

NAVY NUCLEAR WEAPONS ASSOCIATION

“KEEPERS of the DRAGON”©™

NNWA Bulletin



June 2021



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NNWA Board Members 2020-2021

President	Kris Hobbs	619-733-6896	president@navynucweps.com
Vice President	Bethany Gray	360-620-0098	vicepresident@navynucweps.com
Secretary	John Gray	360-895-3188	secretary@navynucweps.com
Treasurer	Donald Schultz	352-259-1403	treasurer@navynucweps.com
Chaplain	Ed Deitzler	619-275-2733	chaplain@navynucweps.com
Master-at-Arms	Charlie Behymer	520-360-9989	maa@navynucweps.com
Historian	Julien (Lindy) Lindstrom	505-999-0519	historian@navynucweps.com
Webmaster	Ray C. Margeson	607-732-0579	boardmember2@navynucweps.com
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Director	Dwight Chipperfield	308-760-6273	boardmember4@navynucweps.com
Director	Guy Clemons	317-285-8681	boardmember3@navynucweps.com
Director	Tyrus George	724-516-7284	boardmember1@navynucweps.com

Gray Dragon: John Cummings

Service Officer: vacant

President's Message

Hello Fellow Dragon Keepers,



It is that time again to think about the annual reunion. It is scheduled to be in Oklahoma City from 26 – 30 Sept 2021. The website will have all the information on tours, stay, parking etc. One thing to keep in mind, as of this typing, is that COVID-19 may have an impact on some scheduled plans like it did in Colorado Springs. Hopefully not, but always be prepared. I checked the internet for the pandemic and masks are still required in OK City, but may be reduced by time the reunion is here. Next year, 2022 will be held in the Tidewater area of Virginia.

Time to think about helping out and become a board member. Currently we will need someone to step into the Historian position, Lindy has done a super job and wishes to step down to complete some other items on his bucket list although he has not ruled out coming back.

The Chaplain, Ed, has completed a break down as to where members are located in the areas of our current breakdown for reunions, i.e. East, Central, and West. Thank you for this information and the time dedicated to it.

Treasurer, Don, is planning on another term and he is doing an outstanding job. Thank you, Don, for another term.

The web masters are doing a great job in updating the site and keeping the roster up to date. Remember to contact a board member if there are any questions on your dues or information that you would like to keep or not keep in the published membership area.

John Hawkins is doing a great job as the new Storekeeper and media relations membership

chairperson. His assistant is Richard Gurule and they keep all informed on the Facebook page for the NNWA.

The VP, Beth and Secretary, John, are doing a superlative job keeping my butt out of trouble and tracking all that needs to be done. Thank you. Thanks to all volunteer board members for a job well done!

The poll is in on the reunion for 2023 and it will be discussed at the meeting and some great items will be addressed so keep your inputs coming in to the board.

See you in OK CITY.
Kris A Hobbs
NNWA President



Vice-President's Message

Fellow Members,

The president with the concurrence of the BOD has proposed to eliminate the position of Service Officer from the BOD. This will result in three changes to the NNWA By-Laws; specifically:

Article VIII:

Election Schedule Table, under even year's column, remove "Service Officer" and replace with "Director".

Article IX, Section 1:

Remove "Service Officer" from the second sentence. After the change the sentence will read - "It is recommended that the positions of Chaplain,

Historian, Master at Arms and Webmaster be filled.”

Article IX, Section 3:

Remove “Service Officer” from the first sentence. After the change the sentence will read - “Only the descriptions of A, B, C, D & E will be retained in the bylaws, all other descriptions for Chaplin, Master at Arms, Historian and Webmaster will be removed from the Bylaws.”

This proposed change will be voted on at the Annual Business Meeting of the association membership to be held at 1000 30 SEP 21. Absentee or proxy votes are not allowed so all members are highly encouraged to attend the reunion and vote on this proposed bylaws change.

We are looking forward to our next reunion. Come join us in Oklahoma City, OK. Denice Young will be our Host.

