

**SURFACE NAVY ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
JANUARY 15, 2008**

Meeting was called to order by Admiral Hogg at 0807 on January 15, 2008 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Crystal City.

**PRESIDENT REMARKS:**

**MINUTES**

The minutes were provided earlier on the website for review and were approved.

**ACTION ITEMS**

All actions assigned at the last Board of Directors Meeting have been addressed.

**ASSOCIATION HIGHLIGHTS**

The Association is healthy and has a strong membership and participation levels. We continue to grow not only in numbers but also in membership categories with over 50 per cent of our membership being active duty. Financially we are also strong.

The symposium last year was another record setter. In addition the West Coast Symposium in San Diego was expanded and was successful. Sailors of the Year were recognized in ceremonies in San Diego and Hampton Roads. A number of other events were held including a Strategic Offsite and our second communications forum.

During a SNA trip to Great Lakes Paul Rinn was able to support Battle Stations 21 and was able to share his experience and mentorship with them.

The current Old Salt is Admiral Mullen, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Old Tar is MC Davidson who had his ceremony on board CONSTITUTION.

**2008 INITIATIVES**

Some of our initiatives for this year are as follows:

- Build on relationship with the Coast Guard
- Host a Maritime Security Forum in New London
- Broaden articles in Surface Sitrep
  - Focus on members
  - More diverse subjects
- Establishing a Hall of Fame at Great Lakes
- Continue our 2007 initiatives

**AREAS FOR BOD TO ADDRESS THIS YEAR**

- Are SNA Programs correctly focused toward our membership?
- How can we appeal more to the Enlisted Surface Sailor?

- Is our financial strategy focused?
- What is the appropriate education role of the Association?
- Do we enjoy effective communications between the BOARD, EXCOM and Chapter President?
- How might individual Board members contribute to SNA committee efforts?
- Regarding our connections with COMNAVSURFOR, DEP COMNAVSURFOR, and N86:
- Do we need adjustments?
- What is our relationship with other associations
- Do our Bylaws sustain the association
- Are there additional roles we should consider undertaking?
- Do we need another offsite?

In summary: We are a stronger, more vibrant Association because it is one that we have established together. .

#### **SECRETARY REPORT: DAVE LEE**

Captain Dave Lee, USN (Ret) presented the Secretary's Report for the Association. He mentioned that we continue to develop a Board of Directors that reflects the make up of our membership to include active duty and retired from both the officer and enlisted communities.

Early in the year we go out to our membership asking them to provide nominations for potential Board Members. We received 24 nominations and these nominations were provided to the Nomination Committee and they structure the ballot by category to represent the make up of our membership. Once these are complete they are sent out to our voting members. A slide was shown that depicts those expiring and Admiral Hogg thanked all those in attendance who terms are expiring.

The new Board of Director members were asked to stand and were read their rights of participation for the BOD.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Captain Erickson, Executive Director SNA provided the report for Captain Tackett the Treasurer who was unable to attend. In summary our net worth has grown and we have reduced our Cap account in order to invest in more share certificates. Our operating account once again showed that we exceeded our income expectation by \$25,000 and only over expended our expense expectations by \$16,000. We also have 50 scholarships that were provided this year. Detailed information was distributed to attendees for review.

Our corporate dues are higher than expected and our individual dues are okay. Our symposium profit exceeded projections by \$5,000 and even though our admin expenses were up primarily for the printing of SITREPS and increased recruiting activities we still had a surplus of \$907 for the year.

For the 2008 budget it is proposed that we lower our projections for membership dues and that we add money to chapter projects. A motion to approve the budget was carried unanimously.

### **CORPORATE COMMITTEE REPORT.**

VADM Jim Hancock, USN (Ret) presented the corporate report and noted that we 64 current members. For 2008 we have changed the structure of the dues to better represent the size of our corporations. Even though there are a number of mergers taking place in the industry we have been able to maintain membership as many of the larger corporations opt to have separate smaller division members to ensure they continue to receive the benefits of membership offered.\

### **SYMPOSIUM REPORT:**

A graphic representation of the last 5 symposia was shown. There are a number of large jumps in attendance and of particular note is that for the International Navies Luncheon.

A preliminary report of numbers for this year was shown and it was noted that we came onsite with a seminar registration of 1235 which is higher than any other year.

A question was raised regarding what we were doing for future years. We were planning to cap off our numbers or were we looking to change venues. It was suggested that the Executive Committee take this for action.

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:**

RADM Dennis Conley, USN (Ret) provided a report that showed that we have grown to a total membership of 6602 members. We still need to find a way to encourage more enlisted membership but it will be interesting to see what happens next year as this will be the year that the first batch of complimentary three-year memberships are eligible for renewal.

A survey was done and we held focus groups in Hampton Roads and San Diego. A number of good ideas came out of these sessions however we do need to make sure that all the suggestions meet ethical and legal standards imposed to active duty personnel.

- Communication is still priority and methods used need to be addressed
- Some events should be planned and executed by enlisted personnel
- We have had some increased in our coast guard participation and we are looking actively in ways we can expand that interest.

### **AWARDS REPORT:**

CAPT Paul Rinn, USN (Ret) provided a status report on the awards committee and their goal to recognize the achievements of our sailors. A presentation was provided that detailed all the winners for this year.

### **SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

Captain Paul Rinn, USN (Ret) provided a review of the 2007 program on behalf of the VADM Lee Gunn who was unable to attend.

### **PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT**

Captain Edward Lundquist, USN (Ret) provided a report of activities and mentioned that he is looking for volunteers for the committee.

**OPEN DISCUSSION:**

The Vision Statement was read at this meeting and changes to these and the bylaws were reviewed. Specific change to vision is “We are an Association at the center of Surface Warfare that provides for its members support, programs and activities which enable professional growth, personal satisfaction and camaraderie.” This was approved.

Change for the Bylaws is for us to revise the officer and enlisted reference so that it can be more inclusive by replacing it with Surface Naval forces. This was approved.

Our former Chapter President in Charleston is now in Iraq and is trying to establish an SNA presence there. RADM Horn, USN (Ret) is working this and Admiral Hogg said he would send an email to encourage hi.

**SUMMARY:**

VADM Green thanked all the committee chairs for their reports and reiterated that we are a vibrant association that continues to move forward. He also asked that members not be bashful to ask him questions.

Admiral Hogg commended the Chapter Presidents and recognized the heart beat of the chapters. The chapters continue to provide a forum for ideas and professional relationship and they should always know that they have the support from the chapters.

Meeting adjourned at 1013.