



VP-68 Hawk's Nest

Volume No. 12

VP68 Alumni Association

March 2003



Spring Fling is Booked

Mark your calendars for May 3, 2003, the Spring Fling will be held at the ever-popular Beach House, NAS Patuxent River Maryland, 1100 - until, free to members.

The Spring Fling will be held at NAS Patuxent River Maryland on 03 May 03. Please plan to attend, members with current paid membership are free a small nominal charge \$5 for guests, spouses and other big eaters. Above is the past Spring Fling, a great turnout and a good time had by all. Current ID cards and stickers are required for access to NAS PAX RIVER. No ID card or base sticker? Contact the association at: blackhawkalumni@hotmail.com and you can be added to the security access list, but you must provide all names of attendees, NOT Mr. & Mrs. etc. You will still need to bring a photo ID like your drivers license. Also BYOBCK (Bottle, Cooler or Keg) sodas and ice will be provided.

President's Corner

After we retire, minor tasks that could be taken care of on a drill weekend can become a major scheduling nightmare.

I retired four years ago. Four years in the life cycle of ID cards, I never realized this until now. In prior years, when Jeanie's ID card was expiring, we would be near PSD within the month or so proceeding the big day and renewal was no big deal. As a matter of fact, her card even expired once; again, no big deal.

In today's world of heightened security we are not afforded the luxury of letting the card expire. How does one gain access to the base to renew an ID card with an expired card?

The ID card office advised that expired cards would be confiscated at the gate, we didn't put this theory to a test.

Following is the result of my ID card renewal research for the DC metro area:

Ft. Belvoir has late (1900) hours every Wednesday. A large, smooth, professional operation, we were in by 1800, out by 1815.

Ft. Myer has Saturday hours one day a month. NAF Washington is open on drill weekends. See the below link for a complete list of service centers.

<http://www.belvoir.army.mil/cards.asp>

With the Spring Fling just around the corner my attention has turned to the big 04-03 affixed to the DOD sticker on the truck's windshield. I am researching the matter but am not finding any easy answers.

I am in the market for a US NAVY RETIRED license plate frame to offset the Ft. Belvoir sticker on the windshield.

The full story with, visual displays and embellishments, will be presented at the Spring Fling.

Official Business

Subject: RETIREE SPACE A

SUBJ: IMPLEMENTATION OF SPACE AVAILABLE TRAVEL PRIVILEGES FOR DEPENDENTS WITHIN CONUS

MARADMIN 143/03

VP-68 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

MSGID/GENADMIN/CMC WASHINGTON DC/AVN//

SUBJ/IMPLEMENTATION OF SPACE AVAILABLE TRAVEL PRIVILEGES
/FOR DEPENDENTS WITHIN CONUS//

REF/A/DOC/SECDEF/YMD:20021121//

REF/B/MSG/USTRANSCOM/281200ZJAN2003//

NARR/REF A IS OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE MEMO APPROVING PROPOSED PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTING A ONE-YEAR CONUS SPACE AVAILABLE TEST FOR DEPENDENTS ABD OSA ACFT. REF B IS USTRANSCOM MSG ANNOUNCING INTENT TO CONDUCT TEST OF DOD SPACE AVAILABLE TRAVEL SYSTEM STARTING 1 APR 03 AND ENDING 31 MAR 04.//
GENTEXT/REMARKS/1. IAW THE REFS, THE ASSISTANT DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (TRANSPORTATION POLICY) HAS APPROVED AN EVALUATION OF SPACE AVAILABLE PRIVILEGES TO INCLUDE DEPENDENTS TRAVELING WITHIN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES (CONUS). THIS TEST WILL ALLOW DEPENDENTS OF ACTIVE DUTY, RESERVISTS ON ACTIVE DUTY, RETIREES, RETIRED UNIFORMED SERVICE MEMBERS AND MEDAL OF HONOR WINNERS TO TRAVEL SPACE AVAILABLE WITH THEIR SPONSOR WITHIN CONUS.