Bethany
NNWA Vice President

Secretary’s Message

Fellow Weaponeers,

We will have at least two openings on the Board of Directors (BOD) to fill at our reunion in OKC. I am asking that new members consider serving on the BOD to help chart the course for the future of our organization. When we were on active duty, having new personnel rotate into a command brought in fresh ideas and perspectives on how to get things done. Serving on the BOD is like that - new members bring new ideas. Long serving members can step aside and let the “new blood” take over.

How do you get to be a board member? Volunteer yourself to an existing BOD member via email,

phone, or in person. Then that member will ensure your name is placed on the elections ballot at the next reunion’s Annual Business Meeting. Assuming you are elected the term will be for a two year period. Some people serve only one term – others stay on for ten years. It is up to the individual.

You will likely serve as a Director for at least one year so you can become familiar with the workings of the BOD and the organization. Starting the 2nd year on the board you can express interest in one of the other officer positions. Specific officer positions are filled at the BOD meeting immediately following the Annual Business Meeting by consensus of the BOD members.

Board Members do not have to attend every reunion, we understand that is just not possible, so we all cover for each other. Items at the reunion requiring a vote are carried by the majority of the BOD in attendance. We actually conduct most business over the course of the year via email. We do leave each reunion with a “to do” list of items to improve the organization, how it operates, and to make our reunions better.

Hopefully this answers most questions about how to serve the NNWA as a board member. If you have any other questions feel free to ask any of us – we are here to help.

Again – I encourage any member who has not served on the BOD to consider it – it takes members serving on the board to keep our organization running.

We hope to see you all at our next reunion in Oklahoma City. OKC was recently voted as being the 2nd best city in the USA for BBQ – I intend to put that to the test. I know from experience that the steakhouses there are awesome!

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. They are:

Randall McGoffin	Mark Herring
Francis Leary	Stuart Chastain
Thomas Cleary	Tracey McDaniels
Antone Rodrigues	G. Nicholas Stuparich
Michael Ruthledge	Nolan Workman

We now have 993 members listed on the membership roster; 436 members in good standing; 65 life members (spouses of deceased members); 492 past members (members with unpaid dues for three years); 102 members with dues in arrears; and one reciprocal member (NAAV).

Past members can be reinstated by sending the \$10.00 reinstatement fee plus \$15.00 for a total of \$25.00. They will then be reinstated as a new member.

If you are unsure whether yours dues are up to date and you receive your newsletter by mail, look at the date in the upper right corner of the mailing which shows the month and year to which your dues are paid. If you receive your newsletter electronically, log onto our website and check your membership status there in the Membership Roster. The dues date will be listed in the date column to the right of your name.

The current membership roster is posted on our website. Members not on-line can request a hard copy of the roster by calling or writing:

Donald Schultz
573 Beaulieu Loop
The Villages, FL 32163
Phone: 352-259-1403

Please review the roster and notify the Treasurer or any board member of any changes in your status.

Currently, we have \$25,993.60 on deposit with Wells Fargo Bank.

When making a payment to the NNWA, please make checks payable to NNWA Treasurer or Donald Schultz NNWA Treasurer or Donald Schultz. The bank will not accept made out any other way. Please ensure that when sending money to the NNWA that it is the correct amount.

Donald K. Schultz
Treasurer and Keeper of the Roster

Chaplain's Corner

Greetings Everyone,

I hope this finds you all well. We have all been through some trying times the past year or so and we are not sure when it will ease. As I write this, there has been some news put out that the mask mandates will be eased but that common sense should prevail. Many of us have our own ideas on wearing a mask, some of us listen to our doctors and unfortunately some only listen to politicians or friends. Somethings and places are now open, others have a timeline over the next several months. No matter the situation you are in or place that you are, just know that things will not return to normal. A new norm is being set. I hope that all of you have been able to get your vaccinations.

For those of you who may have lost a family member or friend due to Covid or have a family member or friend who had Covid and are now survivors, please know that my prayers as well as those of others, are with you through this.

I, like many of you, am looking forward to our forthcoming reunion in OKC. I know that a good time is waiting to be had. I have heard that some people do not desire to attend the reunions because some of the members don't mingle with them or they are not acknowledged when they do come. I

am sorry to hear these kinds of things. A reunion is for us together whether we know each other or not, we started out with one thing in common and that was our job. Now at the reunions we reflect back to those times we did work together. There are many of you I do not know, I never worked with you, but I am interested in hearing about your times and if I never met you before, getting to meet you now. I may not come up to you to say hi, but that should not prevent you from coming up to me because I missed you. Please consider attending and meeting someone you never met before.

