



A-3 Skywarrior Reunion 2024 Pensacola, FL Plan of the Day

Sunday 28 April 2024

1500 Reunion registration open

1600 Hotel Check in

1600 Ready Room open for members

1800 Dinner Sunset Buffet **\$53 (Ticketed Event)**

1900 History of the A-3 power point presentation by John Horton, Oakland Aviation Museum

2000 Open Mic time with Andy & JJ

Monday 29 April 2024

0900 Leave for US Naval Aviation Museum Tour NAS Pensacola

1200 Lunch at Air Academy Dining Facility **\$35 (Ticketed Event)**

1300 Back to the hotel on the beach

1400 A-3 Skywarrior Association Meeting call to order in the ready room

1600 Ready Room open

1700 Leave for Skywarrior Flight School Tour

1830 Hangar BBQ for evening meal **\$35 (Ticketed Event)**

2000 Leave for the hotel on the beach

Tuesday 30 April 2024

0800 Memorial Service

0900 Leave for USS Alabama Tour **\$13 (Ticketed Event)** group tour is 2-3 hours

1300 Lunch at Felix's Fish Camp much on way back (\$25-\$30) per person pay on your own

1600 Ready Room Open

1800 Farewell Diner and Guest Speaker **\$67.58 (Ticketed Event)** Plated Salmon/Chicken

Wednesday 01 May 2024

1000 UFO mini golf tournament \$11 w/ military discount (pay to play)

1200 Seafood dining at CRABS on the beach (Sunset room can accommodate) pay on own

1600 Ready Room open

1800 Diner on you own

Thursday 02 May 2024

Your on your own all day (Suggest boat tour - more info to follow)

1600 Ready Room open

Friday 03 May 2024

Mission Complete

Notes: Ready Room is available to members and their family. Beer, wine, water and other soft drinks available and we request a donation for what you take.



Rear Admiral Quinn is a native of East Rochester, NY, graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1979, and was designated a Naval Flight Officer in 1980.

After completion of his training in the A-6 Intruder, he completed operational assignments with the "Knightriders" of Attack Squadron (VA) 52, in Oak Harbor, WA; the "Nighthawks" of VA 185, in Atsugi, Japan; and the "Fighting Tigers" of VA 65, in Virginia Beach, VA. He also served as Deputy Chief of Operations for Commander, Joint Task Force Southwest Asia for Operation SOUTHERN WATCH.

His shore tours included instructor duty in the Pacific Fleet A-6 Fleet Replacement Squadron; serving as aide to Commander, Medium Attack Tactical Electronic Warfare Wing PACIFIC; in-residence education at the Naval War College; joint duty in the Targeting Division of Atlantic Intelligence Command, and as the Director of Aviation Officer Distribution at Navy Personnel Command. He holds a MA in National Security and Strategic Studies and a MS in General Management.

In 1993, Quinn was chosen for transition into the EA-6B Prowler Community and commanded Electronic Attack Squadron (VAQ) 139, VAQ-129, and Carrier Air Wing 9. In September 2005, he was promoted to flag rank and commanded Naval Air Training Command, Strike Force Training ATLANTIC, Navy Personnel Command, and Naval Education and Training Command. His personal awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Distinguished Flying Cross, and the Bronze Star. He retired from active duty on 1 February, 2014.

Rear Admiral Quinn currently works as a consultant on manpower, talent management, training, and education issues and is engaged in several ministries at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Pensacola, Florida. He serves on the boards of the Navy League and the Chamber of Commerce. He is married to the former Jean Marie Mazzo of East Rochester, N.Y. They have been blessed with four children and eight grandchildren.

SKYWARRIOR REUNION REMARKS

- THANKS FOR INVITING ME
- GREAT TO BE WITH FELLOW WARRIORS
- YOUR COMMUNITY WAS VERY UNIQUE
 - THE LARGEST CARRIER-BASED AIRCRAFT - "THE WHALE"
 - ONE OF THE LONGEST TENURES IN NAVAL AVIATION
 - 1956 TO 1991 - 35 YEARS
 - MULTIPLE MISSIONS
 - ONE OF THE REASONS WE WON THE COLD WAR!
 - YOU ACTUALLY FLEW THE PLANE - NO COMPUTERS!
- THANKS FOR YOUR EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE

