



# PATRON SIX

## BLUE SHARKS ASSOCIATION

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## “SUBCONSCIOUS”

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**Hello All Blue Sharks:**

**THE STRAIGHT SCOOP FROM:  
David Masters, President**

### **Peoria Reunion 2004:**

Foremost in my mind, at this time, is a **GREAT BIG THANK YOU** to all of you who attended the Reunion in Peoria, IL. It is always a pleasure to visit with old friends again and to meet “New” ones. A reminder to you, it is only because of your attendance that Our First Association Reunion 2004 was a success! Don't forget to plan for the 2005 Reunion to be scheduled early October 2005 in Las Vegas, NV. Be sure to check [www.patronsix.com](http://www.patronsix.com) for updates.

We owe a **SPECIAL DEBT of GRATITUDE** to our **HOSTS**, Fred and Marilyn Etherton, Jack Masters and Mary Johnston for the outstanding job they did in hosting the Reunion. Ten **ATTA-BOYS** for each of you!

I also wish to give **SPECIAL THANKS** to the **OTHER MEMBERS** of our **BOARD**, Vice President Bob Burroughs, Secretary Frank Lueder, Treasurer Bob Dell and Webmaster Harry Mann Jr. Your dedication and leadership in the conduct of the Association activities has contributed significantly to the success of our first year. **THANK YOU!**

After discussion and due consideration was given to the **ELECTION of MEMBERS for the 2005 BOARD**, and there being no new volunteers, a proposal was made for the 2004 Board to remain in office for one more year. With some reluctance, all current members agreed to serve as your Board for one more year.

After several discussions with the Board Members of VP-2 about their Association project, the **WHIDBEY PATROL SQUADRON MEMORIAL**, I proposed that we organize a donation program to assist them. The memorial is to honor all the Patrol Squadrons that were stationed at Whidbey Island, WA and the shipmates that were lost in service while home ported there. Patron Six is one of those squadrons so honored. I am happy to report that even with a short notice period the membership responded with \$1,065.00 donated by members. These funds are being sent to the Whidbey Patrol Squadron Memorial fund in a single check from the Patron Six Blue Sharks Association.

### **First Reunion RAFFLE**

Some of you may be aware my wife and I were notified when we were just days away from Peoria that her father had passed away. She was required to fly to Oregon to assist her mother and this left me without a helper and us without a Raffle Chairman.

Being of sound mind and quick of wit, however, I hollered **HELP!** Mary Johnston stepped forward and took charge. Mary Ann Hickman, Nadine Nowosad, Janice Ellis and Corky Malachowski soon joined Mary. What a great job you all did!

Also we must not forget there would not have been a Raffle if all you attending members did not donate the Raffle Items. A great big hug from me for your assistance!

I am confident from the many complementary comments I received from the attending members that I can speak for all members of the Association when I say **“THANK YOU LADIES”**. For the record, ticket sales from the 2004 Raffle raised \$928.00 for the Association.

There will be, by popular request, a 2005 Raffle in Las Vegas. Get those raffle items ready.

## **THE NEPTUNE PROJECT**

### **Plan One:**

We have located a Museum that will arrange the loan of the P2V Neptune from the Smithsonian and display it. The museum the Pacific Aviation Museum at Ford Island, Hawaii will be ready about December 2006.

With the memberships approval by vote at the Peoria Reunion, Michael Thomas and myself continue to pursue the P2V SP-2H restoration with the Smithsonian Museum.

We had obtained a firm Bid for the various phases of the restoration work from AIRARM a company in Tucson, AZ at \$125,000.00. However, in our latest project review with the Smithsonian staff we were informed that we would not be allowed to fly the aircraft to the museum in Hawaii. So, that level of restoration and cost will not be necessary.

### **Plan Two:**

The Director of the Pacific Aviation Museum in Hawaii says he can arrange for Naval ship transport from San Diego to Hawaii.

Next, I have requested that the Smithsonian send me a copy of the Museum Guidelines for restoration of this aircraft to determine level of effort. With these Guidelines we can request a new bid from ARMAIR for the costs of this restoration work.

This week I initiated a request for bid from an aircraft transporter to disassemble, surface transport from Tucson and reassemble the aircraft in San Diego for transport to Hawaii.

When some of this effort reaches my desk we will have a good start on continuing this project. At that time I will be turning the helm over to Michael Thomas as NEPTUNE PROJECT chairman. You can

contact Michael for more information and any questions.

## **SHIPS STORE REPORT**

### **Present Inventory:**

License Plate Holders (On Order)	0
Ball Caps (Old Style)	6
ASSOC Ball Caps (On Order)	0
Blue Shark Lapel Pins	11
1980's Patch	88
1950's Patch	68
1950's Patch (With Rockers)	51

New Association Ball Caps will be in the store soon.

More License Plate Holders will be ordered if you notify us that you want to them. [bill@dayshouse.com](mailto:bill@dayshouse.com) or call 817 232-4056.

We owe Bill Day a Great Big Thanks for his hard work in designing, ordering and handling sales.

We appreciate it BILL!



***Diana and I wish all of you and your families a very Happy Holiday Season and the very best of health!***

**David R Masters:  
VP-6 1959-63 P2V-5FS and 1969-73 P3A)  
PRESIDENT/EDITOR**