

**SURFACE NAVY ASSOCIATION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES  
29 October 2002**

**OFFICERS**

VADM L Gunn, USN (Ret), *President*  
CAPT D. Lee, USN (Ret), *Secretary*  
CAPT M Foote, USN (Ret) *Treasurer*

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

RADM G. Chesbrough, USN (Ret)	RADM R Sutton, USN (Ret)
CAPT P Rinn, USN (Ret)	VADM D Katz, USN (Ret)
RADM W Retz, USN (Ret)	CAPT B. Erickson, USN (Ret), <i>Executive Director</i>
Ms. Julie Howard, <i>Director of Admin</i>	

The minutes of the 21 August 2002 meeting were approved.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

VADM Gunn commented that the minutes from the Board meeting were very good and that they have now been circulated. General conclusion regarding the outcome of this meeting was that it was a nice opportunity for the Board to get together and provided a greater level of meaningful discussion than the standard January meeting as there were less time constraints. Consensus of Execom was that it is worth continuing with this additional meeting in future years however will wait for the Board's input in January. Bylaws are in process of being amended as approved by Board. Motion carried unanimously to approve minutes.

Admiral Natter has accepted to speak at banquet during symposium and will stay overnight. VADM Gunn visited Naval Order Congress in Houston weekend prior to meeting. This is a 1,700 member organization that does allow active duty members. This is a totally volunteer driven organization that would like to be closer to SNA. Think they offer deep knowledge in navy history and would like to have as many joint activities as possible. Have already opened up some opportunities as members of the Navy Consortium. Destroyer Symposium good example of teamwork.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

**East Coast Symposium.** Held in October. They had a great program put together but attendance was less than expected with just over 100 people attending. Didn't appear to have a lot of push from waterfront for attendance. RADM Etnyre is willing to do more to push organization and CAPT Ingram will, of course, add a lot and it has been proposed that he sit in on the Norfolk Board meetings. CAPT Bouchard did send out messages but personal touch was not there. Location needs to be reviewed, possibly Amphib Base and run shuttle buses. Would like to have a much stronger involvement of National in the Regional Symposium. Like to have a better timeframe and PR approach and better financial management. Meeting with Chapters and TypeComs to do this better. Possibly look at getting better sponsor involvement and to reduce cost to active duty. Should review our purpose and bring it back to original purpose to get to the fleet. Waterfront is focus. Need to better promote to Commanding Officers. There needs to be a planning meeting in January for both the East Coast and the West Coast Symposia with us locking in the time frames as East Coast in Fall and West Coast in Spring.

*Action Item: Organize small meeting with Hampton Roads and San Diego Chapter Presidents in January to discuss events.*

**Destroyer Conference.** Registrations so far are not up to expectations. Date being a moving target did not help. There is a last push to get more attendees. A meeting is scheduled on Friday to further discuss program.

**Hall of Fame Video.** Board unanimously adopted concept. Financing is \$5,000 up front and \$5,000 upon delivery. Possibly pay second \$5,000 out of next year. Basically finished and cut is ready to look at. Awards Committee and RADM Toole to preview. Do not have to take delivery until early January. Motion made to make initial \$5,000 payment now and review method of payment for final \$5,000 at next meeting. Cost is \$1,200 per person. Motion passed with 1 abstention.

**Miscellaneous.** November 6<sup>th</sup> Secretary of the Navy Briefing. Susan Livingstone is now coming instead of SECNAV. Four SNA people will be in attendance at this event, which is designed for leadership of association.

Charles D Allen (Plankowner) passed away. CAPT Joe Nolan also passed away. Editor of Surface Warfare magazine and Associate Editor are both leaving shortly.

**Founding Fathers.** It is proposed that SNA honor Founding Fathers at the symposium in January. Proposed that we consider 1986 filing as initial officers and board of directors. There was some discussion regarding names on list provided and Executive Director was asked to check with some of the officers to see if this is an inclusive list. Not sure at this time how recognition will be made but at the very least names will be posted.

*Action Item: Check with VADMs Doyle and Rowden and Captain Brooke to verify names.*

#### **AWARDS COMMITTEE**

Awards are proceeding on schedule and a Committee meeting is scheduled for next week. This year has seen a great response for Arleigh Burke submissions. The Zumwalt announcement went out later but is still on track. Committee is putting the finishing touches to those individuals who will be recognized at the symposium. During the Committee meeting ideas for the award proposed for Newport will be discussed.

#### **SECRETARY'S REPORT.**

Moving ahead on nomination list with about 22 nominations to go through selection process. Committee comprises of RADM Conley, RADM Chesbrough, CAPT Rinn, CAPT Lee and CAPT Erickson. Meeting is scheduled for end of week to come up with 8 nominees to go before ExCom. Of the 5 slots available there will now be 4 not 3 to be filled by new members as Gerry Roncolato does not want to renew as deployed and very busy.

#### **SYMPOSIUM REPORT**

Not all speakers have RSVP'd but key ones are in. The others will fall in. Have to change a couple and waiting for input from waterfront and VADM Dawson's office. LCDR Fuller is our SNA liaison. International Navies luncheon will change to a Coalition Operations Panel organized by Commodore Nick Harris, RN. Will appeal to a different group and should get a good attendance once promoted. VADM Gunn will coordinate with COMO Harris. VADM Balisle will help us better with NAVSEA. RADM Ulrich and VADM LaFleur are scheduled to do retired flag briefing together. Hopefully Ulrich will take lead. Pushing LCS.

#### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

Down slightly on new membership. POCs are to start working on Chapter Excellence package.

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Revenue is pretty much where we should be. However, SNA is 33% down on individual dues. Will under execute regional events - good investment, offsite - second board meeting here saved a lot of money. Surface Warfare purchase of mailing and 1 more issue this year. Table top books postage and mailing to ROTC units, carry over from 2002. Added adjustment to corpus. Done 3 times this year, Arleigh Burke video, Gravely donation to USNI, and investment into memorabilia. Revolving fund on memorabilia. 1 more mailing on SITREP in this year. Should break even at end of year. Need to look at demographics of new memberships. Smallest number of new members per year. Recognize all revenue in first year for multi-year memberships. Will look at new allocation of resources for net proceeds for symposium. Washington Chapter netted \$30,000 they make a lot of money that is not being used. Right now they get 20%, 15% scholarship and rest to us. End up come close to break even for budget.

#### **PUBLIC RELATIONS COUNCIL**

Have some people helping from Lockheed. Send out postcard early December to press to advise about symposium and invite them. Later that month send out letter to invite corporate players to a special reception to see who will be active in Council. RADM Retz will do a short intro and VADM Gunn will also speak. We would like to get someone in uniform to say 2 or 3 minutes to talk about the importance of public relations. RADM Chesbrough will mention to RADM Ulrich to see what he suggests. Hope to get about 10 people at end. Then in February or March have a follow on meeting to roll up sleeves and get some work done.

#### **COAST GUARD AFFILIATION.**

Still working on affiliation with senior coast guard Officer who is the head of District 11.

With no further business meeting was adjourned to Executive Session.