



NDQSA Newsletter

National Dusters Quads and Searchlight Association
Spring 2009



President's Message

Bruce Geiger - March 22, 2009

I'd like to thank the many Association members who have telephoned and emailed me with reassuring words of support and encouragement for our efforts over the past several months. The NDQSA Officers and Executive Committee members have been hard at work on your behalf throughout the winter months.

The NDQSA History Book Committee has reached their final milestone this month with the completion and final book layout sign-off to Turner Publishing. We are expecting the production/printing process to be completed in 6-8 weeks with distribution to take place in late May or early June 2009. Congratulations to Committee Chairman and Historian Paul Kopsick (B/4-60) and committee members George Nagelschmidt (C/1-44) and Warren Locascio (D/5-2), and Ed McGill (HAWKS) for their incredible efforts to successfully complete this monumental task. We look forward to celebrating the completion of the book at the NDQSA Official Book Release Party and NDQSA Authors Forum at our Annual Reunion in San Antonio.

After several months and a great deal of time and painstaking effort, the By-Laws Committee and the Executive Committee have completed a final By-Laws Draft for review by the general membership of the Association. No less than twelve draft revisions were presented to and scrutinized by all of the Executive Committee members prior to finalizing this comprehensive governance document that will best serve the needs of our Association currently and in the years to come. The By-Laws Draft is included in this newsletter and has been posted on the NDQSA website and message board www.ndqsa.com. Many thanks to Bob Lauver's committee and the Executive Committee members for their cooperation and diligence in creating this document. Please take the time to read it thoroughly and submit any questions or comments. It is **your** Association and all submitted comments shall be heard and seriously considered prior to a final vote this July 4th at the business meeting to be held at our annual reunion in San Antonio.

The San Antonio Reunion Committee has been hard at work to insure the success of the Annual NDQSA Reunion this July 1-5 at the Crowne Plaza Riverwalk Hotel in San Antonio, Texas. **This is the only authorized and sanctioned NDQSA Reunion Event that will be held in 2009.** We are expecting our largest reunion gathering ever and urge you to make your hotel reservations and to send in your Pre-Registration Form ASAP. Get the word out to all of your NDQSA brothers to 'Come early and stay as long as desired' for the time of your life at this year's NDQSA Reunion. The **Schedule** for the reunion and a **Pre-Registration Form** are included in this newsletter and have also been posted on our website and message board. In conjunction with our Wounded Warrior Support Program one of the planned events will be a fund raising auction to provide wounded warriors with prepaid credit cards to help for some of their day to day needs. A small group of NDQSA representatives will be permitted to visit patients at the Brooke Army Medical Center and to present the cards on behalf of the Association. This is the first time that we are asking attendees to pre-register for the reunion. Please pre-register so that we are not caught unprepared at the last minute.

Finally, I want to reaffirm that the Officers and Executive Committee members are here to serve you the members of our Association. We invite and welcome your comments, ideas and suggestions. They will always be heard and respected. Thank you for your brotherhood and continuing support.



**NDQSA Reunion July 1-5, 2009
Crowne Plaza Hotel, San Antonio, Texas**

ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

Wed. July 1:

- 2:00 PM Registrations (scheduled daily) and memorabilia setup in Hospitality Room
- 5:00 PM *Welcome to San Antonio & Things to Do* by Sons/Daughters of Republic of Texas
- 6:00 PM **River Barge Tour** (*\$5 per person* for one-hour boat ride)
- 7:00 PM Riverwalk R&R

Thurs. July 2:

- 7:30 AM Executive Committee Meeting (room TBD)
- 8:30 AM **Bus Tour:** Alamo & Ft. Sam Houston with military briefing (*\$10 per person*)
Brooke Army Medical Center Wounded Warrior donations delivery
- 12:30 PM Buses may leave passengers off at **La Villita** shopping area on return to hotel
- 4:00 PM NDQSA Official Book Release Party and NDQSA Authors Forum (HR)
- 7:00 PM Veterans Hospitality Room open and Riverwalk R & R

