

The Early and Pioneer Naval Aviators Association

“The Golden Eagles®”



GOLDEN EAGLE CONTINUING HISTORY 2008

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Photos by RADM John R. “Smoke” Wilson Jr. USN (Ret)

This continuing historical summary covers the period from after the Golden Eagle Reunion at Pensacola, Florida on 9 May 2007 until the completion of the New Bern reunion held 24-27 April 2008.

Golden Eagle Flights participated in several functions during the past year.

Northeast Flight held a mini-reunion luncheon at Falcon’s Landing VA in Oct 2007.

Southeast Flight has been involved all of 2007 and first part of 2008 in considerable committee planning and preparation meetings for the 2008 Golden Eagle reunion at the Sheraton New Bern Hotel and Marina, 100 Middle Street, New Bern, NC.

The **Central Flight** held several luncheon meetings at the Naval Aviation Museum to wrap up the hot wash up report following the highly successful Golden Eagle 2007 reunion at Pensacola under the leadership of Ken Wallace.

The **West Flight** held two mini reunions in Oct 2007 at the Harbor House Restaurant in Seaport Village San Diego and 14 Feb 2008 Valentine’s Day at RADM Bill Harris’ Country Club in Rancho Santa Fe both of which had an attendance of nearly 60 members and their spouses. Roger Box held his initial Golden Eagle 2009 San Diego Reunion planning conference with 14 of his committee at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

GOLDEN EAGLES 2008 REUNION



LOCATION: Sheraton New Bern Hotel and Marina, 100 Middle Street, New Bern, NC 28560.

DATES: APRIL 24-26, 2008

Wednesday, April 23:

1400-1700: Early Registration

Ready Room opens at 1500

Thursday, April 24:

0800-1700: Registration

0730: Membership Selection Committee

1300: Board of Governors Meeting

1800: Welcome Reception at Sheraton

Friday, April 25:

1100: Golf at Taberna CC. (1100 lunch; 1200 Shotgun Start)

Tennis and Tours

1800: Pig Pic'n on lawn at Sheraton

Saturday, April 26:

0900: General Membership Meeting and Flight Pictures

Tours

1500: Memorial Service at Christ Church New Bern (founded 1715)

1800: Reception and Banquet at Sheraton

Notes:

- Contract with Sheraton provided a minimum of 100 rooms at standard room rate of \$119 per day plus tax. GE room commitment was 80 rooms April 24-26. The Standard room rate was also be available April 22-28. Over flow attendees were accommodated at a motel/hotel next door.
- New Bern airport is located 3 miles from hotel and was served by Delta (non-stop from Atlanta) and by US Airways Express (non-stop from Charlotte).



HI DOZZO!

PAUL & LOLA

PAUL "FRAT" FRATARANGELO GERMAN

The reunion at New Bern was a resounding success due to the tremendous planning and work of Paul Fratarangelo and members of the SE Flight.



THE GREAT HOSTS, THE SOUTHEAST FLIGHT

The rain stopped the day before the first event and didn't pick up until the day after the last. As soon as the fog lifted Hap Chandler came smoking into KEWN in his Citation Jet with his wife and Paul and Margret Thayer. One time long time POW Ned Shuman arrived SOLO in true Golden Eagle style at his first Golden Eagle reunion from Annapolis MD in his slick home built Experimental RV-6A.



Ned Shuman with his Experimental RV-6A
at the New Bern Airport

We had 133 members and about an equal number of wives and guests attend, which is pretty close to a record. The tours were loaded to capacity, the memorial service was attended by hundreds in a church founded in 1715, and 68 golfers played at Harry Blot's Taberna Country Club course.



TABERNA COUNTRY CLUB

The golf tournament was won by the threesome of Doc Abbot, Steve Abbot, and Jerry Johnson. The three carrying 10 stars were not about to be contested and beat the nearest team by five strokes. Doc, Steve's father, said that he is worried about next year's tournament because he is getting older and not sure that he can continue to carry the youngsters Steve and Jerry.

The appropriate committees met at the New Bern reunion, reported their findings to the Board of Governors, and the results were approved by the Golden Eagles attending the membership meeting. The following is a list of key actions:

Flight Deck Appointments:

Chief Pilot	RADM W.H. Harris
Pilot	LtGen H.W. Blot
Copilot	RADM W.A. Gureck
Navigator	RADM F.L. Lewis
Radio Officer	RADM R.S. Owens
Engineer	CAPT J.F. Manning
MSC Secretary	RADM D.B. Shelton

Board of Governors: RADM R.E. BOX, MajGen B.G. Butcher, VADM E.W. Clexton, RADM J.H. Flatley, MajGen P.A. Fratarangelo, RADM R.B. Fuller, CAPT K. Wallace, and CAPT J.M. Zacharias.

