 for Steel Knight 2024 to gain systems understanding and inter-branch interoperability. (U.S Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jacquelin Frost)**







**WHITE BEACH, OKINAWA, JAPAN (Nov. 11, 2024)**

**(TOP LEFT)**

**WHITE BEACH, Japan (November 20, 2024) U.S. Navy Sailors, assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 47, participate in a cultural exchange event with members of the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) at White Beach Naval Facility, Okinawa, Japan Nov. 20, 2024. VP-47 is currently deployed to Kadena Air Base, Japan conducting maritime patrol and reconnaissance and theater outreach operations within U.S. 7th Fleet (C7F) area of operations in support of Commander, Task Force 72, C7F, and U.S. Indo-Pacific Command objectives throughout the region. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class William Sykes/Released)**

**(TOP RIGHT)**

**WHITE BEACH, Japan (November 20, 2024) U.S. Navy Sailors, assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 47, participate in a cultural exchange event with members of the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) at White Beach Naval Facility, Okinawa, Japan Nov. 20, 2024. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class William Sykes/Released)**

**(BOTTOM LEFT) WHITE BEACH, Japan (November 20, 2024) U.S. Navy Sailors, assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 47, participate in a cultural exchange event with members of the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) at White Beach Naval Facility, Okinawa, Japan Nov. 20, 2024. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class William Sykes/Released)**



## **SIGONELLA, ITALY**

### **(TOP LEFT)**

**NAS SIGONELLA, Sicily (Jan. 31, 2025) Naval Aircrewman Operator 1st Class Chandler Morey sits at a mission crew workstation onboard the P-8A Poseidon during a mission flight. The Patrol Squadron (VP) 26 “Tridents” are based in Jacksonville, Florida, and are currently forward deployed to Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily. The squadron conducts maritime patrol and reconnaissance, as well as theater outreach operations, as part of a rotational deployment to the U.S. 6th Fleet area of operations. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Aubrey Stueven)**

### **(TOP RIGHT)**

**NAS SIGONELLA, Sicily (Jan. 31, 2025) Naval Aircrewman Operator 2nd Class Jacob Forshee performs a fire drill onboard the P-8A Poseidon during a mission flight. The Patrol Squadron (VP) 26 “Tridents” are based in Jacksonville, Florida, and are currently forward deployed to Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Aubrey Stueven)**

**(BOTTOM RIGHT) NAS SIGONELLA, Sicily (Jan. 31, 2025) Patrol Squadron (VP) 26 Sailors perform a drill onboard the P-8A Poseidon to simulate an emergency landing during a mission flight. The VP-26 “Tridents” are based in Jacksonville, Florida, and are currently forward deployed to Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily.. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Aubrey Stueven)**







**SIGONELLA, ITALY (Feb. 10, 2025)**

**(TOP LEFT)**

**NAS SIGONELLA, Sicily (Feb. 11, 2025) Aviation Structural Mechanic 3rd Class Axel Cartagena removes a panel on the P-8A Poseidon for maintenance. The Patrol Squadron (VP) 26 “Tridents” are based in Jacksonville, Florida, and are currently forward deployed to Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily. The squadron conducts maritime patrol and reconnaissance, as well as theater outreach operations, as part of a rotational deployment to the U.S. 6th Fleet area of operations. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Aubrey Stueven)**

**(TOP RIGHT)**

**NAS SIGONELLA, Sicily (Feb. 11, 2025) Aviation Machinist’s Mate Airmen Apprentice Kevin Crawford performs a surge tank pressure relief valve inspection on the P-8A Poseidon. The Patrol Squadron (VP) 26 “Tridents” are based in Jacksonville, Florida, and are currently forward deployed to Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Aubrey Stueven)**

**(BOTTOM LEFT) NAS SIGONELLA, Sicily (Feb. 11, 2025) Aviation Machinist’s Mate 2nd Class Kyle Allen performs a surge tank pressure relief valve inspection on the P-8A Poseidon. The Patrol Squadron (VP) 26 “Tridents” are based in Jacksonville, Florida, and are currently forward deployed to Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Aubrey Stueven)**



**(FACEBOOK, January 7, 2025)**

### **VP-1 Screaming Eagles**

**This week in Keflavik, VP-1 had the distinct privilege of hosting Ambassador Carrin Patman from US Embassy Reykjavik Iceland!**

**Ambassador Patman met with the squadron to learn more about our critical mission in the North Atlantic and to express her appreciation for the hard work and dedication of the Screaming Eagle team.**

**Her visit was a great opportunity to showcase how our efforts strengthen international partnerships, promote regional security, and uphold the values we proudly represent as members of the United States Navy.**

**Ambassador Patman's kind words and encouragement remind us all of the importance of our role here in Iceland. It was a privilege to share with her the teamwork, professionalism, and spirit of VP-1!**







**(FACEBOOK, January 14, 2025)**

### **VP-1 Screaming Eagles**

**Our Screaming Eagles out in the desert took a well-deserved break to celebrate reaching the halfway point of our deployment!**

**Our hardworking team, came together for a night filled with camaraderie, laughter, and celebration. From delicious food to fun activities, the event was a perfect opportunity to recharge and reflect on all we've accomplished so far.**

**Each and every Sailor in our command has played an integral part in the completion of our mission thus far. From the maintenance department that keeps our aircraft in the skies, the aircrew that conduct the sorties, and the administrative personnel that ensure our command runs like a well oiled machine. It takes every single Sailor to make the mission happen.**

