



F-8 Crusader Association



LACB 31
San Diego 2021
Dinner Program

LAST ANNUAL CRUSADER BALL HISTORY

- 1ST NAS MIRAMAR, APRIL 1982 - DAVE BEAM
- 2ND NAS OCEANA, MAY 19, 1984 - CHUCK TINKER
- 3RD NAS PATUXENT, MAY 18, 1985 - MIKE WELCH
- 4TH NAS POINT MUGU, MAY 17, 1986 - MOON VANCE
- 5TH NAS MIRAMAR, MAY 16 1987 - CHUCK LOWRY
- 6TH NAS MIRAMAR, MAY 21, 1988 - RED BEST
- 7TH NAS MIRAMAR, AUGUST 11, 1989 - CAL SWANSON
- 8TH NAS MIRAMAR, OCTOBER 26, 1990 - HOSS PEARSON
- 9TH NAS MIRAMAR, OCTOBER 19th 1991 - ED BROWN
- 10TH WASHINGTON, D.C. OCTOBER, 1992 - HOT DOG BROWN
- 11TH DALLAS, NOVEMBER 6, 1993 - DENNIS DUFFY
- 12TH PHOENIX SEPTEMBER 2, 1994 - BILL HAUPRICH
- 13TH SAN DIEGO, OCTOBER 7, 1995, Mo Wright
- 14TH PENSACOLA, OCTOBER 24-27 - 1996 Chuck Tinker
- 15TH RENO NEVADA W/TAILHOOK Sept 4-7 1997 - BILL RUSSELL
- 16TH PENSACOLA May 20, 1999
- 1999 DECEMBER 1-3, although not an LACB many went to France for the official retirement of the F-8.
- 17TH SAN DIEGO, OCTOBER 5, 2000 - BRUCE BOLAND
- 18TH NAS OCEANA, SEPTEMBER 20, 2001 - DAVE WINIKER
- 19TH FRENCH CRUSADER BALL Hyeres, OCTOBER 3-6, 2002 - ANTOINE GUILLOT
- 20TH SAN DIEGO, OCTOBER 16, 2003 - BOB PEARL
- 21ST PENSACOLA, OCTOBER 5-8, 2005 - CHUCK TINKER/CHUCK KLUSMANN. The first one scheduled for Oct 2004 was cancelled due to Hurricane Ivan that destroyed a lot of Pensacola. Hurricane Katrina hit just before this one but it was not cancelled.
- 22ND SAN DIEGO MAY 12, 2007 - BOB PEARL
- 23RD SAN FRANCISCO, MAY 01, 2008 - RICH KEEFER
- 24TH DALLAS TX OCTOBER 7, 2009 - DENNIS DUFFY
- 25TH PENSACOLA, MAY 05, 2011 - CHUCK KLUSMANN
- 26TH RENO W/TAILHOOK SEPTEMBER 6-8, 2012 - JOHN HOLM
- 27TH SAN DIEGO/CORONADO MAY 21, 2014 - BOB PEARL
- 28TH SAN DIEGO OCTOBER 02 2015 - RICH REDDITT
- 29TH SAN DIEGO MAY 3 - 6 2017 DAVE COWLES
- 30TH SAN DIEGO/LA JOLLA SEPTEMBER 26-29 2018 MIKE WALDRON
- 31ST SAN DIEGO /October 17-20 DICK EVERT and CHUCK SCHROEDER

Agenda

Parade the Colors - provided by Sea Cadets of San Diego

National Anthem

**Pledge of Allegiance - LACB 31 Co-Chairman
CAPT USN (Ret) Chuck Schroeder**

Retire Colors

POW Recognition - CAPT USN (ret) Dick Evert

Invocation - RADM USN (ret) Jay Campbell

1900 Dinner

**Announcements and Remarks - LACB 31 Co-Chairman
CAPT USN (Ret) Chuck Schroeder**

**Remarks from F-8 Crusader Association President
CAPT USN (Ret) Dave Cowles**

Centerpiece giveaway

Dance

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE F-8 CRUSADER

In September of 1952, the Navy announced a requirement for a new fighter. It had to be magic! It was to fly supersonic in level flight, and have range & endurance far beyond any jet aircraft then known. It was to have the strength, reliability, precise handling characteristics, and the gentle breeding to operate from 27 CHARLIE carriers.

