



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNCIL
STATE SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE

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Dear ELMO

AUG 26 1991

We missed you at this year's Gamewarden's of Vietnam Reunion. You really missed a good one. Well, here's our newsletter...so you know some of what you missed. Hope you enjoy it. Please keep in touch and let me know how you're doing.

Next year's East & West COMBINED Reunion in St. Louis MUST NOT BE MISSED!

*We talked about AGENT ORANGE & your efforts for recognition of its effects.
for the first time, this year.*

Ron Laratta, Secretary
SOUTHEAST REGION CHAPTER
355 Ridge Court
Roswell, GA. 30076



GAMEWARDENS OF VIETNAM ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

SOUTHEASTERN REGION CHAPTER
POST OFFICE BOX 378
MT. PLEASANT, SOUTH CAROLINA 29464



OFFICERS 1991-93:

PRESIDENT	MIKE BAILEY
VICE PRESIDENT	PETE WARD
SECRETARY	RON LARATTA
TREASURER	JIM WALKER
SPECIAL PROJECTS	ELLIOTT WILLIAMS
PAST PRES. & HISTORIAN	BUDDY STURGIS

NEWSLETTER AUGUST 1991

-SOUTHEAST REGION CHAPTER meeting was held Aug 2nd, noon, in NORFOLK, VA. to coincide with the NATIONAL REUNION (Jul 31-Aug 4, 1991).

-A donation of \$100 from the SOUTHEAST REGION CHAPTER was presented to National's General Fund at the annual NATIONAL business meeting by SE President Mike Bailey.

-Jim Walker, SE Treasurer, will try to find a used piano (based on the finances at hand) for Annual Civic Action Project. Planned presentation will be around December, to a Veteran's Nursing home in Anderson, S.C.

-Discussed Patriot's Point and the "PBR Project". National and all other Chapters and members are confident that Patriot's Point Museum, in North Charleston, S.C., will continue their plans with this display project. We eagerly await this new attraction.

-EVERYONE in SOUTHEAST REGION CHAPTER must have their DD-214 on file with CHAPTER SECRETARY by NOVEMBER 1991. This will allow us to conform to the new bylaw requiring members to have a DD-214, or such endorsement, on file. We REQUIRE everyone in SOUTHEAST REGION CHAPTER to send me a xerox of your DD-214 and a short description of your service history: with dates/ river section(s)/ # of patrols and areas/ Boat #'s/ personal and unit awards. The information will be held in the strictest confidence and will be required of all members. OPTIONALLY include: people for whom you are looking; suggestions for reunions; how you found out about Gamewardens, INC. and any other pertinent information of your Naval Inshore duties (like: PBR/NIOTC Class #., MK 1, 2, etc.).

-The matter of issuing "mailing lists" was decided. We will NOT issue any mailing lists, however, it was agreed that we will give a name or two to another MEMBER, upon request and with the member's permission. Another option is forward a sealed letter to National and they will forward it to the person.

IF THIS NOT OK WITH YOU, LET US KNOW!

-There was a very informative and lively exchange of information about Agent Orange concerns and other ailments we are all starting to experience. We also discussed the quality of treatment by the Veterans Administration and general medical community. Many people learned there are others experiencing similar problems and how they handled treatments. Navy Operations, and the handling of containers of agent orange (we couldn't talk about that before) were noted. Available programs and patients' rights were also mentioned. I'm sure we will be exchanging MORE information as time passes. Agent Orange, PTSD, depression and the images of war are inside all of us.

-Please keep us informed - the Association exists so we can HELP each other. Everyone appreciated the personal, in-depth discussion.

-This year, the SOUTHEAST REGION CHAPTER members wore mini and full size medals on their vests. It was very nice... some people never saw certain awards and medals, and many expressed interest in the different honors.

-We took many orders for CHAPTER VESTS (\$60ea.) (Dick Hicks' Mom even bought one!) They can be "customized" for your particular chapter (SE Region, Norfolk, West Coast, etc.) so get your order in soon to Mike Bailey.!

-WELCOME TO OUR NEW SOUTHEAST REGION CHAPTER MEMBERS!!:

Johnny Adams	LIFE MEMBER	'67-'68 Coastal Patrol Division 15	Vilas, NC.
Rudy Williamson	JUN'92	'64-'65 JUNK FORCE III Corps	Jacksonville, FL.
Steeny Banks	JUN'92	'68-'69 Hunterdon County	Mc Rae, GA.

Others renewed ANNUAL dues and some UPGRADED to LIFE MEMBERSHIP!

(When you join the SOUTHEAST REGION CHAPTER, National membership is included)

IT'S COMING FASTER THAN YOU THINK

REUNION 92

Meet me in St. Louis
July 30. To August 2



We will be staying at the Holiday Inn, Westport. Plans include a river boat cruise, either a day at Busch Gardens or, if available a Ball Game. We will conduct a Memorial Service on Saturday Morning, followed by our business meeting and a day of sight-seeing/shopping for the ladies. The cost has been set at \$375.00 per couple for those who register before July 1, 1992. For singles the price will be \$225.00 each for those sharing a room, and \$300.00 for those who desire a private room. On July 1, 1992, prices will increase for couples by \$50.00 and by \$35.00 for singles. We require a deposit of \$25.00 to put your name on the list, and will accept payments of \$50.00 each until paid. All reservations must be paid prior to July 1, 1992.

TOLL FREE 1-800-248-5366

Send in your name and check now.

