

NNWA



BULLETIN

NAVY NUCLEAR WEAPONS ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT:

Elton L. Call
(208) 529-3002

Ernie Sanchez
(619) 449-8031

VICE PRESIDENT:

Russell Rhine
(918) 426-0047

Richard (IKE) Eisenhower
(918) 426-5419

SECRETARY:

Thomas H. Best Sr.
(904) 277-2478

TREASURER:

Lou Catron
(619) 465-8142

CHAPLIN:

Henry Stephens
(912) 923-8564

HISTORIAN:

Don Micco
(216) 466-7804

Shipmates:

This mailing contains some long overdue information for the membership and information all of you need to finalize your plans for the eleventh annual reunion in Oklahoma City. In this mailing we have included the following documents:

Copy of the minutes of the membership meeting at the tenth annual reunion in Idaho Falls, which was held in October of 1994.

Copy of our new membership form, which we recommend you make copies, for your use in recruiting new members to the association. Please note: We have changed the name of the association and expanded the eligibility rules to encourage membership by all personnel who have been involved in Nuclear Weapons Duties as Keepers of the Dragon.

Copy of the early history of the Navy Special Weapons Pioneers, Titled: Keepers of the Dragon, written and provided to the association by Henry B. Smith, Lt. Cmdr. USN (ret).

Copy of the notification to members whose membership has lapsed, to reinstate their membership in the association. I encourage all members whose dues are in arrears and who receive this mailing to please reinstate your membership. We want you in our association.

I have included a copy of the initial mailing for the Oklahoma Reunion and the information on the Hotel Registration.

Enclosed is a questionnaire on the Oklahoma City Reunion. Please complete the Questionnaire and return it to Russ Rhine so final plans and arrangements can be made for the reunion.

We will hold our traditional Drawings/Gifts at the dinner dance. We request that individuals attending the reunion bring a unique gift from their part of the country. We will have drawings for the gifts during the dinner/dance on Saturday night.

It is with sorrow that I report that Joe and Anne Butler both passed away this summer, Anne first and then Joe early this month. They will be sadly missed by the membership.

Please, if you haven't already, make your reservations for Oklahoma City and return the questionnaire so the Oklahoma Gang can make the final arrangements. We look forward to seeing you in Oklahoma City.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan J. Call". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "A".

NAVY NUCLEAR WEAPONS ASSOCIATION

10TH REUNION OCTOBER 5 THRU 9 OCTOBER 1994

IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO

The business meeting of the Navy Nuclear Weapons Association held at 1000 on October 8, 1994 at the Holiday Inn in Idaho Falls, Idaho.

The meeting was called to order by President Elton Call.

Opening prayer was offered by Shipmate Don Fullbright followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the 9th Reunion business meeting were read by Shipmate Danny Rider. The minutes were accepted as read.

Treasurers report was read by Shipmate Henry Catron. The report was accepted as read.

President Elton Call called for old business. None to discuss.

President call opened the floor for new business.

Shipmate Russell Rhine gave report on Reunion 11 to be held in Oklahoma City OK in 1995 which will be hosted by our McAlester contingent.

President Elton Call discussed Reunion 12 site. Majority decision selected San Diego CA as the location.

Two Bell Ceremony was conducted by Shipmates Jim Buchans, Don Fullbright and Dee Rochester for all of our departed shipmates.

President Elton Call requested that all future correspondence regarding new members, dues and monies for functions be sent to the treasurer to expediate the monies being deposited in our account and to preclude lost time and paper work while it is being forwarded from one party to the next. A new application form will be distributed in the near future and will reflect this policy. A recommendation that the secretary and treasurer be combined in one position will be forthcoming and a vote will be taken on it at Reunion 11.

All members were reminded that the "Kitty" in the hospitality room is in dire need of more attention and support. This is a main source for our hospitality service so lets try to back it better.

Shipmate Joe Butler presented a discussion regarding the possibilities of a "Life Membership" in our organization. This is now offered in many other military organizations and has been well received. Joe also offered suggestions on how to bring dues notifications to our members attention.

A suggestion from the floor was also made to add a donation block to our reunion form for those who might be so inclined. This will also be looked into.

Open discussion regarding membership efforts and mailing costs was conducted with various suggestions and recommendation being made. This topic will continue to be pursued until we have reached an agreeable end.

Shipmate Russell Rhine discussed the Radiation Dose Reconstruction Project and will try to get an update on it for inclusion in a future newsletter.

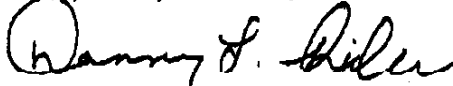
Shipmate Jim Kehoe presented a suggestion to re-name our organization so that old and new members can relate to the name. The term "Special Weapons" has fallen into disuse and the new generation does not relate to it at all. A new name i.e. Navy Nuclear Weapons Association would be more in line and one that all who have worked on nuclear weapons can relate to. A unanimous vote recommended that we change our name to "Navy Nuclear Weapons Association". So be it.