Fri. July 3:

- 8:30 AM **Bus Tour:** Vietnam Memorial, Mission San Jose, & city sightseeing (*\$10 per person*)
- 12:30 PM Buses may leave passengers off at **El Mercado** shopping area on return to the hotel
- 4:00 PM Line Dancing Class for family members and veterans (room TBD)
- 7:00 PM Veterans Hospitality Room open and Riverwalk R&R
- 8:30 PM Fiesta Noche Del Rio at Arneson River Theater, near La Villita

Sat. July 4:

- 9:30 AM Annual Business Meeting & Election of Officers (room TBD)
- 9:30 AM Associate and Family Members Meeting (room TBD)
- 12:30 PM Banquet with POW ceremony and guest speaker (*meal tickets \$35 each*)
- 5:00 PM Silent auction with bidding for homemade craft items and souvenirs (HR)
- 7:00 PM Hospitality Room open and Riverwalk R&R
- 9:00 PM Fireworks display Ft. Sam Houston viewed from 3rd floor hotel poolside

Sun. July 5

- 9:00 AM Reunion Thanksgiving, Blessings, and Benediction (Hospitality Room)
Break down of displays and equipment.

The Hospitality Room will attempt to be open when not in conflict with scheduled events. Beer, soda and coffee and a few snacks will be provided in the room.

We will continue the tradition of a fund-raiser raffle or silent auction, so if you have a quality homemade craft item or appropriate souvenir item you can bring we will have that activity after the banquet on Saturday.

Please send in the pre-registration form so the Committee knows what numbers to expect and we can make proper arrangements for buses and meals. We are already at 80% of our contract requirement for room reservations, so this is going to be one of the best attended reunions ever.

2009 NDQSA Reunion Schedule Attractions

The 2009 NDQSA reunion of U.S. Army ADA veterans of Vietnam will meet in the most hospitable military city in America, where free men have gathered to defend liberty since 1836. Come enjoy the romance and charm of a historic town with endless interesting things to see and do when on vacation. Here are some of the great activities of this year's Reunion planned activities.

Admission to the Alamo is free with docent tour guides to tell the history of the shrine of Texas liberty. Browse through the museum and gift shop, and view a short film about the famous 13 day siege of February 23 – March 6, 1836.

Admission to Mission San Jose is free with a 45 minute guided walking tour provided by National Park rangers. Stay to view a short movie about the founding of the Spanish missions, see the display of museum artifacts, and shop in the book store.

Ft. Sam Houston is the Headquarters for the Fifth Army Command and the Army Health Service Command. Brooke Army Medical Center provides premier treatment for wounded warriors.

The San Antonio Vietnam Memorial Monument will be the site for the remembrance of NDQSA KIAs and other recently-departed veterans of our band of brothers.

The San Antonio Riverwalk is the most popular tourist attraction in Texas with many fine restaurants and great specialty stores. River barges provide tours and taxi service in the downtown area, with a stop in front of the Reunion hotel. **La Villita** is next to the Riverwalk and is the original village area of San Antonio that has become filled with artesian and boutique shops. On Thursday 7/2, the tour bus will stop to allow Reunion attendees to spend time visiting this area. There is an economical downtown City Trolley system that can be used for return to the hotel from La Villita. Trolley line maps and river barge taxi ride maps will be provided at registration. The hotel is about 12 blocks from La Villita.

On Friday and Saturday nights next to La Villita, there is an excellent folk dancing and music program (**Fiesta Noche Del Rio**) performed on the Riverwalk Arneson outdoor river theater. The theater stage is on one side of the San Antonio River, and terraced audience stadium seating is on the opposite riverbank. The show begins at 8:30 PM and tickets are \$10-15.

On the way back to the hotel on Friday 7/3, the charter buses will stop in the downtown area for shopping and lunch-time dining at **El Mercado**. The city market has many Mexican curio shops and clothing stores, plus the most popular Mexican food restaurants in town, **Mi**



Tierra and La Margarita. The City Trolley system or taxis are available at El Mercado for return to the hotel. This tour stop is about 10 blocks walking distance from the hotel.

