

PCN Services – High Life *Newsletter, News, Events, Deaths, Illness Notices* and *PCN Calendar*. *Note: Notices from major sections are distributed by separate email address to allow our subscribers the ability to customize and block notices not desired.*

Large Web Community for World's Largest Airline

# High Life

For all Delta people who have truly touched the *High Life!*

Dear PCN,

Group Section.....

Mark's Remarks:

## **Calling the PBGC for BSW:**

I wish I had a direct number for the Atlanta office (which you need to ask for when calling the PBGC) but I do not. Simply call the national PBGC number and ask for the Atlanta office. PBGC - 1-800-400-7242 Any questions regarding your benefits or obtaining your **benefit statement worksheet**, *talk to the Atlanta office.*

**Phishing Warning:** I know you are up on this but it never hurts to give the call to keep your alert up. “phishing” is the email scammers attempt at convincing you to give over personal data or send money. Lately, I have seen scammers get a hold of Facebook accounts, email addresses and then pose as a friend or acquaintance that is in need of emergency money. No one emails anyone for emergency money. No reputable online firm asks for personal data to “verify” your account. Like I said, I am sure you are up on this but surf safely.

**Virtual One-Time Card use:** One more tip about online purchases. I know I have mention this before it is so important I feel that I should do it again. Most merchants online would like you to give them your credit card number and they will store it on a server. That server is apt to hackers who break in and steal. I buy a lot of stuff online, BUT I NEVER USE A REAL CREDIT CARD NUMBER. What? How then do I make purchases? Well, each credit card company has a secure “virtual” or “one time use” program that produces a workable CC number tied to your account but not your real card. This number is computer generated and after the

purchase cannot be used again even if it is hacked. Check into it and see if it doesn't keep you safer. [Discover's secure CC](#).

*Ok, while I am at it one more.*

**Security Freeze at all credit bureaus:** There are a lot of ways for someone to get in your knickers and steal your identity. A popular method of theft is to get your important numbers (like your SSN that is sitting in a thousand different file cabinets) and then get credit based on the thief pretending to be you. Well, when you are old like me and don't anticipate applying for a lot of credit cards or loans, why not put a freeze on your info at all 4 bureaus. If you do than no one can issue credit to anyone *as you* with their approval. That's a major road block to identity theft and a major softening of the pillow for sleeping at night. Credit bureaus: Experian, Equifax, TransUnion, and Innovis.

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***Help me improve the toolbar --- suggest widely used links to add.***

*Now over 300 users for the Free and useful PCN browser toolbar.*

***TOOLBAR for IE: Because it took me some effort to create, I will run this for a few issues until you give it a look see. You will like it! Mark***

[Click here](#) or on the toolbar image to download and install PCN's new toolbar. Yeah, I know you're skeptical. I was too, until I saw what it can do without any real drawbacks.

*This is Great! Install a ton of useful links right at your fingertips!*



Can constantly add new features and be revised and upgraded. (Works with IE).

Tip: During installation pay attention to couple of questions it asks you to check. If you have a toolbar you do not want R-Click on the grey top and de-select ones you do not want.

## News Section.....

Delta News (Recent stories of interest): [Yahoo](#), [AJC](#)

# Delta flew most passengers in July

## Atlanta Business Chronicle

Read more: [Delta flew most passengers in July - Atlanta Business Chronicle](#)

Delta was again the industry leader in passengers as U.S. airlines boosted system traffic in May.

According to a report Thursday from the [U.S. Department of Transportation](#)'s Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Atlanta-based [Delta Air Lines Inc.](#) (NYSE: DAL) carried more total system passengers than any other airline in May with 9.39 million. Delta also increased its number of total system passengers 59.5 percent over May 2009.

[AirTran Airways](#) (NYSE: AAI), which has its main hub at [Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport](#), increased passengers 6.3 percent to 2.13 million.

The airline industry as a whole increased system traffic 2.9 percent to 61.5 million passengers in May.

Hartsfield-Jackson was still the world's busiest airport with 3.7 million passengers.

