

# NAVY DIVERS, HCU-1 and SUPPORT PERSONNEL NEWSLETTER

*March 14, 2010*



## EDITOR'S CORNER

Well, I don't seem to keep my promises very well getting these newsletters out as promised. Nuff said about that. So, I'll just get into it.

I will be posting a registration form on the website in the next couple of days. It would help me out tremendously if you would complete the form (as best you can) and either fax, mail or email to me.

## NEWS of INTEREST

Received some GREAT news!! The **2010 Divers Working Group will again be meeting in San Diego May 04 – 06**. I have not yet heard whether or not they will allow some of us to attend any of the briefings, but will try and find out this week and get the word to all of you via one of my "famous" emails -- only this time it will be GOOD news.

However, all the attendees are welcome to stay at the Handlery for \$98 a night and attend both our Monday evening "Get Reacquainted" reception and our bi-annual buffet and "Auction".

Of course, everyone is always welcome to our strictly "Honor System" Hospitality Suite.

## KEEPING in TOUCH

**THIS IS IMPORTANT** -- For those of you that do move around and do change your email address, please send me a quick update and let me know your new email address.

If I don't hear from you, I cannot upgrade your new email address on my distribution list and you **JUST DO NOT GET THE NEWS**.

For those of you to whom I will be sending this out via snail mail and you **DO HAVE** an email address, please let me know what your email address is so I can include you in the mailings I send out occasionally.

To all of you out there who receive this newsletter via email, please give me a hand and disseminate to your buds and fellow divers. If you are one of the ones who receive this newsletter from a friend, please send me your email address so you can get your own copy.

## **2010 REUNION -- ALREADY COMMITTED**

Rick Armstrong  
Frank "Tex" & Sandra Atkinson  
Ray Augustin  
David "Doc" & Ceil Ball  
Al & Sue Beebe  
Ralph Bowdish

Bill Boyce  
 Mike Cattolico  
 Bob Cave  
 Eric Christensen  
 J.J. Duran  
 J.J. Goodwin  
 Chuck & Sparkles Gross  
 Chuck "Doc" Hardy  
 Mike Heiny  
 Thomas Hodgins  
 Bill Loudermilk  
 Fernando & Sarah Lugo  
 Dennis McKnight  
 Joe & Mary Medina  
 Harry "Bud" "Doc" Mills  
 Bobby & Becky Moore  
 Jon & Ched Nelson  
 Dave & Sue Peterson  
 George Power  
 Juan Ramos  
 Kenneth Santucci  
 Richard Sherley  
 Bill Stephenson  
 Larry "Doc" & Shirley Stokes  
 TJ & Vy Trujillo  
 Don "Dino" Vester  
 Jon Walter  
 Mert Weltzien

Sorry if I missed anyone, but I took these names off the Handlery's Group Roster and threw in names of people who have indicated they will be attending, but have not yet made their reservations. I also inserted names of those local San Diegans I have a very good idea will be attending..

## The location for the 2010 9<sup>th</sup> Bi-annual Navy Diver's / HCU-1 / Support Personnel Reunion

**IT'S TIME TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS -- OUR ROOM BLOCK OFFER EXPIRES APRIL 2, 2010 -- CANNOT GUARANTEE OUR \$98 PER NIGHT RATE AFTER THAT**

**SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA  
 HANDLERY HOTEL & RESORT  
 MAY 2 - 6, 2010**

[www.handlery.com/](http://www.handlery.com/)

There is no charge to attend the reunion. You only have to pay for whatever you drink or eat in the Hospitality Suite and for the Monday and Wednesday night events that you

attend. If you don't attend, you don't pay...but you also won't know what is going on.

### ROOM RATES

The room rates for Sunday through Thursday are **\$98** per night (plus 12.5% tax). The rates are good for three days before and after the reunion.