Flight Leaders: Northeast - RADM P.H. Engel; Southeast - Col W.H. Huffcut; Central - RADM G. Furlong; and West - CAPT R. Arnold.

New revised and updated Bylaws were approved by the members, will be included in the 2008 Directory, which is now at the printer and will be mailed in the not too distant future.

The Membership Selection Committee chose twelve nominees which were added to the eleven holdovers remaining from last year's list.

Don Boecker reported that we awarded the Tomlinson Award to LCDR Robert T. Bibeau for his work on the F/A-18G *Growler*. His name will be added to the recognition list of past recipients.

We learned that Mary Cousins, wife of ADM Ralph Cousins, passed away on 18 November 2007 at the age of 87. Our condolences were passed to the family.

The daughter of Jack Kenyon reported that he was not doing well and that the family has called Hospice. She requested that anyone contacting her mother, Dixie, keep the conversation upbeat.

WELCOME ABOARD RECEPTION



TAYLOR BROWN HARRY-ANN SEXTON BY FULLER BILL SCOTTY RAMSEY



THE DUTCHMAN PEGGY-DON SHELTON JERRY-RITA ZACHARIAS



TRACY RUTH GENTRY HARRY SEXTON MEL SAUTTER GEORGE TALLEY BONNIE MANNING JOHN FINNALLY!!!



STAN ARTHUR



DRINKS NOW OR ELSE!!!



GORDO MURRAY



**STEVE
ABBOT**

**SMOKE
WILSON**



**NED
HOGAN**

**JIM
FLATLY**



**ROGER
BOX**

**LOUISE
FORSYTHE**



**CORKY
LENOX**

**JERRY
ZACHARIAS**



**JIM
FLATLEY**

**LARRY
ADKINSON**

**JIM
SEELY**

**TOM
WATSON**

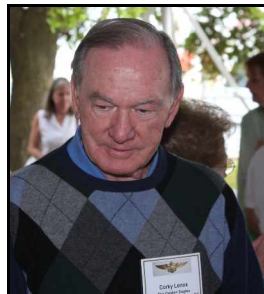


**SNUFFY JOY JERRY DOTTIE
SMITH JOHNSON SMITH**

PIG PICK N



**SPIDER RILEY
LOCKARD MIXSON**



CORKY LENOX



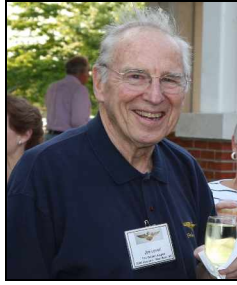
**MARILYN
LOVELL**



**PILOT CODY DICK
KNUTSON TRULY
IONE GIRODONO**



**AUDREY EAGLE
MCCLUNG**



JIM LOVELL



**DON
SHELTON**

**TIM
O'NEIL**

**PEGGY
SHELTON**



**NED
SHUMAN**

**LINDA
HOGAN**



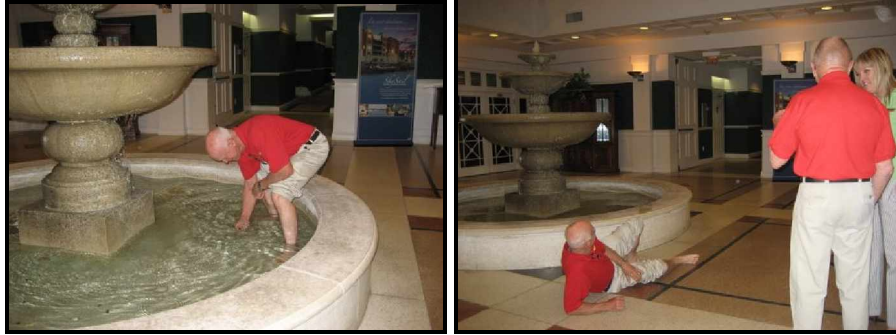
**PAST HISTORIAN
RAY POWELL
KICKING BACK**



ANN-HARRY SEXTON



**MARINES with OVER 80,000 TOTAL HOURS OF FLIGHT TIME +/-
FRED WATTS KEN WEIR JOHN HUDSON JED PEARSON RAY BRIGHT BOB LURIE**



