



# NAVY NUCLEAR WEAPONS ASSOCIATION

## NNWA BULLETIN

JANUARY 2001

WINTER ISSUE

"KEEPERS of the DRAGON"

### BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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#### Historian

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**From the President:** I am thoroughly convinced that everyone who made the New Orleans reunion was in the N'awlins party mode and definitely enjoyed themselves from Bourbon Street, the Casino, the Paddlewheel, the Cajun Boil at Fleet Reserve, the Links, the Bayou, the hotel Hospitality Room and Saturday evening function. My special "Thanks" to all of those attending and to those "Special" people who made it all happen. **Thank You.** Hudson Bullock encouraged the Cajun Boil and it was probably the highlight of the week. I know that I saw more finger-lickin folks there in one evening than I had ever seen before. I noticed that practically everyone at one time or another was kicking up their heels to some really down-home Cajun music. For at least a couple shipmates, the party continued that evening in the hospitality rooms with the K-9 handlers as everyone attempted to tell a joke larger than the ones before. Eventually, those two shipmates were awarded some EMI for possibly the liberal use of their plastic. Nevertheless, the shipmates were in attendance and in good behavior on Saturday. Saturday evening was blessed with good meals, good service, and good music. And, even though everyone was having a good time, I was thoroughly impressed when everyone joined hands on the dance floor for Lee Greenwood's "God Bless the USA". At the business meeting, we asked the first time members to introduce themselves and then everyone else followed suit. In addition, a few members were noted for their outstanding longevity for reunion attendance. I'm certain that I may have missed recognizing others and I am remiss. However, I want to thank Lavon for reminding me that she has the Perfect Attendance. Thank You, Lavon. Also, the Association is indebted to O.B. McReynolds for donating the U.S. Navy flag and to Henry Stephens for the donation of the beautiful wooden case for the bell and gavel. Those members who were there for the first time, Benina and I thoroughly enjoyed getting acquainted with you. I believe you enjoyed the spirit and intent of this Association which is the camaraderie with shipmates and of times past. We need more of you in this Association and hopefully you may contact others who are yet unaware of the existence of the Navy Nuclear Weapons Association. Benina and I look forward to seeing all of you in Myrtle Beach, S. Carolina. Frank Kelly has written to me that he's planning the 17<sup>th</sup> reunion to be "The Best Ever". **Now for business notes:** Thanks to the shipmates that set up, cleaned, and managed the Hospitality room. Get in touch with the Historian whenever you have artifacts for the Association or when you want to pass on some historical event or historical episode that should be recorded. Contact the Service Officer if and when you ever need assistance with anything related to Veterans Affairs. If for some reason you let your membership dues lapse, contact the Vice-President and he will be able to advise and provide assistance. Finally, please let the Secretary know whenever you have an address change, phone number change, an e-mail address change, and especially when one of our shipmates pass on to the Supreme Commander.

**Help Wanted Ad:** The NNWA is looking for one good innovative and meticulous individual who is willing to sacrifice personal time to be the next Secretary/Treasurer. I know this asks a lot, but, I need to say how fortunate we have been. To my knowledge, we have only had 3 members who have fulfilled these duties either separately or combined. Nevertheless, this position(s) will become vacant by the end of the next term and it would be to our benefit to have someone to step in and become familiar with these duties as early as possible. If you are interested or know of someone who might be, contact either Tom Best or myself. Thanks Again and God Bless to ALL.

Dee and Benina

**From the Vice President:** Greetings: As you know, I have been quite involved in our membership. 178 renewal notices have been sent to past due members listed on our current roster, of which 11 were sent back with wrong addresses; either they have moved or passed away. One member sent his dues to me which I will send to Tom along with the cards that were sent back to me for his records. Although I will continue making arrangements in January for the 17th reunion, here is some initial planning information for you to plan to. The 17th NNWA Reunion will be held at the Ocean Creek Plantation Resort in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, 2-6 Oct. 2001. Ocean Creek is a 57-acre private ocean front resort situated between Hwy. 17 N., South Myrtle Beach and the ocean front. The resort features amenities including Ocean Front Beach Club, indoor & outdoor pools, whirlpools, putting greens, 6 tennis courts (2 lighted), restaurant, lounge, nature trails, bicycle paths and much more. Make your plans now to join us in Myrtle Beach: The Show Place of the South with entertainment such as The Palace Theater, Dixie Stampede, Medieval Times, Crook & Chase Theater; A Shopping Paradise with Broadway at the Beach, Barefoot Landing, and hundreds of specialty shops and boutiques; Beautiful Beaches with rolling surf, miles of white sand, blue skies surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean; Places to Eat such as Planet Hollywood, NASCAR Cafe, Hard Rock Cafe, Alabama Grill, House of Blues, and many, many more; Affordable Rates beginning at \$59 for a studio, \$69 for a one bedroom, \$82 for a two bedroom, plus 9.5% sales tax.