### RESERVATIONS

**I put out some bad telephone numbers in the last newsletter and on the website. I have corrected all the phone numbers so the phone numbers below are good and the numbers for reservations on the website are good also.**

You can call Group Reservations at **619-298-0511** or toll free at **1-800-676-6567** between the hours of 6:00 A.M. and 12:00 Midnight Pacific Daylight Time (PDT) and reference the promo code **NAVY** and the Group: **NAVY DIVERS REUNION**.

You will need to give them your credit card number to guarantee your reservations. The Handlery accepts Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover, and most other major credit cards.

On a side-note -- The Handlery reopened last week after having been closed for three months to completely renovate their property. It is beautiful. This property is a private family held property, So we are getting a piece of prime property in San Diego for our use for a week for a very low price.

Go to [Untitled Document](#) for information on the reunion as well as pictures of the Hospitality Suite. I really don't understand why this shows up as "Untitled Document", but trust me...it'll get you there. You're going to love walking out of the Suite directly into the pool or just to sit around the pool soaking up the sun while you're sipping a cool one.

### SCHEDULED EVENTS

We'll run this reunion exactly as we have in the past. We have a hospitality suite where the property allows us to bring in our own beer, wine, liquor, soft drinks, etc. We'll also be bringing in our own snacks, (i.e., pretzels, chips, nuts, etc.).

The hospitality suite, as we have done in the past, will be on the honor system -- if you drink and/or snack, drop some money in the can -- strictly honor system.

**Sunday:** Check-in, complete the registration sign-in sheet. Hospitality suite will be open at 3:00 P.M.

**Monday:** Hospitality Suite will be open all day. Continue check-in for those that didn't yesterday. This is a "free" day. We'll be having a "get acquainted" reception poolside from 5:00 P.M. until 7:00 P.M. with "heavy" hors d'oeuvres.

I don't have a firm price on the hors d'oeuvres yet, but it should be \$16 per head inclusive and will consist of Garden Vegetable Display w/ Dip, Panache of Seasonal Fruit, Assorted Domestic Cheese Display w/ Crackers, Chicken Drumettes, Spanokpita, and Party Mix.

The purpose for this reception is to get everyone together briefly to meet and greet, find out who is attending, and make plans with each other for the rest of the week.

**Tuesday:** Hospitality Suite will be open all day. Free day or possible Golf outing. River walk Gold Club [www.riverwalkgc.com](http://www.riverwalkgc.com) is just across the street. We'll look into this if we see an interest.

Admiral Baker and Miramar MCAS both have courses and are within 20 minutes of the property.

**If anyone is interested in Golf, please let me know ASAP.**

**Wednesday:** Hospitality Suite will be open all day.

Our bi-annual Business Meeting should go off around 9:30 A.M. as we have in the past to discuss our expectations over the next two years, who's going to be in charge, and where we'll hold the next reunion. Please bring your thoughts and information on any topic you would like to discuss.

Tonight we have our banquet. This will be a buffet style sit down meal, as usual. The dinner, although the price is not fixed yet, should be about \$40 per person inclusive

The menu for this year, although not firmed up yet, looks like Three Different Salads, Roast Turkey Breast w/ Apple Chutney, Grilled Salmon w/ Lemon Beurre Blanc, London Broil w/ Cabernet Mushroom Sauce, Herb Roasted Red Potatoes, Penne Pasta Pomodoro w/ Vegetables & Marinara, Vegetables, Coffee, Tea, etc., and Dessert. That's the way it stands right now. I will be meeting with the Property this week and will be able to send out a memo with any additions, deletions or changes.

## **AUCTION AUCTION AUCTION**

The auction will follow the dinner with Larry Stokes as Auctioneer extraordinaire.

Rick Armstrong CWO-5, Ret is commissioning a piece of artwork specifically for the reunion and will be donating it for our auction. You can see some of Rick's beautiful work at [www.deepseadiveart.com](http://www.deepseadiveart.com) You can also go to this link on our website under links. If you would like to have Rick commission a design specifically for you go to [deepseadiveart@yahoo.com](mailto:deepseadiveart@yahoo.com)

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING ITEMS FOR THE AUCTION. REMEMBER -- IF YOU HAVE IT -- LARRY WILL SELL IT!!**

All the money we receive from the auction is used to copy and mail out newsletters (so you know that is much based on the few I put out) and maintain the website. That's about it. I'll give everyone a report on our income and expenses at the Wednesday morning meeting.

