

Game Wardens of Vietnam – Mid-Atlantic Chapter

GWVN MID ATLANTIC CHAPTER, MINUTES FOR THE 11/17/07 MEETING:

There were (17) members of the GWVN Mid Atlantic Chapter present at the meeting. In no particular order we were: Tom Glickman, Gary Grahan, Don Steigel, Craig Vanderhoef, Milt Larkin, Gary Marker, Vaughn Schuler, Wes(AKA "Santa")Weseleskey, Fred Olds, Jerry Gandy, Bill Ferguson, Clarence Cooper, Al DeRoco, Jim Horvath, Pat Doyle, Larry Weatherall and A. Billy Rat, Jr..

The meeting kicked off with the "Pledge of Allegiance"

The following meeting agenda items were covered:

1. The latest information on GWVN Mid Atlantic Chapter VESTS:

Retired Chief Steve Herring brought a sample of the VESTS that he will produce for anyone who wants (or needs) one. You can see the vests below. For anyone who wants to order a vest, these are the particulars:



Steve Herring & Pat Doyle



Cost: \$80 for L, XL or XXL, including your FIRST NAME embroidered on the front and the GWVN Logo and "Mid Atlantic Chapter" wording on the back.

Extras include a front pocket for an additional \$5.00. Delivery time is 4 to 5 weeks from receipt of order. Orders can be placed directly through Steve's company at:

Steve Herring, Vel Tye LLC. Web Site: www.veltye.com
Phones: 757-318-7240, 757-343-1329 or 888-769-2842
Email address: veltye1@verizon.net

NOTE: If other chapters would like to place orders, there would be a one time set up fee to make the change to a different chapter name. Contact Steve directly for more info.

2. A Mid Atlantic Chapter Banner (to use for parades and other gatherings of Veterans Groups). Pat Doyle will have the banner for the NEXT meeting.

3. MISSING CHAPTER MEMBERS: NONE! All Mid Atlantic Chapter Members on the Email Distribution list are now active and I am not getting any emails kicked back. The Mid Atlantic Chapter Email Distribution List is currently at 87 people.

4. 2008 GWVN National Reunion:

Coop advises that the Holiday Inn Executive Center on HWY 264, at the Newtown Rd. exit, is there the reunion will be headquartered. The dates are July 16th through July 20th. The event will

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be coordinated through a professional Reunion Management Co. and more details will be out to the membership as the plans are firmed up. Larry Bissonnette has placed preliminary info on the GWVN web site at: www.tf116.org.

5. Mid Atlantic Chapter Shirts:

Pat Doyle delivered all but (6) of the new shirts that were ordered and is going to mail a couple of those. If you ordered a shirt and haven't picked it up, contact Pat at pdoyle44@cox.net and work out the details with him.

FYI, the new GOLD lettering really shows up nice on the dark grey fabric!

6. 25th Anniversary of Vietnam Memorial in D.C.:

Vaughn Shuler and Coop attended the 25th anniversary of the Vietnam Memorial in D.C.. Vaughn reported that one of the most memorable things that he saw was a LIVE, posed, recreation of the "Three Servicemen" statue by a Vietnamese group.



Coop

7. Direction Signs to GWVN Memorial and MK I PBR at Little Creek:

Coop is going to check with Herb Stephan to see how we could go about getting some directional signs for the GWVN Memorial and MK I PBR placed at Little Creek.

People from out of town often say that they can't find the site and we would like to publicize it a little better.

8. Bill Ferguson had his latest book signing at "PAGE AFTER PAGE" BOOK STORE in Elizabeth City, NC, 13-1500, on Sat, 10 Nov.

The book store is across the street from Waterfront Park downtown. Bill's book, "LAUGHTER ON THE RIVERS OF DEATH" did very well recently at the Barnes & Noble bookstore near Pembroke Mall. Bill reported that during a recent signing he was able to direct an interested family to the GWVN Memorial and MK I PBR at Little Creek.

Bill also reports that his book is available through the GWVN web site and profits from those sales are going back to the organization.

9. CMDCM Norm Giroux advises US Postal Service Announces Holiday Deadlines:

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In order to get holiday gifts to deployed service members by Dec. 25, mailers should heed the U.S. Postal Service's suggested deadlines. Parcel post packages to deployed troops and those living on overseas installations should be sent by Nov. 13. Customers missing the parcel post deadline have the following options:

- Space-Available Mail (SAM)** — Nov. 27;
- Parcel Airlift Mail (PAL)** — Dec. 4 (except for ZIP codes starting with 093, which is Dec. 1); Priority Mail and first-class letters and cards — Dec. 11 (093 ZIP codes: Dec. 4);
- Express Mail Military Services** — Dec. 18 (not available to 093 ZIP codes).

