



WOLFGRAM

Seawolf (HAL-3) Assoc.



1988 #1

January 1988

Newton Earl has more reunion T shirts available for \$12 each including postage. Sizes available S-M-L-XL-XXL. I just bought a T shirt and I can tell you that it is one good looking item. Black with a large full color Seawolf on the front with the word "Vietnam" on top with "Kansas city reunion and dates" below. You may write Newton Earl at

or if you can't wait call him at

Seawolf patches are available at \$4 each. Write Tom Thalmann,

While at the reunion I managed to get my hands on 4 black and white 8x10 Navy prints of Seawolves in action. I've seen two on the pictures on the cover of Navy Magazines. One is the classic picture of a Wolf leading a flotilla of river boats. Tom Olby has made negatives of the entire set and has 8x10 copies available for \$30 postage paid. This would make a handsome set. Write Tom Olby,

or call Tom at

Incidentally all proceeds from the sale of merchandise go into the Seawolf treasury.

I've been talking with Don Thompson about the 1989 reunion. Don thinks he can arrange for an Army Huey to be donated to the Naval Air Museum in Pensacola. I think you will agree that the presentation of a HAL-3 bird to the Air Museum would be a phenomenal reunion event. With Capt Borgstrom's help I talked with Bob Rasmussen, Capt. USN Retired, who is in charge of the Air Museum. They, the Air Museum, would be delighted to accept a HAL-3 bird. Now things are up to Don T. Naturally we would have to collect the bird, arrange for transportation (Don has a handle on this too) and configure the bird.

I hope the Pensacola reunion will work out. However I would like to put a time limit on this, If we don't have firm arrangements made for the transfer of the Aircraft by the end of May 1988, then I suggest this project be set aside and that we give Tom Olby the go ahead for a Minneapolis reunion. I'm concerned about not having enough time to plan and arrange the 1989 reunion.

If we can get a Huey donated we will need an on site reunion coordinator who lives in the Pensacola area. Do we have any volunteers?

TREASURERS REPORT

Initial opening balance	\$2,000.00	Previous account balance
39.08		
Total dues received	400.00	
Total donations received	64.00	
Earned interest	27.89	
T shirts and Patch sales	<u>49.00</u>	
subtotal	<u>2,579.97</u>	

EXPENSES INCURRED

Rubber Stamp	11.02
500 bumper stickers	787.50
Cost to Print T Shirts	<u>493.00</u>
total expense	<u>1291.52</u>

Balance as of November 1, 1987\$1,288.45
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To update your records to see if you are due any additional awards, you may write to:

Navy Liaison Officer, Room 347
National Personnel Records Center

I filed with this office last July and just received an update and a Presidential Unit Citation that I was not previously aware of.

MEMBERSHIP This is a sore subject with me. To date we have the names and addresses of 249 Wolves but only 66 paid memberships, that's 26.5%. Our Treasury appears to be on sound footing with a balance of \$1,288. But please don't be deceived. Consider the costs we will incur outfitting, transporting and just getting a Heuy into the Pensacola Air Museum. Sure we will scrounge and scrape for all freebees possible. But the project is still going to cost us. For a project of this scope \$1,288 is but a pittance, it may be enough to buy the paint.

IF THIS NEWSLETTER HAS A RED DOT ON IT, YOUR DUES ARE DUE.

- Please make out a check to Seawolf Hal-3 Assoc. and mail to Howard Jacobs,

Seawolf Trivia Just an idea I have had. Do you have any little known Seawolf Trivia fact that you would like to share, or ask? For instance, I was wondering how many aircraft passed through Hal-3 between 1967 and decommission in March 1972? How many were Navy aircraft?

I need help writing this newsletter. If anyone would like to write a column, or just a one time article, I'd appreciate it.

I just received a copy of a poem written by Fred Stark, Det 1 Seawolf, from Yelm Washington.

A TEAR IN MY EYE

Seawolves together in KC at on time
from all over the country
Binh Thuy and Dets One through Nine.

Pilots, co-pilots grounders, gunners and mechs
from all walks of life
Americans who would again risk their necks.

With memories of many past fire fights
and good times and bad
rounds taken and popflare lights.

Some with old wounds and loss of limb
thoughts of lost friends
on each cheek a tear for them.

The comradity of a Seawolf no one knows
only those who were there
taking the enemy rockets, mortars and blows.

The unbreakable bond that may lose luster
These tried brave men
to a man are Seawolves at muster.

I have a favor to ask of a Wolf in the Washington DC area. I would like the Seawolf Hal-3 Assoc records to contain a tracing from the Vietnam Veterans Wall of each Seawolf who gave his life. If someone would take the time to do this we will print all the tracings. I'm sure their are Wolves who may never have the opportunity to visit the wall who would be deeply appreciate the effort. If you need list of the Hal-3 KIA, write me
Tom Thalmann,

As we mentioned before Don Thompson has volunteered to be the group Historian. Don has prepared a questionnaire that I hope each of you will take the time to complete and send to Don. The Seawolves share a unique history that is only known to us. If you doubt this go to the nearest book store and locate the section about Vietnam. Try as you will you will find very little about the Navy and even less about Hal-3. If your lucky you may find a picture of a Seawolf gun ship and maybe a paragraph or two. Speaking for myself, I feel that I've been cheated! If we are to preserve our history it is up to us to collect and document the history while we can still do so. To reiterate my point I just purchased a Book Vietnam The War in the Air, by Rene Francillon. After a generous chapter on Naval aviation there was a few photo of Hal-3 and the following sentence which I quote verbatim, "Of all combat missions undertaken by Navy aircraft during the South East Asia war, those flown by Helicopter Attack Squadron Light Three (HAL-3) and Light Attack Squadron (VAL-4) remain the least known." There it is, need I say more....

Answer as many question as you can or feel comfortable with. You may use this form along with some additional paper or complete the questionnaire orally using a tape recorder. Don Thompson,

HELP US LOCATE OTHER WOLVES, SO FAR WE'VE ONLY SCRATCHED THE SURFACE
Wolves wearing Seawolf reunion T shirts have attracted the attention of lost Wolves. It works and we have gained a few members from this limited amount of publicity. A bumper sticker "Locate a Wolf" is included with this newsletter. Please put the sticker on you vehicle. Who knows, maybe a lost brother will flag you down, then we've found one. This bumper sticker is your free with no strings attached. We would, however, appreciate a donation for the sticker in the amount of \$2.00 if you are willing. If you want additional stickers write me and send \$2.00...Tom Thalmann. As you will recall the KC reunion mandated that we find the lost Wolves. The origin bumper sticker was the membership meeting at the reunion. An examination of our Treasurers report will indicate that we've spend a substantial sum to produce the bumper stickers. Please use the sticker. The bumper sticker was designed by Homer Tipton.

Well, I wrapping up another Wolfgram, and I feel that I am forgetting something important. ?*!!#\$^?*

Let's make 1988 a successful year and double the number of Wolves. I want to thank Rich Meussner for a several pages of names and leads. Dan Smiley for spending time researching distant cities telephone books. And everyone else who has helped.

