

**Surface Navy Association
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes (Draft)
August 28, 2012**

IN ATTENDANCE

VADM Admiral Route, USN (Ret)
CAPT Dave Lee, USN (Ret)
CAPT Jim Tackett, USN (Ret)
VADM Henry Giffin, USN (Ret) *(via phone)*
VADM Tim LaFleur, USN (Ret) *(via phone)*
CAPT Dave Adler, USN (Ret)
RADM Dennis Conley, USN (Ret)
VADM Bill Earner, USN (Ret)
VADM Lee Gunn, USN (Ret)
RADM Dave Hart, USN (Ret)
CNOMC Harry Kantrovich, USN (Ret) *(via phone)*

VADM Doug Katz, USN (Ret)
CAPT Ned Lundquist, USN (Ret)
LT Rob McFall, USN *(via phone)*
CAPT Kim Parker, USN *(via phone)*
RADM Robert Reilly, USN (Ret) *(via phone)*
CAPT Paul Rinn, USN (Ret)
CAPT Mark Sedlacek, USN (Ret)
CAPT Matt Sharpe, USN (Ret) *(via phone)*
RDML T. J. Wilson, USN (Ret) *(via phone)*
CAPT Bill Erickson, USN (Ret)
Julie Howard
Debbie Garry

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The meeting was called to order by the President at 1703. VADM Ron Route welcomed all attendees to the meeting. The minutes from the 10 July 2012 Executive Committee Meeting were approved with no changes. VADM Route reported that he attended the West Coast Symposium in San Diego and it was a great event. He thanked all involved, including the Admin Staff, for their hard work in organizing event. SNA was able to present the 2012 Literary award to CAPT George Galdorisi at the Symposium reception. While in San Diego, he and Bill Erickson met with VADM Copeman, to discuss SNA and upcoming events including the National Symposium theme. VADM Route thanked CAPT Lundquist for his input into the latest SITREP newsletter. VADM Route said it was a great issue! VADM Route also reported the recent passings of RADM Lew Glenn, RADM Robert McNitt and VADM Denis Downey.

OLD BUSINESS

The draft minutes from the January National Board Meeting are posted on the Board of Directors website for review.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Updated EXCOM on the status of the items that could impact future Surface Navy Association events (The OMB Directive on Conferences, Section 308 of the House-passed Digital Accountability and Transparency Act (H.R. 2146) and title V of the Senate-passed 21st Century Postal Service Act of 2012 (S. 1789) . Since the last EXCOM, there has not been any Congressional action on these items. CAPT Erickson has been in discussions with ASNE on their recent experience on obtaining conference approval. SNA will begin working on conference approval (NAVADMIN or equivalent).

The West Coast Symposium was held in San Diego on August 16. Captain Erickson reviewed attendance numbers and exhibitor list. Admiral Route personally visited each booth during the event. Almost 400 people including exhibiting personnel checked in with registration staff at the Symposium.

In July, the Great Lakes Naval Museum Foundation contacted SNA stating that due to space constraints at the museum and a new exhibit arrival, they wanted to start discussing a return process for the SNA exhibit. CAPT Erickson has contacted the Interim Director at the Navy History and Heritage Command and he has delayed the return process pending further review. Captain Erickson will meet with him to discuss options. If unable to keep exhibit in Great Lakes,

one option would be to move it to Norfolk. More information will be presented at the next EXCOM meeting.

The current Old Salt, Admiral John Harvey, will be retiring on September 14. It has been determined that his successor will be VADM Terry Blake. An email has been sent to Admiral Blake regarding a possible turnover at the Change of Command. VADM Giffin will be at the COC and could present award on behalf of SNA.

CORPORATE MEMBERS REPORT

SNA currently has 83 corporate members. One sponsor has notified SNA that they have decided not to renew. SNA is starting to see a minor impact based on corporations reviewing their current budgets and it has become a little more difficult to collect payments. Still on target to meet budget.

SECRETARY REPORT

Captain Lee presented the timeline for the upcoming Board of Directors election. An email requesting nominations will be sent the first week of September with a close date of September 30. Letters will also be sent to Board members with expiring terms. Ballot preps will be during the month of October and online voting will take place during the month of November. Results will be validated NLT December 15. Reviewed the expiring terms by name and rank. SNA members can elect up to 9 new board members.

TREASURER REPORT

Reviewed the current finance report. To date over 70% of the budgeted revenue has been collected and over 65% of the budgeted expenses have been disbursed. Corporate dues revenue is a slight concern but SNA historically collects a large amount of dues at the end of the year. To date no ship commissioning funds have been requested. SNA is expected to end the year in the black. Reviewed chapter disbursements which so far total approximately \$96K. Reviewed account balances. Not much profit from the Certificates of Deposit but they are low risk. Captain Tackett requested time at the December EXCOM to present a full account tutorial to EXCOM to include Scholarship update. Admiral Gunn requested that presentation include year to year growth update.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee met in April and July. Topics of discussion at the meetings included SNA's worth, how to handle fund requests from outside sources, and the 3 operating funds (Operating, Reserves and Scholarship). It was recommended that status of all 3 funds be briefed at each EXCOM meeting. SNA should keep 2x our average revenues in reserve fund. Will review all external fund requests at the end of the year. SNA scholarship fund would need to be the priority in funding. Symposium profits are major source of SNA funding but profits are uncertain each year.

SYMPOSIUM REPORT

Reviewed planning timeline for the 25th SNA National Symposium. The theme "Answering All Bells: People, Technology, and Innovation" has been approved. Admiral Hart presented several topics for discussion:

- Inclusion of either/both VADMs Carol Pottenger and Michelle Howard
- Industry focused/populated panel? This panel would not replace a current panel but a single speaker slot. Concern is on selection of panelists. Is this type of panel in SNA's mission?
- Pre-staged Q&As with Emcees. This could provide some high quality questions for speakers.

- 2012 panel: Ron O'Rourke, Norman Polmar, Eric Labbs;
- VADM Syring from MDA as a potential speaker
- LCS Panel: Hunt, Skinner, Copeman, McCoy – this could be an excellent forum
- Banquet Speaker: ADM Stavridis to be invited

AWARD REPORT

The Awards Committee will meet on August 29. Captain Rinn reported that the Hall of Fame voting is in process. The committee recommends Operation Praying Mantis as the Heritage Night theme for the 2013 Symposium. Reviewed Special Recognition awards and requested input from EXCOM.

SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

All checks have been mailed to recipients. Admiral Gunn will poll his committee on applicant feedback to provide to Captain Lundquist to use in a SITREP article.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Reviewed membership statistics as of July 31 including trend slides. Paid members are down since last month and we have seen a decline in Coast Guard members. Stable in other areas.

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

Captain Lundquist reviewed upcoming SITREP articles for the next issue. Recently received a request from Maritime Reporter Magazine to be a media partner for Symposium.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

The George Sirian Award was presented in Boston on August 24.

Captain Paul Rinn recently spoke at the San Diego Surface Warrior Ball. Video of speech available on SNA's website. SNA did receive recognition in the event's program.

West Coast Symposium presentations that have been approved for release should be on website by end of the week.

NEW BUSINESS

Next meeting to be held in October. Bill Erickson will email proposed dates to EXCOM.

Meeting adjourned.