The Vought Corporation, an aircraft maker with longstanding tradition for using unconventional concepts, won the ensuing competition with a fighter plane that incorporated several ingenious ideas. Among them were the high wing design, the variable incidence wing, and a clever approach to tucking the main landing gear into a narrow fuselage. They were all linked in a series of tradeoffs to maximize performance and aerodynamic stability in the fighting configuration, while allowing provision for landing aboard a carrier. The radical, two position wing configuration was designed with the wing hinged to the fuselage at its rear attachment point and a screw jack actuator attached at the front end of the single piece wing which formed the top of the fuselage. As the wing was reconfiguring from a high speed shape to that needed for slow speed flight through extension of high lift devices (flaps & droops), the wing would simultaneously rotate on the hinge, increasing its incidence (angle between wing and fuselage) by seven degrees. It leads to the age-old question; did the leading edge of the wing raise, or was the fuselage lowered? In any event, the same angle of attack on the wing allowed tolerable approach speeds for carrier landings while allowing a much shorter and lighter weight landing gear to be built into the elongated fuselage which housed the Pratt & Whitney J57 with afterburner, lots of fuel & initially, a rocket pack. At the same time, the two-position wing provided good visibility over the nose while the wing maintained the cocked-up angle necessary for carrier landings.

MILESTONES

On March 25th 1955, John W. Konrad, a native of San Diego and a veteran pilot of the 1948 Berlin airlift, flew this revolutionary machine on its maiden flight, and went supersonic. In April, 1956, Cdr. R. W. 'Duke' Windsor landed the CRUSADER aboard USS Forrestal and 4 months later, won the Thompson Trophy for the Navy by flying 1015.42 miles per hour.

On June 6th, 1957, two Crusaders of VX-3 launched from the Bon Homme Richard off the California coast and headed east. Refueling over Dallas, they recovered aboard the new carrier, Saratoga, off Jacksonville, Florida. President Eisenhower observed the recovery. The flight lasted 3 hrs, 28 mins. The pilots were Capt. Robert G. Dose, CO, VX-3, and Lt Cdr. Paul Miller.

On July 16th, 1957, Major John Glenn and Lt. Charlie Demmler launched on Project Bullet, an attempt at a transcontinental speed record. Lt. Demmler aborted during the flight after suffering damage while aerial refueling, and Major Glenn completed the flight in 3 hrs, 23 min, for a record average speed of 725.55 miles per hour.

A total of 1,266 Crusaders were built, including 42 for the French Navy. Before the assembly line closed, 448 of these had been rebuilt into more advanced models. 71 Navy and Marine Squadrons operated Crusaders. Navy fighter squadrons operated the Crusader from March, 1957 (VF-32) until the final deployments of VF-191 and VF-194 aboard Oriskany ending in March, 1976. The Marines operated the Crusader from Dec, 1957 (VMF-122) until late 1968 (VMF (AW)-235). The active duty photo squadrons stopped flying the Crusader with VFP-63 in June, 1982. Both fighter and photo CRUSADERS were operated extensively by Navy and Marine Reserve units. The reserves continued flying photo CRUSADERS in VFP-206 until January, 1987. Thirty-five F-8H CRUSADERS were transferred to the Philippine Air Force in late 1977 and flown until January, 1988. CRUSADERS were operated at sea by the French Navy until 28 October 1999.

There were 18 confirmed kills by the F-8 Crusader during the Vietnam War. Three were lost in air-to-air combat. 84 Crusaders were lost from direct enemy action. 517 Crusaders were destroyed. The total number of Crusader hours flown: 2,368,153.

LASTS

Last trap operational USN F-8 was on USS Oriskany 2 February 1976 Jack Hamilton CO VF-194.