San Antonio has two major theme park attractions: Sea World and Six Flags Fiesta Texas. These recreational locations are distant from the downtown Reunion hotel and attendees will need to make individual arrangements for transportation to these locations. Theme park brochures will be provided during registration. See and do everything as time permits. Come early and stay as long as desired for the time of your life at this year's NDQSA Reunion.

PARKING: Parking inside the hotel is quite expensive even with our reduced rate of ~\$12 a day. There are commercial lots nearby with parking rates roughly half our available rate. Plan accordingly.

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

**DUSTERS, QUADS & SEARCHLIGHTS
VULCANS, HAWKS ADA
REUNION JULY 1ST TO 5TH 2009**

**Crowne Plaza Hotel
On the Riverwalk at 111 Pecan Street,
San Antonio, TX 78205**

Call 1-888-233-9527 and identify yourself as NDQSA
use code G-25 or register online at

[https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welc
me_gi_new&groupID=148780](https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welc
me_gi_new&groupID=148780)

The discounted Room rate of \$99 per night for
NDQSA members is valid until June 1st.
Members may come early or stay longer with
advance reservations.

*To make our reunion a success and eliminate any
unnecessary last minute rush or confusion, please fill
out this form. It covers the costs of the Banquet Buffet
Dinner, round trip bus transportations, the river barge
tour, and donations for wounded warriors at Brooke
Army Medical Center*

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Military Unit _____

Dates of Service _____ to _____

Home Phone _____

**Urgent Request: We are hoping for a large
turnout, and that will impact our bus and banquet
reservations. To guarantee your spot at these events,
we need to know the approximate number of people
who plan to attend in order to charter buses and
river barges, and to order food. Your cooperation
will make planning a lot easier and our reunion a
greater success. Our reunion is only a few short
months away and we look forward to seeing you
there. Don't forget to make your hotel reservations
today! The Crowne Plaza is "Pet Friendly" (with
deposit) and less expensive parking lots are available**

Cell Phone _____

Best Email _____

Number: () Names of those in your party:

**IDENTIFY THE EVENTS
THAT YOU WISH TO ATTEND**

Reunion registration fee (per family) \$ 10.00

Wed 7/1, River Barge Tour:

\$ 5 X ___ number riding = \$ _____

Thurs 7/2, Bus Tour Alamo & Ft. Sam Houston:

\$10 X ___ number riding = \$ _____

Fri 7/3, Bus Tour Vietnam Memorial & Mission

San Jose: \$10 X ___ number riding = \$ _____

Sat. 7/4, Banquet Meal Tickets

\$35 X ___ number dining = \$ _____

Voluntary Donation for BAMC Wounded Warriors
gift cards: (any amount) \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: = \$ _____

Make Check or Money Order Payable to: NDQSA
Mail Form & Payment to: NDQSA Reunion,
P.O. Box 2903,
Fairfax, VA 22031

**COME EARLY --- STAY LATER
SEE YOU IN SAN ANTONIO!**

nearby. Bring your family, friends. Contact your
fellow veterans. Thanks for your service to our
country. Now come celebrate our brotherhood at a
four star rated hotel. Please mail this form in as
soon as possible. If your plans change and you
cannot attend, these fees will be returned (but make
sure you cancel your room reservations yourself). A
reservation can be cancelled right up to the day of
check-in, so even if your plans change you are okay.

This is the only authorized and sanctioned NDQSA
Reunion Event that will be held in 2009.

