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# SIGHTINGS

VOLUME 14 ISSUE 2

MAY 2008

## Reunion Venue Offers You Many After-Hours Entertainment Choices in D.C. and Alexandria *(But Have You Registered Yet?)*

With so many activities available in the Washington area, the problem for Navy public affairs alumni attending the Sept. 27-29 reunion will be making tough choices between historic sites, great museums, fine dining, unique shopping or simply hanging out with former shipmates at a sidewalk café.

The reunion hotel in Old Town Alexandria, the recently renovated four-star Hilton, will be a perfect base of operations. For those driving, the hotel is only five to ten minutes from I-495. It's located directly across the street from the King Street Metrorail stop with yellow and blue line trains which go

directly to National Airport, the Smithsonian museums and Mall in Washington, the Pentagon and Arlington Cemetery. To explore Old Town Alexandria, there is a new trolley that runs the length of King Street, from the Hilton down to the Potomac waterfront every 15 minutes from 1000 to 2200 – and it's free!

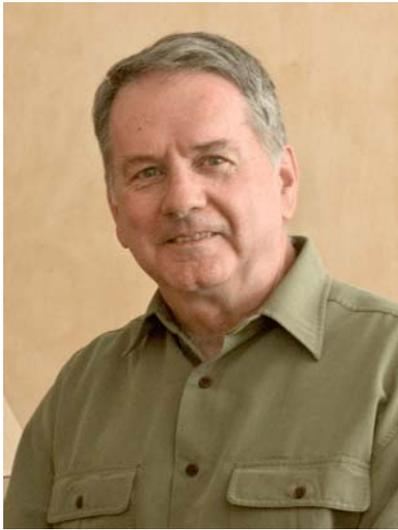
The schedule for the reunion has been designed to give USNPAAA members and guests ample opportunity to take advantage of this easy access, wealth of activities available and the fine Fall weather (we hope). The many options suggested by the reunion committee are listed on **Page 4**.



**Superior Stuffers**—An eager, if not expert envelope-stuffing crew, prepares mail-out registration materials for the 2008 reunion. They are (l to r), Jim Noone, Steve Clawson, Rudy Brewington, Rick Wood (talk show host and friend of Mary), Mary Hanson, Mike Doubleday, Chuck Connor, Jim Mitchell (tongue exposed), and Kevin Wensing (taking the photo). Jim Noone provided the room at The Washington Group for the stuffing stint.

## View from the Bridge

Spring is here and there is a lot of change going on in Mother Nature. We are seeing changes in the USNPAAA too. As I mentioned briefly in the last Sightings, Bill Gengler is the new editor of the Sightings newsletter, and this is his first issue. He is assisted by Tom Coldwell. We thank



Brian Gray for his long tenure as the editor, and Bill brings his own dynamic drive to this publication.

Bill is a retired PAO Captain who served three tours and about ten years in CHINFO and in OASD (Public Affairs) at the Pentagon. He was the Public Information Officer at 6th Naval District in Charleston and the 12th Naval District in San Francisco. He served as Media Relations officer for the U.S. Forces in Japan.

He was also Journalism Department Director at Defense Information School for four years and ended up his Navy career in New Orleans where he served as Naval Reserve PAO. After the Navy Bill worked another 15 years as PAO for the California DMV, Oil Spill Office and the Department of Corrections.

We need your help with any Sightings information and photos you might think members would be interested in. Send your input to Bill by email at [mctravel@mindspring.com](mailto:mctravel@mindspring.com) or by mail to him at 15023 Rio Circle, Rancho Murieta, CA. 95683. We are particularly interested in short, firsthand articles about any experiences you think may be of historical interest to the Navy PA community-active and retired.

At the top of this year's USNPAAA agenda is Reunion XII at the Old Town Alexandria Hilton Hotel, September 27-29. You all received a special mailing. If you have not yet registered for the reunion please do so ASAP. We want to be sure you get the special reduced Reunion room rates at the hotel, and get into the Sunday evening special event. Steve Clawson, Jeff Zakem and Sheila Graham have been working hard to ensure we all have a great time at Reunion XII.