Last Cat by operational USN F-8 was from USS Oriskany the fly-off to NAS Miramar on 2 March '76

Last Navy fighter F-8 attached to a fighter squadron training fighter pilots, May 19, 1976. Chip Meyers.

Last Trap RF-8G Barry "Flavius" Gabler, 18 Oct 86, CV-66

Last Cat RF-8G Barry "Flavius" Gabler, 18 Oct 86

Last Navy F-8 Squadron Light Photographic Squadron Two Zero Six, Disestablished April 1986, When the Fat Lady Sang -LITERALLY!

Last Navy Flight RF-8G Dave Strong, April '87, NAF Washington-Dulles

There have been a total of 142 squadrons and/or reporting custodians that flew the Crusader over the years.

(History and data taken from various books, articles and research by Paul Gillcrist, Peter Mersky, Rich Redditt, Gary Williams, Rob Rivers and others.)

F-8 EJECTIONS

The first ejection from the F-8 was by then Captain James Feliton (USMC), using the original Vought seat on 4 May 1956 near Greenville, Texas.

Martin Baker documents 514 successful F-8 ejections. These don't include the ejections using the Vought seat nor do they include unsuccessful ejections or those by the French and Philippines.

COMBAT ATTRITION RATE OF THE F-8 CRUSADER

Between 1964 and 1972 eighty-three Crusaders were either lost or destroyed by enemy fire. Another 109 required major rebuilding. 145 Crusader pilots were recovered, 57 were not. Twenty of these pilots were captured and released at the end of the American participation in the war. Another 43 were missing at the end of the war...In addition there were 16 pilots who went down on photo versions of the Crusader, seven were captured—six returned and one died in captivity.

Special thanks to our Sponsors and Supporters!



2021 Committee Members:

Dick “Cossack” Evert CO Chairman

Chuck “Flash” Schroeder CO Chairman

Mary “B10” Buonaguidi - Meeting Planner

Dave “Gator” Cowles

Skip “Thumper” Leonard

Jim “Wizard” Ozbirn

Paul “Worm” Ringwood

Mike “Crane” Waldron

LACB 31



San Diego

2021

Deceased since LACB 30

ROBERT W. "TUBBY" TAYLOR --21 Jul. 2011
JAMES R. "JIM" FOSTER -- 22 Jun. 2021
JACK "BUCKEYE" ALTMAYER -- 13 Jun. 2021
RONALD W. "RON" COLE -- 14 May 2021
WILLIAM NEWBY KELT -- 06 May 2021
ROBERT B. "RB" CANNON -- 2 May 2021
JOHN STUART ALLEN -- 22 Apr. 2021
DONALD R. "DON" STIVER -- 11 Apr. 2021
CARL H. DUBAC -- 10 Apr. 2021
WILLIAM J. "BILL" BRANDEL -- 06 Apr. 2021
A. N. "NORM" GANDIA -- 20 Mar 2021
LORAN C. "RASCAL" ELDRED -- 24 Feb. 2021
FRED M. NEVITT Jr. -- 31 Jan 2021
YVES GOUPIL -- 30 Jan. 2020
ARTHUR RONALD "ART" ZASIO -- 18 Jan. 2021
RAYMOND N. "FITZ" FITZGERALD -- 29 Dec. 2020
DUANE L. "WHITEY" VARNER -- 09 Dec. 2020
GEORGE R. MONTHAN -- 07 Dec. 2020
JAMES G. "JIM" WEATHERLY -- 04 Dec. 2020
PATRICK JOSEPH "PJ" JONES -- 17 Nov. 2020
JOHN WILLIAM CAPITO -- 9 Nov. 2020
ROBERT "BOB" JOHNSON -- Nov. 2020
JOHN P. A. "JOHNNY" JOHNSON -- 24 Oct. 2020