THE SHERIDAN HOTEL MANAGER WAS DISPATCHED TO THE FOUNTAIN AFTER THE SECURITY CAMERAS REVEALED SOMEONE WAS RETRIEVING NICKELS AND DIMES IN ORDER TO TRY AND BUY SOME MORE BEER UP IN THE READY ROOM. THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM STEPPED IN AND SET HER STRAIGHT



ZACH

ROGER CARLOQUIST

Membership Meeting 2008

THE EARLY AND PIONEER NAVAL AVATORS ASSOCIATION
THE GOLDEN EAGLES®

Navigator's Report 26 April 2008

Membership in the Early and Pioneer Naval Aviators Association (The Golden Eagles) is as follows:

Regular.....	200
Emeritus.....	55
Honorary.....	<u>10</u>
Total.....	265

Members accepted into the Golden Eagles, in order of acceptance, since Navigator's Report of 6 May 2007:

1. CAPT Roger E. Sheets, USN 05/16/07
2. Col Walter R. Ledbetter, USMC 06/04/07
3. CAPT Edwin A. Shuman, III, USN 06/04/07
4. CAPT William F. Span, USN 08/17/07
5. MajGen Joseph T. Anderson, USMC 08/31/07
6. RADM David R. Morris, USN 02/06/08
7. RADM Jay A. Campbell, USN 03/07/08
8. Col Kenneth L. Reusser, USMC 03/08/08
9. CAPT Timothy R. O'Neil, USN 03/14/08
10. Col Harry E. Sexton, USMC 03/15/08
11. RADM Bruce B. Bremner, USN 03/20/08

Members transferred to Emeritus status:

1. VADM Joseph P. Moorner, USN 05/24/07
2. RADM Joseph L. Coleman, USN 05/24/07
3. CAPT William M. Russell, USN 02/01/08
4. CDR Harold L. Buell, USN 03/01/08
5. CAPT H. Glen Glenzer, USN 03/01/08
6. Col Edwin Harper, USMC 03/01/08
7. VADM William D. Houser, USN 03/10/08
8. ADM Wesley L. McDonald, USN 03/10/08

Members who made their final take-offs:

1. Mr Harold Andrews (H) 05/15/07
2. LtGen Duane A. Wills, USMC (E) 05/21/07
3. CAPT Cook Cleland, USN (E) 07/13/07
4. Col Archie Donahue, USMC (R) 08/01/07
5. LCDR Elvin L. Lindsay, USN (E) 08/07/07
6. CAPT Richard Bordone, USN (R) 08/21/07
7. RADM William H. McLaughlin, Jr, USN (E) 09/20/07
8. MajGen Robert G. Owens, Jr, USMC (E) 10/31/07
9. LtGen Thomas H. Miller, USMC (E) 11/27/07
10. CAPT Gordon L. Gray, USN (E) 12/02/07
11. ADM Jackson D. Arnold, USN (E) 12/08/07
12. CDR William H. Neal, III, USN (E) 02/09/08
13. RADM Martin D. Carmody, USN (E) 03/07/08
14. CAPT H. Glen Glenzer, USN (E) 03/10/08

15, VADM Charles S. Minter, Jr, USN (E)

04/19/08

Very Respectfully,
William A. Gureck
RADM, USN (Ret.)
Navigator

The Early and Pioneer Naval Aviators Association
"The Golden Eagles®"

Radio Officer's Financial Report
1 April 2007 Ending 31 March 2008

Beginning Cash (All Accounts 1 April)			\$16,730
Receipts			
Chronolog Sales		130	
Contributions		34	
Membership Dues!Fees	4,455		
Less: Refunds	30	4,425	
NNMF Fund		1,500	
Reunion		1,364	
Wing Sales		414	
Interest Earned		505	
	Total Receipts		\$8,373
Disbursements			
Annual Naval Aviation Museum		\$1,500	
Annual Tomlinson Award		263	
GE Web Site		354	
Legal Fees		100	
Postage & Delivery		350	
Printing & Reproduction		1,424	
Reunion Transfer		1,500	
Supplies & Materials		51	
	Total Disbursements		<u>5,542</u>
Net Change in Operating Funds			2,831
Ending Operating Funds (31 March)			\$19,562
Assets			
NFCLJ Svgs/Ckg		\$8,567	
Raymond James		<u>10,995</u>	
Cash on Hand			\$19,562

	Envelopes (185)	82
	NE 2010 Flight Loan	500
	Wings (25)	650
	Total Assets	\$20,794
Liabilities		<u>0</u>
Net Worth		\$20,794

The Early and Pioneer Naval Aviators Association

“The Golden Eagles®”



ENGINEER/HISTORIAN REPORT FOR 2007-2008

26 April 2008

• **ATTENDANCE**

133 Regular Members attended the Golden Eagle 2008 Reunion at New Bern NC 23 April to 27 April 2008. The one mandatory attendee for 2008 was present. Sixteen Regular Members have missed the last three reunions and their attendance at the 2009 reunion at San Diego is considered mandatory barring any extraordinary circumstances preventing them from attending.

