



# WOLFGRAM

Seawolf (HAL-3) Assoc.

1987 #1

JULY 17

I've just returned home from the first SEAWOLVES (HAL-3) reunion. And although I'm exhausted, I want to take the time to try to record my thoughts and emotions. It was GOOD, far better than I dreamed. There were lots of laughs, love, Wolf calls and tears. I lack the literary elegance to adequately express my emotions. Seeing those guys and watching the Seawolf combat action videos (super 8 movies transferred to a VHS tape with sound) after all these years made all of us DAMNED PROUD TO BE SEAWOLVES.

George Blackwell flew a Arkansas National Guard Huey complete with pods and minnies to the reunion. When he took off on Sunday he flew over a tree line banking the bird steeply, dropped the ships nose and made a low run over us. He pivoted made another run and flew off into the mist with the blades heavily whumping in the distance. An emotional moment for all that marked the end of the reunion. I've spent two years working on this project.....I've been paid back, it doesn't owe me a thing. The spirit of the union still remains with me—kind of a good feeling.

This brings me to another point. Det One has issue this challenge to all other Dets and Binh Thuy folks. Det One will have more Seawolves at the next reunion than any other Det. Det One had 15 Wolves in KC.

Here's what happened --- Minutes of the meeting:

- 1 organization name Seawolf (HAL-3) Assoc.
- 2 yearly dues \$20, donations accepted if you can afford it.
- 3 distribution of squadron roster/ approved
- 4 share roster with Gamewarden Assoc/ approved
- 5 publication entitled Wolfgram
- 6 all wives and relatives of our KIA's are honorary members
- 7 adopted Gamewarden Bilaws
- 8 reunion committee—elected officers

## OFFICERS

Pres	Tom Thalmann
VP	Tom Olby
Treas.	Howard Jacobs
Yeoman	Rick Hodge
Historian	Don Thompson

## Regional Reps

East coast	Larry Augsberger
West coast	Richard Lambert
Midwest	Tony Nelson
South	Sean Lusher
Caribbean	Frank Garzarek

DUES \$20. Your dues are going to help us aggressively search out lost Wolves, publish at least three Wolfgrams a year, and collect and catalog as much Seawolf history as possible.

If you lost a HAL-3 lighter at the reunion, I have it.

Our primary goal is to make the Seawolf story known. Don Thompson has accepted the position as Historian. Don's task will be to gather as much documentation, which may include Naval records and oral histories from as many Seawolves, as possible. The reasoning behind our collecting HAL-3 history is simply this; if we don't record the History ourselves, it will be forever lost and that my friend would be tragic.

Our second goal will be to find our brother Wolves wherever they may be. I've watched this organization grow from one to two hundred twenty and that's good. But we still are missing 2,750 brother Wolves. The growth of our organization rests on all our shoulders. We will try whatever means possible to find our brother Wolves. Our campaign to run public service announcements, PSA's, has met with considerable success. Please become involved. Our next reunion will be in 1989 or 1990 I'd like to see 300 Wolves attending. If the KC reunion ended with one mandate it was this --- find all the Seawolves.

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As you may recall, in the April newsletter I mentioned that Charlie Yonts was trying to learn about the death of his friend Lt. Ed Pawlowski. I received this note from Mr Yonts,

"I want to thank all of you who called me about Lt. Ed Pawlowski, it (Ed's death) has been with me for 19 years and I am glad to know what happened....The response from 'Seawolves' was great!...."

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

**IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A RED DOT ON YOUR ADDRESS LABEL  
YOUR 1987 DUES ARE DUE**

HISTORICAL NOTE from Wolfgram January and February 1971. Det ONE notes: "Don (CocaCola Inc.) Thompson took his R&R in Australia. He went over to see about a toupee for his rapidly balding and shiny head. He's said that if he can't find one, he'll have to resort to combing his eyebrows back up over his head." Could this report be wrong? The Don Thompson at the KC reunion appeared to have a full head of hair! Maybe he found one? Could that be???

Please feel free to make contributions to the Wolfgram. Contributions need not be literary works nor must the contributions be typed.

We have Seawolf patches for sale, \$4 each, write Tom Thalmann.

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From Tom Olby -- Vice President

Fellow Members:

Thanks to each and everyone of you for making the "1st Seawolf Reunion" the success that it was. Special thanks should go to all of you what attended and for those who contributed but were unable to attend.

The story of the "US Navy Seawolves" needs to be told and all of us must contribute to accomplish this goal. We need to honor our fellow Seawolves killed in action, those wounded, physically and mentally and their families.

A separate "Seawolf Memorial Scholarship Fund" needs to be established for the children of members in memory of those Seawolves killed and wounded. This will cost a substantial amount of money and a Honorary membership is one way to raise the needed funds. To accomplish this, standardized honorary membership forms will have to be developed. Groups and individuals contributions to our scholarship fund would receive a subscription to our Wolfgram. The member who signs up the highest number of Honorary Members would be recognized at the next National Reunion. Just sit and think of the possibilities if each Seawolf signed up just one Honorary Member each month. Your comments and suggestions will be appreciated.

The reunion 35mm photographs turned out great! two packages will be available. Package one consists of 17 squadron and detachment photos at a cost of \$9.00. Package two consists of all 72 prints at a cost of \$35.00. These costs include postage and handling. I will need your order and money by Sept 15, 1987. Please send to Tom Olby, A video tape was also made of our reunion. I will be editing this tape and it will be available at a later date.

In closing, I would like to say that I will do my best to make this organization the very best it can be. I hope that as an organization we always remember the less fortunate among us and do our best to support each other. Our Reunion helped me come home, I hope it helped bring you home.

Tom Olby

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#### BYLAWS

Due to the size of this newsletter the Bylaws will be sent to you in the next newsletter.

It's now a month after I returned home from the reunion and I'm getting ready to put this Wolfgram to print. You will recall that when I started this Wolfgram I said that I lacked the literary elegance to express my feelings about what happened in KC. Since then I've received some letters that I will in part share with all of you, the letters do the job.

From a wife who attended:

"I was really impressed with how much the guys cared about each other. It was like one big family.....Anyway we talked & talked about the reunion all the way home, & we still do! we loved every minute of it and we certainly appreciate all the efforts that were made for such a successful event."

From a brother SEAWOLF:

"I really hated to leave that weekend. I was sort of depressed, at times I felt sort of left out because I didn't make it out on Det. But everyone made you feel as though you were part of the Team. That's what makes the Seawolves a great unit still, to this day."

Well, this Wolfgram done. But we're not, pass the word.  
And thank you.

Tom Thalmann