Linda & I wish you and yours HAPPY NEW YEAR! Resp/ Frank Kelly

**From the Secretary/Treasurer:** Another successful reunion has passed with the attending members thoroughly enjoying the virtues of New Orleans. I want to personally thank those members stepping in at the last minute to ensure that this reunion progressed smoothly after the untimely passing of our reunion coordinator Hudson Bullock. Our thoughts and prayers go with Hudson as he enters his last duty station with the Supreme Commander. On a lighter thought, our NNWA membership has now increased to over 400 members, thanks to the excellent recruiting efforts of our membership. If you know of a former Nuclear Weapons shipmate, please take the time to pass them the attached NNWA Membership application. Again please check your mailing address label on this newsletter. If the date behind your name is 2000 or less; then you are in arrears in your membership dues. Please help us keep this association solvent and send in your annual dues of \$10.00 per year. It is a cheap price to be able to keep in touch with your shipmates. We would hate to drop you from our membership because of delinquent dues. During this years membership renewal efforts by Frank Kelly, I have received many questions concerning the ability of our membership to purchase "Life" membership in the NNWA. Our Constitution does not address lifetime memberships for our members. The only life membership that is addressed is that "LIFE" membership we bestow on "Surviving Spouses" of our membership. I would recommend that if you (the members) feel that you would like to see a "Life Membership" available to our members, you need to address this and your recommendations for "Life Members" to the NNWA Board of Governors. They in turn will consider those proposals at the next NNWA membership meeting in Myrtle Beach. Better yet, come to the reunion and voice your recommendations to the board at the annual membership meeting. We have a couple shipmates trying to locate former shipmates: Mike Seitz and Bill Grizzard are trying to locate "Jim Kortum", Jack O'silka is trying to locate "Bill Shepherd". If you know of these shipmates, please contact Mike, Bill or Jack. Please note that Kathy and I have moved. Our new mailing address, phone number and e-mail are: Tom & Kathy Best 3121 Archer Ave, The Villages, FL, 32159 (352) 259-8979 e-mail: thbest@atlantic.net Please ensure all NNWA membership renewals or correspondence is addressed to the new address. As Dee stated in his comments, we are actively looking for a replacement for me as Secretary/Treasurer. At the next reunion in Myrtle Beach, we will nominate and elect a new slate of officers for your 2001/2002 Board of Governors. As I originally "stood in" for a short period of time for one of our shipmates who was recovering from medical problems, I have now "Stood In" for over 11 years as Secretary and another four years as Treasurer. It has been my (and Kathy's) pleasure to serve this outstanding association, it is time for us to move on in our lives toward the ultimate goal of enjoying our retirement. It is with deep heart that I will not accept any nominations for office at our next meeting, but the camaraderie of membership and the new shipmates that we have met during the course of duties will leave a lasting favorable impression in our minds. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you. As Dee said earlier, if you or you know of someone who would be willing to accept this interesting and challenging, position, please let us know.

**Reunion 2001:** We will have our usual Hospitality and Artifacts Rooms set up. Sometime in the May/June time frame we will send out a complete information mailing to all members that will include tours; golf; itineraries; and reservation #. Frank & Linda Kelly will be our host for this reunion and as soon as all the necessary contracts in order, we will send out the information package. Till then, let your shipmates that are not members know of the reunion and get them to sign up for membership. I have included a NNWA membership form in this newsletter. Please feel free to duplicate it and use it to sign up your shipmates. *This Years reunion must be pre-paid!*

**Lost Shipmates:** It is again my sad duty to inform you of the loss of several shipmates this last year. Shipmates Nick Baldasari; Bob Bays; R V. Chrane; Fred Bickle; Dan Franz; Hudson Bullock; Fred Irving; Paul Minkler; William Peters; Dan Joyce; Alvin Marn; Benjamin Earp and James Farmer have passed to their last duty station with the Supreme Commander. They dedicated their lives to defending this great country and now have paid the supreme sacrifice defending their country and bringing us out of the "Cold War". They truly are "*Keepers Of The Dragon*". Our NNWA members names will be forever etched into our NNWA Plaque and we welcome their spouses into our ranks as Life Members of the NNWA. Thank you Shipmates from all of us. May you rest in peace knowing that we will keep your charge.

