



THE CHINA LAKER

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Newsletter of the China Lake Museum Foundation

Fall 2013

WALLEYE

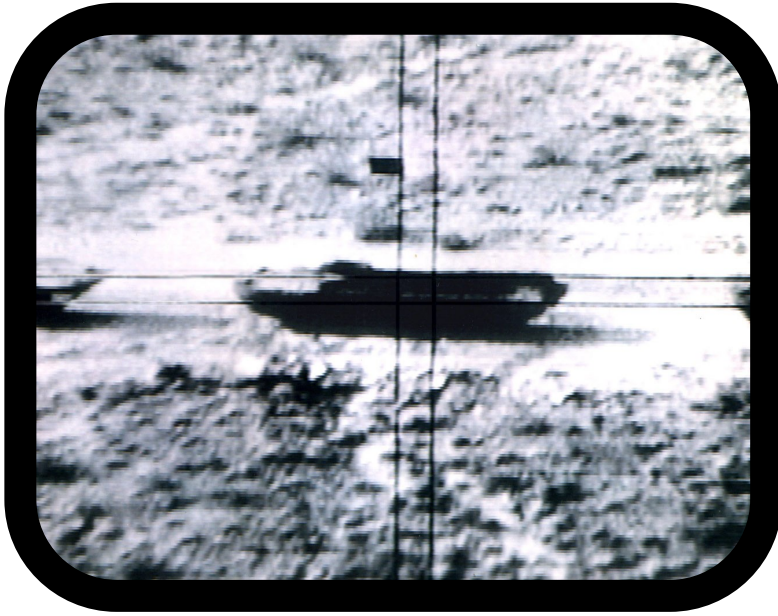
Combat Introduction

The WALLEYE weapon was introduced to combat during the 1967 combat deployment of VA-212. The first strikes were made on March 11, 1967 against targets in North Vietnam. VA-212 made these first few firings against lightly defended targets to gain experience in the combat use of the new weapon at a minimum risk. By attacking targets in lightly defended areas it was also possible to document the WALLEYE deliveries. This documentation was in the form of motion pictures and tape recordings of the weapon. Other WALLEYE equipped squadrons following VA-212 made their first firings against low risk targets for pilot "build-up" training.

Though many discrepancies were encountered with both the aircraft and weapon system during the first few months of the deployment, as time passed things began to operate more smoothly. VA-212 used a team concept for WALLEYE maintenance and handling. Selected personnel from required rates worked together during checkout and loading. As familiarity and experience were gained, reduced repair time and increased reliability were realized. In time, the overall weapon system reliability was judged to be satisfactory.

Generally, WALLEYE was delivered against prebriefed targets for which detailed launch conditions had been formulated. Target planning was detailed and extensive in order to gain full advantage of the weapon's potential accuracy. Planning considerations included the type of target, enemy defenses, video distractions, terrain features, and weather. The Navy's interest in proving





WALLEYE'S accuracy influenced mission planning, in that shorter slant ranges were used to enhance the probability of a hit. Consequently, the Navy experienced a higher success rate than that enjoyed by the Air Force.

Of the 93 WALLEYE weapons received aboard the Bon Homme Richard, 43 were expended in combat. The two largest categories of WALLEYE targets were bridges and buildings. Thirteen bridges varying in design and construction were struck by VA-212 WALLEYEs. Primary aimpoints were center span piers. Against wooden type bridges, WALLEYE was extremely effective. Nine bridges of this type were hit and each was rendered unserviceable. Against 3 medium size

