

Don for your records

It's been almost two weeks since the Reunion and I've thought about writing a critique at least twice every day since. I fear that if I don't start it may be months.

Things we can do Better:

Family events. San Diego has more family activities than most cities which makes your job easier. The questions as I see it are:

Do we plan specific events or do we tell the folks what's available and let them go where they please. You may consider asking the troops via the newsletter, or use your own good judgement.

At the reunion Con handed out chamber of Commerce tourist info about the Pensacola area which was already in an envelope ready to mail. It seems reasonable to assume that the San Diego Tourist Bureau might willingly mail a like letter to all Wolves. Perhaps this is worth looking into.

Reunion fee. At Pensacola we charged each Wolf \$15 to cover one shot expenses that we had. Such as 100# of shrimp, buttons, audio visual equipment rental and banquet gratuity. Collecting the money was a real pain in the ass. If a Wolf didn't check in the fee was never collected.

I suggest this:

If you work up an realistic estimate on what the expenses are going to be we can then collect the fee in advance along with the banquet fee. This appeals to me because it is simpler; the money is up front; no surprises; one less job to do at check in.

Name tags. With all the computer power we have, why not print computer generated name tags for Wolves and guests.

Check in -- registration This job needs to be made simpler with less involvement for the administrative staff. The two ideas I've detailed, name tags and registration fee, will simplify this area. Another consideration, what about hiring a person (non wolf) to do this job. We might handle Seawolf merchandise the same way too.

A central check in room and store might be a good idea. In addition a social room with det boards snacks and so on may help things along.

SENT TO M. HETTER ABOUT
ALL THIS ON 7/6/89

The Comfort Inn main desk had a unofficial Seawolf sign on sheet listing Wolves name and room number. Why not expand this into a larger and easier to find function?

Selection of the Hotel or Motel. We choose the Comfort Inn based on price. A Marriott would have been \$55 to \$75 a day instead of \$35. At Kansas City we stayed at the Marriott that was near the airport and had airport transportation; hence car rental was not required. Did we achieve any savings? I'm not sure. We will have to balance this.

San Diego is spread out with tourist attractions throughout the city. Will taking advantage of these will mean renting a car. Or might we be able to charter a bus.

Hotel size. We seriously underestimated the Pensacola reunion size. We filled between 150 and 175 rooms! I am of the opinion that Wolves who were unable to stay and the Peridio Key Comfort Inn lost a part of the reunion. My feelings are that the San Diego Reunion will double Pensacola. Finding a large enough hotel will be necessary this time around. You will have to deal with this one on the local level. It may be necessary to make the Hotel selection and block out a group of rooms before the end of this year.

Seawolves are procrastinators. In March we had 35 dinner reservations. On May first (the published banquet cutoff date) we had 195 reservations. By June first, (the actual cutoff date) we had 265 reservations. We served 280 dinners!

The idea of Det. Boards was a good one and should be used again.

Speakers for 1991. Zumwalt will be hard to follow. What do you suggest.

The raffle of the drinking flag and airline ticket were a good idea that neted us some money. We should be able to get another free airline ticket to raffle.

Thomas Thalmann

- RAFFLE FEE SHOULD HAVE BEEN \$4. RATHER THAN \$1.00
- NEED MORE RETAIL PRODUCTS. RUN OUT OF CAPS, T-SHIRTS.
NEED BARBETS, BARBET PINS, MORE BOOKS, TAKE APPLICATIONS FOR LEATHER
NAME TAGS, VIDEOS & TAPES FROM LAST REUNIONS PLUS REG. T-SHIRTS, CAPS
BUMPER STICKERS & PATCH
- WESTMORLAND AS NEXT SPEAKER ("GO FOR THE GOLD")
(COVER)

- IF WE CAN'T GET WESTMORLAND HERE ABOUT
FROM THE TERRY WICKS. HE WAS CMC & CHAIRMAN
OF THE VINT COUNCILS OF STATE DURING NAM.
I THINK THAT WE COULD GET HIM FOR FREE.
HE'S A NEAT GUY. SERVED ARN THROUGH WWII
KOREA & NAM. PUT CHARLIE FORGSTRON IN CHARGE.
- NEED TO ~~RAISE~~ ^{AUCTION} MORE THINGS. ASK
ALL SEAWOMEN TO BRING THINGS FROM THEIR
HOMES AND BUSINESSES THAT CAN BE DONATED
TO US TO BE AUCTIONED OFF FOR MONEY
TO THE HIGH BIDDER AT THE BANQUET.
I KNOW GROUPS THAT MAKE \$10,000 FOR
AUCTION THIS WAY.