**Service Officer:** Chuck Weber has included information in this newsletter concerning benefits and health issues. He also reports that the government is recognizing and improving the lot for those exposed to radiation. If you have any questions as to your Veterans benefits contact Chuck at (215) 698-2237 or e-mail charles\_j\_weber@finc.com. *Medical Benefits for Military Retirees:* Congress has enacted

legislation to provide continuing health care benefits for military retirees past the age of 65. It was recently formally named "Tricare for Life". Tricare is the successor medical benefit program to the formerly well-known Champus. Military retirees will not now have to rely solely on Medicare treatment and pharmacy programs after they reach the age of 65. Tricare for Life will be an option for them. Enrollment will be required and the DEERS system continues to be the vehicle for doing that. Some words of caution. DO NOT cancel your Medicare supplemental insurance policies yet. DO NOT cancel your employer-provided private insurance policies yet. The legislation passed does not start Tricare for Life coverage until October 1, 2001. So keep your current coverage in place until at least then. More information will be available as the program start up date nears. **DIABETES - AGENT ORANGE LINK CONFIRMED BY VA.** In a recent VA decision, it is now conceded that, for purposes of veterans disability compensation, any veteran who has adult-onset type II diabetes and Agent Orange exposure has a service connected disability. A couple of years ago it was also conceded that any veteran who served in Vietnam, flew over it or served in its contiguous waters was exposed to agent orange. If you are a Vietnam veteran with diabetes contact the VA immediately and file for disability compensation.

**Historian:** Thanks to Don Micco the NNWA has an extensive collection of memorabilia consisting of historical correspondence and documents, technical manuals, organizational flags and plaques, video tapes, weapon models, and photos of past reunions. We also have a limited number of pieces of weapons program hardware. The memorabilia have been inventoried, catalogued and where possible, accredited. All will be on display at the 2001 reunion. Please add to the display of hardware through actual donations to the NNWA or by members bringing items in their possession for temporary showing. If you have any material you wish to donate, please contact me or bring it with you for inclusion in the collection. Remember to bring your cruise books and photo albums to the reunion. They stimulate discussion and enrich the reunion experience. Mike continues to seek specific and general information about the NW program as material for a complete written history of both the NNWA and the Navy NW program. He's looking for interesting anecdotes, insight into program management from the lowest to the highest levels; information about day to day operations and anything else you think might be worth recording for posterity. Attached is a new NNWA history form and this is the media we plan on using. In the past many of us submitted an unadorned linear history of assignments upon join the NNWA, looking upon it as a qualifier for acceptance into the association. Now we ask you to again fill out the Personal History form and expand your personal roles in the NW program and discuss the many events surrounding you work. Your "personal histories" with emphasis on "stories" will greatly expand our body of NW program history. Please contact Mike Snyder at home: 17618 Sir Galahad Way, Ashton, MD 20861 (310) 570-0242 or work (703) 416-5716; or email [michael.d.snyder@lmco.com](mailto:michael.d.snyder@lmco.com).

**Minutes/Financial:** Minutes of the New Orleans business meeting are attached as part of this newsletter. Also the annual financial report has been filed as official documentation for the association and will be available at the 17<sup>th</sup> reunion. I will include a rough status of the current financial report for your information. Income at end of 1999: **\$8518.00**. Income from new members, renewals, reinstatements and reunion income: **\$12,581.00**. Annual Expenses including reunion: **\$9351.75**. End of year 2000 balance: **\$11,747.25**.

**Annual Dues:** Please look at your mailing address on the front of this newsletter. At the bottom is a two figure date (95-96-97-98-99-2000). That date is your expiration of association dues. The cost of reinstatement for those whose dues expired in 1995;96;97;98;99 is \$20.00. The cost of those expiring in 2000 is \$10.00. Take a look at your mailing label and see where you stand. Then get out your check book *and send us a check*. Mail all dues, (renewals, reinstatement or new members) to Tom Best 3121 Archer Ave. The Villages, FL. 32159. If you are not sure where you stand, call me (352) 259-8979 or e-mail me at [thbestsr@atlantic.net](mailto:thbestsr@atlantic.net). Come on shipmates; *let's get on the ball*.

