Whidbey Island Squadron

Air Plan

Vol. 3, No. 10 | ANA Squadron 40 | November 1999

Welcome Aboard

LCDR Dave Brown — An A-6/EA-6B transition pilot, currently assigned to COMVAQWINGPAC, is awaiting assignment to squadron flying duties.

Thank You !

A hearty thanks to **Commodore John P. Cryer III, COMVAQWINGPAC** and **LCDR Dave Goodman,** Asst. Ops., Electronic Attack Weapons School (EAWS) for their tag-team wrap-up of EA-6B operations in Kosovo. Commodore Cryer provided the community perspective on VAQ operations, including the outstanding achievement in EA-6B sortie rate completion. LCDR Goodman provided the cockpit perspective on operations, including HARM tactics and Electronic Warfare effectiveness.

Upcoming Events

November 9, 1999 — **LCDR BILL SNYDER**, OIC of our VR-61 *Islanders*, will present a modified version of a mission/status brief recently given to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy. Bill should also be able to bring us up to date on the status of the C-9 replacement aircraft, its impact on the VR mission and anticipated dates for fleet introduction.

December 3, 1999 — **Ken Sanford,** CO of the "Olympic" Squadron is stepping down after ten years at the helm. There will be a brief CoC ceremony during their 3 December luncheon at the Port Ludlow Beach Club. Individuals interested in attending Ken's "retirement" should contact Buzz Garland 360-683-2189 NLT 1200, 2 Dec.

Transitions

VAQ-140: **CDR Thomas L. Mascolo** became XO of the Patriots. The new XO is an A-6 / EA-6B transition pilot. He has had two test pilot tours: One tour was at the French Test Pilot School in the south of France (it must have been tough) where he flew over 30 French aircraft. The second test pilot tour was at PAX River, where he flew a variety of navy attack and fighter aircraft.

VAQ-142: **CDR Mark Darrah** became XO of the Gray Wolves. CDR Darrah is a 100% EA-6B Naval Flight Officer with over 2600 EA-6B hours and 600 traps.

Award Winners

Congratulations to the *Scorpions* of VAQ-132 for winning the 1998 Battle **"E"** for Efficiency, the annual Safety **"S"** Award, the **"Wrench"** award for the top maintenance department in the community, and the Arthur E. Radford Award for **Top Prowler Squadron in the Navy.**

Congratulations to CTT1 (AW) Michael D. Bishop, VQ-1, *PATWING Aircrewman of the Year* award winner and plaque recipient of this ANA Whidbey sponsored award.

Congratulations to CDR Rich "Dawg" Dawe, CO VAQ-131, for achieving 3000 EA-6B flying hours.

ANA Whidbey Project Proposal

Your executive board has discovered an A-3 wind tunnel test model for sale. It's about 1/15th scale (which measures 57 inches long, 57 inches wide - wingspan) and weighs about 70 pounds with the stand. The material is unknown, but it is probably wood or resin. It is an A-3D1 (original production) with the 20mm turrets in the rear and painted in the original glossy sea blue of the mid-50's. The owner would like $500 for the model, but he would probably take less — especially, if he can detail the model with his dad's name and markings. His dad is CAPT "Deke" Forbes, former CO of VAH-123 (1968-69). Some of you may remember Deke, who now lives in the DC area.

With membership approval, the executive board will consider the options available to obtain this unique piece of NAS Whidbey history for display in the O'Club museum collection. The museum curator, Joe Weber, has several display concepts in mind. We would appreciate any ideas, assistance or, of course, donations that would help us make this acquisition possible. Pass the word to local whale drivers and crew you may know. Let's get them aboard in this effort to preserve *Skywarrior* history.

Web Site News

The ANA Whidbey Squadron web site will be moving to the following address:
http://www.ANAWhidbey.org

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