

**SURFACE NAVY ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
6 May 2004**

OFFICERS

VADM L Gunn, USN (Ret), *President*
CAPT D. Lee, USN (Ret), *Secretary*
CAPT J. Taggett, USN (Ret), *Treasurer*
VADM H Giffin, USN (Ret), *East Coast VP*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CAPT M. Foote, USN (Ret)	CAPT R. Rushton, USN
RADM S Locklear, USN	FORCM J Monroe, USN
RADM G. Chesbrough, USN (Ret)	RADM W. Retz, USN (Ret)
CAPT P. Rinn, USN (Ret)	RADM D. Conley, USN (Ret)
CAPT B. Erickson, USN (Ret), <i>Executive Director</i>	Ms. Julie Howard, <i>Staff</i>

The meeting was called to order at 1715

MINUTES FOR LAST MEETING

Minutes were reviewed prior to the meeting and were approved unanimously.

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP REPORT

SNA has gained two new corporate sponsors, Maersk Line Limited and Delta Resources. In terms of the corporate sponsorship committee, VADM Joe Metcalf, USN(Ret) now has VADM Bill Hancock, USN(Ret) to assist him with the corporate committee.

WEST COAST SYMPOSIUM

CAPT Rushton, CAPT Erickson and Julie Howard met to go over some concepts. The new SNA Chapter President, Capt Faris Farwell, is now in place and ready to go. There has been some discussions regarding theme options and we have had a strong indication that VADM LaFleur is interested in focusing on simulations. We would like to use the same theme for the East Coast Symposium. Detailers already lined up to come again and we are working on getting a mix of ships at Pier 2 to have an "Open Ship." SNA National intends to increase its support of regional symposiums and additional funding to support this expanded scope has been provided to Howard Associates.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

CAPT David Lee intends to form a committee to look at the composition of the SNA Board of Directors along with length of service. Any changes recommended by the committee will require a change to the SNA by-laws. The following members of the ExCom were nominated to be on the committee: CAPT Rushton, CAPT Ingram, CNOMC Kantrovitch, and VADM Robinson. and RADM Retz. ExCom approved the committee composition.

FINANCE REPORT

CAPT Tackett reported SNA finances are moving along according to budget. The 2004 Symposium net revenue is substantially higher than that originally expected which gives some

added flexibility as we move through the year. The line item for the Stephen Decatur Award has exceeded the budgeted amount due to more participating NJROTC units this year.

CHAPTER SPECIAL EVENT ALLOCATION

As tasked at last meeting we have looked at a more equitable way to allocate funds and to increase funds available. We also sent out an inquiry to the chapters to see if they would indeed use funds. If all chapters put in a request for the existing \$3 per member it would be approximately \$13,000. The proposal is to increase to \$6 per member with chapters who have a membership of 50 members or less would get a flat amount of \$300. Every chapter who has between 51 and 500 members would get \$6 per member. There would be no change to the \$3 per member for chapters who have 501 to 1000 members. Chapters who have over 1,000 would be excluded from matching funds.

The impact of this proposal is that Hampton Roads and San Diego allocation would not change. It should be noted that both chapters receive additional funding from National under the Regional Symposium line item to support the East Coast and West Coast Regional symposia. Under this proposal the Washington Chapter would be excluded from matching funds as they have over 1,000 members. However, they do receive a percentage of the net profit from the National Symposium as the host chapter.

This proposal was accepted unanimously. The change will be promulgated in the updated Chapter Handbook.

AWARDS COMMITTEE REPORT

YP Squadron Commodore Award

A proposal was made to the Superintendent of the Naval Academy to present this award. He responded favorably and asked that we present a sword. We were given very little notice of the first recipient but VADM Quast, USN (Ret) was present at the ceremony to recognize the recipient. A permanent plaque will also be displayed at the Naval Academy.

NROTC SNA Distinguished Graduate Award

CAPT Rushton made a proposal to recognize Distinguished NROTC Graduates selecting Surface Warfare. Currently there is an uneven approach in our support of NROTC units. Some of our local chapters receive matching funds to support the presentation of a Navy sword to a NROTC Consortium or unit graduate in their geographic area. This proposal would increase the number of swords presented by having National fund up to six (6) swords annually to Distinguished NROTC Graduates selecting Surface Warfare at schools that do not fall into a local chapter's area. The cost is about \$450 per sword for an annual total cost of \$2,700.00. This award would be managed through the SNA Awards Committee. If less than six (6) were presented in any calendar year, funds would be carried over to the next year. Of the approximately 32 NROTC schools/consortiums, 50% of the Distinguished Graduates go to flight school and about 30% of become Surface Warfare Officers. This program would be an excellent way to recognize our own and to recognize the young people who are moving forward through our professions. A letter was proposed that would explain the availability and criteria for the award. Discussion followed. The consensus was that we as an Association should have parity between Officer and

Enlisted programs and should look at something we can do to further support the Enlisted community.

