



DINNER AT A CASINO  
VQ READY ROOM  
ROCKY POINT PICNIC  
WHIDBEY ISLAND  
BASE TOURS  
SEA STORIES  
DEEP SEA FISHING  
MT RANIER  
SPACE NEEDLE  
GOLF TOURNAMENT  
VOTERS MEETING  
CAMARADERIE  
GAMBLING  
OAK HARBOR  
COOL WEATHER



Dear VQers,

It's that time again to make your reservations for the reunion again. For the sixth consecutive year we staged this affair on Columbus Day Weekend, 10, 11, & 12 October 1997. While you're making your reunion reservation, booking your airline and hotel why not update your membership information, and pay your association dues. That way we will mail your items to the correct place.

Recently I heard from someone that Whidbey Island is where VQ-1 had its real operational origins in the early '50s. It seems that these men who were the plank holders of VQ-1 traveled from NAS Whidbey to the Martin plant in Baltimore to accept the first P-4M-1Q's for the Navy. What could be more fitting than to be having the 1997 reunion at Whidbey Island where VQ-1 is based once again. Trivia, but the longer we are an association the more people come forward with these wonderful remembrances. Maybe next year one of us will hear where VQ-2's real origins occurred. Any volunteers?

Much has happened at Whidbey Island in the years since our predecessors brought those first new VQ birds to the operating forces. It's likely been the better part of 45 years since that historic event. What better way to mark it than gathering for the 1997 reunion at the place where a large part of our VQ heritage began.

Ed Witte has put together a round of activities that foretell another memorable reunion. Read all about them in this flyer.

I need to explain for my oversights, slow responses, and other apparent shortcomings for these past few months. I've not been quite up to my usual as my vision (in my remaining good eye) was deteriorating. I did not opt to take the risk and have it restored as soon as I should have. Be that as it may I can now see at least part of what I was not seeing. I am fortunate to realize such a great recovery. It has given my surgeon a sample to brag to his colleagues. And Marlene is glad she now longer has to drive me to the bus and other places. Modern medicine is truly a blessing for which I am thankful. I offer the explanation only so you will know why some of your expectations regarding our VQ Association are not as forthcoming as we had expected.

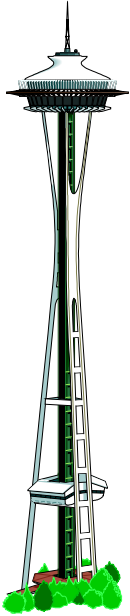
See you all at Whidbey. J D

## What you need to know:

**Accommodations:** Arrangements have been made with the Coachman Inn for special room rates during the period of the reunion. This rate is \$49.50 plus tax per night. You may upgrade if you wish. The reunion will be held on the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of October 1996. The hotel will also provide a complimentary hospitality suite for our entire stay. All persons attending the reunion and desiring accommodations **will make their own reservations** directly with the hotel. Make sure to get your reservations in early as only 30 rooms are available and blocked for this rate.

**COACHMAN INN**  
**5563 Highway 20**  
**Oak Harbor, WA 98277**  
**1-800-635-0043**

**Note:** Make sure to mention VQ Association reunion when making reservations.



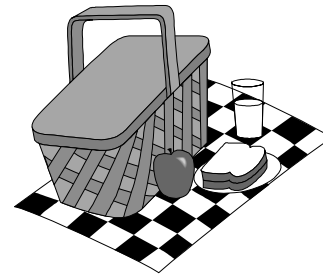
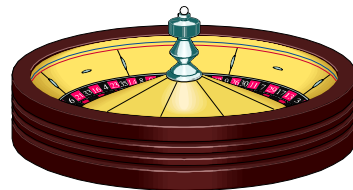
### Directions to Whidbey Island:

Ways to get there:

- Rent a car
- Fly Harbor Airlines (shuttle hopper) 1-800-359-5247
- Airporter Minibus \$30/person, must make reservations 1-800-235-5247
- Major Airport to fly into: SEATAC

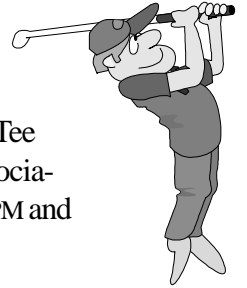
**Driving instructions:** Take I-5 (Interstate 5) north to exit 230 (Anacortes exit) stay in left lane, at light go left, this is State Route 20 West. Continue to Oak Harbor Whidbey Island Exit (still State Route 20) go till you come to second stop light (about 17 miles) Coachman Inn is off to the right, behind Jason's Restaurant & Kathy's Kitchen. The trip is about 100 miles from SEATAC to Oak Harbor.