Reunion Activities

Reunion Wounded Warriors Support Project

- Sam Hopkins

During this year's NDQSA Reunion, our Vietnam veterans will give direct aid to the wounded warriors at the Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC) of Ft. Sam Houston. We plan to give at least 50 pre-paid credit cards to the combat veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan on one of the hospital wards. We will give even more cards if we receive enough donations from our membership. Many of these patients and their families need help with their living expenses. During the Reunion's scheduled tour of Ft. Sam Houston on Thursday, July 2nd, a few representatives from our membership will be allowed to present the gift cards to the patients at BAMC. The hospital staff will invite one of the wounded warriors to attend our annual banquet on July 4th to report about the quality medical care being provided those who serve in harm's way today. Whether or not you attend the Reunion, you can send your financial support for the wounded warriors to the NDQSA as a charitable contribution for a very good cause. As the slogan of the Vietnam Veterans of America has said, "Never again will one generation of veterans desert another."

NDQSA Memorial Ceremony San Antonio Vietnam Memorial

- Robert Lauver

Friday July 3rd

Start at 8:30AM

Background music

Introductory Remarks,

Pledge of Allegiance, by Bruce Geiger

National Anthem

Remarks on Legacy of the Fallen,

by Bob Lauver

Amazing Grace

Benediction & Prayer Sam Hopkins

TAPS Instrumental

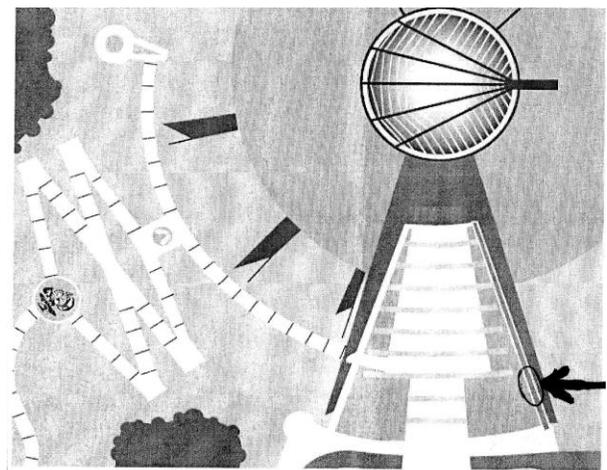


NDQSA Supports National Museum of the Marine Corps



Yes there has been a lot of mention of Marines in this newsletter. Probably won't happen again. If you did not serve in one of the ADA units along the DMZ, you probably never even saw a Marine in Vietnam. However, the men of 1/44th, G-29th and G-65th all fought and some died along with these brave servicemen.

NDQSA has demonstrated our support for the Vietnam-era Marines by purchasing four of the bricks (photos in column one) that now line the winding pathways to the rally points in Semper Fidelis Memorial Park overlooking the Museum in Quantico, VA. The bricks #10660, 10661, 10662 and 10663 are located within the north side of the Museum Entrance Plaza on the right between the last black concrete bollard and the stairs leading down into the parking lot. (See arrow on map below)



SILVER STAR RESEARCH PROGRAM

- Paul Kopsick, NDQSA Historian



You would think that there is a list of every Silver Star ever awarded...well there is not! The only way our group can identify Silver Star awardees is to have each man identify himself and to present a copy of his citation. We have a vague idea how many there might be, based on the quarterly Battalion Operational Reports and Lesson Learned reports (ORLLs).

However even they do not list names, only how many awards were written up and how many were approved. Also towards the end of 1971, when the battalions' operations were winding down, some paperwork was never processed and no ORLLs were generated for the last quarter of 1971.

So if you were awarded a Silver Star and have not already sent me a copy of your citation, please do that. Each newsletter we will post a citation to honor the man and his service.



This issue we honor **SP4 Ralph O. Widener**, of C-Btry/4/60th now of Lompac, CA. He trained at McGregor Range and went over on the USNS Gen. W. H. Gordon in 1967. He was the driver on C-131 and C-132 at LZ Willie, he received three Purple Heart medals and here is a 1971 newspaper clipping that contains some of his Silver Star citation.

Wounded GI Gets Silver Star

The Silver Star yesterday was awarded to SP4 Ralph O. Widener for "conspicuous gallantry, extraordinary heroism and intrepidity at the risk of his own life."

Brig. Gen. George A. Godding, Pacific chief of the Army Security Agency, pinned the medal on Widener's blue hospital fatigues at Tripler Hospital. Widener has been recovering there from wounds he received in a fire-fight in South Vietnam in which he distinguished himself.

