



The AVLOG Sentinel

News from the
Marine Corps Aviation Association
Don E. Davis Squadron

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Commander's Corner

Hello Davis Squadron members and friends. We are coming out of the damn COVID with enough confidence that we can hold a reunion. For our next reunion we will be holding at the Crown Reef in Myrtle Beach from 10-13 March 2022. This is the same place we held the reunion in 2018. Details soon forthcoming from our Treasurers and XO. Please standby. So what has been going on with the Davis Sqdn over the past year plus? As you can see on page 5 of this document, we lost quite a few of our steadfast members and AVLOG colleagues. Keep their families in your prayers, and as stated below, "they'll be sorely missed." Some good news is that we had enough resources from our member and sponsors generous donations throughout the year to hold our Freeman Scholarship competition. In Sep, we awarded 20 recipients with over \$10K. My sincere thanks go out to the Scholarship Committee for their exceptional efforts. Awardees are listed in this publication. Earlier this year, I attended the MCAA Symposium in Fort Worth and was able to reinvigorate interest in joining our Davis Squadron ranks, even if it's from afar. Additionally, I was able to get commitments from MCAA to provide funds to support our next reunion. This will preserve some of our resources so we can continue our charitable work. Again, I thank each and every one of you and please remember that this is your organization. We need the full team to maintain the momentum.

SF, Laura

"The Plug"

Don E. Davis Squadron

Why join us?

- ✓ MCAA Awards Program Champion-Participant
- ✓ MCAA Yellow Sheet and Journal Contributors
- ✓ Annual Reunion and Banquet Program
- ✓ Marine Air Wing/Training MOY Program
- ✓ Funded trip for 2 annual MOY award winners
- ✓ ASL Community Advocates - ESC Roundtable
- ✓ Mentoring Opportunities for Aviation Marines
- ✓ Defense Corporate Interface - 5 major sponsors
- ✓ Pete Freeman Scholarship - \$18K+ for 2020
- ✓ Active-Duty Membership builds bridges

Join Today! Donate Today!

AWARDS

Our 4th annual CWO-5 John Cash Award for "Sustained Achievement;" was suspended due to COVID cancellations, and will carry over to our reunion in 2022. We'll make that



announcement at our next event scheduled for Myrtle Beach in March. We'll be providing details about that very soon. Pictured here

is Rick Owen receiving his award two years ago in P-Cola.

Active Duty Awards

The recipients of the Marine of the Year Program went to one CNATT New River Marine and one MALS-31 Marine:

Capt Felix Vasquez MALS-31

SSgt Justin Rivenburgh CNATT New River

The Davis Sqdn sent the above Marines their awards along with gift cards. We will solicit from 2nd MAW and CNATT for next year's awards.

Announcements

- **The 2022 Davis Squadron reunion will be at the Crown Reef Resort in Myrtle Beach, SC. The dates are 10-13 March 2022. Please standby for registration package and details.**
- **The Freeman Scholarship Committee has reported out and awardees are in this issue (pg 4).**
- **The 2021 Davis Sqdn Award Program will be published just after the New Year.**
- **Colonel (ret) Russ Blauw assumes duties as Assistant Deput Commandant for Aviation Sustainment replacing Mr. Bill Taylor**
- **SPONSORSHIP! Lockheed Martin, Andromeda Systems Inc., Bell Flight, Richard Packard, Vertex, Sam Flores, Mustang Services and others continue as our steadfast sponsors in helping the Davis Sqdn flourish. If you or someone you know would like to sponsor us, please pass on their contact info!**

Around the “Corps”

Marines from 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (MAW), II Marine Expeditionary Force, deployed August 23, 2021 in support of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and Joint Task Force-Haiti to assist in the ongoing U.S. disaster-relief mission Haiti. 150 personnel from 2nd MAW units departed on aircraft from Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron VMM 266 and Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron VMGR 252, which will assist in humanitarian-assistance and disaster-relief ops. Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron VMM 266 deployed MV-22B Ospreys in conjunction with VMGR-252, which deployed KC-130J Hercules to transport their personnel, equipment, and supplies. The MV-22B Ospreys forward deployed to Naval Station Guantanamo Bay at the request of the Joint Task Force-Haiti commander, and with the approval of the Secretary of Defense. The unit is forward staging in anticipation of support to humanitarian-assistance and disaster-relief operations on behalf of USAID Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance. Historically, U.S. military capabilities are most critical in the early stages of a disaster-relief operation when fewer resources and disaster-response experts are available to help victims and impacted communities. As those disaster-relief operations progress, and more uniquely experienced experts arrive to assist with longer-term recovery and reconstruction, assuming the roles previously performed by military units. For imagery and B-roll of 2nd MAW’s departure to assist in disaster relief in Haiti, please visit: [Link to B-roll of 2nd MAW departure to Haiti: 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing deploys to Haiti \(dvidshub.net\)](#)

[-http://www.marines.mil](http://www.marines.mil)

Challenges and What’s New

The “Kegger” Challenge Update

Kegger challenge is still on, so challenge an active-duty unit or take up the challenge as an individual. Top recruiting unit/Marines will earn a host keg on the squadron. Now go get em!...new members that is.