**Reunion Dinner:** The dinner will be at the Swinonish Casino on Saturday October 11, 1997 at 7 PM. A bus has been arranged to transport us there and will be leaving the hotel around 5 PM. Dinner will be a Prime Rib/Salmon Buffet. After dinner you are free to go and try your gambling skills. Cost for the dinner is \$25.00 per person. **Please no late walk-ins. We must have your reservation by September 5, 1997.**



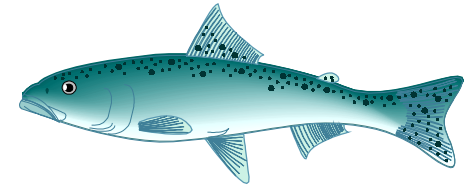
**Reunion Picnic:** The reunion picnic will be held Sunday October 12th from noon to 5 PM at Rocky Point. The cost will be \$15.00 per person which will cover the standard picnic bill-of-fare including keg beer. The picnic has traditionally been a great time to casually visit with friends and ship-mates. The turn out is always good.

**Golf Tournament:** The annual VQ Reunion Golf Tournament is scheduled for Saturday afternoon. Bring your clubs!!! Tournament will be held NAS Whidbey golf course. Tee off time 0830. Cost will be \$10/person. One of your avid association golfers will be tasked with getting things together Friday PM and Saturday AM for this event.



**Fishing Trip:** For those folks interested in a fishing charter one has been set up, must have 20 people at a cost of \$60/person plus \$5.00 license fee and \$5.00 bus fee. Must have all money in ASAP, call Rich Dotson for details:

Rich Dotson  
1209 South "B" Street  
Port Angeles, WA 98363  
360-457-5712



**Voters Meeting:** All Association members are requested to attend a voters meeting at 10:00 AM Sunday (prior to picnic) in the hospitality suite.

**A Note From Your Reunion Planner:** I have been busy finalizing all arrangements and plans that will make for a most memorable VQ Association Reunion. I expect another record turnout this year. We ask that you make hotel reservations early to assure accommodations and receive the reunion rate. We can only reserve a certain number of rooms and when they're full, you're on your own. Same for the Saturday Night Dinner and Sunday picnic. Caterers usually require a guaranteed number of persons that **we will pay for** 30 days in advance. Although they may be able to accommodate more with reasonable advance notice, unannounced or late notice attendees present problems for all. **Please respond by the "NO LATER THAN DATES"** on the registration form. See you in October.

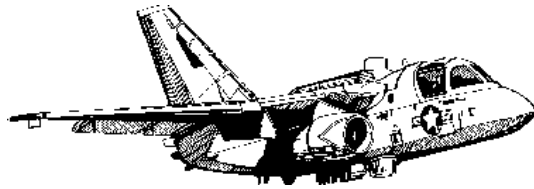
Ed Witte

**Travel Assistance:** If you need help arranging air travel, hotel, rental car, etc., Ault Field Travel in Oak Harbor is available via 1-800-739-5832. Ask for Gus Ulrich, a former VQer ready to assist and make your trip easier.



(Please Print)

# VQ ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE:

HOME: \_\_\_\_\_ WORK: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ACTIVE DUTY RANK: \_\_\_\_\_ PRESENT STATUS: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Active, Retired or Civilian)*

SQUADRON(S) SERVED IN:

SQUADRON: \_\_\_\_\_ YEARS: 19\_\_ TO 19\_\_ BASE: \_\_\_\_\_

SQUADRON: \_\_\_\_\_ YEARS: 19\_\_ TO 19\_\_ BASE: \_\_\_\_\_

SQUADRON: \_\_\_\_\_ YEARS: 19\_\_ TO 19\_\_ BASE: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE BRIEFLY DESCRIBE YOUR DUTIES IN EACH SQUADRON:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please submit this application together with your dues in the amount of \$15.00 made payable to the VQ Association and mail it to the addressee below. Membership will entitle you to notification of our annual reunions, yearly Membership Roster and inclusion in our computer database. Dues are payable annually. We do not send billings.

Ron Holmberg  
Secretary, VQ Association

16217 Gales Street  
Laurel, MD 20707

Phone: (301) 604-7598

email: holmberg@erols.com

rjholmberg@aol.com

holmberg@techplan.com



I will be attending the VQ reunion

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Others accompanying me (No.) \_\_\_\_\_

I will be staying at the Coachman Inn: Yes  No

If yes, from \_\_\_\_\_ Until \_\_\_\_\_

**Don't forget to make your own reservations.**

If there are any corrections, I can be contacted at:

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

I/we will be in the Golf Tournament

I/we will be attending the:

Reunion Dinner  No. Attending \_\_\_\_\_  
No. in Party @ \$25.00 a person Total \_\_\_\_\_

The Family Picnic  No. Attending \_\_\_\_\_  
No. in Party @ \$15.00 a person Total \_\_\_\_\_

VQ Association Dues (\$15.00) Dues \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for: Total \_\_\_\_\_

*(Make check out to VQ Association)*

Send your Reunion checks, made out to the VQ Association, by 9/5/97

Ronald Holmberg  
16217 Gales Street  
Laurel, MD 20707

VQ ASSOCIATION

Ron Holmberg  
16217 gales Street  
Laurel, MD 20707



OAK HARBOR, WASHINGTON  
OCTOBER 10-13, 1997

