



Vol. 4 No. 12

ANA Squadron 40

December 2000

Pres: [Scott Hornung](#)

VP: [Roger Lerseth](#)

Treas: [George Fisher](#)

Upcoming Events

December 7, 2000 – Pearl Harbor Day. Fly your flag (and remember).

December 12, 2000 -- Monthly luncheon (1130–1300) WWII: Pearl Harbor and Savo Island

December 12 Luncheon: **CTC Douw H. Mac Haffie, USN (Ret.)
Pearl Harbor Attack, Battle of Savo Island
and other WWII engagements**



CTC Douw H. Mac Haffie, USN (Ret.) will be our guest speaker at the December luncheon. Mac served on board the USS *Ralph Talbot* (DD-390) throughout WWII. He was at Pearl Harbor during the December 7, 1941 attack. He was at the Guadalcanal landings and the August 9, 1942 naval engagement off Savo Island. During that engagement, the *Ralph Talbot* took on three Japanese cruisers and, unlike 50 other vessels at the bottom of Iron Bottom Sound, the *Ralph Talbot* survived.

Mac Haffie enlisted in the navy in 1937. He arrived on board the *Ralph Talbot* in March of 1938, survived Pearl Harbor, survived the Battle of Savo Island, survived numerous other Pacific engagements in WWII, including an attack by three kamikazes, and finally left the *Ralph Talbot* in November of 1945 after seven years, eight months and one day of continuous service.

November 14 Luncheon: Commodore Marriott (CPRW-10)



Our thanks to Captain Bill Marriott, USN, Commander, Patrol & Reconnaissance Wing TEN (CPRW-10) for speaking at the November luncheon. He addressed the long history of VP operations at NAS Whidbey. Then, he provided a briefing on current operations. As CPRW-10 Commodore, he has administrative command over three VP squadrons and one VQ squadron. In addition, he is CTG 12.1 and provides operational command over a 1200 mile area of coverage. Although ASW is still the primary VP mission there has been an increased VP role in ASUW. In addition, the Aircraft Improvement Program (AIP) has provided a significant C² capability; however, the program needs money to equip the desired number of aircraft. The VQ squadron is on the leading edge of real world operations every day. The squadron has eight crews which rotate on a regular basis to hot spots throughout the world.

Wing life and aircraft aging are significant concerns for the VP community. The average aircraft age is 20+ years (most crews are younger than their aircraft). Maintenance and modification of P-3 aircraft are real challenges. There are seven varieties of P-3s on board and, since the original P-3s were built by hand, SLEP has been a costly venture.

Service life for existing aircraft reach the critical point in 2004. Extensions will be required to meet readiness needs.

Although several alternatives exist, VP's long term aircraft solution will most likely be a derivative of the commercial 737–700 aircraft. Unfortunately, this won't solve VQ's long term aircraft needs. We look forward to next years briefing on VP and VQ issues.

A-3 Static Display Update



NavAir is conducting a disposition meeting on 144832 on December 11, 2000. Following the meeting, we will have better idea of the costs involved with the static display program.

It has been brought to our attention that Grumman has an F-14 mounted "on a stick." We should be able to use Grumman lessons-learned to scope out the feasibility and/or cost of going this route on the static display project.

Individuals wishing to participate on fund raising, site preparation, historical and aircraft restoration committees should contact Tom Lane at 679-1541 or Scott Hornung at 675-1204. Individuals wishing to make an early donation should contact our treasurer, George Fisher at 299-9037 or send checks to:

ANA Whidbey Island Squadron
Attn: A-3 Fund
P.O. Box 1888
Oak Harbor, WA 98277

Dues: For most of our members, the annual \$12 local membership fee was due July 1, 2000. We still need approximately 20 of our 77 members to update their membership with a dues payment. See George Fisher with your checks or mail checks to our P.O. Box 1888 address.

Association of Naval Aviation 2001 Annual Convention (ANA 2001) will be held May 24 - 26, 2001 at the Sheraton Hotel Harbor Island, San Diego, California. We are looking for volunteers to represent our local ANA squadron at the 2001 convention.

Web Site Reminder:

As usual, late-breaking information and links to related material can be found on our web site at <http://www.ANAWhidbey.org>



Association of Naval Aviation
Whidbey Island Squadron
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