Until we meet in OKC, may the Supreme Commander be with you, and may he provide you with calm seas through your daily life. If you unfortunately hit a stormy period, know that he is with you.

Chaplain Ed Deitzler
NNWA Chaplain

Historian's Message

Concluding my discussions with Steven Kasunic, original member of the Manhattan Project:

Gen. Groves had finally forced through his tight compartmentalizing order, but Oppie later admitted that even if only 5 or 6 people in the whole world knew the full secret of implosion, Klaus Fuchs would have been one of them. He was back in England when he was exposed in 1949 and was tried for divulging secrets; but not for treason as Russia had been on our side at the time. He was sentenced to 14 years in prison.

Admitted Russian spy handler Harry Gold gave the FBI the dates he had met with the second Los Alamos spy in Albuquerque. Work records showed that physicist Luis Alvarez had taken those dates off. But no one could believe Alvarez was a spy – he had flown on the Hiroshima mission, and would later win the Nobel Prize. So Gold was taken on a trip around Albuquerque until

he saw the apartment where his meetings had been. The landlord identified the former tenant – then Army Sgt. David Greenglass and his wife Ruth. By pure coincidence Alvarez and Greenglass had taken the exact same days off.

Enter Steve Kasunic, the mechanical engineer for the 25 Project. He had spent countless hours in the “Theta” shop, where the most critical and classified machine work was done, and where Greenglass was assigned. He knew him well as they had worked together on a number of assignments, but he remembered him best for two things – first, Greenglass was an absolute master machinist. He could work to a tolerance of .0001” on every piece of equipment in the shop. Second, he stunk. Steve doubted if he took a shower more than once a month.

The FBI grilled Greenglass and they began to roll up his spy ring. He willingly talked as long as his wife Ruth would not be tried. Ruth was a rabid Communist and had turned her husband into one before the war. The Army and FBI had blown this one as badly as the Brits had blown Fuchs. It was a short step to the top of the ring. It was led by Julius Rosenberg, husband of David's sister Ethel. Julius was a dedicated Communist, Ethel not so much. She had little to do with the spy business, mostly just typing up reports for Julius. But neither would talk.

The US was determined that these spies would face the full extent of the law. But to try them some Top Secret information would have to be declassified so it could be used as evidence. The gun type weapon was so simple it wasn't worth much at trial. But the implosion system certainly was. The key to it was the explosive lens, and this would be sacrificed to get convictions. Someone involved with the work would have to be an expert witness, who could speak with authority and explain the working of the lens to a jury, yet not able to be forced to reveal too much on cross-examination. Steve fit the bill perfectly. He had designed the very first lens molds, but they eventually required improvement, and so he was

unaware of the final successful specifications.

The trial was in New York City. Like Fuchs, the Rosenbergs were charged with espionage, not treason, though the possible sentence was the same for both - death. Greenglass would be testifying, and against his own sister. The US Marshals tried to keep all witnesses separate, but one time Steve was led into a room at the same instant Greenglass was being led out. Greenglass smiled and said "Hi Steve" and tried to shake his hand. Steve jerked his hand back and had to resist punching him. That would have been a sight - 5'5" Kasunic against 6'2" Greenglass. One good point - Greenglass had showered.

The Rosenbergs went to the electric chair. Steve said his only regret was that instead of Ethel it should have been David with Ruth sitting on his lap.

Steve died not long after this talk. I lost a great source of information, and a good friend.

See you in OKC.
Jay Lindstrom



Service Officer's Message

It was decided that the BOD would not appoint a Service Officer for this term and that the By-laws be reviewed to determine what would need to be changed for us to eliminate the requirement for this position.

Members are encouraged to contact a Veterans Service Officer local to them on their specific questions. The advantage to this is that Regional Service Officers provided by the military services and organizations such as the VFW are trained in current issues and how to properly assist members.

