

NAVY NUCLEAR WEAPONS ASSOCIATION

“KEEPERS of the DRAGON”©™

NNWA Bulletin



June 2017



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Director	Richard Gurule	575-781-0031	boardmember3@navynucweps.com
Director	John Hawkins	239-540-1830	boardmember6@navynucweps.com

Service Officer: Chuck Weber

Gray Dragon: John Cummings

President's Message

Well Shipmates,

Our next reunion in San Diego is rapidly approaching. This year we are utilizing a reunion planning company to set up the hotel, tours and banquet. **You will notice the reservation information is different this year in that your completed reservation and monies are mailed to Military Reunion Planners (MRP).** This group has been very effective in dealing with any questions and/or issues that have arisen. There are many advantages in utilizing a planner. They will have an onsite representative and we will be happy to listen to any suggestions and answer questions you might have. To arrange for transportation from/to the San Diego airport it is recommended that you use **Super Shuttle. Your reservations can be made by contacting them at 800-974-8885 or www.supershuttle.com** It is a couple of dollars cheaper to make your reservations on their website.

To access the reunion reservation form plus tour and banquet information please go to our website www.navy nucweps.com Click on annual reunion and then click on San Diego reunion. Or use the links in the attached flyer.

We have had many new members join our Association this year. Hopefully they and their spouses will be able to attend. It will be good to hear some new sea stories and see if we can recognize each other after so many years.

I visited the Crowne Plaza San Diego this past January. The hotel was very nice. The rooms were very clean and room service was quite good. Every staff member I met were eager to please and were very courteous. They have two restaurants on site. The meals were reasonably priced and very tasty.

We will be touring the USS Midway. If you have limited mobility a limited number of wheelchairs are available. Elevator access is available from the

hangar deck to 2nd deck & the flight deck. For those interested we have been granted access to the forward SASS spaces. We will also be visiting the Maritime Museum, and a tour of San Diego Bay. For anyone wanting to strike out on their own the Crowne Plaza has a shuttle which provides drop off and pick service at the Fashion Valley Mall and to San Diego Old Town.

We are still looking for an individual to assume the position of the NNWA Historian. Our current Historian will not be standing for reelection. I feel certain that we will have many opportunities to discuss workable solutions to solve this situation. As it currently stands the memorabilia room as you might remember it is at least temporarily suspended.

Tonie Lewin has volunteered to run the nominations and elections this year. We have three openings to fill. If you have an interest in serving please contact Tonie Lewin. His email is ARLewin@q.com

See you at the reunion,
Tom Salisbury
NNWA President

Vice-President's Message

Hello shipmates,

As your NNWA Vice President, I want to welcome all of our new and reinstated members to the Navy Nuclear Weapons Association (NNWA) – you have joined a very unique group of individuals.

This is my last year serving on the Board of Directors (BOD). At the last BOD meeting in Indianapolis I volunteered to be the Presiding Officer over the nominations and elections for BOD positions that are expiring in 2017. If you currently are in a BOD expiring position and wish to remain in that position for another two years please let me know your intentions to remain in

that position. Additionally, if you are not a member of the BOD and would like to serve on the BOD please let me know and I will place your name in consideration for an open BOD position.

If by some chance you could not attend our last reunion in Indianapolis, Indiana last September, you really missed a fun packed week. It is always nice to see old friends and shipmates again. The reunion was a huge success.

Lynn and I are really looking forward to seeing you all at the NNWA's 32nd reunion in San Diego, California 18 – 22 September 2017. I am sure it is going to be another great reunion.

Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have any questions, or I can assist you in any way.

Tonie

Secretary's Message

As you can see by some of the other articles in this edition of the bulletin, the association is slowly changing. In the past we had members ready, willing, able, and lined up to host reunions with the board having to decide between several locations. Most of the time we had the reunion schedule set three years in advance. Now, as our membership ages we have struggled to find members willing to serve as reunion hosts. This year, for the first time we have resorted to using a reunion planning company.

Likewise, with our current Historian stepping down, it is probable that the position will either go unfilled or that the memorabilia collection will be disposed of so that the responsibility of the Historian position is significantly lessened by eliminating the requirement to maintain and bring the collection to reunions.

I see both of these developments as a consequence of our aging membership. The WT rate was

disestablished on 1 October 1995, meaning that there is no influx of "new blood" for us to draw members from. Any new members we find are likely in the same age group as the rest of us. I would suggest that the organization purchase a bottle of special cognac to be opened and drunk by the last two surviving NNWA members, but knowing this group the bottle wouldn't survive through the next reunion!