Read more: [Delta flew most passengers in July - Atlanta Business Chronicle](#)

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Thursday, August 12, 2010, 10:39am EDT

## Delta offers bookings on Facebook

Atlanta Business Chronicle

[Delta Air Lines Inc.](#) on Thursday debuted what it calls the industry's first social media "Ticket Window," which lets customers book tickets directly from the Delta Facebook page and other social media sites.

Delta's Ticket Window allows Facebook users to complete a full travel booking using a dedicated "tab" at facebook.com/delta without navigating to delta.com. Atlanta-based Delta (NYSE: DAL) said it plans to expand its Ticket Window to other sites, including online banner ads to allow full booking capabilities within the airline's advertisements.

The airline also this week launched a redesign of Delta.com

"Our customers are spending more time online and are looking for new ways to connect with us," said Bob Kupbens, Delta vice president of eCommerce, in a statement. "We're now delivering technology where our customers are - from our own website to our Facebook page to Internet news sites and beyond. We already know Facebook is the most used website by inflight WiFi users on more than 2,000 Delta flights every day, giving us the natural launching point for a new online Ticket Window."

Read more: [Delta offers bookings on Facebook - Atlanta Business Chronicle](#)

[Other Airline News](#) (Recent stories of interest):

## Finance Section (section containing items with financial consequence to our group):

### FINANCE: CLAIMS/PBGC/HCTC/INSURANCE/PLANNING/TAX/ESTATE

Remaining financial items for retirees to watch:

After Aug 2007 these are retirement items remaining with financial consequence.

1. ~~PBGC 2nd look re-calc at qualified annuity benefits~~ - **completed 8/24/07**
2. ~~PBGC make up lump payment for underpayments since termination:~~ **most reported received 1/31/08**
3. Final claim distribution by DAL through BSI - **pending (now likely in '11 according to Kight)**
4. ~~Class Action suit against DAL concerning 5 yr look back worth in excess of \$100 million - withdrawn~~
5. Final Benefit Determination Letters (BDL's) PBGC re-calc "determination" of qualified annuity (likely after claim stock sale) – **pending (only 45 days to appeal)**
6. Pension reinstatement/contribution request by DP3 representing the retired pilots. **very long shot....pending**
7. ~~Roth IRA creation as per Worker, Retiree, and Employer Recovery Act of 2008 – deadline June 22nd, 2009~~
8. Expiration of HCTC 80% premium subsidy will expire on December 31, 2010. Back to 65%.

## Insurance (issues about health, life or disability that are of interest):

*Can someone help Capt Evans out?*

Bill Evans

Email [2lazye@msn.com](mailto:2lazye@msn.com)

Issue Area - Insurance

Comments - How does one sign spouse up for medicare supliment through Dalarc?

Are you, who use it, satisfied?

What alternatives would you recomend?

Pension:

As the PBGC appeals progresses the sensitivity of the information does as well. While the PCN has re-published many of DP3 general postings, we will refrain from re-publishing "private emails" in view of the nature of the process. So when there is a general update we will re-publish and when there is a private email we will help announce it.

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To PCN subscribers these links are "hot" and will take you directly to the DP3 resource page or checklist for filing an appeal concerning your PBGC benefits.

Click for [PBGC Appeals Resource Page](#)

*Or*

[Appeal Checklist](#)

*DP3 (login required)*

Click to appeal your PBGC benefit

Call PBGC - 1-800-400-7242

Link of explanation for BSW ([Benefit Statement Worksheet](#))

(Note: Must know your DP3 assigned passwords which cannot be shared in our newsletter!)

Commercial Section.....

Investment (Legitimate firms that have helped our group are encouraged to contact PCN to add articles here):

Section reserved for future content.

Travel & Non-Revving (share a quick reco):

## Life Section...

I thank Linda Brockett and Steve McGreevy for sending the following pieces are meant as a tribute to Buz Sawyer who passed Aug 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

From: brockett@bellsouth.net

To: srdm@hotmai.com

Subject: Fwd: ECHS - Here's Bruce 'Buz' Sawyer, taken from our web site!