We need volunteers to help Steve. Some of you, including Jim Mitchell, Rudy Brewington, Mary Hanson, Mike Doubleday, Chuck Connor and Kevin Wensing helped assemble our Reunion mailing at Jim Noone's office. Steve needs volunteers to work the Reunion registration desk and be "shift hosts" in the hospitality room. If you can help please e-mail him at [steve.clawson@validuspr.com](mailto:steve.clawson@validuspr.com).

The highlight of Reunion is the USNPAAA salute to RADM Bill and Dorothy Thompson on Sunday evening at the U.S. Navy Memorial in DC. Jim Finkelstein, his son John, Dick Busby and others are working on a special presentation. We expect a big Sunday turnout, and space is limited for this event, so it is another reason to register now for the reunion - don't wait. Use your May tax refund money!

I want to salute the 17 Navy PAO flag officers who have each contributed to a special Thompson Family hosting fund that will allow 13 members of Bill and Dorothy's family to attend this Sunday evening event as our guests. They include RADM: Brent Baker, Dick Becker, "KJ" Braithwaite, Joseph Callo, Jim Finkelstein, Jack Garrow, Nathan Jones, Tom Jurkowsky, "T" McCreary, Kendell Pease, Steve Pietropaoli, Bob Ravitz, Greg Slavonic, Greg Smith, Frank Thorp, Craig Quigley and Richard Wells.

Earlier, it was announced that both CHINFO and the USNPAAA would co-sponsor a Norma B. Connelly Award for outstanding service to the Navy public affairs mission. Norma is a USNPAAA member and the long-time administrative assistant to CHINFO. RADM Frank Thorp (who conceived this award in honor of Norma) recently signed the official CHINFO instruction, while visiting her in Fredericksberg, VA. RADM Jim Finkelstein was there representing our association. See the photo and short article in this Sightings.

Finally, Reunion XII gives us all a chance to visit and reconnect with former shipmates. We know that Jerry and Carolyn Pape will be there, because they have never missed a Reunion. Russ Buffkins will most likely be the oldest attendee. There is a list in this issue of those 40 plus who have registered (by press time) for the Reunion, but I might mention that the Thompson Salute is drawing some folks who we haven't had the chance to see recently, such a RADM. Bruce (and Theresa) Newell, Denny Klauer, RADM Kendell (and Karon) Pease, RADM Craig Quigley, CAPT Bill Stierman, CAPT Deborah Burnette, and

Craig (and Heidi) Whitney.

But Reunion XII is also special since the Monday morning program will include active duty navy public affairs officers from CHINFO and Washington, D.C. commands. This is a chance to meet the present generation who now carry out their PA duties to the best of their ability in difficult times. RADM Frank

Thorp and I hope to have more opportunities for such joint events. The active PA team holds their Worldwide PA/VI Training Symposium in Leesburg, Virginia, June 8-11, and we have been asked to help host the welcome aboard reception again this year.

That's all for now - look forward to seeing you at the Reunion in September.

All the best, **Brent**

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## Remembering Dick McCool, a Good Friend and Medal of Honor Recipient

by *Bill Thompson*

I note with regret that [USNPAAA Life Member] CAPT Dick McCool died this March 5. He was a contemporary, about two years ahead in grade on me.

I was ordered to relieve Dick at the Ninth Naval District in January 1961. But when I reported aboard, Dick's orders were canceled and I essentially worked for him for five months before he departed for COMFIRSTFLT.

Needless to say, we became well acquainted, with me chomping at the bit to take charge, and Dick in a state of frustration with his relief aboard and no orders. But we both kept smiling!

We remained friends since then, based on mutual respect. I admired him for his perseverance and dedication. He was in almost constant pain from wounds he received in 1945 at Leyte Gulf, where he commanded an LCI. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for saving most of his crew and the ship that was struck by Japanese Kamikazi aircraft. Dorothy and I will miss him very much.