On a more positive note, I hope to see you all in Sunny San Diego!

All the Best,
John

Treasurer's Message

As Treasurer and keeper of the roster, let me welcome our new and reinstated members since the last newsletter. We have 13 new and reinstated members since the last newsletter. They are:

McNease, James	Hudson, Randy
Wilson, David	Cross, John
Brault, Daniel	Ballard, Gary
Brault, Margaret (Callaway)	Hand, George
Wyatt, Russell	Cobb, Rory
Clark, Brian	Apgar, John
Cosan, David	Moran, John
Sledge, Thomas	Steenburgh, Charles
Hill, Stephen	

We now have 802 members listed on the roster: 453 in good standing, 50 Life Members (spouses of deceased members), 10 Associate Members, 3 Heritage Members, 284 Past Members (members with unpaid dues for three or more years), 66 members with dues in arrears, one Honorary Member (NAAV), and one Gray Dragon, who is relieved of annual dues.

Past members do not receive newsletters or reunion information until their dues are brought up to date. Membership is \$10.00 per year. Past

members may be reinstated by sending the \$10.00 reinstatement fee plus \$10.00 for each year they wish to pay their dues. This is an effective policy because of the cost of mailing newsletters and reunion information.

If you are unsure whether your dues are up-to-date and you receive your newsletter by mail, check the date in the upper right corner of the mailing. It shows the month and year to which your dues are paid. If you receive your newsletter electronically and wish to know your dues date, log onto our website. The dues date will be listed in the date column on the right of your name on the membership roster. Some members find it convenient to pay their dues several years in advance. This can save you postage and the Treasurer, Secretary, and Web Master a considerable amount of time in processing payments.

The current membership is posted on our website. You may need a password to access certain parts of the website. The Web Master can provide you with the password. Members not on-line can request a hard copy of the roster by calling or writing:

Donald Schultz
573 Beaulieu Loop
The Villages, Florida 32162

Phone: 352.259.1403.

For NNWA's survival, it is imperative that we keep our roster up to date. Please review the roster and notify the Treasurer, Web Master, or any Board Member of any changes in your status.

We now have \$24,979.21 on deposit with Wells Fargo with no outstanding debt.

If you plan on attending the 2017 Reunion in San Diego, your dues must be current.

Donald K. Schultz
Treasurer and Keeper of the Roster

Historian's Message

With the Microsoft Access Navy Nuclear Weapons Membership information program up and running this database that will continue to grow with new members and their data. Once your information is in the system it is in there forever. Through the Access program we currently have the following reports that we can print out:

- Rank report,
- Program entry date (this report helps us identify the Gray Dragon)
- Member contact list (All past/present members)
- Duty station report
- Member contact report includes all past and present members and includes all past members that have been removed from the Treasurers Roster.

As of 4 June 2017 we have 1214 Past/Present members entered in the database. Out of the 1214 shipmates 637 are listed with their duty stations. This information comes from a members application form or them filling out the personal profile sheet and mailing it to me. This is why I ask everyone to write your military history down with duty stations and dates in the Navy. That way I can enter your history into the database. But I can ONLY do that if you write it down and email or mail it to me. I have been going through the cruise books adding shipmates that are now already in the system.

WTC (AW) Guy Clemons

USN Ret.
NNWA Historian

P.S. As all of you know I will be stepping down as your Historian. In the past 3 years serving you as your Historian I have set up the Access

Program (with a lot of help from Melissa Cearlock). Every item in our inventory has been documented and photographed. I hope that someone will step up and become the Historian and not have this position go away. I look forward to working with the next Historian to have a smooth turnover of all items and reports to whomever he or she may be.

Master at Arms Message

REUNION RAFFLES, DOOR PRIZES, and GIFT EXCHANGE INFORMATION

Raffles: During our days/nights at our reunions, the MAA and his Deputy will be floating around the Hospitality Room selling tickets for the 50-50 drawing at the Dinner Dance. The tickets are \$1.00 for one or \$5.00 for 6, \$10.00 for 12, and a special \$50.00 will get you 75 tickets. At the Dinner Dance drawing, 50% of the money collected goes to the winner, and the other 50% goes back to the Association to help defray costs associated with the Reunion.

The Ladies Auxiliary sells tickets for the beautiful jewelry that is displayed. The ticket prices are the same as above. Whatever is left from the jewelry purchase is returned to the Association.