**Information Needed:** One of our members needs some information concerning the old "Q" clearances issued by the old AEC ; now DOE to service members who worked on Nuclear Weapons. He knows that they were issued at the Secret and Top Secret level, and that they were issued to those working directly on Nuclear Weapons, however he has contacted DOE and queried them concerning this type clearance and they will not acknowledge that they were issued to military members working on NW. He also cannot find any reference to the "Q" or "L" clearances on his DD-214. He is trying to get information to include in a Newsletter to the "Association of Atomic Veterans" so that they may use that information on claims of radiation exposure to the VA. He is also looking for information on the DD-1141 form which was supposed to document your entry into radiation exposures and what those level were. The member is **James V. Hamann at PO Box 172, Dayton MN. 55327 (612) 428-2046**. Shipmate Hamann is also an officer of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV). If you are interested in joining either organization, please contact him. You may also get exposure info from them. Appreciate your assistance. He has also forwarded a letter to me from a surviving spouse (Suzanne Charlton) of one of our shipmates who was stationed at Lake Mead. Her husband; Peter D. Charlton was a "Technical Operations Officer" at Lake Mead from September 1955 to March 1957. The CO at the time was Captain Langston and the XO was Commander McInnis. She would like to talk to any shipmates who served with her husband to gain insight into the causes of his death. Suzanna Charlton can be reached at 1-858-454-3626.

**More Useful Information:** I have recently found a website for an "Association of Gunners-Mates". This is a nation wide group of former and present Gunners-Mates from all facets of the rating. The old NW rate, GMT rate and the past WT rating are all eligible for membership. The idea behind passing this information on to you is that you may be able to find some old shipmates who are members of this association, but have not heard of the NNWA.. If you desire more information on this organization, contact their Secretary/Treasurer **Jack Photenhauer at PO Box 247, Hammond, IN 46325** or by e-mail **JPGUNSED@aol.com** Their website can be view at **www:geocities.com/Pentagon/5397/**. Check them out.

**NNWA Logo's:** We now have a limited supply of both the original NNWA logo and the newer Keeper of the Dragon logo. These are embroidered patches in full color and can easily be sewn onto Ball Caps, Shirts, Jackets or Vests. They are being sold for \$5.00 each plus \$1.50 shipping and handling for up to 5 logo's. They are expected to go fast, so get your order in today. Contact Tom Best at **(352) 259-8979** or email **thbestsr@atlantic.net**. We also have a few commemorative coffee cups left from the Las Vegas reunion. These are standard white mugs with both the NNWA and Dragon logo on them and words commemorating the 15<sup>th</sup> NNWA reunion in Las Vegas NV. These are also \$5.00 each, but \$1.50 shipping and handling for up to 2 cups. Again these are in limited supply, so order yours early. Contact me at the above phone or e-mail address.

**NNWA Roster:** The newest NNWA membership roster is available through Tom Best. We now have over 410 members in our association and hopefully will grow to more than that. As each new member joins, part of his welcome package includes a new member roster. Also NNWA members rosters are always made available at each reunion, however because all members do not receive rosters, we will make them available to you. Contact Tom Best, preferably by mail. Please include your complete name, address, phone number and e-mail address (if you have one) so that I may ensure that your membership information is correct. Also we request that you include a SASE 5x6 manila envelope with 55 cents postage. These membership rosters are constantly updated as new members join or due to address, phone information changes to existing members. I would recommend that you request a new roster at least once per year, or better yet, come to the reunions and get them as part of your registration package.

**Points to Ponder:** Too bad that the only people who know how to run this country are too busy driving cabs and cutting hair!

**Thought of the Day:** The greatest thing in this world is not so much where we stand, but in which direction we are heading.

**In Passing: Sea Fever:** I must go down to the sea again, to the lonely sea and blue skies. All I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer by with the wheels kick, the winds song with the white sails shaking. Give me a gray mist on the sea's face and a red sun in dawns breaking. I must go down to the sea again, for the call of the running tide is a wild and a clear call that cannot be denied. All I ask is for a windy day with the white clouds flying; the flung sea spray and the blown spume with the seagulls crying. I must go down to the sea again, to the vagrant gypsy life, to the gulls and whales ways, where the wind is like a whetted knife. All I ask for is a merry yard and the laughter of a fellow rover; and a quiet sleep and sweet dream when my journey is over.

