

2016 Nimitz Association History

Wednesday, 24 August 2016: President Wood commenced Executive/Full Board meeting to discuss the Agenda for Thursday's All Hands and Membership Business meeting.

Thursday, 25 August 2016

President Wood opened All Hands meeting and welcomed members, spouses and guests. Introductions were conducted and first time attendees were recognized. We had 27 members and 19 guests attending. Additionally, we had three members and show up and three guests who became members at the reunion.

Reunion Activities Updates and Schedule was presented by Joe and Bea Brunner, Reunion Host/Hostess and Coordinators.

President Wood updated all on our Social Media outreach, Audit of the Association Books and selection for the 2019 reunion site. Nominations were taken for the 2019 reunion site and Everret Washington (Bruce Maas), Austin Texas (Don Moreland), and Biloxi, Mississippi (Bill Paschall) were nominated. Those making the nominations would be the coordinator of the site. Biloxi, MS was selected as the 2019 Reunion Site

The membership business meeting commenced and the women were excused to meet with Dottie Wilder (Spousal Advocate) to conduct their meeting/activities.

President Wood made a motion that the 2015 minutes be approved; they were seconded and approved unanimously.

President Wood and his wife Carol along with Secretary/Treasurer Ed Deats attended this year's Tailhook Convention (9/7 – 9/10 2016) in Reno/Sparks Nevada. Our representation at the Convention continues to be well received. This year we had four new members sign up with the Association. Please remember it is every member's responsibility to recruit new members to the association

President Wood also made a return trip to Hanover Highlands School on Veterans Day to give a presentation to all of the 5th and 6th graders. He talked about the Navy, and since it happened to coincide with the first ever National U.S. Navy Aircraft Carrier Month, he just had to talk at length about the USS Nimitz. The kids were awesome; very attentive and asked some great questions after the slide show. I would once again encourage all members to look for any opportunity to share your naval experiences with the younger generations.

President Wood was fortunate enough to be invited to the commissioning of the USS Illinois, SSN786, in Groton, CT at the end of October. He managed to drag John Wilder, who is the past Sec/Tres of the association and current webmaster along with myself and although it was cold; it was a great experience to see the commissioning ceremony. Michele Obama was present and hence, security was also heavily represented as well. They got a chance to chat with VADM Richard Breckenridge, deputy commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command.

David Scott volunteered to become the new membership Committee Chair. Memorabilia and Audit Chairs are still open.

VP/PAO/ Newsletter Editor Rich Galecki updated the membership on the newsletter. The use of Constant Contact to send out our Newsletter has saved the Association about \$1,000 a year in postage and printing costs. This does not include the time and labor Rich puts in to mail out the Newsletter.

Secretary/Treasurer Ed Deats updated the membership on the Association's Financials (current balance \$9,786.35), the new web site (up and running with no problems and no hacks) and recruiting (returned members (47), new members (5) new Life members (15) as of July 31, 2016. President Wood made a motion nomination to accept the financials as they stand. It was seconded and approved unanimously.

Tim Gildea – Scholarship Chair discussed the candidates (9) for this year's scholarship. Our winner of the 2016 Scholarship was Noah Paulson and his sponsor was Phillip Paulson

Bruce Maas updated the membership on the status of the "Great Ship Nimitz"

President, Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer positions were all up for election. Joe Brunner made a motion that all current Officer's be re-nominated to fill their current positions. The motion was seconded and all nominees were re-elected.

Discussion was held on providing a Life Membership to a member that has provided services to the Association above and beyond. There was discussion that the Board of Directors would take recommendations and make a decision on the merits. Ray Bigelow was awarded a Life Membership for his outstanding service to the Association.

Friday 26 August 2016

The Business/Voting meeting was conducted and all business was settled.

Saturday 27 August 2016

All members and guest participated in a tour of the USS Vinson arranged by Peter Hunt. Saturday evening our Banquet was held commencing with a Cocktail Reception and Group Pictures President Wood welcomed everyone to the Reunion Banquet. He led the attendees in The Pledge of Allegiance. Per the Association's tradition, he presented an Appreciation Plaque to the Crown Plaza Hotel. We had 33 members and 17 guests in attendance. Peter Hunt was thanked and given a round of applause for arranging our tour of the USS Vinson. Peter also graciously stepped up to be our guest speaker on short notice and did a resounding job!

Joe and Bea Brunner were thanked for hosting and coordinating the 19th Annual Reunion. Dottie Wilder (Spousal Advocate) presented Bea Brunner with a bouquet of flowers.

Dinner commence with the "Two Bell Ceremony" conducted by Father Peter Norris (Association Chaplain) and Rich Galecki (VP/PAO). Father Peter then gave the Invocation.

Frank Reusche, David Scott and Bill Murphy were given a Bravo Zulu for assisting with a member's wife medical issue during the tour of the Vinson.

Captain Ring (Commanding Officer USS Nimitz) provide the Association with an update video. As the banquet ended, Father Peter Norris conducted the Benediction. President Wood closed this year's Reunion and we look forward to next year's reunion in Norfolk, Virginia, September 13 – 17 2017 at the Marriott Waterfront Hotel.