

## National Association of Naval Photography

## NANP News Summer 2014



## Photojournalism for the Fleet

## President's Message

By John White

Shootoff Schedule  
For 2014Pensacola On-Line  
Shootoff  
September 25-28

Greetings Shipmates,

The saying goes "The Older You Get, The Faster Time Flies". It's taken me some time, but this year has finally convinced me that it is true. This July, I celebrated, if that's the right word, my 20<sup>th</sup> year of retirement from the U. S. Navy. I'm only two four year reenlistments of being out as long as I served. Also, over one half of the first year of my term as President has passed within the blink of my eye. It moved so fast, that I almost forgot that the newsletter was due.

This year is the centennial celebration of Naval Photography. From Walter L. Richardson to the current Mass Communication Specialists, men and women of the U.S. Navy have been documenting events from simple cake cuttings to battle coverage of each and every military operation from the First World War through the current War in Afghanistan. Many of them were wounded and some gave the ultimate sacrifice. Through it all, and whatever their designator, Navy photographers have never flinched when tasked to go forward into danger. Personally, I spent over 28 years serving my country and during that time I served with and met some of the best the fleet's had to offer. This year's reunion was purposely scheduled to be held in the home of Navy Photography, Pensacola, FL. Among the events, our reunion committee has scheduled tours of Building 1500, which was recently named in the memory of Walter L. Richardson, and the National Museum of Naval Aviation. Undoubtedly, attendees will share memories of their careers with their former shipmates and friends. I am hopeful that we will have a great turnout from both the retired and active duty communities.

Walter Richardson,  
Kodak Aerial CameraJohn White  
President 2014-15

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## Presidents Message cont.

NANP's goals are to preserve these memories and incidents that were part of our lives and to promote fraternalism and camaraderie within the active duty and retired Naval Photographic community. Membership in our organization is open to anyone who has spent time in any naval photographic organization or unit and desires to further the interests of Naval Photography. Another of our association's aims is to foster the continual improvement of Naval Photography and we expend a great deal of effort in our workshops which showcase some of the best photographers and their work.

We have made several improvements to our web-site and continually look for the latest and greatest innovations to make it easier to use and appreciate. Currently, we are asking members to search through their personal archives for Christmas Cards, class pictures or any other photographs which could be placed on the web-site for all to enjoy. Also, we have been granted permission to assist with the establishment of the USS WISCONSIN museum by renovating the ship's photo lab. If any of you served on BB64 and have any memorabilia from the ship we could sure use it.

As I stated in my first letter, it gives me a great deal of pride to serve the organization as its President. We are not a stagnate organization so if you have any ideas please don't hesitate to contact me. We are always open to constructive criticism and ideas that improve the association for its members.

I sincerely hope to see each and every one of you at this year's reunion. Of course, I'll be playing golf at the reunion and am always open to a friendly wager.

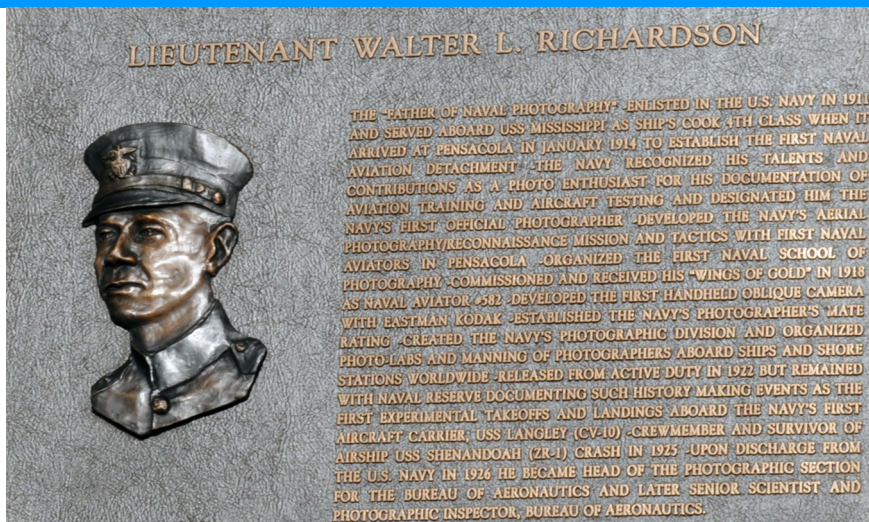
See you in Pensacola,

John W. White, President





# Building 1500 dedicated to Walter L. Richardson



Photos by Art Giberson  
MC1 Bruce Commins  
MC2 Marcus Stanley  
MCCS Tony Casullo supervisor





## Walter L. Richardson Building Dedication Ceremony

Art Giberson

PENSACOLA, FL— In a gala dedication ceremony January 17, 2014, a familiar landmark aboard the Navy's oldest air station, NAS Pensacola, Florida, took on a new name to accompany its new mission as the Naval Air Station Headquarters building.

Built in 1939 as an Army barracks, building 1500 became the home of naval photography in 1950. For most of its nearly half a century in the former Army barracks, the school trained photographers for the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and occasionally Navy civilian photographers.