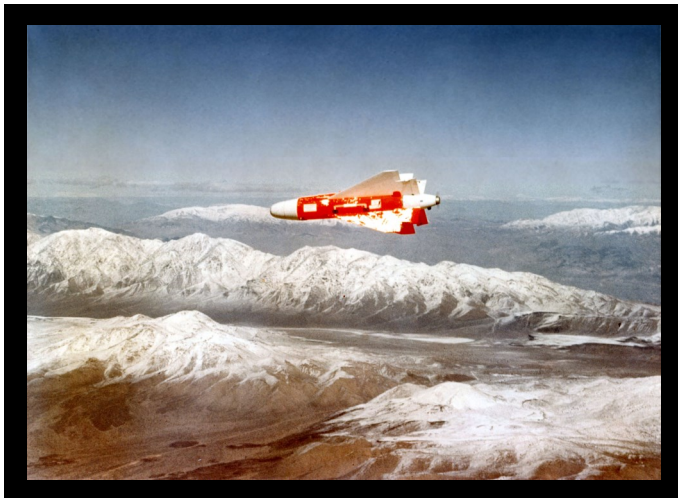
steel truss supported bridges, WALLEYE was less effective, achieving only moderate damage. One large mass steel bridge was struck with disappointing results. This inability to significantly damage hard targets highlighted a need for a larger more effective warhead section.

Against buildings, WALLEYE fared somewhat better. All WALLEYEs expended against buildings were direct hits. Window areas provided excellent aim and contrast points contributing to the overall accuracy of the guidance system. The effects of the warhead blast within the buildings, though difficult to measure accurately, were considered exceptional. The Navy also scored 4 hits on railroad locomotives. In 3 of these cases the locomotive was completely destroyed. In one instance an isolated steam-driven engine was attacked with a single WALLEYE. After detonation, the engine was observed lying on its side spewing steam.



In June 1968 the Bon Homme Richard completed its combat tour. In view of its experience with WALLEYE, VA- 212 concluded that the weapon was extremely accurate when used properly. Despite this effectiveness, there were areas needing improvement. The performance of the warhead and the stand off range proved less than what was desired. The quality of the video display was variable and not up to desired standards. There was still room for improvement in weapon reliability.





This excerpt is by G. R. Wallace.

"The Development History of the Walleye Weapon System"

This book and DVD are sold in the gift shop:

Book: \$30.00 DVD: \$15.00

Combined Book and DVD: \$40

Special Visits



We were honored to entertain the Lauritsen and Fowler family members as they toured China Lake, including the China Lake Museum, and the Maturango and the Historic USO building in Ridgecrest. They were here to learn and share the involvement of their fathers Dr. Charles Lauritsen, and Dr. Willie Fowler in the early establishment of NOTS Inyokern/ China Lake and the innovative culture that exists to this day.

President's Message by Bob Campbell

We had a very busy quarter. The Walleye exhibit opened November 1, and it looks fantastic. The donors to the exhibit made it possible along with the many volunteer hours of the team who created it, and we thank them all. The exhibit includes credits to all of them, along with the original team members who conceived and developed the Walleye and the Condor systems. Walleye provided the first precision launch and leave capability during the Vietnam era. A little known fact is that President Johnson personally provided the go-ahead to use the weapon against the Hanoi Power Plant since it satisfied his criteria for reduction of damage around the target site. Please make the effort to come visit the Museum and see the exhibit. An excellent documentary book of the history of the Walleye along with a video explaining its impact is available in the Museum store.

We also were honored to entertain the Lauritsen and Fowler family members as they toured China Lake including our China Lake Museum, and the Maturango and Historic USO building in Ridgecrest. They were here to learn and share the involvement of their fathers Dr. Charles Lauritsen, and Dr. Willie Fowler in the early establishment of NOTS Inyokern/China Lake and the innovative culture that exists to this day.

We continue to work with our architect on the design and relocation of the Museum into Ridgecrest, adjacent to the Maturango Museum. Our first step is to get a presence on the one-acre plaza site across Las Flores from the Maturango Museum.

Our goals for 2014 are to continue to upgrade existing exhibits in the Museum by adding more detail for the existing displays and also new presentations reflecting the rich legacy of China Lake in the area of naval armament and technology. We are looking for volunteers who are interested in helping improve the exhibits—including the refurbishment of aircraft that will be moved to the plaza site in the first phase. If you are interested please contact the Museum Office Manager, Teri Raley, at 760-939-3530, or me at 760-377-7085. The first aircraft are the A-6 TRAM and the A-4 HARM configured planes.