They are: Beauchamp, Ernie

Bos, Roger
 Carlson, Harold
 Davis, John K.
 Dooley, George
 Gillcrist, Paul
 Gordon, Donald
 Hearney, Richard
 Iglesias, Edward
 Lamoreaux, Scott
 Ludwig, Frederic
 Ramage, James
 Speer, Paul
 Spruit, Robert
 Tissot, Eugene E.

Nine Regular Members have missed the last two reunions and their attendance at the 2009 reunion at San Diego is highly encouraged to prevent their becoming mandatory in 2010.

They are: Cassidy, Tom
 Cavicke, Richard

Hubbard, Sam
Laird, Dean
Lewis, Robert
Mckeown, Ron
Ryan, Mike
Turner, Fred
Wood, Robert

- **CONTINUING HISTORY OF THE GOLDEN EAGLES**

The Continuing History of the Golden Eagles 1956 through 2007 is complete and posted in the historical section of the Golden Eagle Web Site and stored on CDs maintained by the Engineer/Historian.

The Continuing History of the Golden Eagles for 2007-08 will be compiled following the 2008 reunion and posted in the historical section of the Golden Eagle Web Site and stored on CDs by the Engineer/Historian.

- **CHRONOLOG BIOS**

There are approximately 560 bios published in the Golden Eagle Chronolog and posted on the Web Site. The only bio outstanding is that of Honorary Member Mr. William Kemp who does not respond to any and all requests for information and data with which to construct a suitable Chronolog presentation.

All Chronolog bios are now posted and published when completed and approved by the Golden Eagle on the Golden Eagle Web Site. Those Golden Eagles desiring hard copies suitable for inserting into their notebook binders can download the updates from the Web Site and print as needed. Those Golden Eagles without on line capability should make their wishes known to the Engineer/Historian and they will be provided paper copies as early as possible. Any cost involved may be borne by the requesting Golden Eagle.

Site Selection Committee: Chairman Paul Fratarangelo reported that the reunions for the next four years are scheduled for, San Diego, CA in 2009, Annapolis MD in 2010, and Pensacola, FL in 2011. The Pensacola reunion in 2011 will coincide with the 100th anniversary of Naval Aviation which will be also be held in the same time frame as other festivities marking that historic date. The decision as to where the 2012 reunion takes place depends on the members choice between Charleston SC or returning to New Bern NC.

Membership Selection Committee: Chairman Jerry Zacharias reported the committee had reviewed 54 candidates and selected 12 new members (4 Marine and 8 Navy).

OTHER BUSINESS AND REPORTS

Smoke Wilson, Web Master, updated the membership on the progress of the Golden Eagle Web Site, www.epnaao.com. The site is fully up and running.

2009 REUNION

Roger Box, the West Flight reunion chairman, reports that the 2009 reunion is on track. The San Diego Crowne Plaza in Mission Valley (formerly the Hanalei, where we held the 2005 reunion) has been contracted. The dates of the reunion are Thursday, 23 April to Sunday 26 April 2009. We'll start with a Welcome Aboard Reception on Thursday and finish with a Banquet on Saturday evening. There will be a golf tournament, a memorial service, and various tours. Rooms at the Crowne Plaza will be available from the 20th through 29th of April at the base rate of \$124 per night. Please make your reservation early. The hotel telephone number is 1-800-882-0858. Remember to ask for the Golden Eagle group rate. You can guarantee the group rate with a credit card and the reservation may be cancelled without penalty up to 24 hours before 6pm on the PM check in day. For cancellation inside of the 24 hour cut-off, there will be a one night charge. Early room reservation will assist in tracking our block of rooms.