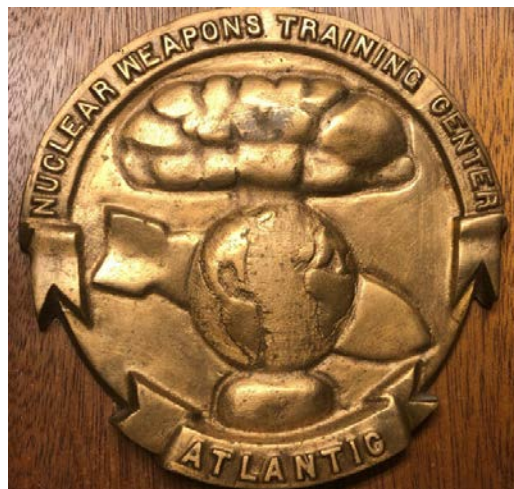
Future Reunions

The 37nd reunion of the NNWA in 2022 will be held in:

Region:	Eastern US
Location:	Tidewater, VA
Host:	Jim Harris, the BOD, and the MRP

The 38th reunion of the NNWA in 2023 will be held in:

Region:	Western US
Location:	TBD by member survey input
Host:	TBD





NAVY NUCLEAR WEAPONS ASSOCIATION

Oklahoma City, OK | September 26 – October 1, 2021

Welcome to Oklahoma City, OK



“OKC” was founded during the Land Run of 1889 and grew to a population of over 10,000 within hours of its founding. It is the Capital of Oklahoma and the 11th largest city in the south. Oklahoma City has one of the world's largest livestock markets and the Oil & Gas Industry dominates. In fact, the city is in the middle of an active oil field and oil derricks dot the capitol grounds. Tinker Air Force Base is also a major influence. OKC is infamous for the April 19, 1995, bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. The Memorial is powerful, and we will make a group visit there, as well as the fabulous Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum, the 45th Infantry Museum, and the 1st Americans Museum.

Hotel Information

We are holding group space from Saturday, September 25 through Friday, October 1, 2021 at the *Hampton Inn & Suites*, located at 300 East Sheraton, Oklahoma City, OK 73104. The hotel room rate is just **\$125.00** plus tax per night, based on single or double occupancy. Room rate includes a complimentary breakfast. 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.

The most reliable way to make reservations is through the online booking link which can be found on our reunion website. A less reliable way is to call the hotel at **405-232-3600**. If you must call the hotel be sure to reference NNWA Reunion (**Group Code: NWA**) to make sure you are associated with the group. If you have any difficulty getting a room at the group rate call MRP at 817-251-3551; we may be able to help. If you plan to arrive early or stay late, call MRP.



The published hotel check-in time is 3pm. Make your reservations now; you can cancel up to 72 hours prior to arrival **without penalty**. The hotel is holding a limited number of rooms until the group block is full or **August 26, 2021**, whichever comes first. Do not delay! If you have any trouble getting rooms at the group rate even if they say the hotel is sold out call MRP @ 817-251-3551 or email: info@MilitaryReunionPlanners.com

Airport Transportation & Parking

If you are flying to the reunion, the closest airport is Will Rogers World airport (OKC). LYFT is available for approximately \$27.00. For those of you driving, we have negotiated a self-parking rate of just \$9.75/day. For specific directions, please call the hotel.

Travel safely and we will **See you in Oklahoma City!**



NAVY NUCLEAR WEAPONS ASSOCIATION 2021 REUNION

Oklahoma City, OK | September 26 – October 1, 2021

Guided Riding Oklahoma City Tour & 45th Division Museum Monday, September 27 (10:00am-3:00pm)



Join us as we travel by bus on a guided tour of Oklahoma City covering the history of Oklahoma from 1803 to the present. You will see such sites as the state capitol building, Bricktown-Downtown OKC and how it got its name, Sky Dance Bridge (OKC signature landmark), Boathouse District having the only white-water rafting river within city limits in the US, and many other points of interest. We will also make a brief stop at the 45th Infantry Division Museum with displays from 1541 through Desert Storm. The museum includes the country's third largest collection of historic US military firearms and the largest collection of items once owned by Adolf Hitler.