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- **NAVAL AVIATION TRAINING TODAY**
 - SIMULATION, GLASS COCKPITS, AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE PILOTS...
 - 10 SIMULATORS AT GEORGE'S APARTMENTS!
 - KIDS CAN CALL FOR TAXI FIRST FLIGHT!
 - NIFE - CLASSWORK AND CESSNA FLIGHTS
 - PRIMARY - T-6B PILOT / T-6A NFO - 310 KTS....
 - JET - T-45, CQ OR NO?
 - HELO - THE MAJORITY OF NAVAL AVIATORS TODAY
 - TH 57 TO TH 73
 - MULTI-ENGINE - T 44 TRANSITIONING TO T 54
 - TILT ROTOR - HELO AND MULTI-ENGINE TRAINING
 - NFOS
 - WSO - T45 - VMTS
 - BIG WING - 100% SIMULATION
 - AUTONOMUS VEHICLE PILOTS
 - 100% SIMULATION - 8 TO-DATE - CWO1'S
 - A GROWTH INDUSTRY

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GIVEN THE UNIQUE AND VISIONARY PRINCIPLES OF OUR CONSTITUTION, DO YOU KNOW THAT THE BASIS FOR YOUR SERVICE PREDATES IT? THE ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION FIRST ESTABLISHED THE UNITED STATES AS A LEAGUE OF STATES UNITED"... FOR THEIR COMMON DEFENSE, THE SECURITY OF THEIR LIBERTIES, AND THEIR MUTUAL AND GENERAL WELFARE, BINDING THEMSELVES TO ASSIST EACH OTHER, AGAINST ALL FORCE OFFERED TO, OR ATTACKS MADE UPON THEM..." IT WAS NOT UNTIL THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OF 1787 THAT OTHER FUNCTIONS, LIKE THE THREE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT, WERE ADDED TO CREATE OUR UNIQUE FORM OF DEMOCRACY. MY POINT IS SIMPLY THAT THERE IS NO MORE FUNDAMENTAL UNDERPINNING TO OUR NATIONAL EXISTENCE THAN YOUR SERVICE IN HER DEFENSE.

WARRIOR. THIS WORD MEANS MANY THINGS TO EACH ONE OF US HERE. TO ME, IT IS THE PUREST FORM OF SERVICE: SERVICE TO MY COUNTRY; SERVICE TO MY SHIPMATES. I DISCOVERED LONG AGO THAT FEARS ABOUT MY OWN WELL BEING IN COMBAT WERE QUICKLY OVERCOME BY THE FEAR OF LETTING MY SHIPMATES DOWN IN COMBAT.

YOU UNDERSTAND THAT TOO. IT IS A FACT THAT ALL WHO HAVE SERVED COME TO REALIZE.

THERE IS A PHRASE I LATCHED ONTO LONG AGO THAT I THINK GETS AT THE ESSENCE OF WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A WARRIOR. IT READS:

"YOU HAVE NEVER LIVED, UNTIL YOU NEARLY DIED.
AND FOR THOSE WHO HAVE FOUGHT FOR IT,
FREEDOM HAS A TASTE
THE PROTECTED WILL NEVER KNOW."

YOU ALL HAVE EXPERIENCED THAT TASTE. YOU FULLY APPRECIATE THE FREEDOMS WE ENJOY AND YOU SHARE LIFELONG BONDS WITH THOSE WHO FOUGHT ALONGSIDE YOU. I DO NOT HAVE TO EXPLAIN IT; YOU UNDERSTAND. I'D ARGUE OUR SPOUSES HAVE EXPERIENCED IT AS WELL. THEY HAVE SACRIFICED FOR OUR NATION, JUST LIKE US. THEY TOO HAVE FORGED FRIENDSHIPS THAT WILL LAST A LIFETIME.

SO WHAT IS AHEAD FOR THE AMERICAN WARRIOR? I THINK IT IS SAFE TO SAY THAT EVERY ONE OF US WONDERS THAT TONIGHT. THERE ARE MORE NATIONAL SECURITY THREATS TO OUR EXISTENCE TODAY THAN AT ANY OTHER TIME IN MY ADULT LIFE. SERVICE IS NOT IN STYLE. THOSE WHO CHOOSE TO SERVE TODAY ARE ACTUALLY MAVERICKS.