Door Prizes: The Dinner Dance door prizes vary by location. The prizes are determined by the Reunion Host. Each person gets one ticket upon entering the Dinner Dance.

Gift Exchange: The Gift Exchange is a gift representing your locale. Each person or couple is encouraged to bring your gift(s) to the Dinner Dance. You will be given a ticket for each gift you bring. During the Dinner Dance, we will be calling people up to choose a new gift. The price range for the gifts is \$10-\$20.

Dinner Dance Drawings: The drawings will be coordinated by the Host, MAA, and Ladies

Auxiliary. The drawings will begin at the completion of dinner. The goal is to have all drawings completed within an hour.

The Master at Arms (MAA): During the Reunion, when you see the MAA in his black sheriff's hat, he is on duty and selling tickets!

Ron Moran
NNWA MAA

Service Officer's Message

Chuck Weber serves as the NNWA Service Officer. He regularly posts information regarding veteran's benefits on the NNWA website. Chuck encourages members to contact him with questions and concerns regarding their service related benefits. His email is:

serviceofficer@navynucweps.com

Ladies Voice

Ladies

Summer is upon us and soon it will be reunion time once again. This year no one person is setting up the reunion as we are using a reunion planner. Tom, our president, would like us ladies to run the Registration Desk and I am asking those attending this year's reunion for volunteers to help me with this endeavor.

We can also make a difference in the Hospitality Suite by helping to keep the tables tidy and supplies stocked.

I am also going to ask that we all just have FUN!! There will be tours for all to go see the city but in our down time we can get together and play our games and share our own stories. This reunion is not just for the men but for us Ladies as well.

I look forward to hearing from you. Once I know who all is interested then I'll be in touch with

more details of what we will be doing for the registration desk, etc.

I can be reached at:

Bethany Gray
NNWA Ladies Voice
360-620-0098
Bethany.a.gray@wavecable.com

NEW NOVEL BY NNWA SHIPMATE **RICK CAMPBELL**



BLACKMAIL by Rick Campbell: a review by Mike Snyder

Ladies and gentlemen of the NNWA, our shipmate Rick Campbell has produced yet another of his rip-roaring military action novels, this one entitled “Blackmail”.

The action opens with a vicious attack on one of our carriers in the western Pacific then quickly moves ashore to venues throughout the old Russian Federation and the West. At stake are the economies of the free-world. Centered in the action is Rick’s perennial heroine, Christine O’Connor, Presidential National Security Advisor who rapidly moves about the world alternately resolving problems and finding herself in harm’s way. I thoroughly enjoyed this new novel with its’ rapid-fire chaptering, currency of arms and

armament, and accurate use of military terminology.

As before, Rick has given the NNWA two copies of “Blackmail”. One is to be awarded as a door prize at the San Diego Reunion dinner dance with the second going to our memorabilia library. I hope you appreciate Rick’s gifts and support him in this newly acclaimed literary effort.

Upcoming Reunion Information

At the upcoming reunion in San Diego, tours are scheduled for Special Access to Forward SASS on the USS Midway CV-41 Museum, San Diego Harbor Cruise and time in Old Town, and Highlights of San Diego including the Gaslamp District. You can find tour details by following the links on the attached flyer.

Military Reunion Planners has provided the capability to register for the entire reunion online, or you can mail in the attached reservation form.

The Hotel for the 2017 San Diego reunion is the Crowne Plaza San Diego Hotel, located at 2270 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, California 92108.

The hotel room rate is \$119.00 plus tax per night, based on single or double occupancy, including a complimentary breakfast buffet. For those who choose to arrive early or stay late, the same room rate is available 3 days before and 3 days after the official reunion dates, based on availability.

It is important to note that if registering by mail that the form is NOT mailed to our Treasurer as we have done in the past. Mail the form to:

Military Reunion Planners
Box 1588
Colleyville, TX 76034

NAVY NUCLEAR WEAPONS ASSOCIATION

2017 REUNION

San Diego, CA / September 18-23, 2017



Welcome to San Diego

Whether it's your first trip or tenth trip to [San Diego](#), you will find plenty of new and exciting attractions to keep you busy. Of course, one thing stays the same... the near perfect weather that beckons you! Planned reunion events include a sightseeing [Harbor cruise](#), a trip to the [Midway](#) and a chance to spend some time in [Seaport Village](#) and possibly the famous [San Diego Zoo](#). San Diego is the perfect location for the Navy Nuclear Weapons Association reunion. Family and friends are welcome!

