

GAMEWARDENS OF VIETNAM ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

P.O. Box 5523

Virginia Beach, Virginia 23455

No. 10

NEWSLETTER

February 1973

LETTER FROM THE ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT:

As you may know, four years ago a group of former River Patrol Force personnel gathered in Norfolk to establish a permanent organization which would perpetuate our "Brown Water Navy".

Our articles of incorporation under the laws of the State of Virginia set forth our purposes as follows:

1. To perpetuate the name of the Naval Task Force in Vietnam known as "Operation Gamewarden".
2. To continue those friendships commenced in Vietnam by those personnel who served in Task Force 116 known as "Operation Gamewarden".
3. To foster the security of our nation by supporting all measures calculated to strengthen the Armed Forces of the United States and to support the Constitution of the United States of America.
4. To rever~~e~~ the memories of our shipmates who sacrificed their lives in Vietnam.
5. To form such benevolent associations and promote such charitable projects as the Corporation may deem worthy including, but not limited to, sponsorship of funds for assistance of the members and families of the members of this association such as scholarship funds and similar projects.
6. To promote reunions and recreational gatherings for the enjoyment of the members of this corporation.
7. To engage in any other activity not inconsistent with the general aim of promoting the welfare and enjoyment of the members of this association and their families.

The growth of the organization has been slow but steady. We now have 31 Life Members plus 91 current members with dues paid. We have held annual picnic type reunions in the Norfolk area and publish a Newsletter. We are now planning an evening dinner-dance reunion for 7 JULY 1973 and for a National Convention in 1978.

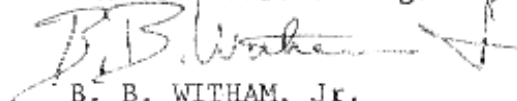
We hope to establish Chapters of the Association at locations other than Norfolk. In San Diego and Great Lakes this is being started now. There are others interested but they need help in the form of members, guidance and support.

The strength of any organization lies in its membership, and this is my reason for writing to you. We need your assistance in furthering our aims and purposes. First of all by your membership and continued interest in the Association. Secondly, by passing the word to others of our existence; recruiting as it were.

The River Patrol Force is no more; and, as the years pass, those who served will become a fairly small and exclusive group, similar to the old " Battleship Association". I personally feel it would be regrettable if we do not retain some form of association, if for no other reason than to revere those who did not return.

Please let me hear from you.

Warmest Personal Regards,



B. B. WITHAM, Jr.  
Captain, U.S. Navy  
President

LETTER FROM SECRETARY/TREASURER/EDITOR:

Greetings. Hope you and your family had a happy holiday season. Current members, we need your VOTE. (See Page 3). These items have been approved by the Board of Directors and need a vote of the membership.

The Long Beach Reunion didn't materialize due to a general lack of interest. Our thanks go out to BMI and Mrs. Mort MELOE for their efforts. We hope you all will continue to represent the Gamewardens in Long Beach.

LCDR Norm HOWELL is trying to get a WEST COAST/CALIFORNIA Reunion going. Please support him. (See note below).

Our BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS are scheduled monthly-next one is Wednesday, 21 March 1973 at Freddy's Restaurant on Little Creek Road in Norfolk, Virginia. Any interested member is welcome.

In accordance with our Articles of Incorporation, ALL ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIPS HAVE BEEN CHANGED TO CLASS #1 MEMBERSHIPS. New Membership Certificates will be issued.

We intend to publish a complete membership mailing list approximately once a year.

JOHN C. WILLIAMS, YNCS, USN

CALIFORNIA/WEST COAST REUNION: Anyone interested in a California/West Coast Reunion in Lemoore/Fresno areas in JUNE/JULY 1973 contact: LCDR Norm HOWELL, P.O. Box 732, Coronado, CA. 92118. Phone: (714) 437-7567 or (714) 435-1135 (AUTOVON: 951-7567)

AREA REPRESENTATIVES: (See them and get something going in your area)

Norfolk	YNCS John C. WILLIAMS	Phone: 464-8173
San Diego	LCDR Norm HOWELL	Phone: 437-7567/435-1135
Monterey	LCDR Roy E. ADAIR, Jr.	25395 Outlook Dr., Carmel, CA 93921
Long Beach	BMI Morten E. MELOE	2104 Arlington St. 90810 427-2183
Lemoore	SMC A.A.MCCLAIN, Jr.	166 Skyhawk Ave, NAS
Treasure Is. ETC	Thomas G. SCHMIDT	ET"B" School, Student
Vallejo	LCDR Paul E. GUAY	123 Dartmouth Pl, Benicia, CA 94510
Orlando	TMI Robert L. CLARK	NTC
Mayport	BMC P. J. KANE	Box L, NAVSTA, Service Craft
Pensacola	ABHC D. W. STRINGER	3055 Bent Oak
Jacksonville	ABHC Leroy B. COBB	5022 Oakside Dr.
Charleston	TMC Don C. SPURGEON	10 Webster St. 29407
Newport	BMC Raymond G. SNOW	USNB Bldg 360, Rm 105
Hawaii	QMC Milton B. LARKIN, Jr.	1945B Dickson Circle, Honolulu 96818
Guam	WO1 Ray VAN DER MEER	?
Great Lakes	LTJG Chester B. SMITH	1958A Lexington Ave, GLAKES 60088
Ethopia	CWO2 Frank B. SPATT	COMMSTA
Philadelphia	ENCS C. W. BALENTINE, Ret	3684 Deepwater Ln, Brookhaven, PA
GTMO	LT W. P. SCHULTZ	VTG Box 55E
Pax River	AEL David J. STOCKLEY	VQ-4, NAS
Fallon, NV	GMCS E. B. CANBY, Jr.	
London	LCDR R. L. POPP	Staff NAVEUR, Box 8

OLD NEWSLETTERS: Just drop a line to your Secretary if you need copies of any of our old newsletters.