Shipmate Lou Catron relayed a message from Henry Stephens, Chaplain, that he is sorry he could not come to the reunion due to his medical problems, but looks forward to next year.

A rousing round of applause was given for Elton and Susy Cell's efforts as this years co-ordinators for our reunion. Well done to both of them.

There being no more business, the meeting adjourned at 1115.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Danny L. Rider". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Danny L. Rider (Acting Secretary)



**NAVY NUCLEAR WEAPONS ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM
PLEASE PASS THIS ON TO A SHIPMATE**

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Navy: Marine Corps and Civil Service employees of the Department of the Navy who have either:

- *Been attached to the Navy Administrative Unit;
- *Been attached to the Navy Special Weapons Units #471, #802 or #1233;
- *Received basic or advanced training in Nuclear Weapons operational use; assembly, disassembly; repair; maintenance; calibration of specialized test equipment; inspection; loading or delivery from the following U.S. Navy training facilities:
 - *Armed Forces Special Weapons Project (AFSWP)
 - *Defense Atomic Support Activity (DASA)
 - *Nuclear Weapons Training Command, Pacific (NWTCP) *Weapons Training Group Pacific (WTGPAC)
 - *Nuclear Weapons Training Command, Atlantic (NWTCL) *Weapons Training Group Atlantic (WTGLANT)
 - *Nuclear Weapons Training Group, Pacific (NWTGP) *Nuclear Weapons Training Group, Atlantic (NWTGL)
- *Attached to a Naval Command with primary responsibility for Nuclear Weapons Controls to include: (See reverse side for a list of examples, the List is not all inclusive)

NOTE: Membership is available to surviving spouses of personnel with the above qualifications.

Associate membership is that person who does not qualify under the above eligibility requirements, but desires to associate with those members that have helped to shape this free world of ours, The Keeper of the Dragons.

___ Enroll me as a member. \$10.00 entry fee plus \$10.00 per year membership.

___ Enroll me as an Associate Member. \$15.00 entry fee plus \$10.00 per year membership.

___ Please reinstate my past due membership, which expired in ___. \$10.00 reinstatement plus \$10.00 per year membership.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

 First Name Middle Name Last Name SPOUSE Name

ADDRESS

 CITY STATE ZIP CODE AREA CODE//PHONE NUMBER

ORGANIZATION ATTACHED TO

Please list those US Navy organizations you have been or are attached to:

Make Checks payable to: NNWA Treasurer Send Application and Checks to:

**Henry Catron
 NNWA Treasurer
 9707 Lamar Street
 Spring Valley, CA 91977-2814**

ORGANIZATION EXAMPLES (NOT ALL INCLUSIVE)

- * **Depot Level Maintenance, Repair and Storage.**
- * **Intermediate Level Maintenance, Repair and Storage.**
- * **Organizational Level Maintenance and Operational Deployment.**
- * **Nuclear Safety.**
- * **Nuclear Security.**
 - * **Security Force Personnel**
- * **Transshipment.**
 - * **NAS**
 - * **NAVSTA**
 - * **AE, AOE, AOR, T-AE**
- * **SQUADRONS**
 - * **VA**
 - * **VP**
 - * **S3**
 - * **CH-46**
 - * **ETC.**
- * **HANDLING TEAMS**
 - * **ASROC**
 - * **DD, FF, CG, AD**
 - * **TALOS**
 - * **CG**
 - * **SUBROC**
 - * **SSN, AS**
 - * **TOMAHAWK**
 - * **DD, SSN, AS**
 - * **TERRIER**
 - * **DLG, CG**
- * **SAS TEAMS**
- * **MAINTENANCE TECHNICIANS**
 - * **PRE NW**
 - * **NW**
 - * **GMT**
 - * **WT**
- * **LINE/STAFF OFFICERS, WO's/LDO's WITH/ NUCLEAR WEAPON DUTIES**
 - * **NWO**
 - * **NSO**
 - * **SAS**
 - * **WEPS OFF**
 - * **CO**
 - * **ETC.**

Shipmates:

At the business meeting during the tenth annual reunion in Idaho Falls, we agreed to sending a post card to all past members whose membership has lapsed, inviting them to reinstate their membership, with the payment of a \$10.00 reinstatement fee and the \$10.00 annual membership fee. The following is the recommended text for the Post Card. After the eleventh annual reunion in Oklahoma City, we will send the card to all members whose membership has lapsed, and if they do not respond, we will drop them from the roles. If you have any comments or ideas to add to this please address them at the business meeting in Oklahoma City.