*Editor's note: More information concerning his heroism appears on several websites including [www.homeofheros.com](http://www.homeofheros.com). Below is additional information on him and his family.*

CAPT McCool was born in Tishomingo, Oklahoma in 1922. He received a bachelor degree in political science from the University of Oklahoma in

1941. He also attended the Naval Academy, where he graduated in 1944. He then went to command the LCS (L) 122. He received the Medal of Honor from

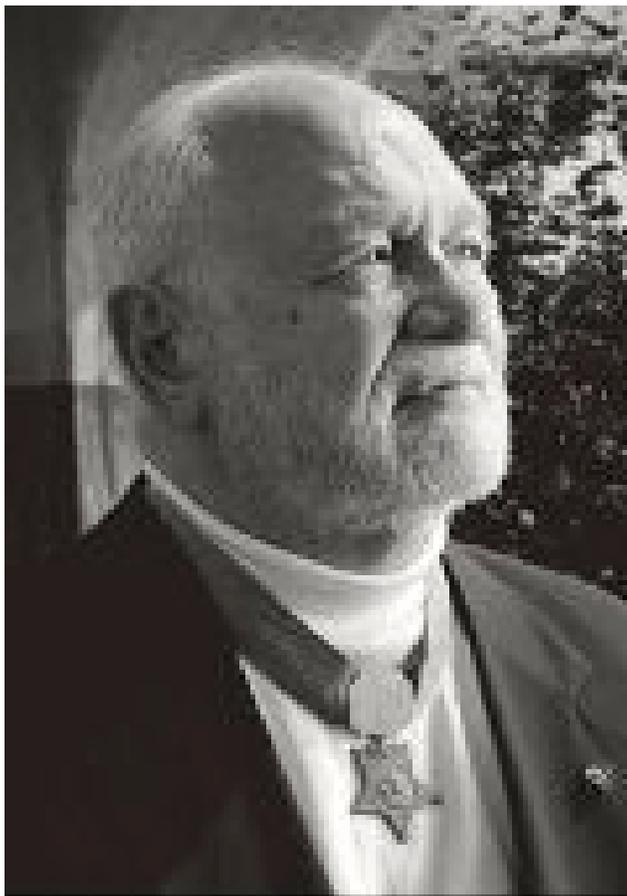
President Truman for his actions on board that ship in June, 1945, when the LCI was struck by a Kamikaze aircraft.

His Medal of Honor citation read, in part: "Although suffering from shrapnel wounds and painful burns, he rallied his concussion-shocked crew and initiated vigorous firefighting measures and then proceeded to the rescue of several trapped in a blazing compartment, subsequently carrying one man to safety despite the excruciating pain of additional severe burns."

It continues, "Unmindful of all personal danger, he continued his efforts without respite until aid arrived from other ships and he was evacuated. By his staunch leadership, capable direction, and indomitable determination throughout the crisis, Lt.

McCool saved the lives of many who otherwise might have perished."

CAPT McCool earned his master's degree in public relations from Boston University in 1955 and served in several public information billets before retiring in 1974. He is survived by Cindy, his wife of 63 years, daughter Carolyn, sons Rick and John, his sister Fran Terry and several grandchildren.



**Reunion-close dinner and entertainment options, Saturday, Sept. 27:**

**Dinner at Gadsby's Tavern, Old Town ([www.gadsbystavernrestaurant.com](http://www.gadsbystavernrestaurant.com))**

Hang out for the likes of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and Jay Coupe since 1770. Now offers fine dining in elegant colonial setting with entrees ranging from Flame-Roasted Whiskey Chicken to Gentleman's Pye (venison, lamb and duck). Two blocks from King Street trolley stop.

**Dinner at the Chart House, Old Town ([www.chart-house.com](http://www.chart-house.com))**

Somewhat more contemporary fare with great seafood plus prime rib, steaks and chicken specialties. Two blocks from King Street overlooking the Potomac.

**Dinner at Hank's Oyster Bar, Old Town ([www.hanksrestaurants.com](http://www.hanksrestaurants.com))**

New branch of a DC favorite bountiful selection of fresh oysters and fish. Walking distance or short trolley ride from Hilton.

**Dinner and dancing at The Carlyle Club ([www.thecarlyleclub.com/index.html](http://www.thecarlyleclub.com/index.html))**

New dinner club run by former manager of the Rainbow Room and Tavern on the Green in New York. Nightly entertainment including jazz and big bands. Located 4-5 blocks from Hilton

**Suggested Sunday activities**

**Sunday brunch at Gadsby's Tavern, Old Town**

Specials include Martha's remedy (coffee & cocoa with brandy) and Sally Lunn Rum-French Toast. Private room can be reserved for interested USNPAAA members and guests

**Golf at Army-Navy Country Club or other course**

Options for those interested to be explored by Jim Finkelstein

**Mt. Vernon guided tour and lunch ([www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org))**

Guided tour of George Washington's home and including Washington's tomb, Pioneer Farmer site

and exhibitions on Washington and Mount Vernon archaeology. Can be followed by a la carte lunch at the Mt. Vernon Inn.