Recruiter of the Year (ROY) Award Program

As promised, the Recruiter of the Year was established as the Col Rick Owen Award. Our inaugural winner was LtCol Bill Slack, recently retired as the Commander at NATTC in New River. We’ll be selecting our next winner in time for our next reunion in Myrtle Beach, SC. Standby for that announcement.

Keep your innovation/ideas coming. It’s how we get better!

Active Duty Announcements

Thanks to our blossoming relationship with ASL, we are able to provide updates from around the fleet. **Thank you to all who helped make this happen!!**

Our own Col, retired, Russ Blauw has been assigned an SES position as the Assistant Deputy Commandant for Aviation Logistics. He works directly for LtGen Wise, the DCA. What an amazing advocate for the Davis Squadron and for all things aviation logistics that matter. Congratulations Mr. Blauw!

Retirements/Transition

Col Rob Peterson has taken the helm from Col Russ Blauw as ASL-1. He’s a strong advocate of our mission and supports the value we bring to his innumerable challenges.

As a reminder, if you have a contribution to our newsletter, active-duty news or otherwise, please share it with us. That’s what keeps the Davis Squadron apprised of current events.



LtGen Mark Wise is Deputy Commandant for Aviation. Mr. Russ Blauw is new Assistant Deputy Commandant for Sustainment

Freeman Scholarship Awards

Thanks to the many personal donations and corporate sponsors, we were able to award \$10,000 to 20 applicants. Biggest award yet. Great work! **Thank you to all who helped make this happen!!**

Awardees

Viktoria Alston	Allison Hughes
Wyatt Bennett	Natalie Lafontant
Anthony Calbough	Corey Lyons
Hunter Chipman	Zoe Lyons
Tyler Chipman	Jeremy McCutcheon
Caroline Driver	Victoria McGee
Alexandra Flatau	Curtiss Oakley
Paige Flatau	Robin Payton
Jensen Goulette	Isabell Slack
Meghan Goulette	Karalyn Stitcher

As a reminder, when you consider a donation to the Davis Squadron, you can specify that your contribution go to the Captain Pete Freeman Scholarship Foundation.

Taps

The Davis Squadron lost way too many superb Marines and dear friends below On Sep 30th we lost CWO-4 Luther Bolenbarker. Luther loved God, his family and his country and will be remembered as a loving husband, father and grandfather. He was a steadfast ALM Marine.



RIP my fine brother. Along with so many others, you'll be sorely missed. Semper Fidelis!

- Nellie Brown – 4 Oct 2021
(Wife of Capt Gene Bowen)
- CWO4 Michael Doyle – 22 Sep 2021
- Cpl Deanna Rojas – 21 Sep 2021
- Capt Richard Herold – 17 Sep 2021
- MSgt Tim “Huey” Whited – 28 Aug 2021
- Maj Michael Mastroberti – 31 Jul 2021
- MGySgt Leo Oller – 8 Jul 2021
- MGySgt Douglas Elliott – 4 Jul 2021
- Patricia Fraley – 11 Jun 2021
(Wife of Col Gary Fraley)
- LtCol Lee Holloway – 7 Jun 2021
- Syble Kemp Payne – 30 May 2021
(Wife of MSgt Jim Payne)
- CWO4 Otto Shoenbeck – 30 Apr 2021
- Captain Richard G. McCord – 8 Apr 2021
- MGySgt Jerry Gooch – 18 Mar 2021
- LtCol Stewart Gold – 12 Feb 2021
- LtCol Carl Hubbell – 15 Jan 2021
- Merry Jordan – 25 Dec 2020
(Wife of Maj Steve Jordan)
- MGySgt David Robinson – 27 Nov 2020
- Maj James Edward Lake - 6 Sep 2020
- Margaret Hamer – 4 Oct 2020 (Warrior Princess)
- Major Leroy (Junior) Thomas, Jr

DUES REMINDER

Membership period is from 10 Nov to 10 Nov!

Already a member, then just send your check for \$12 and mark it as annual dues. Multiple years can be paid.

New: Request Membership Application from:
mcaadondavisavlogsquadron@gmail.com

Send applications and checks to:
MCAA Don Davis Squadron
P.O. Box 22
Chatham, MI 49816



[Our FB Link](#)



[Our Website Link](#)



[MCAA Link](#)



[Marines.com](#)

Are you affiliated with a business or industry that wants to help with a sponsorship? Please communicate with us.

Donations can be remitted to the Don Davis Squadron at the same address above.