National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum Tuesday, September 28 (10:00am-3:00pm)



The National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City is the USA's **premier institution** of Western history, art and culture. Founded in 1955, the Museum collects, preserves, and exhibits an internationally renowned collection of Western art and artifacts while sponsoring dynamic educational programs to promote interest in the enduring legacy of the American West. We will enjoy a guided tour and then have time on your own to explore personal interests. Lunch is on your own at the museum café.

Oklahoma City National Memorial Museum Wednesday, September 29 (10:00am-3:00pm)

Historically significant, this indoor/outdoor, symbolic memorial is a place of quiet reflection, honoring victims, survivors, rescuers, and all who were changed forever on April 19, 1995. It encompasses the now sacred soil where the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building once stood, capturing, and preserving forever the place and events that changed the world. Enjoy a tour of the National Museum followed by an outdoor tour of the area and hear about the events as they unfolded. The tour will be guided by National Park Rangers. The surrounding area has many delicious options for lunch from Poke to BBQ.



Who-Dun-It Live Mystery Theater at the hotel Wednesday, September 29 (8:00pm-9:15pm)



The multi-award-winning *Whodunit Mystery Theater* has been 'killin' it' since 1991. Whodunit was named 'Top 5 Comedy Troupes in America' by clickit tickets and won top 5 in OKC Gazette's Best of OKC. Enjoy a live inter-active performance of "GRAVE GATSBY". 'Grave Gatsby' is our newest, hilarious murder mystery! It's roaring with the 1920's, dappers, flappers & laughter! You'll be visiting 'Jazz Ma'Tazz Speakeasy'- so be on the look-out for the coppers before you order up your booze & remember- the only rule of speakeasy is don't speak about the speakeasy. Relax and enjoy the show in the comfort of your hotel after dinner on your own. You may bring drinks in with you as there will not be any food or drinks served. At the end ballots will be cast as you vote on who you think "Dunnit". A nice easy and entertaining evening with friends.



NAVY NUCLEAR WEAPONS ASSOCIATION

2021 Reunion Itinerary

Sunday, September 26:

- Registration and Hospitality Open in *Johnny Bench Room* (3rd Floor)
- 1800 Group Social in Hospitality Room (Johnny Bench Room)

Monday, September 27:

- 1000 Depart by bus for **Oklahoma City Tour & 45th Infantry Division**
- 1500 ETA Hotel
- Dinner and Evening on own

Tuesday, September 28:

- 1000 Bus departs for **Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum**
- 1500 ETA hotel
- Dinner and Evening on own

Wednesday, September 29:

- 1000 Bus departs for **Oklahoma City National Memorial Museum**
- 1500 ETA Hotel
- Dinner on own
- 2000 **Who-Dun-It Mystery Theater** at Hilton Garden Inn (Washita Room)

Thursday, September 30:

- 1000 NNWA Business Meeting (Washita Room in the Hilton Garden Inn)
- 1800 Cocktail Hour (River Room located in the Hilton Garden Inn)
- 1900 Banquet Dinner (River Room)

Friday, October 1:

- Group Farewells & Main Departure

Complimentary Breakfast (7am-10am)

Thanks for coming! We wish you good health and safe travels.



NNWA 2021 REUNION RESERVATION FORM

Mail this completed form with a check payable to: MRP, Box 1588, Colleyville, TX 76034

DATE	TIME	EVENT	COST	QTY	TOTAL
		Reunion Registration - Members	\$45 pp		
		Reunion Registration – Spouse/Guest(s)	\$20 pp		
SUN 9/26	1800	Group Welcome Social at the Hotel	\$1 pp		
MON 9/27	1000-1500	Oklahoma City riding tour incl. 45 th Division Museum	\$49 pp		
TUE 9/28	1000-1500	National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum	\$45 pp		
WED 9/29	1000-1500	Oklahoma City National Memorial Museum	\$49 pp		
WED 9/29	2000	Who-Dun-It Live Mystery Theater at the hotel	\$29 pp		
THU 9/30	1900	Farewell Banquet Dinner – <i>make entree selection below</i>			
		NY Strip Steak (Med)	\$49 pp		
		Grilled Salmon	\$47 pp		
		Stuffed Chicken Breast in Mushroom Sauce	\$45 pp		
		Non-refundable Late Reservation Fee (If registering after August 15, 2021)	\$20 pp		
		Tour Cancellation Insurance: Protect your \$\$ (Fee is non-refundable)	\$20 pp		
TOTAL					