ATTENTION ALL FORMER RIVER PATROL FORCE (TF-116) PERSONNEL  
(OPERATION GAMEWARDEN)

REUNION (SIXTH ANNUAL)

SATURDAY, JULY 7TH, 1973

FLEET PARK SOCIAL CENTER, NORFOLK, VA.  
(HAMPTON BLVD NEAR DES SUB PIERS)

1900-2000 - Cocktails (no personal bottles allowed).  
2000-2400 - Dinner and Dance.  
2400-0100 - Coffee.

(Buffet Dinner: Ham/Turkey/Chicken/Roast Beef,etc.)

Purpose: Fellowship and Association Business(revision of Bylaws/Incorporation  
Papers)

\$5.00 EACH advance reservation needed  
(Deadline: July 1st, 1973) (WIVES INVITED)

For additional details or advance reservations contact:

YNCS John C. WILLIAMS, USN  
Gamewardens of Vietnam Assn Inc.  
P.O. Box 5523  
Virginia Beach, VA. 23455

Phone: (703) 464-8173  
AUTOVON: 680-8173

\*\*\*\*\*POSSIBLE FREE AIR TRANSPORTATION  
FOR EAST COAST\*\*\*\*\*

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$~~READ~~ THE WORD\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

FILL OUT, DETACH AND RETURN TO US TO CONFIRM ADVANCE RESERVATIONS:

I WILL attend the Sixth Annual GAMEWARDEN Reunion on Saturday,  
July 7th, 1973. Here is my Advance Reservation Fee of \$5.00 EACH.  
TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ . WIVES ARE INVITED

DEADLINE:  
1 JULY 1973

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(ZIP)

NEW SUBJECT - CURRENT MEMBERS, WE NEED YOUR VOTE. These items have been  
approved by the Board of Directors. Please detach and return to your  
Secretary by 1 APRIL 1973:

I hereby cast my vote on the following matters:

Confirm CAPT B. B. WITHAM, Jr. as President YES/NO \_\_\_\_\_  
Confirm LCDR E. L. SCHNEIDER as Board Member \_\_\_\_\_  
Confirm RADM N.G. WARD as Honorary Assn Member \_\_\_\_\_

DEADLINE:  
1 APRIL 1973

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

FINANCIAL REPORT: (as of 3/14/73)

Balance as of 9/22/72: \$1,156.22

RECEIPTS:

34 Renewals @ \$2.00	\$68.00	
10 New Memberships @\$2.00	\$20.00	
3 New Memberships (various)	\$11.50	
8 Life Memberships @ \$25.00	\$200.00	
1 Small Craft Insignia	\$4.50	
	<u>\$304.00</u>	\$304.00

DISBURSEMENTS:

#138 FINESTONE-Insignia	\$6.92	
#139 WILLIAMS-Postage (#9)	\$62.18	
#140 Envelope Manufac.	\$22.62	
#141 WILLIAMS-Insignia	\$3.60	
#142 CONROY-Bond for Treasurer	\$23.00	
#143 Treasurer of VA-Corp fee	\$5.00	
#144 Lawyer Fees	\$35.00	
	<u>\$158.32</u>	\$158.32

BALANCE AS OF 3/14/73: \$1,301.90

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<u>MEMBERSHIP RECAP:</u>	LIFE	32	71-72	24
	75-76	1	70-71	82
	74-75	4	69-70	59
	73-74	13	68-69	29
	72-73	77	<u>TOTAL:</u>	<u>321</u>

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NEW MEMBERS: Congratulations to all new members. Your Membership Certificate should accompany this Newsletter. A complete listing of members will appear in the next Newsletter (#11 - June 1973).

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OFFICERS OF OUR ASSOCIATION:

President:	CAPT B. B. WITHAM, Jr., USN
Vice President (East Coast)	LT C. J. CLIFTON, USN(Ret)
Vice President (West Coast)	LCDR Norman B. HOWELL
Secretary/Treasurer:	YNCS John C. WILLIAMS

Board Members:	LCDR Edward L. SCHNEIDER
	QMCS(SS) C. G. COOPER
	LCDR Richard H. COUPE
	QMCS Hendrix E. RAWL
	BMC Basil J. FRI, USN(Ret)
	LCDR Paul E. GUAY
	CDR Allen E. WESELESKEY

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Copies of Bylaws and Incorporation for GAMEWARDENS OF VIETNAM ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED may be obtained from your Secretary at any time. Just drop him a line.