**Thursday:** Hospitality Suite will be opened until 11:00 A.M. This is check-out day unless you are planning on hanging around for a day or so.

## **RV PARKING**

There is no space for RV parking at the Handlery. However, Admiral Baker has RV Parking and over-nighting [www.mwrtoday.com/Sandiego/lodging.htm](http://www.mwrtoday.com/Sandiego/lodging.htm) . There are others listed on this website.

## **BUSINESS MEETING**

There are several things we will want to discuss at this year's business meeting on Wednesday morning, May 5, 2010. I'd like you to think about the following items we will be discussing:

- Do we want to stay with a reunion every other year or do we want to switch to every year? A lot of our shipmates are moving to the dark side?
- Do we want to try and tag onto the Divers' Working Group Conference and can we?
- Where do we want to hold our next reunion? Think about the cost of flying in and out of. If you have a burning desire to have it in a place you hold dear to your heart, then do some homework and bring the information to the meeting. Information like cost of hotel rooms, parking, airfares in and out, weather for May or June, etc.
- Do we still want to hold the reunions in May or June? If we go to a place that is prone to hurricanes or tornadoes, do we want to slide the dates?

## **HCU-1 WEBSITE HAS BEEN CHANGED**

Also, don't forget to checkout the HCU-1 Website. Jack has posted info on past reunions. You can reach it by going to the Website at:

<http://www.seastory.us/hcu1/>

## **Non-Diver Support Personnel**

### **YOU ARE ALL WELCOME!!**

**A few thoughts about the reunion.** The original reunion was held in Las Vegas in 1994 as the HARBOR CLEARANCE UNIT ONE – VIETNAM reunion. After several reunions the group decided to open the reunions to ALL Navy Divers and support personnel as the number of HCU ONE vets was a finite number that was slowly decreasing. The intention of the current reunion format is to make it possible for shipmates to get together to renew old friendships. There is plenty of opportunity for mini-reunions and the swapping of Sea Stories that get better every year. Attendance is open to ALL NAVY DIVERS, ALL HCU ONE vets, and more importantly ALL SUPPORT PERSONNEL (who made and continue to make

it possible for the diver's to complete their missions), their spouses and friends.

## [NAVY DIVERS ASSOCIATION WEBSITE](#)

Don't forget we have OUR own website now that WE paid for and WE put together and WE maintain. It's OUR website for US. Please support it by visiting YOUR website.

[www.navydivers.net](http://www.navydivers.net)

## [BEST PUBLISHING CO.](#)

I haven't heard from Best yet, but they may want to attend again this year and give us some great deals on their books.

I will send them an email this week inviting them to come and set up a table.

## [PLEASE HELP GET THIS NEWSLETTER OUT](#)

If you have email addresses for shipmates, friends, etc. that you think may be interested in reading this newsletter or may be interested in attending our reunion in May 2010, please pass this along and have them send me their email address so I can send it to them direct when I write these things.

## [CHECKLIST](#)

If you need anything or want to inquire about anything, please contact one of us.

David Ball

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Home: (619) 225-0304 Cell: (619) 733-3804  
Home email: [davidball@cox.net](mailto:davidball@cox.net)

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Home: (443) 262-8335  
Home email: [speterson@chesapeake.net](mailto:speterson@chesapeake.net)

Can't think of a lot more to yak about so I'll call it a day.

That should make it for this time. Hope this finds you all well and hope to see you all in San Diego, CA.

**SEE YOU ALL MAY 02 -06,  
2010 IN SAN DIEGO,  
CALIFORNIA**

**PASS THE WORD TO AS MANY SHIPMATES AS  
POSSIBLE. DON'T ASSUME THAT THEY HAVE  
GOTTEN THE WORD. THEY ARE PROBABLY PART  
OF THE 10% WHO DIDN'T GET THE WORD.**