NAVY NUCLEAR WEAPONS ASSOCIATION

As you have noticed, there has been a name change to our association. This was a recommendation from the floor and voted on by the membership at the 1994 reunion in Idaho Falls. We recommended changing the name to increase the spectrum of nuclear weapons specialists that could qualify for membership. Why, do you ask? Well in case you haven't kept up with the times, our old navy rating was disestablished as a rating effective October 1995. There is no longer a military specialty dealing with nuclear weapons. So we are broadening our membership criteria so as to cover the birth of navy atomic weapons, to the death of navy nuclear weapons.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

You once were a part of this unique organization. Our membership records indicate that your membership lapsed in _____. If we are wrong, and have not processed your reinstatement, then please contact us and provide that information. If your membership is not renewed we will be forced to remove you from our organizational mailing lists. The small cost of maintaining the brotherhood you started years ago will more than pay for itself. To reinstate your membership, Please forward a check or money order in the amount of \$20.00 (\$10.00 for reinstatement and \$10.00 per year membership) to:

Henry Catron or call (619) 465-8142

NNWA Treasurer

9707 Lamar Street

Spring Valley, CA. 91977-2814

Thank you and please don't forget to provide your name and latest mailing address and your phone number and area code.



"KEEPERS OF THE DRAGON"

**11th REUNION
5-9 OCT 1995
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK**

Navy Nuclear Weapons Association
Russell Rhine, VP 94-95
1117 Franklin Road
McAlester, OK 74501

1. **GREETINGS!** The long awaited information concerning the 1995 reunion has finally been firmed up.
 - a. Location: Oklahoma City, OK
 - b. Date: 5-9 October, 1995
 - c. Facility: Fifth Season Hotel and Conference Center

2. **Organizational Name Change.** You will note that we have a new name for the organization, ie Navy Nuclear Weapons Association (NNWA) vice Navy Special Weapons Units Association. The new name was voted upon by members at Idaho Falls as a means of identifying with more members of the nuclear weapons program as potential members of the organization.

3. **Newsletter.** A regular newsletter will be promulgated at a later date. In speaking with the President, Treasurer and Secretary our (the McAlester Oklahoma Group's) immediate concern was timely dissemination of the reunion data to "all hands" for planning purposes.

4. **Hotel.** Enclosed is a registration form and brochure for the hotel. The basic price is \$62.00 per day plus tax. Included in the rate is a buffet breakfast each morning, a complimentary happy hour period, and transportation to and from the airport, etc. Please forward the form with a minimum payment guarantee of the first nights stay directly to the hotel

5. **Air Lines.** Most all major airlines service Will Rogers Airport in Oklahoma City. Delta Airlines is once again the host airline. Delta offers a 5% discount off domestic fares, and 10% off the Y06/YR06 fares. This covers travel between 2-12 October 1995 only. Call 1-800-241-6760 for reservations. Mention reference file number XT1526. (If you experience problems with Delta, call 1-800-532-4777). Experience has shown however, that airline price war fares are the most economical rates (if they coincide with your travel dates).

6. **Local Transportation.** The hotel will provide transportation to and from the airport. (It's about a 30 minute ride). They also provide transportation to close by tourist attractions ie Cowboy Hall of Fame, Remington Park (horse races), museums, etc. A rental auto is not specifically required unless you desire one.

7. **Local Points of Interest.** We will be planning tours to and from events such as: Cowboy Hall of Fame, Remington Park, golfing, museums, shopping, and "Scooters".

8. Nearest Military Facility. Tinker Air Force base is located approximately 10-15 miles from the hotel.

9. Schedule of Events. A schedule of events will be promulgated with the newsletter. For planning purposes, our regular "Happy Hour and Hors d'oeuvres" get together will be on Friday evening. A dinner and dance is planned for Saturday evening.

10. Reunion Fees. For your planning purposes the following fees will be charged:

Fee:	Purpose:	Remarks:
\$30.00	Dinner/Dance	Per person
\$20.00	Reunion support/ Hospitality room	Member only
\$10.00	Annual Dues	Member only
\$10.00	Initiation Fee	New members joining the Association

We would appreciate your forwarding the reunion fees to the Treasurers, Lou and Pat CATRON, 9707 Lamar Street, Spring Valley, CA 90713, prior to 1 September, 1995

91977-2814

11. Information. If you want additional information call or write one of the "McAlester Group". We will help in any way we can. A partial list is:

Charlie & Margaret Berger	(918) 423-4509
Lavon Dyer	426-0178
Ike & Sue Eisenhower	426-5419
Larry & Leah Johnson	423-8347
Roy Osborne	421-1271
Russ Rhine	426-0047

12. Spread the word. We encourage you to pass the word along about the reunion and recruit new members. This package is being mailed out to over 300 present, past and potential members. Make your reservations early.