**This party wasn't just a celebration of the the halfway mark, it was a celebration of the incredible people who make it all possible! Here's to finishing the second half of deployment strong, and to all those back home supporting us so we can make that happen!**



**(FACEBOOK, November 26, 2024)**

## **VP-40 Fighting Marlins**

### **Thanksgiving Turkey Burn & Safety Day**

**Today, we took a well-deserved pause from training to focus on something just as important—safety! A huge thank you to everyone for their unwavering hard work, dedication, and commitment to excellence every day.**

**As part of our Safety Day, we took the time to reflect, review, and promote safety practices, ensuring that we continue to operate at the highest level possible. Our sailors' unwavering attention to detail and strong teamwork are the foundation of our safety culture, ensuring that every mission is executed with precision.**

**And of course, no Thanksgiving celebration is complete without some good food and camaraderie! Thank you to our Chief's Mess and the Wardroom for putting together this year's Annual Thanksgiving Turkey Burn. It was a fantastic way to connect, unwind, and celebrate the season together.**

**We're grateful for every past, present, and future member of VP-40—let's keep up the great work and stay safe out there! Laging Handa!**







**(FACEBOOK, December 7, 2024)**

### **VP-40 Fighting Marlins**

**Thank you to VP-4 and VP-40's Family Readiness Groups for sponsoring this year's Kid's Christmas party. We had the pleasure of welcoming Santa and his elves while enjoying holiday treats and activities.**







**(FACEBOOK, February 8, 2025)**

### **VP-8 Tigers**

**VP-8 Tigers in the process of completing successful missions and pilot proficiency flights on 432. There has been nothing but good vibes and smiles on 432.**









**(FACEBOOK, December 20, 2024)**

**VP-4 Skinny Dragons**

**Thank you to all of the Dragons that made our 2024 holiday party! Great times with the greatest people! BREATHE FIRE!!!**



**(TOP)**  
**(FACEBOOK, November 27, 2024)**

### **VP-10 Red Lancers**

**Team Lancer kicked off the Thanksgiving holiday by recognizing some hard working sailors. Congratulations to all of our awardees and to the newly frocked Petty Officers.**

**(RIGHT)**  
**(FACEBOOK, December 2, 2024)**

### **VP-9 Golden Eagles**

**This past month VP-9 recognized several sailors for their continued dedication and hard work in supporting VP-9 operations at home and away. We thank them for their countless hours towards achieving our shared goals!**





**(FACEBOOK, January 4, 2025)**

### **VP-16 War Eagles**

**In a step toward enhancing Indo-Pacific cooperation, Patrol Squadron SIXTEEN, based out of Naval Air Station Jacksonville, and the Royal New Zealand Air Force met to discuss operational compatibility.**

**The meeting focused on improving the capabilities of the two maritime forces, and the capabilities VP-16 has in the region. In these pictures, the Commanding Officer of VP-16 and GPCAPT Gibson are seen touring the hangar and buoy lockers.**



**(FACEBOOK, January 4, 2025)**

### **VP-16 War Eagles**

**Members of Patrol Squadron SIXTEEN and the spouses of the Misawa Air Base Military and Family Readiness Center recently gathered to showcase the P-8A Poseidon, the U.S. Navy's advanced maritime patrol aircraft.**

**As a part of the MilLife Essentials event, spouses toured the aircraft, interacted with the aircrew, and gained insight into the important role the P-8A plays in maritime operations worldwide. The tour fostered community engagement and strengthened ties between military families and the personnel of VP-16.**





**(FACEBOOK, January 4, 2025)**

### **VP-16 War Eagles**

**In a recent demonstration of maritime reconnaissance capabilities, Patrol Squadron SIXTEEN showcased the P-8A Poseidon to Japanese Maritime Self Defense Forces (JMSDF) at Misawa Air Base in Japan. The purpose of this demonstration was to highlight the multi-role capabilities of the P-8A and its crew, including Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW), Surface Warfare (SUW), and Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) mission sets.**

**The JMSDF operates a fleet of maritime patrol aircraft including the P-3 Orion and P-1 for similar roles in the Indo-Pacific region. The demonstration underscored the importance of interoperability with the U.S. Navy and JMSDF. For more than 60 years, the U.S.-Japan Alliance has been fundamental to regional stability and security and is critical in bolstering mutual capability.**



**(TOP)**  
**(FACEBOOK, February 11, 2025)**

### **VP-30 Pro's Nest**

**The #ProsNest Family has concluded an Enlisted Leader Development Course (#ELDC) Intermediate Leader Development Course (ILDC)–Class 1204, graduated February 6, 2025. The class was led by Command Navy Leader Development Facilitators from VP-30, AMEC Kaleb Mathews and AWOC Mike Toenies.**

**VP-30 serves as a host command for the entire Navy Enlisted Leader Development Continuum (NELDC). Enlisted Leader Development focuses on character, ethics, decision-making, feedback, but more importantly on self-awareness.**

**(TOP RIGHT)**  
**(FACEBOOK, January 16, 2025)**

### **VUP-19 Big Red**

**Bright and early in five locations around the globe, E-7 candidates from around the globe took the Chief's exam! This is a photo from our Sailors in Mayport.**

**(BOTTOM RIGHT)**  
**(FACEBOOK, December 5, 2024)**

### **TOCRON-10**

**It was great having Sea Cadets and our families join us for the TENTEX exercise as part of the Operational Readiness Evaluation (ORE)! The Sea Cadets had the chance to see how our sailors prepare for global missions, and we're proud to help inspire the next generation of Navy leaders!**



# THANK YOU



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