Parcel post packages sent to arrive by the start of Hanukkah at sundown Dec. 4 should be mailed by Oct. 23. For other Hanukkah mailings, subtract 21 days from the deadlines listed above. To check mailing costs, visit <http://www.usps.com>, click on “calculate postage,” then “calculate domestic postage.”

Norm said that he and/or Capt. Jordan would like to do a “Current Status” update on the RIVRON groups for us at the next chapter meeting. More to follow on this as the next meeting gets closer.

Norm also advises that he is still getting congratulatory emails from around the fleet regarding the GWVN Leadership Excellence Awards that were held in September.

10. USS J.E. WILLIAMS update:

Hopefully everyone noticed that the USS TRUMAN Carrier Group headed out last week. This means that the USS Enterprise Carrier Group will be headed back before too long and we WILL get the info on when the USS Williams is due back so we can have some Black Berets on the pier when they pull in. Tentatively that will be on or about Dec. 19th.

The USS Williams FAMGRAM has been distributed and we had a printed copy to review at the meeting. The electronic file version is roughly 1 MB in size and needs Adobe Acrobat to view. The general consensus at the meeting was that I should just go ahead and send it, separately from the meeting minutes, so that is the big file that will be coming at you all after this one.

I apologize ahead of time for the download time that people with “dial up” connections will experience. In order to view the file, you'll also have to have Adobe Acrobat Reader installed on your computer. If you don't have a copy, you can get it for FREE by going to <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>.



CMDCM Norm Giroux

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It's a GREAT communication from the ship to the families and is well worth the wait for the download (my opinion only of course...).

11. Gary Marker presented the Mid Atlantic Chapter Treasurers Report:

The chapter is SOLVENT and we currently have a balance of \$1,935. in the checking account. Gary will do another update to account for the recent shirt sales for the next meeting.

12. Pat Doyle presented the Ship's Store Report:

The total current value of items on hand = \$3,420.70. Pat will adjust to show the changes due to the distribution of the shirts at the meeting today and do another update at the next meeting.

By the way, with the cold weather on the way, wouldn't a nice new GWVN Mid Atlantic Chapter SWEATSHIRT make a nice CHRISTMAS PRESENT??? You ALL know how nice a new sweatshirt feels! We've still got some on hand to contact Pat to arrange delivery in time for Christmas, or even Thanksgiving!

13. NEXT MEETING Date and Location:

The next meeting of the GWVN Mid Atlantic Chapter will be on Saturday, February 16, from 1:00 to 3:00 and will be held at the VFW Hall in Virginia Beach.

The last meeting of the year is when we typically chose the location for our next "Out Of Area Meeting" but because of the upcoming National Reunion, we decided NOT to go out of the area for our next meeting.

This topic can be taken up again after the National Reunion and if you have a suggestion for a location outside of the Norfolk/Virginia Beach area, please let Jerry Gandy know. Possible locations from earlier discussions included: RICHMOND, CHARLOTTESVILLE, FREDRICKSBURG, WASHINGTON D.C.. Keep in mind that someone LOCAL to the area would have to make the arrangements and be the host.

14. 2008 Chapter Elections:

Per our guidelines, election of Chapter Officers is scheduled for the Spring meeting of 2008.

All elected positions will be up for election or re-election including:

1. President Currently Larry Weatherall
2. Vice President Currently Jerry Gandy



Bill Ferguson

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3. Secretary Currently Clarence Cooper
4. Treasurer Currently Gary Marker
5. Supply Officer Currently Pat Doyle

We had a pretty good discussion on the subject and up to this point, no one but Jerry Gandy has accepted a nomination to replace me as President. Jerry has indicated that he is willing to accept the nomination and fill the office for the next term so unless anyone else in the Chapter is interested in being nominated and a vote being held, Jerry will be the next President.

At today's meeting, we also discussed the other open positions and:

- Jerry said that if he is going to be President, he would like to have Gary Marker as VP and Gary said he would be willing to fill that position. [That would leave the Treasurer position open.](#)
- If anyone is interested in being nominated for the position of Treasurer please contact Jerry Gandy at: jgandy2959@aol.com.
- Coop said he would be willing to stay on as Secretary
- Pat Doyle said he would be willing to stay on as Supply Officer

Jerry will be taking up the question of the BOD Membership in the near future and he will be communicating with the Chapter Membership on those changes.

It's been an honor and a privilege to serve as President of the GWVN Mid Atlantic Chapter for the past few years. Jerry and I will be working closely to make sure that the transition is seamless.

Please make plans to attend the next meeting on February 16 if at all possible and as always, if there are any "pet projects" that the membership would like to see the Chapter involved in, PLEASE make your voice(s) heard!



The Group!

Larry Weatherall

President, GWVN Mid Atlantic Chapter
lweatherall@cox.net