Available 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.; requires car or taxi

**Torpedo Factory Art Center, Old Town Alexandria Waterfront ([www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org))**

More than 8 artists' studios, six cooperative galleries, two workshops, and the Alexandria Archaeology Museum, plus some World War II-era torpedoes and related exhibits. Easily combined with brunch at the adjacent Chart House restaurant. Torpedo Factory is 10-5; brunch is 11-2

**Lunch at new National Harbor Center, Maryland ([www.nationalharbor.com](http://www.nationalharbor.com))**

Go by water taxi from the Old Town waterfront across the Potomac River to the new National Harbor Center for lunch at *Dolce Enoteca e Ristorante* or other establishment. Opening Spring 2008, National Harbor will be the largest, convention center and hotel complex on the East Coast with waterfront condos, offices, various nightspots, and a marina.

**Boating or bicycling in Alexandria**

Kayaking in the Potomac River nature preserve or Potomac sailing, just south of Alexandria. Bicycle rental and tour through Old Town and along the Potomac bike path.

**Navy Museum, Washington Navy Yard ([www.history.navy.mil/branches/nhcorg8.htm](http://www.history.navy.mil/branches/nhcorg8.htm))**

Guided tour of museum and destroyer USS Barry, available 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Requires advance reservations and travel by car, Metrorail or taxi.

**Newseum ([www.newseum.org](http://www.newseum.org))**

Just-opened 250,000 square-foot museum of the news industry offers visitors five centuries of news history through state-of-art technology and hands-on exhibits. Located a few blocks from the Navy Memorial in Washington, DC, making this an ideal activity prior to the Sunday reception and dinner

—*Steve Clawson*, Reunion XII Committee

## USNAAA Reunion XII Attendees—Thus Far

At press time, the following name personnel have signed up to muster on station at Reunion XII.

Brent and Malinda Baker, Ken Beachler, Russell Bufkins and Joan Ingoldsby, Deborah Burnette and guest, Steve Clawson, Tom and Mary Coldwell, Jerry Cleveland, Chuck Connor, Donald and Susan Dvornik, Jim and Kay Finkelstein, Jack Garrow, Bill and Anne Gengler, John Georg, Brian and Nancy Gray, Bill Graves,

Larry and Barbara Hamilton, Paul and Priscilla Hanley, Mary Hanson, John and Ann Hoshko, Denny Klauer, Karen Jeffries, George and Vonnie

Kolbenschlag, Bobby and Carolyn Lincoln, Jim and Lucretia McCain, Jim and Sharon Mitchell, Richard Moore, Bruce and Theresa Newell, Jim and Alice Noone, Linda Padgett, Jerry and Carolyn Pape, Kendell and Karen Pease,

Gordon and Diana Peterson, Craig Quigley, Tim and Penny Siggia, Edward and Rhonda Shackelford, Donna-Grace Schwenter, Ralph and Golden Slawson, Bill and Dorothy Thompson, Craig and Heidi Whitney, Bill Yamanaka, and Jeff and Susan Zakem.

If you are not listed, sign up now; these people are anxious to see you!

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## CHINFO and USNPAAA Establish Award to Honor Norma Connelly

Navy Chief of Information RADM Frank Thorp recently announced establishment of the Norma B. Connelly Public Affairs Service Award. And, he traveled to Norma's home in Fredericksburg to sign the relevant Chinfo Instruction in Norma's presence.

The award is designed to recognize superior performance in support of Navy public affairs programs. Norma Connelly exemplified this superior performance during her 22 years in the CHINFO front office.

RADM Jim Finkelstein represented the USNPAAA, sponsor of the award, at the signing. Also present from the Navy Office of Information were Norma's long time friends, Judy Van Benthuysen and Mary Ruth.

Norma was secretary for the Chief of Information from September 1978 to July 2000. During that time, she was admired for her total commitment to the Navy public affairs community.

With sponsorship by USNPAAA and administration by CHINFO, the Norma B. Connelly Public Service Award will also serve as a bridge between the active duty public affairs community and those who have gone before.