WHAT THEY HAVE CHOSEN GOES AGAINST COMMON WISDOM IN OUR SOCIETY TODAY.

THE DEBATES REGARDING THE WAY AHEAD WILL RAGE AND WE MUST ALL PARTICIPATE IN THEM. BUT, THROUGH IT ALL, THOSE WHO WEAR THE CLOTH OF THE NATION MUST SERVE UNFLINCHINGLY. FOR UNDERPINNING THIS IMPRECISE, IMPERFECT, CONSTANTLY COMPROMISING AND OFTEN MADDENING SYSTEM THAT IS AMERICAN DEMOCRACY, MUST CONTINUE TO BE FOUND A MILITARY THAT SERVES, THAT CONTINUES TO FIGHT AND WIN, EVEN AS OTHERS DEBATE WHETHER THE FIGHTING IS RIGHT OR WRONG. FOR WE, AND THEY, KNOW BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE, THAT THE WORLD IS A VERY DANGEROUS PLACE.

AS YOU PONDER OUR FUTURE, I OFFER A QUOTE THAT I FIND INCREASINGLY RELEVANT EVERY DAY:

"EVERY NORMAL AMERICAN PRAYS THAT NEITHER HE, NOR HIS SONS, NOR HIS GRANDSONS, WILL BE COMPELLED TO GO THROUGH THIS HORROR AGAIN. UNDOUBTEDLY A FEW AMERICANS, EVEN NOW, THINK THAT THIS NATION CAN END THIS WAR COMFORTABLY AND THEN CLIMB BACK INTO AN AMERICAN HOLE AND PULL THE HOLE IN AFTER THEM. BUT WE HAVE LEARNED THAT WE CAN NEVER DIG A HOLE SO DEEP THAT IT WOULD BE SAFE AGAINST PREDATORY ANIMALS. WE HAVE ALSO LEARNED THAT IF WE DO NOT PULL THE FANGS OF THE PREDATORY ANIMALS OF THIS WORLD, THEY WILL MULTIPLY AND GROW IN STRENGTH-AND THEY WILL BE AT OUR THROATS AGAIN ONCE MORE IN A SHORT GENERATION. MOST AMERICANS REALIZE, MORE CLEARLY THAN EVER BEFORE, THAT MODERN WAR EQUIPMENT IN THE HANDS OF AGGRESSORS CAN BRING DANGER OVERNIGHT TO OUR OWN NATIONAL EXISTENCE OR TO THAT OF ANY OTHER NATION - OR ISLAND -- OR CONTINENT."

THESE WORDS COME FROM THE 1943 STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS OF PRESIDENT FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT. THINK OF THAT CONTEXT. TODAY, THERE ARE A NUMBER OF PREDATORY ANIMALS SEEKING TO DO US HARM. HISTORY HAS SHOWN THAT APPEASEMENT FAILS. WE WILL HAVE TO FIGHT, OR OUR FUTURE WILL BE DETERMINED BY ONE OF THEM. MANY ASK WHY THEIR SONS OR DAUGHTERS SHOULD STEP UP TO SERVE. AND I ASK, WHAT IF THEY DON'T?

BEFORE WE GO OUR SEPARATE WAYS, I'D LIKE YOU TO CONSIDER WHAT YOU WERE ALL PART OF. I ASK YOU TO CONSIDER WHAT IT MEANS TO BE AN **AMERICAN WARRIOR**.

AMERICAN. RECALL THE OATH THAT EACH OF YOU IN SWORE UPON ENTERING YOUR SERVICE:

"...I DO SOLEMNLY AFFIRM,
THAT I WILL SUPPORT AND DEFEND
THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA..."

THIS SIMPLE PHRASE MADE YOU UNIQUE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. YOU SWORE TO DEFEND, EVEN AT THE COST OF YOUR LIFE, AN IDEA, A CONCEPT, THAT SAYS THAT "WE THE PEOPLE", CAN GOVERN OURSELVES. INHERENT IN THE PRINCIPLES OF OUR CONSTITUTION ARE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND FREEDOMS OTHER NATIONS ON THIS EARTH CAN ONLY IMAGINE AND ENVY. AND YOU MADE THIS POSSIBLE.