

Minutes to GWVN Mid-Atlantic Chapter Saturday, 08/27/05

C&M Cafeteria (Giant Square Shopping Cntr) – 737 Independence Blv. – Virginia Beach, VA 23455 757-499-9744

Clarence Cooper had arranged with the cafeteria to use their banquet room without charge and all in all, it was a good location for the meeting.

Prior to Lunch at 12:00 noon and the General Meeting from 1:00 to 2:00, the GWVN Mid Atlantic Chapter Board of Directors (BOD) met from 11:00 to 12:00 and covered the following items:

The BOD is made up of the following chapter members:

1. Newell Butts (unable to attend meeting)
2. Clarence Cooper In attendance
3. Pat Doyle In attendance
4. Jerry Gandy In attendance
5. Milt Larkin In attendance
6. Gary Marker In attendance
7. Ken Meek In attendance
8. Larry Weatherall In attendance

1. Additional Chapter Officers: The question of whether to separate the positions that both Clarence Cooper (Secretary & Treasurer) and Jerry Gandy (Vice President & Supply Officer) had taken on were resolved when Pat Doyle volunteered to take over the Supply Officer position and Gary Marker volunteered to take over as Treasurer.

The Chapter Officers positions are now:

1. President Larry Weatherall
2. Vice President Jerry Gandy
3. Secretary Clarence Cooper
4. Treasurer Gary Marker (new)
5. Supply Officer Pat Doyle (new)

We also discussed additional future positions of Webmaster and Membership Coordinator. Both Pat Doyle and Ken Meek volunteered to investigate possible candidates for Webmaster and will report back to the BOD. These positions will become more important as the Chapter continues to grow and for those of you who have the interest, the talent and the time to help with either of those positions, please let us know!

2. Chapter Meeting: The majority of the members who had expressed an opinion on the subject wanted the Chapter to have quarterly meetings and that was also the opinion of the members of the BOD present at our meeting last Saturday. We discussed timing for the next meeting and the suggestion was made to meet next on Veterans Day, 11/11/05, somewhere near the Veterans Memorial in Virginia Beach. Clarence Cooper is going to investigate appropriate locations and that will be the subject of a future communication.

3. Communications to the Community: We have a notice running in the Virginia Pilot BEACON section and from what we've seen, it is showing up about every two weeks. The same notice is also going out in the SUN, CLIPPER, COMPASS and CURRENTS sections of the paper. Hopefully we'll generate some more interest in contacting the Chapter and joining us in future meetings. When we designate a future meeting as our Annual Reunion, we get the information listed in as many of the local and national Veterans Organization publications as possible.

GENERAL AGENDA ITEMS: 1:00 to 2:00 PM, (17) members indicated they would attend, (14) were present.

1. Our Chapter Charter: The GWVN Mid Atlantic Chapter Charter document was passed around for review.

2. Membership: We currently have (39) people on the email distribution list and Coop sends out hard copies to another (8) people. That has us at (47) GWVN members who are getting the Mid Atlantic Chapter communications and hopefully that will continue to increase as we attract more people.

3. Treasurer's Report: As of the start of the meeting on 08/27/05, the Mid Atlantic Chapter Treasury stood at \$389.68. There were more funds generated by virtue of a raffle and donations during the meeting and we'll have an updated report at the next meeting. We expect to maintain a positive balance.

4. Status of MK I PBR and GWVN Memorial at Little Creek: The construction of the new maintenance facility at NSWG-4 is continuing and the new roadway into the compound is in place. The boat and monument are still in secure storage and the best timing that we currently have for their rededication is sometime in the Spring of 2006. When I get a better date, I will get the information out to all of you.

5. Status of West Coast PBR's moved to Bellingham: The MK II PBR's that belong to GWVN and The Naval Historical Center which had been in the San Diego area have been moved to the old UNIFLITE site in Bellingham, WA in conjunction with the Bellingham International Maritime Museum (BIMM) for safe storage and possible refurbishment. Check out both the GWVN Web site at www.tf116.org and at the BIMM web site at www.bimmus.org for the latest updates.

6. Ships Store Activities: Jerry Gandy has been VERY active in gathering items for the Mid Atlantic Chapter to sell in order to generate funds. Larry Bissonnette, the GWVN National Webmaster and Supply Officer has sent a "starter kit" with t-shirts, polo shirts, hats, license plate frames, etc. to kick start Jerry's efforts. Jerry has also investigated a Mid Atlantic Chapter Logo and presented it to the members at our meeting on Saturday. There was much discussion about expending Chapter funds on having shirts made with the logo and it was decided that we will proceed and when all the details are worked out and we have examples that can be shown, more information will be distributed. Two of the members present have offered to help offset the initial outlay of funds in order to jump start the process and I'd like to thank Gary Marker and Ken Meek for their support and vision in helping get things kicked off.

7. GWVN 2006 National Reunion Update: The GWVN National reunion will be in Denver, Colorado next year. Detailed info is available on the GWVN web site at www.tf116.org and will also be published in the GWVN newsletter next year.

8. NSWG-4 Point Of Contact changing: The person we have been dealing with at Little Creek is changing Duty Stations in September and his replacement will not be on site until sometime in October. Our current POC will have all the information relating to the MK I and GWVN Monument waiting for our new POC and I'll be in touch with him as soon as he is on site.

9. Next Meeting of GWVN Mid Atlantic Chapter: Everyone present agreed that Veterans Day, 11/11/05, should be when we hold our next meeting. Coop has arranged for us to meet at an "Old Country Buffet" from 12:00 till 2:00 on 11/11 and we'll have more info out as we get closer to the date. Coop will work in a visit to the Virginia Beach Veterans Memorial (I hope that is the proper name) after our meeting and he will also provide information on what would be required for us to add a plaque at the memorial.

10. Fund Raiser Raffle: A "Lonesome PBR" CD by "Dub" Williams and "River Rats" book by Ralph Christopher were raffled off. The lucky winners know who they are but I'm sorry to say that I've forgotten! Jerry Gandy has received additional "Lonesome PBR" CD's and they will be used in later meetings.

11. National GWVN Charter Renewal: GWVN Mid Atlantic Chapter will arrange to reimburse John Williams for the latest annual renewal of the GWVN National Charter Renewal. This subject will be brought up at the GWVN National Reunion in 2006.

12. Communications to the Local Communities: We passed around clippings from the Virginia Pilot BEACON section showing the type of notice being distributed.

A "Get Well Soon" card was passed around and signed for John Woody. We all wish him a full and speedy recovery and are looking forward to seeing him in Denver.

Thanks to all of you who were in attendance and we hope to see more of you at the next meeting in November.

Larry Weatherall

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President - GWVN Mid Atlantic Chapter