2. SPACE AVAILABLE SIGNUP FOR THIS TEST WILL BE EFFECTIVE 1 APR 03. RETIRED MEMBERS AND MEDAL OF HONOR WINNERS ARE AUTHORIZED TO SIGN UP 60 DAYS IN ADVANCE BUT NOT PRIOR TO 01 APR 03. DEPENDENTS MUST TRAVEL WITH THEIR SPONSOR AND WILL ASSUME THEIR SPONSOR'S TRAVEL PRIORITY. ACTIVE DUTY UNIFORMED SERVICE MEMBERS MUST BE IN A LEAVE OR PASS STATUS TO REGISTER FOR SPACE AVAILABLE TRAVEL AND MUST REMAIN IN A LEAVE OR PASS STATUS WHILE AWAITING TRAVEL AND DURING THE ENTIRE PERIOD OF TRAVEL.

3. DEPENDENT TRAVEL WILL BE LIMITED TO DOD TRANSPORT CATEGORY FIXED-WING ACFT ONLY.

4. SPONSORS REQUESTING SPACE AVAILABLE TRAVEL WITHIN CONUS FOR DEPENDENTS UNDER 10 YEARS OF AGE WILL BE REQUIRED TO SIGN A STATEMENT AT THE AIR TERMINAL VERIFYING THE DEPENDENTS TRAVELING WITH THEM ARE THEIR BONAFIDE DEPENDENTS AS CONTAINED IN THE DEFENSE ELIGIBILITY ENROLLMENT SYSTEMS (DEERS).

5. THIS TEST WILL END 31 MAR 2004.

6. PASSENGER MOVEMENT DATA AND TERMINAL FEEDBACK WILL BE EVALUATED BASED ON NUMBERS AND CATEGORIES OF PASSENGERS MOVED, ADDED VALUE TO MILITARY MEMBERS, AND IMPACT ON THE SPACE A SYSTEM AND INFRASTRUCTURE.

7. DATA COLLECTION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED VIA SEPCOR.

8. POC AT HQMC ASM: MAJ K. ZIELECK DSN 224-1244/1392.

Reminders

There are still prints, rubber stamps and other squadron items available from your alumni association. I am sure we will have a good stock at the Spring Fling, but if you can't wait or need something just in time for Easter, get in touch with Jim Rozycki for current prices. Jim can be found at rozycki-ijim@aol.com or the below address. We have the VP-68 Lithograph, "The Planes We Flew" rubber stamps and copies of "The Sky is Reserved" video. Order early and allow two weeks for delivery.

Make checks payable to **VP-68 Alumni Association** and send them to:

VP-68 Alumni Association
2414 Rolling Farms Road
Glenshaw, PA 15116

From the Secretary's Corner

Please get in touch with me if you move or change email addresses, it is the only way we can keep track of you. Send your information to me by email - wright_kathleen@bah.com or snail mail - 4773 W. Braddock Road, Apt 204, Alexandria, VA 22311.

By popular demand here are some Navy web addresses that might be of some interest: Keep watching here, we will add more information in the next newsletter.

www.vp68.org

Is "*on the air*", we continue working to find a more permanent home for the URL. If anyone has any suggestions, contact any of the Alumni Officers.

Naval Reserves

<http://www.navres.navy.mil/>

This site is the central gateway for online resources for the Navy Reserve **Navy Reserve Personnel Center**

<http://www.nrpcweb.nola.navy.mil/Index.htm>

Have any questions regarding reserve personnel records, retirement point accreditation, commissary cards etc? This is your place.

Armed Forces Vacation Club

<http://www.afvclub.com/>

Military Report

Is the military community's largest Benefits and QOL newsletter. Start your own subscription to **Military Report** today at <http://www.militaryreport.com>

Other Business

http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Apr2003/n04072003_200304073.html

Three Europe Recreation Resorts to Close Earlier Than Expected - American Forces Press Service

Today in the Department of Defense

<http://www.defenselink.mil/today/>

Newsletter Inputs

Your inputs for the newsletter should be sent to Dick Fickling, p3css1@aol.com for inclusion in the quarterly mailing. The cutoff for the next addition is May 31, 2003. Need items of interest, retirements and other Alumni news.

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