Question was raised that perhaps there might be a way to have a chapter sponsor/mentor at each location to help coordinate a program. Perhaps this could be something SNA could do with the support of individual members of the Board of Directors (e.g. as part of ADM Hogg's initiative to assign board members more responsibilities during their service as a board member). This chapter sponsor/mentor could help identify the SWO. Would be great to have flexibility and the side product of this would be great press.

Possible Navy League involvement was discussed and the need to identify if local Navy League Chapters have a similar program. A proposal was made and adopted to table this issue until next the next ExCom and have the Executive Director with Navy League and be prepared to discuss further.

AI: Executive Director to coordinate with Navy League. Capt Rushton to review discussion notes and come back with proposal again.

SWOS Newport Hall of Fame

Capt. Rinn and Capt. Erickson visited SWOS Newport to explore the options for establishing the SNA Hall of Fame in the new SWOSDOC building. There have been a number of changes to the original plan. Currently, the room that was to be the cafeteria is available for SNA use. This room could serve as a meeting room with a 18th or 19th century ship theme as a backdrop. Various busts of famous surface warriors such as John-Paul Jones could be utilized along with ship models and a permanent area could be set aside for the SNA Hall of Fame portraits. Also, an area could be used to recognize SNA's award program though the use of busts of Arleigh Burke and Admiral Zumwalt incorporating a plaque of the award winners.

Navy Museum has a large number of items available. However there is a large cost associated with preparing the room. To put a chair rail in is about \$4,000 and it is anticipated that the range of costs can be any where from \$45,000 to \$200,000 for the total project. A large unanswered question is what would be the ultimate use of this room. Because of building security, manning, parking, etc., the school will most likely continue to use the quarterdeck in the other building. The most practical concept is to keep our expenses minimal at the start and see how the building use develops. There is already in place a library and other lounge areas. An open question is "What would happen if we invested in this room and within a short period of time, the use for the building significantly changed." The leadership of SWOS is terrific and open to any suggestions. In the ensuing discussion, several members expressed the opinion that it might be better to spend our money on people rather than structure. The members realize SNA needs a place for our Hall of Fame but this might not be the right place.

Action Item: Award Committee will continue to work to put together a feasible plan.

SYMPOSIUM REPORT

For the 2004 Symposium, revenue increased along with expenses. We also saw a rise in attendance. Net revenue to date is \$219,297 with National getting \$142,000, Scholarship \$32,000 and SNA GWC getting approximately \$40,000.

2005 Symposium Proposal

VADM LaFleur would like the theme to be centered on simulation. However, the committee chairman felt that it might be too narrow a focus for a national symposium. Two alternative themes were proposed:

Proposal I: Surface Navy Contribution to Sea Power 21 – Sea Basing and Sea Shield.

Proposal II: Surface Warriors in a Rapidly Evolving Navy.

Both themes could also include Sea Strike but not as a focal point. Proposal II was suggested by Admiral Hogg.

The full proposed schedule was reviewed and it was suggested that we add a member of the Japanese Embassy to International Navies Luncheon as one of the possible participants. Also, it would be good to include the Coast Guard if possible as they do have a role in Sea Basing. The addition of PEO Deepwater to the agenda was suggested.

A large investment in Human Systems Integration is being proposed in POM 2006 and an increased emphasis is being placed on investment in Sailor's use of computer systems and software. We could change the session "New Technology" to accommodate this or perhaps hold a workshop on simulation. It was proposed the Symposium Committee investigate further. We need to also look at available flag resources. The committee would like to use a defined theme as Sea Power 21 is too broad a topic. The consensus is to continue moving forward with theme one while remaining open to some modification. Also, we need to find an alternate for Ron O'Rourke who is an observer and can provide outside commentary.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee met earlier this week and selected 14 new scholarship recipients with one alternate. At this point don't have a summary report of the demographics. However once again there was a lack of applications from the Enlisted community. The committee approved all renewals except for one who was placed on academic probation. The total number of scholarships in place will be 30. Once again, no reduction in the scholarship fund corpus was required. Some discussion at selection meeting took place on how we can better use the applicant demographics in the selection process.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

SNA membership remains stable. Staff is working on retention and accountability. The Membership Committee is focusing its effort on the principle fleet chapters, those chapters that have declining numbers or those with weak management structure. RDML(Sel) Buz Busby has been very supportive in Newport and goal is to have more of our Senior Enlisted Academy attendees become members. Still working COs and XO's that are not members. San Diego has

had change in leadership out there. Lastly, we are developing key events as opportunities to increase membership.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

There has been no significant activity. However the office still fields calls periodically from the media.

WASHINGTON CHAPTER REPORT

Chapter President reported that the chapter has started a membership drive this week.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1920.