

Nov. 1, 1988

Dear Con,

Enclosed is a packet of information that you should find helpful.

Reunion notices should go out before the end of Nov. as many of these organizations require the notice to be received at least six months prior to the reunion date. The American Legion is one of those. The VFW only requires three months advance notice but they have to send you their form to be completed and returned to them in advance of the three months advance notice requirement, etc.

Copies of this letter, the list of organizations to be notified of the reunion, and the list of things to be arranged were sent to Tom Thalmann. If your team in P-Cola needs help in getting the reunion notices out, or any other task, be sure to let Tom T. know. Tom Olby, Our V.P., really doesn't have any duties with the organization or with the reunion at this time and I'm sure that he would be willing to help out on any reunion project that he could handle from Minnesota.

I will, with your permission, contact the Naval Air Training Command Choir, of which I was a member, and ask them to sing the Navy Hymm (Eternal Father) at the dedication ceremony on Saturday. I would also like to suggest that we ask them to be the featured entertainment at our banquet on Saturday night. They put on a hell of a good show and are willing to perform anywhere from a few minutes to over an hour. Many of their songs are Broadway show tunes, humerous numbers, etc. Let me know if you have any problem with this, otherwise I will take care of arranging it.

We will probably need a color guard for the dedication ceremony. I suggested to Tom T. some months ago that I thought we needed to get a bronz tablet made containing the names of the 41 Seawolf's killed in action, that it should be mounted in a prominent place adjacent to the helicopter and that the helo should be dedicated to them. A bronz tablet will probably cost about \$650. plus another \$350. for the stone on which to

mount it. I will discuss the tablet and stone with Tom T. tonight.

Another matter that deserves consideration is that of having a fly-by during the dedication ceremony. The SAR Det. at NAS Pensacola Operations has six UH-1N's. It is my understanding that it can be arranged to have them make a fly-by during our dedication. I'll take care of this unless you inform me otherwise.

Tom T. and I discussed sending special invitations to the families of all Seawolf's killed in Vietnam but I'm not sure how to acquire their names and addresses. Would the Navy records center in Baimbridge, MD have them? Please let me know if you have any ideas here. I'll ask Charlie Borgstrom is he knows how this can be done.

Tom T. mentioned that he felt that it would be a good idea to invite Adm. Zumwald, Westmorland and Admiral Mathews. I agree with him on this matter as do, I believe, the other Association Officers. I would suggest that we put someone in charge of doing this that doesn't have other responsibilities with the reunion. I would suggest Capt. Borgstrom.

Tom also mentioned that you brought up the possibility of a sea cruise or deepsea fishing as an option on Sunday. I think that that idea has definite merit and hope that we can do it, or at least look into it further. We noticed, at the last reunion that most of the Seawolves kind of wanted to be low key on Sunday, breakfasting with old friends and Det-mates, talking over old times, etc. so I don't know how big the turnout might be but I would think that we might get 10 to 20 couples and some children.

The last thing we did on Sunday at the last reunion was to photograph each Det in front of the Gunship before it's takeoff, fly-bys and departure. That was definitely the emotional highlight of that reunion(the fly-fy & departure).

Last year we used about 8 rooms on Thur., 33 on Fri. and Sat. nights and about 5 on Sunday night. For the 1989 reunion 12 rooms on Thur., 50 on Friday and Sat. nights and 8 rooms on Sunday would be my best guess; and it's just that!

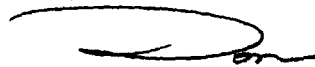
(3.)

Sorry that the list of organizations to notify isn't complete as far as addresses and phone numbers but I thought it was more important to get the list out to you. Perhaps someone on your P-Cola team can look up the other dozen or so addresses that are lacking on this list.

Give me a call if I can be of further help.

Home (There is a message machine in case I'm out).

Work



Don C. Thomson

Seawolf 19 & 39

P.S. With Tom's permission I've arranged for a reunion book company out of Orlando to come in and photograph our reunion and put together a reunion album at no cost to the Assn. It will contain 16 plus pages and will cost \$12. to any of our members who wish to order one after the reunion.