RICHARD J. "DICK" LEHMAN -- 19 Oct. 2020
JOHN G. BAEHR -- 07 Oct. 2020
KENT HARVEY KESSLER -- 03 Oct. 2020
WILLIAM E. "BILL" "NORTY" NORTHUP -- 01 Oct. 2020
SANTO "SAN" IRLANDI -- 14 Sep. 2020
GERALD PAUL "JERRY" CARR -- 26 Aug. 2020
WILLIAM A. "BILL" ABBOTT -- 25 Aug. 2020
MORRIS L. "MO" HAYES -- 24 Aug. 2020
STANLEY SEVERENCE GRAHAM JR. -- 14 Aug. 2020
MARLAND W. "DOC" TOWNSEND -- 28 Jul. 2020
HALL ALEXANDER MARTIN -- 20 Jun. 2020
EUGENE LEO "GENE" GERONIME -- 08 Jun. 2020
MARVIN C. BAKER -- 01 Jun. 2020
PHILIP WILLIAM "PHIL" DEMPEWOLF -- 25 May 2020
JOSEPH ANTHONY "JOE" GARUBA -- 25 Apr. 2020
JOHN TAPLEY -- 16 Apr. 2020
JOHN S. HELLMAN -- 12 Apr. 2020
EDWARD LEWIS "WHITEY" FEIGHTNER -- 01 APR. 2020
DONALD JOHN "DON" RESSEL -- 01 Mar. 2020
RONALD H. "RON" LORD -- 23 Feb. 2020
LLOYD L. "LL" LUND -- Feb. 2020
FREDERIC B. "FRED" BLAKEMAN -- 29 Jan. 2020
CHARLES S. "CHARLIE" SNELL -- 07 Jan. 2020
VICTOR ANTHONY "VIC" KARCHER, SR -- 03 Jan 2020
JOHN P. LAMERS -- 24 Dec. 2019
BRUCE C. MOREHOUSE -- 12 Dec. 2019
JAMES S. GARDNER -- 03 Dec. 2019
EUGENE JOSEPH "GENE" CHANCY -- 14 Nov. 2019

JOHN E. KIRCHNER -- 29 Oct. 2019
CRAWFORD A. "PETE" EASTERLING -- 19 Oct. 2019
RICHARD R. "DICK" BAUER -- 23 Aug. 2019
DARRYL L. NAEGELI -- 22 Aug. 2019
DALE DEWEESE -- 18 Aug. 2019
HAL D. AVERYT -- 4 Aug. 2019
RICHARD W. "TURTLE" REDDITT -- 25 Jul. 2019
ROBERT "BOB" PEEBLES -- 09 Jul. 2019
THEODORE RUFFING "TED" McCLARD -- 27 Jun. 2019
RON "ASTRO" KNOTT -- 26 Jun. 2019
WILLARD HARRY "WILL" HESTER -- 24 May 2019
DAVID D. "DOG" DAVISSON -- May 2019
BYRON J. "BOB" OISTAD -- 24 Apr. 2019
LARRY "HOOK" MILLER -- Apr. 2019
ROBERT A. "SNAKE" HOUGHTON Jr. -- 22 Mar. 2019
ROBERT HOLLAND "BOB" KIRAL -- 20 Mar. 2019
JOSEPH F. "JOE" "HOSER" SATRAPA -- 17 Mar. 2019
RONALD L. "SHOOTER" BECKWITH -- 17 Feb. 2019
RONALD W. "NORK" KRON -- 4 Feb. 2019
GARY W. "DIAMOND" HARRELL -- 31 Jan. 2019
DONALD LARRY HANSEN -- 30 Jan. 2019
DENNIS E. "DENNY" SHOUP -- 2019
WILLIAM HARWOOD "BILL" JUVONEN -- 22 Dec. 2018
RUSSELL W. "BILL" ARMSTRONG, Jr. -- 18 Dec. 2018
DENNIS ALLAN "SULLY" SULLIVAN -- 15 Dec. 2018
GARY EARL KELLNER -- 14 Dec. 2018
FRED RICHARDSON -- 27 Nov. 2018
DENNY BROOKS -- 12 Nov. 2018

WHEN YOU'RE OUT
OF F-8's



YOU'RE OUT OF
FIGHTERS