The broad categories of potential recipients allow the community to recognize individuals who are not covered by other awards. The recipient may be uniformed or civilian, and may not directly work in public affairs. Details of the Connelly award are contained in CHINFO Instruction 5305.1.



*Norma Connelly receives award in her Fredericksburg home from RADM Jim Finkelstein, representing the USNPAAA and RADM Frank Thorp, CHINFO.*

## Sea Stories and Other News

### Christmas Greetings from the Viet Cong

*JOCM Kingsley Woodhead reported to the American Forces Radio Station in Saigon early in 1964, where his job was night news manager. As you are most likely aware, AFRS Saigon was the setting of the Robin Williams movie Good Morning, Viet Nam. Woodhead's nightly shift at AFRS began with a six o'clock news report. His partner on that nightly newscast was an Army Sergeant named Don Busser, a very funny guy, who also had a morning show. That show was called, The Dawn Buster Show, and was created by Busser as a play on his name. It was used in the movie to name William's morning show. If remembering the movie brings a smile to your face, how Woodhead spent Christmas Eve in 1964, might be a bit more sobering. His memories are related below:*

On Christmas Eve, 1964, I was in the studio going over my copy a final time, a few minutes before six o'clock air time, when suddenly there was a muffled roar and the station was plunged into darkness. Several seconds of ominous creaks and groans overhead ended with a deafening silence. I sat perfectly still in the blackness, not sure whether I should be scared or not. I felt my way along a wall to the studio door and then down the hallway to the lobby.

The main entrance door in the lobby had a small frosted window that let in just enough light to guide me across the room. As I opened the door I heard the angry crackling of flames. The middle of the building was burning fiercely.

AFRS occupied the ground floor of the Brink Hotel, a billet for command grade officers. Between the radio station and the hotel lobby the ground floor was used for parking. A jeep had

been parked there with a large quantity of plastic explosive in it. The blast dug a large crater and also blasted through four floors of hotel rooms, killing two and wounding several others.

The casualties would have been greater if the Viet Cong had set the timer to go off an hour later. Many of the officers had not yet returned from work, even though it was Christmas Eve.

The radio station escaped destruction, and several casualties, by random chance. A few weeks earlier, part of the parking area next to the AFRS wall had been appropriated by the Navy Exchange to store merchandise. This provided a 50-foot-thick blast absorber between the explosion and the station. The end wall cracked but didn't collapse.

A couple of Vietnamese employees in the transmitter room inside the end wall suffered eardrum damage from the concussion, but no other station personnel were injured.

In order to limit the psychological impact of silencing the American radio station, arrangements were quickly made for us to use facilities at the Vietnamese government broadcast center. By eight p.m. we were back on the air, even though we needed to do a lot of adlibbing and jury rigging to keep the show going.

Within a few days a team of Seabees made



**CHINFO News Desk Circa 1966**—Young PIO's at the CHINFO news desk in the 60's. From back to front and left to right: Ed Malone, Harry Padgett, Dave Cullen, Bill Gengler, Jim Eaves, Clark Gammel, (Lt. tell us who), George Kolbensschlag, JO2 Bob Holsapple, and JO2 Russ Egnor. Need identity of JOC at file cabinet. We deeply miss those who are no longer with us, and enjoy the ones who will be at the reunion this fall. (Photo - Bill Gengler files)

temporary repairs and hooked up a generator to provide electricity and it was business as usual back in our own spaces.

A few weeks later a Viet Cong bomb was discovered and removed from my billet hotel before it could go off, one of four VC bombs that might have ended my Viet Nam tour early but didn't.

Woodhead completed his one-year tour to AFRS Saigon in 1965, and was transferred to the carrier Oriskany in the South China Sea. But he says, that's another story.

###

Commander **William Tucker** reports that shortly before retirement from a 42-year military reserve career he discovered he had Type 2 diabetes. His blood sugar was through the roof at 600, and soon after retirement he had a massive heart attack followed by quadruple bypass surgery.

He totally retired at age 60 and decided to "sit on his backside and read books and watch television." He says, "I found myself losing interest in life...and, in living. I woke up one day and decided I had to get interested in something productive, or I could see myself dying way too early."