Date: Fri, 13 Aug 2010 15:27:59 -0400

Subject: ECHS - Here's Bruce 'Buz' Sawyer, taken from our web site!

This is/was Bruce 'Buz' Sawyer....Am not sure how he is doing tonight... We are all praying..... He was last seen on FACEBOOK I think on July 17th. This is the BIO information Buz sent me back in 2003 right before our first Multi-Class Reunion.. He and Carole stayed near me in the Motel where we had our Hospitality room..... We all had so much fun, and Bruce and Carole also attended the 1960 45th Reunion; then our 2008 Multi-Class Reunion. The Multi-Class Reunions seem to be becoming more popular in my immediate area these days! One is planned right here in my town for this month (1977 +) at the local Elks Lodge, which can hold a lot of people! It allows everyone to get to renew old acquaintances from various grades in high school and to make new friends with some that you were never that close to, but now have a lot in common with! It is amazing how much fun they can be.

**Bruce M. 'Buz' Sawyer**

2378 Welton Place  
Dunwoody, GA 30338  
770-452-0229

[buz250@aol.com](mailto:buz250@aol.com)

### WEB BIO FROM BUZ-2003.

Class of 1960....born in Elizabeth City and I am still having trouble believing it's been 43 years since graduating from good old ECHS!

I attended East Carolina University and The College of the Albemarle. I really love aviation and got my pilots license when I was 16 years old. I later learned that I was the youngest pilot in NC.

In November of 1963, I was accepted into the United States Navy flight school in Pensacola, FL. I spent six years in the Navy flying just about every plane they had. I was flying C-130 transports into Viet Nam in 1966-1967. After leaving the Navy in 1968, I began my career with Delta Airlines. I flew for Delta for 29 years, and retired as a Captain on the Boeing 767 in July 1997. Delta made us an offer we couldn't refuse, so I was able to retire when I was 55 years old. I highly recommend retirement. Bill Brockett (class of '55) and I landed within 30 minutes of each other on our last flights. We have since become good traveling buddies in our motor homes.

I met my wife, Carole Morgan Sawyer, formerly of Franklin, VA, at the old Belk Tyler's store. We were married in November 1963. Can't believe our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary is this year. We have two children, Mike and Anne. Both are married and live close to us in the Atlanta area. We have six beautiful grandchildren that we enjoy spoiling, ages 13 years to 9 months.

We enjoy traveling and getting together with old friends. We really enjoy seeing old high school friends at our reunions and are especially looking forward to this one. Thanks for inviting our class to your 50's Class Reunion.

God Bless them both.....our prayers are with them.....Buz has fought a valiant fight for the past year.

A call from Carole today said the doctors gave her a choice of 'ICU and tubes' or to keep him comfortable---they chose the latter. Buz is also on Oxygen, so he may not have a lot of time. Please keep him in your prayers...

**Remember 'Time waits for no one!'**

(Rolling Stones - 1974)

Misc Posts:

Thanks to Charlie in St. Augustine for sending this video... Had no idea.

Subject: An engineering marvel for the mechanically minded - Railroad Work Train in action - Fascinating to watch

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qFE8nmKpmXY>

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Scott Hersha  
Email [shersha@fuse.net](mailto:shersha@fuse.net)

Issue Area General  
Comments - Mark,

I think that under the Finance Section, where it says things for retirees to watch for, you should make a change. Under #3, the line that says most recently:

"3. Final claim distribution by DAL through BSI - pending (now likely in '11 according to Kight)"

..... you should either eliminate this line or maybe say 'now UN-likely according to Kight....

This line has been there for years (...in '08, '09, '10...)and the only thing that changes is the date (year). I would say that Kight's credibility and honesty is rather lacking. He 'leadership' is reminiscent of past Delta 'leaders'. It would be refreshing to hear the truth for a change from someone at Delta. (I'm hearing in the back of my head,, TRUTH? - YOU CAN'T HANDLE THE TRUTH!!!). Maybe they're just being nice to us.