**Last Thoughts:** Did you know that there is a special significance to each movement when our flag is folded?? The first fold of the flag is a symbol of life. The second fold is a symbol of our belief in the eternal life. Fold to the left in the shape of a triangle, where our hearts lie. With our hearts we pledge allegiance to the flag. Fold to the right as a tribute to our armed forces who protect our country and flag from all enemies, foreign and domestic. Fold again to the right as a tribute to our country. In the words of Stephen Decatur "Our country, may she always be right, but it is still our country; right or wrong". Fold to the left as a tribute to those who have entered the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day. Fold again to the left as tribute to womanhood, for it is their faith, love, loyalty and devotion that have molded the characters of the men and women who have served this great country. Fold to the right as a tribute to our fathers, for they have given their sons and daughters to the defense of this country since it was born. Fold the stripes toward the stars, for whereas the stripes represent the original 13 colonies that founded our republic. They are now embodied in the fifty sovereign states represented by the stars. Fold to the left in a shape of triangle, for in the eyes of a Hebrew citizen, this represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies in their eyes the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. Fold again to the left in the shape of a triangle, for in the eyes of a Christian citizen, this represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies in their eyes, the Father, God the Son and the Holy Spirit. When our flag is completely folded the stars are uppermost, which reminds us of our National Motto: "In God We Trust". After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a three cornered hat; reminding us of the soldiers who served under General Washington and the Sailors and Marines who served under John Paul Jones; followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States. For it is they who have preserved for us the rights, privileges and freedom we experience today.

From the Board of Governors: Navy Nuclear Weapons Association, we appreciate your dedication to duty and your unselfish devotion to this country during your Naval service and as citizens of this beloved country. If you have any questions concerning the NNWA, feel free to contact any of the Board of Governors. Their phone numbers are listed at the top of this newsletter.

T. H. Best Sr. Secretary/Treasurer NNWA

**Navy Nuclear Weapons Association**  
**16<sup>th</sup> Reunion**  
**New Orleans, Louisiana**  
**26 September—1 October 2000**

**Minutes of the General Membership Meeting:**

The General Membership meeting was held in the room adjoining the hospitality room of the Holiday Inn Westbank in Gretna, Louisiana on 30 September, 2000. 30 members of the 55 members attending the reunion were in attendance. All 9 Board of Governors were in attendance. The meeting was called to order by President Dee Rochester at 10:00 AM.

The opening prayer was provided by the association Chaplain Henry Stephens, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to our great country. Chaplain Henry Stephens conducted the annual "Two-Bell" ceremony to acknowledge the dedicated service of our shipmates that have passed to their final tour of duty on the Staff of the Supreme Commander, including: **Bob Bayes; R.V. Chrane; Fred Bickle; Dan Franz; Hudson Bullock; Fred Irving; Paul Minkler; William Peters Dan Joyce and Alvin Marn.** We, as a community and as a nation, thank them for their unique contribution to world peace. All NNWA members who have departed on their final tour will have their names inscribed on the NNWA plaque commemorating their outstanding duty to God and Country. If you as a member are aware of the passing of a shipmate, please notify one of the Board of Governors so that we may acknowledge and thank them for their unique contribution to world peace.

President Dee Rochester acknowledged the contributions and efforts of Hudson Bullock for devotion to duty in hosting this reunion even though his untimely passing was two months prior to the reunion. Hudson's brother and his family invited to our annual members meeting and for the personal dedication of the "Two-Bell" Ceremony.

President Dee Rochester thanked Henry Stephens for the donation of the beautiful wooded case made to store the new commemorative bell used in our Two Bell ceremonies.

President Dee Rochester asked that each member stand and introduce themselves to all the other members, including their past duties and current home state. Dee also acknowledged those members present that have yet to miss attending a reunion, or possibly missed one reunion over the past 16 reunions. One of our members reminded us that the first weapons were deployed onboard the USS Midway in 1950.

**Old Business:**

The minutes of the Las Vegas reunion were read and accepted by the membership.

The financial report was presented and accepted by the membership.

The Secretary/Treasurer reminded all members to ensure their annual dues are paid to date. We have approximately 70 members whose dues are in arrears from 1995 to 2000. We hate to lose members due to non-payment of dues, but the association cannot afford to continue to absorb the mailing costs of information to those members who are in arrears. We again remind our membership to review their mailing labels which contains the year your dues expire and renew their membership promptly by sending a check to the Secretary/Treasurer.