Tucker admits that being a PAO, he had a secret ambition to be a book author. So, he wrote a book, "**Miracles Made Possible**". A national publisher picked it up, and it sold nationwide. He then wrote six more books, but hasn't given them to his publisher yet, as he is, "waiting for my first book to take off." You can check it out at [www.miraclesbook.com](http://www.miraclesbook.com)

He also decided to try movie script writing and wrote nine screenplays, with no luck. All the Producers said, "Where's the blood and guts?" It was a family-friendly movie about a young man with Down Syndrome. They told him, "If your Screenwriter believes so much in his movie, he should make it!" So, he did!

With no discretionary income, he had to find free props and costumes for 157 actors and a crew of 10. He scheduled no-cost auditions and training for some production people and actors. But, a cameraman and film editor had to be paid from his small profit of \$4,000 from book royalties. Tucker says that maybe his biggest challenge was to find a boy and girl with Down syndrome to star in the movie.

He found them, but he ran out of money halfway through the shoot. Amazingly, his friends donated the \$16,000 he needed to finish the movie. "**Something For Stevie**", the story of a young man with Down

Syndrome trying to make it as a truck stop busboy in the "normal world", was finished.

The largest theater chain in the Midwest, impressed with all the publicity the movie had generated, gave it a week's run. That week, the movie outdrew eight of the Hollywood movies playing at that sixteen-plex complex! More than 500 DVDs of the movie have sold in this country, and Tucker is still trying to dig his way out of debt. The movie won an Honorable Mention Accolade Award, and a version of the movie dubbed in Cantonese by a friend in Hong Kong, has sold more than 2,000 DVD's in China. The Down Syndrome Association of China recognized it with a Humanitarian Award

Tucker concedes that it was exhausting and expensive work, but now says because he decided to "get involved" after retirement, "life has be a total joy ride of living out my dreams." He recommends it to all of his shipmates! You can check it out at [www.somethingforstevie.com](http://www.somethingforstevie.com).

###

**Capt. Tom Platenburg** officially retired from the Navy Reserve April 1, 2007. His retirement party was held at the Milwaukee War Memorial Center on St. Patrick's Day. To the chagrin of his Irish friends, that day was declared "Captain Tom Plantenberg Day" in Milwaukee, and in the State of Wisconsin.

Retired Commander **Bill Lemorande** and his son videotaped the event and got it aired on the Wisconsin public access channel. Platenburg reports he received many comments about it. The most interesting were from a friend, Chuck Harper. Harper observed, "Tom, the other day I was flipping through the channels and I came to some sort of ceremony. There was a ceremonial band, color guard, all sorts of dignitaries, and it was staged in front of a large flag like the one you saw in the movie Patton.

An admiral got up to speak, and I heard him mention your name! He was saying wonderful things about you and your career. I sat on my couch and was dabbing the tears from my eyes, because I was sure this was your funeral." He finished me off by saying, "*Then you got up to speak. I was never so disappointed in my life!*"

Platenburg retired as CEO of the Froedtert Hospital Foundation this year and is now a full partner with his wife, Diane, in Simons Plantenberg Consulting, LLC. Their clients range from an international ethnic organization, to several involved in education and central city causes.

He puts out a call for USNPAAA friends to help with the USS Freedom LCS1, commissioning in Milwaukee in October. If you are interested, please contact him.

## Frazier Teaches What He Preaches

Isn't it dangerous for Americans to teach in the Middle East? Don't you have to know Arabic? Will Arab students accept a retired U.S. Navy officer (**LCDR Lowell Frazier**) as a professor?

These were some of the questions confronting my wife and I when offered a contract in 2002 to teach at Zayed University in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Accepting the contract would mean retiring from my dream job at the University of Hawaii where I had taught since 1984, twice serving as chairman of the journalism department.

The decision was not taken lightly. After all, my wife and I had had a frightening encounter with hundreds of demonstrating students in Xian, China, following the bombing of the Chinese embassy in Belgrade in 1999. At the time, I was on sabbatical as a Fulbright scholar teaching at the China School of Journalism in Beijing.

In spite of this incident, I retired from UH and headed for Dubai. Teaching was a struggle at first. Classrooms were filled with students, all Arab women dressed in traditional black robes and scarves, chatting in Arabic, paying little or no attention to the professor.