Judging by the praise for naval photography and the 100 or so retired and former navy photographers and attending the ceremony, naming their former school house the "Walter Leroy Richardson Building", it was easy to forget that the ceremony was actually the kick-off of a year-long celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of naval aviation. In addition to the navy photographers, the crowd of around 300 gathered for the ceremony included members of the Richardson family.

Although the names of several naval photography pioneers were submitted for consideration, Lt. Walter Leroy Richardson, long considered the "Father of Father of Naval Photography," was the overwhelming choice.

Born in Princeton Depot, Massachusetts, on August 21, 1889, Richardson enlisted in the Navy on November 1, 1911 and was assigned to the battleship USS Mississippi as a Ship's Cook 4th Class. When the Mississippi steamed into Pensacola Bay on January 20, 1914 Richardson, an amateur photographer, snapped pictures of the debris-littered former navy shipyard. Richardson's skill with a camera soon came to the attention of the ship's captain, Commander Henry C. Mustin and Lt. John Towers, who had been assigned the task of converting the old shipyard into the Navy's first Naval Aeronautic Station and Flying School. Richardson was assigned to photograph the cleanup operations, thus he became the Navy's first official photographer, despite the fact that the rating of photographer wasn't created until 1921.

The naming of Building, 1500, often referred to as the "Mecca of Naval Photography," as the Walter Leroy Richardson Building will forever serve as a reminder of the role Pensacola had in establishing the corps of sea service photographers who have roamed the world, at sea, in the air and on the ground recording Navy and Marine Corps activities.



(L-R) Andrew Bridgham (Great Grandson of WLR) Captain Keith Hoskins, USN  
CO NAS Pensacola James Nalley (Grandson of WLR)





Richardson family at periscope room display



## 2014 NANP Shootoffs

By Johnny Bivera



Welcome to the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Shoot Off Workshop season. The team has been working very hard to get the programming ready for this year's workshops. The annual DC stills and video shoot off program will be conducted between the Hilton Garden Inn and the Navy League, while the fall season Shoot Off Online program will be remotely run in Pensacola, Florida, in conjunction with NANP's reunion convention. The dates are as follows, DC stills workshop will be held March 20-23, and for video May 1-4, and in Pensacola for the online shoot off will be from September 25-28.

We are going to need your support, so if and when asked, I hope you'll be there for us. The program has provided education and training for hundreds of our military photographers since 2006. It has catapulted many of our successful photographers today by giving a place to test their skill, share and learn from colleagues, and provide face time with some of the most talented and creative leaders of our industry. And it only happens with your support.

Three powerhouse photographers, to include many others throughout the presentation period, will headline the upcoming DC stills shoot off workshop.

Check out their bios below.

Please join us, participate or support us through any means possible by making this, another great and successful shoot off season.

Sincerely, Johnny Bivera  
Founder & Executive Director



**Michael S. Williamson** – Joined The Washington Post in 1993. He previously worked at The Sacramento Bee (1975-1991) and taught at Western Kentucky University (1991-1993). His first newspaper job was at the Pinole Progress (which later became part of The West County Times) where he did reporting and photography. Williamson has covered a variety of global events in the last 30 years, including the wars in El Salvador and Nicaragua, the Philippine revolution, strife in the Middle East, the Gulf War, and conflicts in Africa and the Balkans. In 1994 he won the Crystal Eagle Award for a 15-year project on homelessness in America. His work on the homeless yielded three books where one, *And Their Children After Them*, won the Pulitzer Prize for non-fiction book in 1990. The National Press Photographers Association



## 2014 NANP Shootoffs

named Williamson "Newspaper Photographer of the Year" in 1995. In 2000 he shared the Pulitzer Prize in Feature Photography for coverage of the conflict in Yugoslavia and was named "White House News Photographer's Association Photographer of the Year." He lives in Silver Spring, Maryland with his daughters Sophia and Valerie.



**Mary F. Calvert** - Photojournalist Mary F. Calvert specializes in coverage of underreported issues about women and children in crisis in the United States and around the world. She believes that journalists have a duty to shine a light into the deepest recesses of the human experience and provide a mirror for society to examine itself. A gifted storyteller, Calvert has been awarded the Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award in International Photography twice and is a two-time finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in Feature Photography. Her photographs have been exhibited both in the U.S. and internationally. She is currently working on healthcare projects about generic drugs and women with AIDS in the Nation's Capitol.



**Louie Palu**, is an award winning documentary photographer whose work has appeared in publications and exhibitions internationally. He is the recipient of numerous accolades including a National Magazine Award, Pictures of the Year International (POYi), Critical Mass Book Award, Hasselblad Master Award, NPPA Best of Photojournalism Award and multiple awards from the White House News Photographers Association, Aftermath Project Grant, Canadian Photojournalist of the Year, Alexia Foundation Photography Grant for World Peace and Cultural Understanding, Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting Grant, and is a 2011-12 Bernard L Schwartz Fellow with the New America Foundation for an in-depth study on the Mexican drug war and organized crime.



*The NANP News is a publication of the National Association of Naval Photography. It is published 3 or 4 times a year depending on how much information I can squeeze from the members.*

*Please send me your news or photos for the newsletter.*

*Visit our web site [www.navyphoto.net](http://www.navyphoto.net), then NANP Newsletter.*

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## NANP Convention September 25-28, 2014 Pensacola NANP Convention September 2015 San Diego

### NANP National Officers

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