>>> PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

NAME (As you want it to appear on badge): _____	
SPOUSE: (First & last) _____	GUEST: _____
ADDRESS: _____	CITY: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____
CELL PHONE: _____	EMAIL ADDRESS: _____
EMERGENCY CONTACT: _____	CELL NUMBER: _____
YEARS w/ NNWA 19____ to 19____	Division _____ # OF NNWA REUNIONS ATTENDED: _____
LIST ANY SPECIAL NEEDS (ex. dietary, wheelchair lift, etc.): _____	

RESERVATIONS ARE DUE BY AUGUST 15, 2021

Late reservations will be accepted on a space available basis with a non-refundable late fee. Please make a copy of your order prior to mailing. Note tour times are subject to change. Should you need additional information call our offices Monday through Friday CST at 817-251-3551 or email us at info@MilitaryReunionPlanners.com. Requests for refunds must be made in writing and postmarked no later than the reservation due date. Leaving a voice mail is NOT a guarantee of cancellation. No refunds will be made after this date unless you have purchased Tour Cancellation Insurance. Cancellation Insurance expires at 11:59 pm the day before the reunion start date. Please note there is a refund processing fee of \$10 per person plus any credit card fee imposed by the processing company (currently 3.5%). Your cancelled check is your receipt as well as proof of purchase. For written confirmation of your reservation please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your cancellation request. A \$25 return check fee applies. MRP will not be held liable for failure of vendors to provide contracted services or any injuries/accidents that may occur during the reunion. You must leave a message for a call-back. There will be a \$15 surcharge for orders taken over the phone. Please have your order ready before calling MRP.

Call or email MRP if you need to add, cancel, or modify your reservation at 817-251-3551 or email info@MilitaryReunionPlanners.com. We are on Texas time and will call or email back within 48 hours. You must leave a voice message to receive a call back.

Thank you for using Military Reunion Planners, LLC.

**Membership Meeting at the Hotel (Washita Room at the Hilton Garden Inn)
Thursday, September 30 (TBD)**

**Farewell Banquet Dinner
Thursday, September 30 (6:00pm)**

Please make entrée selection on the reservation form. Cocktails served at 6pm and dinner begins at 7pm

Event Cancellation Insurance

Protect yourself from unforeseen expenses caused by illness, injury or other causes that may impact your travel plans. Tour Cancellation Insurance allows you to receive a refund of tour and banquet expenses. Please note there is a \$10 per person processing fee. Cancellation Insurance expires at 11:59pm the day **before** the reunion begins. No refunds are given the day of the reunion (beginning at midnight), **even** if you purchased cancellation insurance. Should you need to cancel your reservations please contact our office immediately by calling 817-251-3551, Monday through Friday between 9:00am-4:00pm CST or email us at info@MilitaryReunionPlanners.com. If you did not purchase cancellation insurance, please note all tour and banquet monies become non-refundable 6 weeks prior to the reunion.

ALL RESERVATIONS ARE DUE BY AUGUST 15, 2021. Late reservations will be accepted on a space available basis with a non-refundable \$20 per person late fee. Please make a copy of this information for your records. Should you need additional information call our offices Monday through Friday at 817-251-3551 or email us at info@MilitaryReunionPlanners.com. Requests for cancellations and refunds must be made by email or in writing to MRP, P.O. Box 1588, Colleyville, TX 76034, and postmarked before the due date. No refunds will be made after this date unless you have purchased *Tour Cancellation Insurance*. Sorry, no refunds will be given for any reason beginning at midnight the day of your reunion. Please note there is a refund processing fee of \$10 per person. For written confirmation of your cancellation please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your request to our office. Your cancelled check is your receipt as well as your proof of purchase. A \$25 return fee will be charged for NSF checks. MRP will not be held liable for failure of vendors to provide contracted services or any injuries/accidents that may occur during the reunion.