It is not too early to mark your calendars for the annual dinner auction scheduled for May 31, 2014. Our auction team has already met and we are planning the details of the event. If you are already doing some annual "house cleaning" and have quality items you wish to donate please contact Teri Raley and we will get back to you.

I hope you all have a Merry Christmas and the New Year will be a memorable one for you all. It would be fun to see you at the New Year's Eve Extravaganza! I am especially looking forward to finally establishing a presence in Ridgecrest and taking the next step toward a museum complex in 2014.



Robert Campbell

Announcing the "First Annual Danish Pastry And lemon Poppy Seed Muffin Bake Sale"



Hot Item! Sells quick! Freezes well!

The rectangular Danish pastries (shown above) have their origins (locally) from the Women's Auxiliary to the Commissioned Officer's Mess (WACOM) cookbook. Alice Zilmer (Del) made these each Christmas for close friends. When Alice and Del moved to the Puget Sound area in the 1970s, Bruce Auld took over the annual preparations, now making 2,000 per year. Each year, Bruce provides 120 bags of these and other baked items as fundraising opportunities for youth activities and nonprofit organizations. This year the Burroughs High School football team and the China Lake Museum Foundation will receive 20 bags each of the Danish pastry (rectangular 8 per bag), the cinnamon Danish pastry (Circular 9 per bag) and the lemon poppy seed muffins (9 per bag). Each item is available for a \$20 donation. To donate through the China Lake Museum Foundation, please call (760) 939-3530 or chinalakemuseum@mediacombb.net.

Donation and pick up is scheduled for 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. on December 10-12 at the flagpole at Burroughs High School. If you need special arrangements for pick up please let us know.

Volunteers!



Front Desk Greeters

Docents

Gift Shop Assistants

Exhibits Maintenance and Development

Grant Writing

Light Cleaning (Dusting & Vacuuming)

WE NEED YOU!

The Museum is open Monday through Saturday 10am–4pm. We are looking for help in all areas.

Front Desk Greeters: Welcome visitors at the lobby and assist them in getting started – sign in, help with getting videos running, answer questions, direct visitors to the Gift Shop if necessary, and make sure artifacts don't walk off or get damaged.

Gift Shop: If you have ever wanted to work in retail, this is a great opportunity. Provide friendly help to customers, run the cash register, keep the shelves stocked, help with barcoding merchandise, and come up with creative marketing and display ideas.

Many hands make light work!

Alice Campbell
Director Emeritus
(760) 377-7074
alicerbob@verizon.net

Teri Raley
Office Manager
(760) 939-3530 (Museum)
chinalakemuseum@mediacombb.net



Work Day at the Museum!

We need your help with a few projects around the museum. We will be having a work day on:

**Saturday, January 25th, 2014
from 8am–12noon.**

Please bring some work gloves and high spirits. Thank you in advance for your generous help in getting us looking presentable!

New Year's Eve Extravaganza

A One-Of-A-Kind New Year's Eve Party

For 100 people benefitting

The China Lake Museum Foundation

For Reservations, please call (760) 939-3530

The VIP \$2,000 package includes:

4 Deluxe Guest Suites (8 people)

Hors De Oeuvres

Deluxe Dinner for 8 with Dessert

Premium Wine with Dinner

Champagne Toast at Midnight

Deluxe Party Favors

Dancing to Ted Lemon

Breakfast the Next Morning

Late Check-out 3 Pm on New Year's Day

VIP Tables \$2,000

Couples \$250

Single \$125

Some restrictions
apply on these seats



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Chief Development Officer

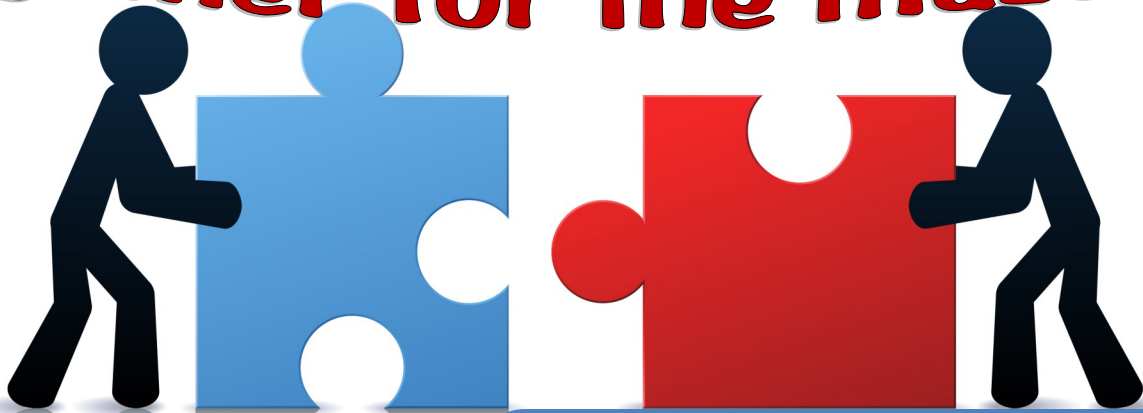
Office Assistant

Office Manager

We could save a lot of money by sending you your newsletter electronically...and you'd get it in **color**! If you would like to receive your newsletter electronically please send an email, from the email address to which you would like your newsletter sent, to **chinalakemuseum@mediacombb.net**.

Please put in the subject line "Electronic Newsletter."

You help put the pieces together for the museum!



New Memberships

Anna Bauman
Mike and Ruth Hogan
Wallace and Margaret Martin
Bob and Eileen Pearl

Museum Campaign Contributors from September 1, 2013- Present

Jack and Joanne Latimer
John and Judith Ward

Donations from September 1, 2013- Present

Hank and Janet Blazek
Glenn and Lanna Crowson
Sterling and LaVonne Haaland

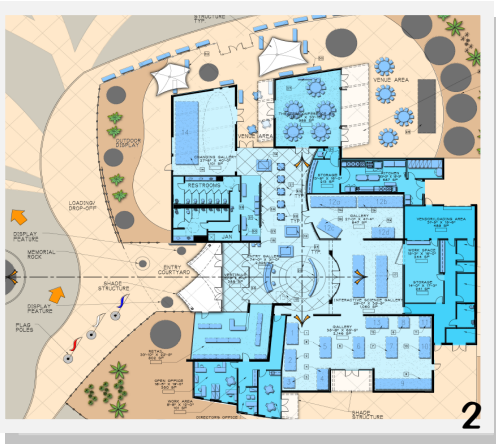
Burrell and Lesta Hays
Dave Pearson's Recycling
Kathy Vejtasa

Business Members

A Ridgecrest Septic Service
Alta One FCU
Ashley Furniture Home Store
The Boeing Company
C. Martin Company
Carriage Inn
Coldwell Banker Best Realty
Cosner-Neipp Corporation
Daily Independent
Desert Valleys Federal Credit Union
Edward Jones Investment
Electric Motor Works Inc.
Friends of Christine Lizardi Frazier
I WV Insurance Agency
Jacobs Naval Systems Group
Kernville Chamber of Commerce

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Lone Star Aerospace
McDonald's
McKee Electric Co.
The MIL Corporation
Neely Accountancy Corp.
Northrop Grumman Corp.
Raytheon Company
Rain for Rent
Ridgecrest Automotive, LLC
Ridgecrest Moving and Storage Company, Inc.
San Joaquin Valley Quality Cotton Growers Assoc.
Southern Sierra General Engineering, Inc.
The Swap Sheet
Tejon Ranch Company
Toss