Any suggestions of an examination were met with howling protests. Reading assignments were essentially ignored. Approximately 90 percent of English writing assignments were unreadable. Each student was equipped with a laptop computer and one or two cell phones, contrary to campus rules.

As months went by, we began to establish mutual respect. I tried everything including showing family photographs, videos tapes about Hawaii, and little stories about life in America. The student's favorite such story was about my eloping to get married. Reacting in astonishment, they would immolate the cutting of throats.

Concern that students might not accept or respect me was unfounded. This became most evident during my fourth year of teaching. Efforts to gain respect had paid off. Students lowered their headscarves, done only among close friends, and began expressing appreciation for my coming to ZU.

They had become serious about learning and

worked extremely hard. At the end of my last semester, students voted me their best and favorite professor in the College of Communication and Media Sciences.

Meanwhile, we grew to love Dubai and the people. The city is truly one of the world's best-kept secrets. We hated to leave the UAE, a friend of the U.S., and our Arab friends.

To answer the initial questions about teaching in Dubai, we were never afraid for our safety, knowledge of Arabic isn't necessary, and yes, the students accept and actually favor American professors.

## Charleston Missile Crisis



*LT Bill Gengler, Sixth Naval District PIO, and Three-Striper LT Dan Davidson are seen at the Naval Weapons Station in Charleston, S. C. during the 1960's. The photo appeared in the Charleston newspaper "dramatizing" changes in the "125 year history of the Navy's ordinance branch."*

# Notice of Proposed Amendments to USNPAAA Bylaws

USNPAAA members are asked to review changes to the association's bylaws as proposed by an *ad hoc* committee appointed by the board of directors. Jim Noone, the committee chair, reminds that members must be given at least 30 days written notification of proposed changes prior to a vote on them. The membership vote is planned for September 29, 2008 at Reunion XII. A complete set of the current USNPAAA bylaws is published in the back of the membership directory. Article IX requires mailing of this written notification and we are using the newsletter as a vehicle for that communication. Additionally, you will be able to review the proposal at anytime after this issue of Sightings is published on the web later this month.

## **Amendment #1**

In Article V, Section 2, and Article VII, Section 2, delete the references to "annual meeting" and "Annual Meeting," respectively, and in their places insert "general membership meeting."

Explanation: This amendment eliminates the requirement for annual general membership meetings and allows general membership meetings to occur at times other than annual, for example, at the periodic reunions. It makes the Bylaws consistent with what has actually been the practice of the Association in recent years.

## **Amendment #2**

In Article VIII, Section 1, (1) delete the boldface headline, "Annual Meetings," and in its place insert "General Membership Meetings." (2) In the first line, delete "An Annual Meeting" and in its place insert "A periodic meeting." (3) In lines seven-eight, delete "Annual Meeting of the membership" and in its place insert "general membership meeting."

Explanation: Same as Amendment #1.

## **Amendment #3**

In Article IX, delete "Annual or Special" and in its place insert "periodic general membership meeting or special."

Explanation: Same as Amendment #1.

## **Amendment #4**

In Article IV, (1) Section 3, last line, insert "President or" before "Board of Directors." (2) Section 4, line three, insert "President or" before "the Board."

Explanation: The purpose of this amendment is to empower the President to call annual or other regular meetings of the Board. It conforms the Bylaws to what has actually been the practice of the Board.

## **Amendment #5**

In Article IV, (1) Section 3, add the following sentence at the end, "Directors may participate in the annual meeting in person or by telephone." (2) Section 4, add the following sentence at the end, "Directors may participate in regular or special meetings in person or by telephone."

Explanation: The purpose of the amendment is to clarify that attendance at Board meetings may be by telephone as well as in person. It conforms the Bylaws to what has been the practice of the Board.

## **Amendment #6**

In Article IV, Section 11, (1) delete the boldface headline, "Mail or Telephonic Ballot," and in its place insert "Mail, Email, or Telephonic Ballot." (2) In line three, delete "mail or telephonic ballot" and in its place insert "mail, email, or telephonic ballot."

Explanation: The purpose of this amendment is to authorize email as a mechanism for balloting by the Board.

## **Amendment #7**

In Article II, numbered paragraph 4, delete "all" before "lawful activities."

Explanation: The amendment strikes a superfluous word.