Hotel Information

We are holding group space from Monday, September 18 through Saturday, September 23. We will be staying at the [Crowne Plaza San Diego Hotel](#), located at 2270 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, California 92108. The hotel room rate is **\$119.00** plus tax per night, based on single or double occupancy, including a **complimentary breakfast buffet**. For those who choose to arrive early or stay late, the same room rate is available 3 days before and 3 days after the official reunion dates, based on availability. If you have any difficulty getting a room at the group rate call MRP at 817-251-3551, we may be able to help.

[Click here to make hotel reservations on-line](#) or call **888-233-9527** between 9am-5pm PST. MRP has negotiated numerous amenities for you but only those booking under **Navy Nuclear Weapons Association** are eligible for amenities that may include free breakfast, discounted parking, internet, etc. Booking through another channel like *reunionhotels.com* disqualifies you and your party from group amenities).



Please mention that you are with the Navy Nuclear Weapon Association Reunion to assure you are associated with your group. The published hotel check-in time is 4:00pm. Make your reservations **NOW**; you can cancel up to 24 hours prior to arrival **without penalty**. The hotel is holding a limited number of rooms until the group block is full or **August 18, 2017**, whichever comes first. Don't delay! If you have any trouble getting rooms at the group rate even if they say the hotel is sold out, or have questions on the program call MRP @ 817-251-3551 or email: Eileen@MilitaryReunionPlanners.com

Airport Transportation & Parking

The closest airport is San Diego International Airport (SAN). *Super Shuttle* offers shuttle service from the airport to the Crown Plaza Hotel. Transportation cost is approximately \$13.00 per person, each way. Super Shuttle can be reached at 800-974-8885 or on line at www.supershuttle.com. Reservations are recommended. For those of you driving, the hotel is extending complimentary self-parking. [Click here for directions to the hotel](#).

Travel safely and we will

See you in San Diego!



[Excellence in Reunion Planning](#)

NNWA 2017 REUNION RESERVATION FORM

>>> [Click here to make reservations on-line](#) OR mail this completed form with a check payable to:
MRP, Box 1588, Colleyville, TX 76034

DATE	TIME	EVENT	COST	QTY	TOTAL
		Reunion Registration - Members	\$40 pp		
		Reunion Registration – Spouse/Guest(s)	\$15 pp		
MON 9/18	1800	Meet & Greet Pizza Party in Hospitality Room	\$1 pp		
TUE 9/19	0830-330	Special Access to the USS Midway Museum	\$45 pp		
WED 9/20	0930-430	San Diego Harbor Cruise & Time in Old Town	\$60 pp		
THU 9/21	0930-430	Highlights of San Diego incl. the Gaslamp District	\$45 pp		
FRI 9/22	1800	Farewell Banquet Dinner – make selection below			
		Thinly Sliced Tri-Tip Beef in Mushroom Sauce	\$50 pp		
		Baked Salmon in Sundried Tomato Basil Cream Sauce	\$50 pp		
		Boneless Breast of Chicken	\$50 pp		
		Non-refundable Late Reservation Fee (If registering after August 4, 2017)	\$15 pp		
		Tour Cancellation Insurance: Protect your \$\$ (Fee is non-refundable)	\$15 pp		
TOTAL					

>>> PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

NAME (As you want it to appear on badge): _____

SPOUSE: _____ GUEST: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____

PRIMARY PHONE: _____ EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT: _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____

OF NNWA REUNIONS ATTENDED: _____ LIST ANY SPECIAL NEEDS (ex. dietary, wheelchair lift, etc.)

RESERVATIONS ARE DUE BY AUGUST 4, 2016

- Reservation money is non-refundable after due date unless Tour Cancellation insurance is purchased above.
- Insurance holders are eligible for a refund less processing fee until Midnight before the 1st day of the reunion.
- Insurance ends once the reunion begins – notification in writing/email must be received prior to start of reunion.
- Late reservations are accepted on a space available basis with a non-refundable \$15 per person late fee.
- Watch for an email confirmation of your order and online roster update as your proof of payment.
- Changes not possible online including cancellations. Email/Mail notice for cancellations required.
- To register and pay by check please print this form and mail it with a check to: MRP, Box 1588 Colleyville, TX 76034

Call or email MRP if you need to add, cancel or modify your reservation at 817-251-3551 or email info@MilitaryReunionPlanners.com. MRP agents are available weekdays from 9-4 CST. Voice Mail is 24/7
You must leave a voice message to receive a call back. Thank you for using Military Reunion Planners, LLC