Museum Campaign



With the Kern County land leases in place and armed with conceptual artist renderings of both the corner plaza(1) and the museum pavilion (2), Bruce Auld, accompanied by eight year old Grandson Conner, traveled to Washington, D.C. in an effort to seek large private donations to fund both projects. These efforts remain underway. In the meantime, preliminary work has commenced to prepare the A6 Intruder, currently on display in front of the Museum, for placement in the corner plaza in 2014. Our dream is to have the Intruder dynamically displayed in “dirty” configuration (gear down, tailhook down, flaps down), as if seconds away from carrier catch. We think this may be a unique manner of aircraft display. Also being considered is a display of the array of NAWCWD weapons typically launched by this aircraft in combat beneath the Intruder. It is anticipated that \$25,000 to \$50,000 will be needed to drop the engines, scrub the aircraft, paint the aircraft and apply decals. The Foundation has approached the Intruder Association, requesting that one of “The Intruder Tribute” obelisk kiosks be placed adjacent to the Museum’s Intruder. Also under consideration is the creation of a sculpture rendition of the iconic photograph of LCdr. Glenn Tierney standing with an early version of the Sidewinder Missile.

Excitement in the Gift Shop!

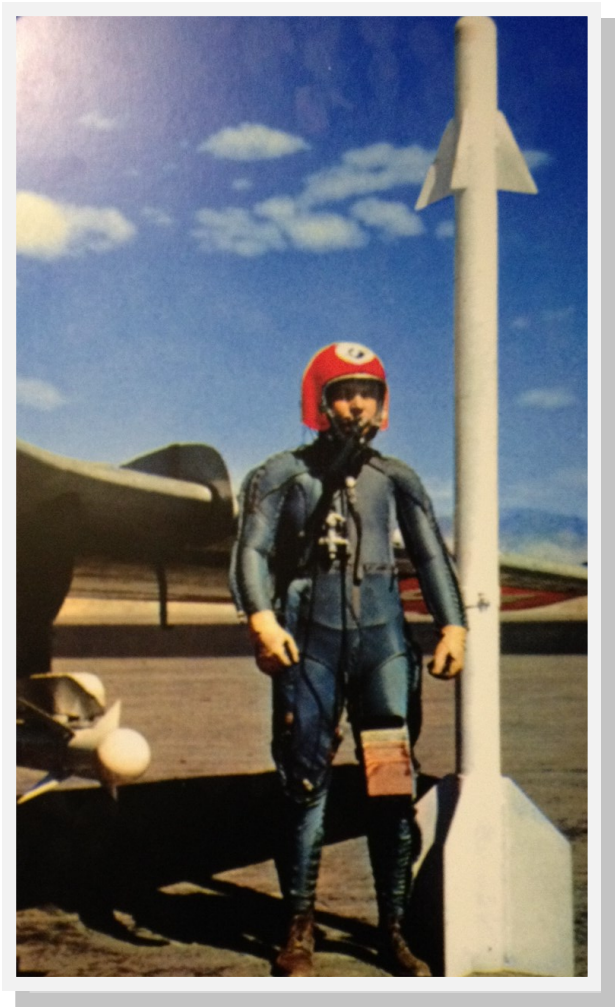
Christmas is coming!

For all of December, members get 20% off!



Stocking Stuffers
Available here!





LCdr. Glenn Tierney



The Intruder Tribute

 **China Lake Museum Foundation**
From the Desert to the Fleet
Preserving the Legacy of Naval Armament and Technology

Your gift is tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law for a 501(C)(3) organization.

Please make checks payable to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

YES!

I want to help build a new Museum in Ridgecrest!

Please accept my payment of:

\$100 \$200 \$500

\$1,000 \$5,000 _____

CLMF
P.O. Box 217
Ridgecrest, CA 93556

Enclosed is my Check Visa MasterCard Other _____

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ CVC: _____

Signature: _____

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