REUNION 92-Gamewardens of Vietnam Assn Inc., P.O. Box 5523, Virginia Beach, VA 23455

Congratulations to 2 NEW CHAPTERS: TEXAS (Jay Eichhorn 512-696-4008); and OHIO/INDIANA/ KENTUCKY (Bill Warren 513-753-5558)! Bill Warren needs help for a crew and restoration advisors for 2 MARK II PBR's in Louisville, KY. Manuals and parts will be helpful also. Hopefully they will be restored to running condition and make an appearance at the 1992 National Reunion.

-It was great to see many "first-timers". We even had "Tan" -an Interpreter with the Vietnamese Navy- visit. He is now living in Pittsburgh. We were very glad to see and talk with him. [My lengthy discussion with him helped me remember a lot of things (he was in my area of operations).]

-THIS WAS A GREAT REUNION! We had a wonderful time. "Hats Off" & a hearty "WELL DONE" to Norfolk, John Williams, Dick Hicks and the Reunion Staff! Everyone enjoyed and commended the activities, arrangements & planning. The hospitality room allowed groups of people to sit and talk to each other during some free time... the room was also used for a "pizza party". There were many options available: banquet, social, harbor cruise dinner, golf, "adult beverages", pool, shopping AND, of course, the annual picnic WITH LIVE MUSIC!

-Everyone had fun...as you know IF you were there!

Lots of things took place. We rededicated the East Coast Memorial Monument in its new location, and we can't forget the emotional reunion of the boat crew of Dick Godbehere's patrol. First time together since being hit.

(This inspired me to intensify my efforts to gather my boat crew and cover boat.) It also prompted EVERYONE to try to contact and recruit at least one new member ...a MEMBERSHIP DRIVE, if you will... and the person recruiting the most members will get a prize!

How about it? A Challenge!

Also, it is great to see membership growing with such interest and affinity.

-DEFINITELY make plans for the 25th NATIONAL ANNUAL REUNION in St. Louis, where each and EVERY Chapter will be.

The National Reunions are ALWAYS the 1st Saturday of August!

-KEEP IN TOUCH! Your next chance is in November.

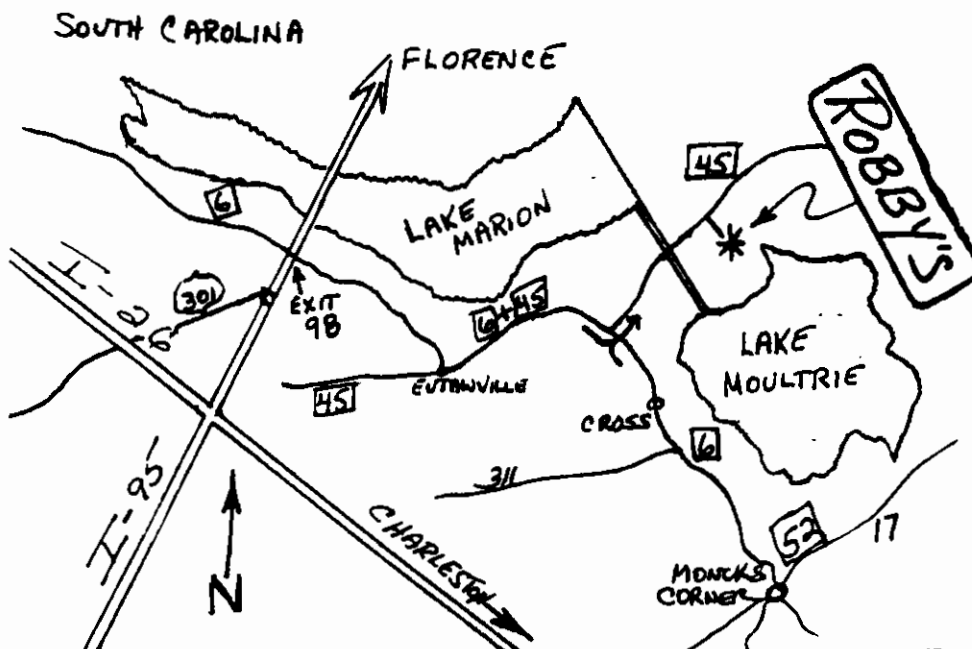
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-NEXT SOUTHEAST REGION CHAPTER MEETING WILL BE: "Lakeside" at Robby Robinson's place in CROSS, S.C. on Lake Moultrie, across from Moncks Corner, (map and directions are below) not far at all. MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND THIS REGIONAL MEETING. November 2, 1991.

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Ron

RON LARATTA
SECRETARY
SOUTHEAST REGION CHAPTER



* DIRECTIONS to ROBBY'S *
I-26 to I-95 Santee (Exit 98.)
Go SOUTH on SC 6 -toward Cross, SC.
When road joins SC 45 and becomes
SC 6+45 at Eutawville, make LEFT
onto 6+45 SOUTH. Follow around
the Lake about 10 miles.
Where SC 6+45 separate, make LEFT
onto SC 45. Go NORTH on SC 45 over
Diversion Canal to ANGELS LANDING.
Robby is about a mile on the RIGHT
at BLACKS CAMP. (803) 753-2231.
People on the Charleston side can
come up 52 or 17 and pick up SC 6
at Moncks Corner, follow Rt 6
through Cross & go RIGHT onto SC
45 over canal.

JUST BE THERE!

Be prepared for the best fish-fry
and picnic EVER!