Human Interest:

Good Read (Good book recommendation & [Community Author's](#) blurbs):

**From:** [Daryledmcginnis@aol.com](mailto:Daryledmcginnis@aol.com)  
**Date:** 8/15/2010 2:05:42 PM  
**To:** [misc@pilotcommunication.net](mailto:misc@pilotcommunication.net)  
**Subject:** Re: book

Mark,  
Thanks. Here's what to please post:

Retired Delta pilot Daryle McGinnis writes books set in our era of aviation. The first of five has been published. Descriptions and details appear on his web site: [www.McGinnisBooks.com](http://www.McGinnisBooks.com)

I appreciate it, Mark.  
Daryle

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[www.JohnAubreyAnderson.com](http://www.JohnAubreyAnderson.com)

Belated Greetings . . .

I'm up to my elbows in alligators . . . website overhaul, trips to NYC, St. Louis, Washington, DC, and M'sippi State, plus trying to recover from a water leak here at home, book five, and learning Facebook.

For those of you who have not heard . . .

My fourth novel, *The Cool Woman*, launched the first of July. You'll find her in the general fiction section of B&N, Borders, and other major stores. You may have to ask them where she is. In Christian book stores, she's fairly easy to locate.

I'll be signing books at:

**Mardel in Denton**, Texas on Saturday, August 21, at 1:00pm.  
1800 S. Loop 288, Ste. 210  
Denton, TX  
940-384-7076

**Mardel in Plano**, Texas on Saturday, August 28, at 1:00pm.  
2300 Coit Rd., Ste.  
#100  
Plano, TX  
972-867-1656

I'd really like for Mardel to be glad they scheduled this, so drop in and visit and/or send your friends . . . have a cup of Mardel's coffee and pick up a copy of *The Cool Woman*. Oh yes . . . and bring your unsigned books if you like . . . I'll be glad to sign them.

I'll get another *Guardian* in a week or so. In the meantime, take a look at my Facebook group page and give me your input on how to improve its effectiveness.

Warm regards,  
John

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Hi Mark,

First, I can't thank you enough for your commitment to keeping us posted on what is going on with Delta, the airline industry and in each other's lives. From one author to another, I am impressed.

I am a retired MSY based flight attendant (maiden name- Jo Ann Rosen) who has just had a memoir published. "From Hurricane Katrina to the Middle East: A True Love Story...With Life Lessons Learned". It is already available on [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) and [www.createspace.com/900003294](http://www.createspace.com/900003294). Also, my new website, [www.joanngodfrey.com](http://www.joanngodfrey.com) just went live.

Would you kindly make this information available in High Life Good Read and Community Author's blurbs. Thanks so much.

Best Regards, Jo Ann Rosen Godfrey

This is what Amazon says :

A powerful love story and an epic adventure, *From Hurricane Katrina to the Middle East: A True Love Story* is author Jo Ann Godfrey's tale of how she finds her soul mate under the most surprising and dramatic conditions of her life. When Jo Ann begins falling for Gary, he has already accepted a job in Saudi Arabia and she stays behind in New Orleans. But when Katrina hits, the hurricane sets off a series of events that will change both their lives forever. *From Hurricane Katrina to the Middle East: A True Love Story* is the inspiring tale of how one woman never gives up hope, stays positive, and uses the lessons of her past to catapult her into the future beyond her wildest dreams. A profound romance, Godfrey's memoir is sure to touch hearts and win her many devoted readers.

Here's my bio:

Jo Ann Rosen Godfrey is a retired flight attendant (Delta Air Lines 1969-1994) and a Licensed Interior Designer in the State of Louisiana with her own firm, Interior Analysts, Inc. ([www.interioranalysts.com](http://www.interioranalysts.com)). She has taught Interior Decorating at Delgado Community College in New Orleans, LA and has been on the board of East Jefferson Business Association and Louisiana Breast Cancer Task Force. She is a 22 year survivor of Breast Cancer and won an award in 1997 in New Orleans as Best Breast Cancer Supporter. Throughout her career she has contributed numerous writings on interior design and motivational living to newspapers, magazines and organizational newsletters. She has also been an avid supporter and volunteer at the PBS affiliate in New Orleans, WYES-TV. She has been married to Gary Godfrey since late 2005 and they currently reside in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