NORTHEAST FLIGHT



CENTRAL FLIGHT



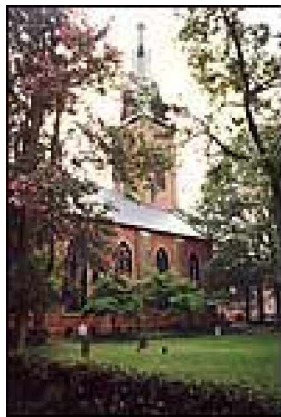
WEST FLIGHT



TOURS INCLUDED NEW BERN'S HISTORICAL TRYON PALACE BUILT IN 1767

In Memoriam

To honor those who have made their Final take-off since our 2007 Reunion.



No one will forget the glorious and honorable Memorial Service conducted at the Christ Episcopal Church in New Bern NC. The church was founded in 1715. We paid our final respects to 15 Golden Eagles who had made their Final Take

Offs and 9 spouses of Golden Eagles who passed away. "They will be missed".



We were honored to have Rev Father Thomas E. Dansak CAPT, CHC, USN (Ret) render the Opening prayer reflections and Closing Prayer.



Pilot Bill Knutson eulogizes LCDR Elvin Lindsay



The slide show and audio visual presentation of the Golden Eagles who had made their Final Take Offs, provided by Rita and Jerry Zacharias, added another personal and professional touch to the time honored event as John Hudson eulogizes LtGen Duane A. Wills.

<u>Golden Eagles</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Eulogy</u>
Mr. Harold Andrews, (H)	5/16/07	RADM Glen Lenox
LtGen Duane A. Wills, USMC, (E)	5/21/07	LtGen John Hudson
CAPT Cook Cleland, USN, (E)	7/13/07	RADM Skip Furlong
Col Archie Donahue, USMC, (R)	8/1/07	LtGen Harry Blot
LCDR Elvin L. Lindsay, USN, (E)	8/7/07	CAPT Bill Knutson
CAPT Richard Bordone, USN, (R)	8/21/07	RADM Don Boecker
RADM William McLaughlin, USN, (E)	9/20/07	RADM Bill Gureck
MajGen Robert G. Owens, USMC, (E)	10/31/07	LtCol Hap Langstaff
LtGen Thomas Miller, USMC, (E)	11/27/07	LtGen Bill Fitch
CAPT Gordon L. Gray, USN, (E)	12/2/07	CAPT Cal Swanson
ADM Jackson D. Arnold, USN, (E)	12/8/07	RADM Doc Abbot
CDR William H. Neal, III, USN, (E)	2/9/08	VADM Bill Ramsey
RADM Martin D Carmody, USN, (E)	3/7/08	RADM Jim Flatley
CAPT H. Glen Glenzer, USN, (E)	3/10/08	RADM Don Shelton

VADM Charles S Minter USN (E) 4/19/08 CAPT Roger Carlquist

Golden Eagle Wives, Departed

Muriel Arnold	1/17/04	ADM Jackson Arnold, USN, <i>deceased</i>
Irene Vejtasa	9/15/05	CAPT Swede Vejtasa, USN
Carrie Moorner	3/22/07	ADM Thomas Moorner, USN, <i>deceased</i>
Betty Dose'	7/9/07	CAPT Robert G. Dose', USN, <i>deceased</i>
Jenny Beauchamp	7/22/07	CAPT Ernie Beauchamp, USN
Vicki Glenzer	9/20/07	CAPT Glen Glenzer, USN, <i>deceased</i>
Jane M. Denton	11/22/07	RADM Jeremiah Denton, USN
Betty Shawcross	12/12/07	RADM William H. Shawcross, USN
Mildred "Millie" Earnest	1/8/08	CAPT Bert Earnest, USN

REUNION BANQUET



The banquet started with a reception at the entrance to the ball room.



LOVELLS GERMANS PILOT BILL
CORKY LENOX KNUTSON



SMITHS JOHNSONS



JED
PEARSON



JOHN
HUDSON

CHANDLERS



2nd MARINE AIR WING
BAND



PILOT BILL KNUTSON INTRODUCES HONORARY MEMBER BOB MITCHELL



HAP PAUL
SIMPSON THAYER

Pilot Bill Knutson formally introduced the new members of the Early and Pioneer Naval Aviators Association, the GOLDEN EAGLES



BILL ROG WALT NED PILOT TIM JOE DAVE JAY BRUCE HARRY
SPAN SHEETS LEDBETTER SHUMAN O'NEIL ANDERSON MORRIS CAMPBELL BREMNER SEXTON

There were nearly 260 Golden Eagles, family and friends at the banquet.



The last event had Bill Knutson passing the Pilots stick to Harry Blot after two outstanding years as our Pilot.