

**Surface Navy Association
Executive Committee Minutes (Draft)
September 6, 2007**

IN ATTENDANCE

VADM Kevin Green, USN (Ret) *President*
VADM Hank Giffin, USN (Ret), *VP East Coast (via Phone)*
CAPT Jim Tackett, USN (Ret), *Treasurer*
RADM Dave Hart, USN (Ret), *Symposium Chair*
CAPT Dave Lee, USN (Ret), *Secretary*
VADM Lee Gunn, USN (Ret), *Immediate Past President*
CAPT Mike Smith, USN
RADM Tom Wilson, USN (Ret)
RADM Dennis Conley, USN (Ret)
CAPT Ned Lundquist, USN (Ret), *PR Chair*
Mr Thad Smith
CAPT Bill Erickson, USN (Ret), *Executive Director*
CAPT Rudy Laco, USN

Minutes

A motion made to approve minutes was passed unanimously.

President's Report

Had an opportunity to attend events at the West Coast Symposium last month and had a very good experience there. Holding the event in conjunction with SWOFOC, the golf tournament and the Surface Ball was a great idea. Captain Dixon Smith put together a wonderful agenda.

We will discuss Strategic Offsite this evening.

Corporate Sponsor Report

We currently have 63 corporate sponsors. Right now we have \$87,000 in hand with \$25,000 already invoiced and another \$67,000 to be invoiced before the end of the year. The expansion of the corporate sponsorship program should be a topic for the offsite.

Offsite Meeting

Will be held 0900-1700 on Tuesday, September 25th at SNA Headquarters. Currently we have 18 people scheduled to attend with about 8 tentative. This is about half of what we had at the last offsite and also at the January Board meeting. The last time we had a meeting was in April 2002. Need to get some ideas of how we should approach this year.

No new missions were developed at the 2002 meeting. However there was some minor wording on some of the precepts that required Bylaw changes to update language.

Some potential topics are: membership both individual and corporate; how to deal with symposium growth; strategy for growing scholarships; and do we want to change the format of Surface SITREP. Main question to start with is "What is the association about" and perhaps to follow it up with "Where do we want to be in 10 years". Need to also discuss what is going on within the Surface Warfare community. We also need to address resource required to support any new initiatives.

AI: Erickson to put together agenda for Green to review.

Have been approached again by WebTV and have been offered 1 year free advertising. They are specifically interested in our Hall of Fame video. Eventually there would be a cost associated. General consensus was no interest in this project.

Secretary Report

It is now time to send out the email for BOD nominations and to notify those whose term will expire this period. Expectation is that ballot will be online by 31 October with voting period of November 1-30, 2007. Final results will be available 15 December. (see presentation for breakdown and names).

Treasurer's Report

Financial report was reviewed. We are over on a few lines including travel and regional events. However we are still on track with both income and expenditure. We have also disbursed just over \$80,000 this year to the chapters for due sharing and special requests. We have supported all requests this year.

Symposium Report

Reviewed status of speakers as we stand right now. Need to think about any specific themes that we want to put against speakers in letters for distribution. We have had a request from RDML Michelle Howard to have a Surface Warfare event for female surface warriors. RADM Guillory suggested that we perhaps extend an invitation to RDML Pottenger. As we try to be inclusive we need to be careful about doing special events for specific subsets of our membership. We did have a successful Women at Sea conference a few years ago. Perhaps we could add more panelists.

AI: Green and Hart to meet with RDML Howard to discuss concept more and report back.

Did get some push back from ADM Roughead that perhaps we should change Platform to Ships.

Had over 330 preregistrants and 1 of the highlights was LCDR John Wade about his IA mission in Iraq. Will follow up with a SITREP article and suggest that perhaps the chapter might want to include. IA was such a powerful presentation that perhaps we should weave this into the JO roundtable and also the Enlisted roundtable.

AI Add IA panelists to both JO and Enlisted roundtables

Award Committee Report

We have a preliminary list of candidates for the 2008 Hall of Fame selectees. There are 4 officer and 3 enlisted selectees. List was accepted.

Special Recognition candidates are RADM Walsh, CAPT Chuck Smith and cartoonist CAPT Jeff Bacon. List was accepted as proposed.

Historical remembrance proposed theme is Battle of the Atlantic. The lecturer will be Dr Phil Lundeberg and the two representatives will be RADM Thomas King, USMS and GM1 William Riemer.

The Old Tar and the George Sirian Awards were given on the USS CONSTITUTION on August 24, 2007. We received great coverage from the Navy News Service.

Scholarship Committee

All letters are out and we are now at that time when we need to promote applications. We also have collected over \$5,000 in the VADM Metcalf Scholarship Fund.

Membership Report

We are growing and retaining at the rates we like to be at. We had a follow on offsite in San Diego on August 17, 2007. Had a very diverse group. We had wanted a bigger turnout of members however we had a great group and a wonderful dialogue. One suggested that we have 'blue jacket' luncheons. These would not be exclusive for attendance however would be planned by the enlisted representatives from the chapters. There are some that will come for ExCom for approval later. There are some that we need to get DON to approve. At both focus groups it was suggested that there should be a SNA mentor who can provide informal support. It was also suggested that we have an SNA liaison in each command.

Public Relations Report

We are looking at some options for the SITREP. It is an important publication and perhaps we need to make it better, reduce the cost and possibly make it be a revenue generator. The date for the 2007 Communications Forum will be November 27, 2007 at the Army Navy Country Club. Have tentative acceptances from RADMs Goddard, McManamon, and Ms. Stiller. It was suggested that we possibly have an industry meeting prior to the event before we open it to the media. Consensus was that this was not a good idea and that the session would be open as last year.

Special Projects

Only 1 proposal currently in the works is to put the Hall of Fame at Great Lakes. Later in September hope to resolve placement.

New Business

Next date is 24 October 2007.