**Bored Calendar Girl:** *Hey PCN please check our [Calendar](#) to see if your event is properly posted. If not give Kim some work. She is bored. CC and send all your events to [pcn.calendar@gmail.com](mailto:pcn.calendar@gmail.com) to get posted on our calendar. Thanks.*

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**From:** [DWSkjerven@aol.com](mailto:DWSkjerven@aol.com)  
**Date:** 8/15/2010 4:44:39 PM  
**Subject:** 3rd Thursday of the Month ORD DC-9 Layover

This coming Thursday is the 3rd Thursday of the month and time to see if you can still layover like in the DC-9 days. Cheap beer, good pizza and fantastic war stories await as once again everyone and anyone is invited to join the ORD Delta Pilots at their monthly Simulated DC-9 Layover. As always, it is at 19:00 at Nick's Pizza & Pub, 856 Pyott Rd. Crystal Lake, IL or about 1/2 mile north of the Lake In The Hills Airport.  
See you there, David W. Skjerven  
The Navy's Blue Angels at the Chicago Air and Water Show:

(Leo, the Blue Angels are in a diamond formation high and to the right)  
Another nice Navy formation by a Blue Angel

P.S. Don't forget about the annual ORD Delta Pilot's Fly In, Wednesday September 8th

**From:** [DWSkjerven@aol.com](mailto:DWSkjerven@aol.com)  
**Date:** 8/15/2010 5:00:44 PM  
**Subject:** Annual ORD Delta Pilot's Fly In

Just a reminder that the Annual ORD Delta Pilot's Fly In is coming up on Wednesday the 8th of Sept at the Poplar Grove Airport which is just north of Belvidere, IL. Fly in or drive in to this good time and great food event. Everyone and anyone is invited so please bring a friend. In order to have plenty of food, we need to know how many are planning on coming. So let Leo [lbezdek@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lbezdek@sbcglobal.net), Honey [SWINFORD.DAN@COMCAST.NET](mailto:SWINFORD.DAN@COMCAST.NET) or Rod [MARSHLL@CHARTER.NET](mailto:MARSHLL@CHARTER.NET) know if you are coming or even just thinking of coming so that there will be plenty of food and drink.  
Thanks and see you there, David W. Skjerven  
"Smoke On!"

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**From:** [Richard Deeds](#)  
**Date:** 08/10/10 14:05:03  
**To:** [undisclosed-recipients:](#)  
**Subject:** 2010 Wallybird Brunch, Golf & "Gathering"

## ***From the Wallybird***

Mark your Calendars!!! October 5 & 6 2010!  
Many of you last year said that you would "talk" it up and get your other WAL buddies to come because of the good time had by all. Lets Do IT!

Remember, wives, husbands significant others are welcome.

Al Ehringer has once again offered his bar, booze and hors d'oeuvres to all on Tuesday 10/5 from 2PM to 6PM. Good friends, food and booze.

The banquet will be at the Eldorado hotel on 10/6. The food selection will be:

**Grilled Salmon** - Grilled salmon filet, served with rice du jour and fresh seasonal vegetables

**Roast Prime Rib of Beef** - slow;ow roasted choice prime rib of beef, seasoned to perfection. Served with your choice of baked, garlic mashed or pesto mashed potatoes and fresh seasonal vegetables.

All dinners include a choice of fresh garden salad with house dressing or a Caesar salad with homemade garlic croûtons. Entrees also include rolls, butter, and desert. All dinner selections are also served with Eldorado's own Blended and roasted coffees, Iced Tea and Water and gratuity and hopefully speaker costs!.

\$49.00/person. - Includes the meal, Tax and all grautitues!

For those who golf, the event will again be held at Thunder Canyon thanks to Mike McGee. I'll forward the info for the event as soon as I get it from Mike.

**October 6 - Golf**

0900 Shotgun Start

Includes unlimited use of practice facility, cart and a free sleeve of balls.

Mike says to remind all that the dress is casual BUT no denim.

The Eldorado has given us a better deal this year on rooms. Here's the info:

They are giving us a good rate this year.