It was also noted that the NNWA has again grown in membership thanks to the recruiting efforts of some of our members. We now have over 400 members, up from 189 members in 1994. Thanks to all those who identified possible members to the Secretary/Treasurer. Our existence relies on continued new membership.

Mike Snyder (Historian) continues to develop the history of the NNWA. He again requests that members send him their profiles and provide him with historical information and unique experiences so that he may document this in our history files.

There was no other old business to discuss.

## New Business:

Mike Snyder thanked Don Micco for his devotion to Historian duties and provided the membership with a status of historical artifacts in custody of the NNWA. He also reminded members that if they had any items of historical interest, to notify him for donation to the inventory. He passed out copies of the NNWA Historical inventory to those members who were interested. And suggested that we might want to take photos of all the plaques and make a photo album to bring to all reunions vice the cost and possible damage of transporting the actual plaques. Frank Kelly offered to take the artifacts home with him to South Carolina to be brought to the Myrtle Beach reunion, saving the association the cost of transporting the items home and back to the next reunion. It was noted by members on the floor that a few of our members have extensive personal collections of Navy and Nuclear Weapons memorabilia that they might be willing to donate or loan to the association for display. Don Waymire and J.R. Graham were two of the names mentioned.

Chuck Weber (NNWA Service Officer) presented an update on VA and Military health benefits. A synopsis of this information will be provided by Chuck for this year's newsletter. He also cited a new website for members to check out when searching for information on military information: [www.firstgov.gov](http://www.firstgov.gov). Chuck also reminded us about applying for the new "Cold War Certificate" issued by the government for those serving in the military during the Cold War years. He also identified a new definition by the military that allows the awarding of the "Navy Combat Action Ribbon" for all persons who served during the Vietnam period. Also information was provided to the members that the VA now defines that all persons who served in Vietnam has received exposure to "Agent Orange". See your local County Service Officer, American Legion of VFW Service Officer or VA representative for more information.

Frank Kelly (Vice President) will be sending out NNWA Dues Delinquency notification to all delinquent members soon after the reunion. Renewals are \$10.00 per year. Those members delinquent for more than two years are required to be reinstated into the NNWA at the cost of a new member \$20.00. If any member desires to prepay their membership, it is an additional \$10.00 per year that you desire to pre-pay. President Dee Rochester thanked the Vice President for his personal effort in notifying delinquent members and the excellent response we received from the membership.

Dee Rochester acknowledged and thanked member O.B. McReynolds for the donation of the new Navy Flag to be added to the association inventory. Dee also opened the floor for an overview and comments from the Board meeting held on Thursday on the following items: 1. Conducting Ice Breakers at future reunions that would allow newer members and their spouses to meet and greet our membership. This will possibly be tried at the Myrtle Beach reunion on an afternoon get together. 2. Liability Insurance to cover the NNWA during reunions. 3. NNWA Constitution update and possible incorporation of the NNWA. 4. Rotating terms for the Board of Governors allowing for continued experience on the Board. Currently a complete new Board of Governors is elected every two years. This causes some problems while the board tries to establish an agenda for the two years, while only meeting at the annual reunions. Staggering the board elections would allow for an experienced board while new board members come onboard. No immediate action was taken by the board or membership on any of the items discussed. Dee Rochester announced that the next reunion will be held in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Frank Kelly established the reunion dates as 2 through 6 October. Further information will be provided in the January newsletter and a reunion mail out sometime in the May/June time frame. The 2002 reunion will be held in La Cruces, New Mexico and will be co-hosted by Bill Grizzard and Mike Sertz.

Tom Best reminded members that updated NNWA membership rosters are included in the reunion registration folder that you received at the reunion. If you desire further updated membership rosters, please send a Self Addressed Manila 6x8 envelope with \$5 postage on it to the Secretary/Treasurer and he in turn will mail you the latest update roster.

The membership was reminded that the association still has a limited supply of embroidered logos available to the membership. One logo is that of the original NNWA logo. The second logo available is the "Keeper of the Dragon" logo. These are available from the Secretary/Treasurer for a nominal \$5.00 per logo. If you want them mailed to your residence, please include a Shipping/Handling cost of \$1.50 per each 5 logos ordered.

Chaplain Henry Stephens provided the closing prayer in the form of a beautiful poem. There being no further business from the membership, Dee Rochester accepted a motion and second from the floor and adjourned the 16<sup>th</sup> annual NNWA Business Meeting at 11:40 AM.

Minutes of the meeting provided by: T.H. Best Sr. NNWA Secretary/Treasurer 21 October, 2000