To reserve a room:

Call: 800-648-5966

Standard Room: \$40.00

Deluxe Room: \$50.00

You MUST reference the group code: \*NWALY10\* to get the rate when you call. You can cancel your reservation up to 24 hrs prior with no penalty.

Please RSVP me at:

Dick Deeds

6555 Gillis Drive

San Jose, CA 95120

408-268-0670

Include a check for each person for \$49.00.

Please include whether or not you intend to golf. Golf fees will be paid at Thunder Canyon and I'll let you know the fee as soon as I get it! Hopefully we will have good weather this year. It's the reason I moved the date one week forward.

Hope to see a really great turnout this year. I schedule the "gathering" for Tuesday and banquet for Wednesday to facilitate non-rev traveling. I hate to admit that I use SWA. The passes on SWA are really reasonable.

Come one, Come all!!!

Dick

I am looking for....." (Share a post of who you are seeking, if one sought answers....wallah):

Bob Morgan

Email [bobandvena@embarqmail.com](mailto:bobandvena@embarqmail.com)

Issue Area - General

Comments - I am looking for Captain Bill Wilson, retired (2001?).

Good Deal/Bad Deal (Share a quick good deal or bad deal you have found – no commercials here!)

Hangar Flying (Share a bit of ole hangar flying with the net) :

**Subject:** Fwd: Russia's Space Shuttle Program? (*Thanks Dave*)

**Comments below from Dick Thiel. WDE**

Great photos! Read the article, but don't miss the link to the photos of the Russian space shuttle and its ultimate demise.

Thanks to Ed Calvelli for this fascinating look at the Russian space project!

Maureen

I remember Pete Hogenson telling me about it when he was working in France. Russia ferried it in for an air show shortly after the flight. I didn't know that Dan Bell was ever in France. Pete said they tried to thermally compensate for the lack of gap fillers by using thicker tiles. He also noted that there was noticeable warping along the sidewalls from structural over heating and suspected that at that time it would never fly again.

<http://photofind.com/featured-photo/history-of-buran-russian-space-shuttle-program>

**FYI .....The rest of the story from Matt Yates**

Great pics but only have part of the real story. During the cold war, the soviets were not forthcoming and a lot was smoke and mirrors so the west did not perceive weaknesses.

The reason the Buran only flew once was that they didn't find the drawing, copy and understand the need for gap fillers between many critical tile. The Buran structure melted on the first 1988 flight. When at air shows a number of the lower surface tile appeared brand new, because they *sorta* were. The original ones were removed, the structure cosmetically repaired and the tile replaced with non-flight foam blocks. The original Buran didn't fly again because it couldn't. Overall the Buran system was a cool design. They moved the Nose Landing Gear down the fuselage so it doesn't have to deal with the highest heat load. Liquid Booster, etc. .

Another thing they missed was they lined up, rather than staggered, the tile gaps which added greatly to the structural heat load. We didn't find this out until Jim Smith, the NASA Thermal System Chief, made a trip to Russia and asked about the *nice new tile and the lack of gap fillers*. Amazingly they told him exactly what had happened. Of course this was well before the roof collapse.

Dan Bell, Boeing Thermal, who also saw Buran at the Paris Air Show.

Political (food for thought):

*Editor: I included the following for any in DC that are overspending the taxpayer money. Great visual effect.*

To All ...Just watch this 60 second video below, it is totally worth it and fun to watch!!

**Recently Obama announced that over the next 90-days he is going to "work " to cut 100 million dollars of spending out of the federal budget.**

A college student explains .....

CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW .....

[Visualizing Obama's budget cuts. \[VIDEO\]](#)

Humor/Sobering or Fun (Share some "vulgarity free" humor with the net):

Gotta love this little fella for desire.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=glji-kazad8&feature=popt17us03>

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**From:** [Gene Hall](#)

**Date:** 8/15/2010 9:14:34 PM

**To:** [Mark Sztanyo](#)

**Subject:** What was on 572's right wing ?

Mark, this was sent to me by my nephew. He is a current FA-18 pilot, and most old navy types have seen this, but I hadn't. It is funny.

What the hell was on 572's right wing?'

The result of MacNamara's ordnance shortage in 'Nam..... we 'gave them everything we had..... EVERYTHING!' A true story from VA-25.

Just as this AD was being shot off, we got a 1MC message from the bridge, 'What the hell was on 572's right wing?'

For those too young to remember, during the Vietnam conflict, carriers were so woefully short of ordnance that missions were often launched with only a half load just to keep the sortie rate up so that the REMF's in DC would not send out blistering messages about failure to support the war effort, etc.

Given that the loss rate approached, and sometime exceeded, one aircraft a day, all will understand that there was a degree of reticence to launch with less than a full load -- if I must dance with the elephant at least let's make it worth while. Nevertheless, the indomitable spirit of the carrier aviators, and their squadron-mates, prevailed in some rather perverse way.

I have every hope that today's successors to the mantel left at the Cubi 'O' Club bar persevere as well. Kick the tires, light the fires, bolt for the blue and brief on guard -- last one up is lead. Back in 'Nam', if you weren't on USS MIDWAY in Oct 1965, I thought you'd get a kick out of one squadron's ingenuity. Yes, this really happened. Once again history is stranger than fiction, and a lot funnier:

The USS Midway VA-25's Toilet Bomb.

In October 1965, CDR Clarence J. Stoddard, Executive Officer of VA-25 'Fist of the Fleet', flying an A-1H Skyraider, NE/572 'Paper Tiger II' from Carrier Air Wing Two aboard USS Midway carried a special bomb to the North Vietnamese in commemoration of the 6-millionth pound of ordnance dropped. This bomb was unique because of the type... it was a toilet!

The following is an account of this event, courtesy of Clint Johnson, Captain, USNR Ret. Captain Johnson was one of the two VA-25 A-1 Skyraider pilots credited with shooting down a MiG-17 on June 20, 1965. Clint Johnson was also a classmate and Company-mate of mine at the Naval Academy.

572 was flown by CDR C. W. 'Bill' Stoddard. His wingman in 577

was LCDR Robin Bacon, who had a wing station mounted movie camera (the only one remaining in the fleet from WWII).

The flight was a Dixie Station strike (off South Vietnam) going to the Delta. When they arrived in the target area and CDR Stoddard was reading the ordnance list to the FAC, he ended with 'and one code name Sani-flush'.

The FAC couldn't believe it and joined up to see it. It was dropped in a dive with LCDR Bacon flying tight wing position to film the drop. When it came off, it turned hole to the wind and almost struck his airplane.

It made a great ready room movie. The FAC said that it whistled all the way down. The toilet was a damaged toilet, which was going to be thrown overboard.

One of our plane captains rescued it and the ordnance crew made a rack, tailfins and nose fuse for it. The squadron flight deck checkers maintained a position to block the view of the Captain and Air Boss while the aircraft was taxiing onto the catapult. Just as it was being shot off we got a IMC message from the bridge, 'What the hell was on 572's right wing?'

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## Mark

Mark Sztanyo, PCN Dir & HL Editor

[Pilot Communication Net](#) from Aug 2009

[Contact the Net](#)

*Life on earth will soon be past, only what's done for Christ will last!*

Serving the Delta community, and pilots (active and retired) and their families, *including original Delta, and former:* Northeast, Pan-Am, Western, NWA, Republic, North-Central, Southern Airways, Hughes- Airwest, and all the Delta Connection carriers.

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**Delta Pilots Pension Preservation Organization - <http://www.dp3.org>**  
Delta Museum & Fly-in information - <http://www.deltamuseum.org>  
Delta Pioneers - <http://www.deltapioneersinc.com/>  
Delta Golden Wings - <http://www.deltagoldenwings.com/>  
Delta Retiree Connection - <http://www.dlretiree.info>  
Delta Retirement Committee - <http://www.dalrc.org/>  
DAL Pilots DDPSA - <http://www.ddpsa.com/>  
Delta Extra Net Portal - <http://dlnet.delta.com/>

To assure receiving the High Life set spam filters to accept from @pilotcommunication.net.

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