The 22-year old soldier's parents were present at yesterday's ceremony. They are Mr. And Mrs. Roy I. Widener, 7096 Kalaniani'ole Hwy., who also have a son in the Navy.

"It is an honor for me to be able to pin this on him," said Godding.

Widener was a driver of a self-propelled, tracked vehicle mounting twin 40-mm guns with C-Btry, 1st Platoon, 4th Battalion, 60th Artillery, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile).

He was part of a security force defending a bridge in the Viet Cong stronghold of An Loa Valley near Bon Song. An estimated two platoons of North Vietnamese Army regulars attacked Widener's platoon.

Widener laid down cover fire until his vehicle was hit by rocket fire and he was wounded seriously and knocked unconscious. His companion crew members abandoned the vehicle, thinking it destroyed.

"Upon regaining consciousness, Widener again began laying the down cover fire not only with one weapon but with all weapons on the vehicle," his citation read.

After all ammunition had been fired from the vehicle, Widener, in spite of being seriously wounded, left the vehicle with his personal weapon and joined the squad of infantrymen on the ground in the successful defense of the valuable bridge."

Widener said he plans to return to Fair Oaks, Calif., where he and his family made their home until 18 months ago.

This is also an example of incidents in which a guy is medevac-ed out from the battlefield and his buddies (Austin, Level, Pettis, Wolmack, Johnson) may not have heard what finally happened to him. Conversely, Ralph would have also lost touch with his crewmen, who may also have been wounded and medevac-ed.

So please send the Historian any information you have regarding Silver Star awardees. Several SS awardees have probably since passed so we need to know from knowledgeable officers and buddies of any men in this category.

Contact the Historian at dqshistorian@cox.net or by mail at NDQSA, PO Box 2903, Fairfax VA 22031.

NDQSA – THE FALLEN

In each newsletter we plan to do dedicate a page to the memory of a name on the NDQSA Casualty List. This issue focuses on 3 original men of G/65th Quad 50's.

James Scott of Hubert, NC provides the background and history as well as several newspaper clippings. James recalls several of his good buddies from his days of training on Quads in Oro Grande, NM. They were: **James M. Wilson**, the quiet one from Utica, Kentucky; **James L. Tweed**, the hell-raiser from Findlay, Ohio; and **Robert E. Johnson** of Delaware.

They spent a lot of time together at Ft. Bliss, but following the boat trip in Oct '66 and deployment in support of the 3rd Marine Division, their little group of squad leaders got split up soon after setting up the battery HQ in Dong Ha.

James Scott's truck with gun G-23 was running Rt 9 between Gio Linh, Khe Sanh and Lang Vie Special Forces Camp. Although not stationed at Lang Vei, James remembers it as manned by about 10 US Special Forces, 17 C-B's putting in pill boxes, Vietnamese Special Forces and ~100 Montagnards or CIDG, Civilian Irregular Defense Group. The following is a photo of Scott's gun being used for a photo OP. These guys never touched the gun before and just wanted their picture taken with it.



Giving this "quad-50" machine gun a thorough going-over are MSG Harmon D. Adams, Powell, Tenn., and Vietnamese Special Forces MSG Le Van Chanh. These noncommissioned officers are the team sergeants of their respective teams, and are responsible for supervising the maintenance and operation of all the camp equipment.

Out of his group, SGT Robert Ernest Johnson was the first to die, on 7/21/67. He was originally a battery

clerk, but wanted to get in the field and was a squad leader on a gun-truck and was hit by small arms fire.

James Murl Wilson was once interviewed and said:

Quad-50's Protect Marines

PHU BAI — Specialist Fourth Class James M. Wilson is an Army man who specializes in protecting Marines.

He mans a truck-mounted battery of .50 cal, machineguns, better known as "quad-50's." His job is to protect Marine convoys.

"I've been with the Marines since I arrived in Vietnam six months ago," said Wilson, "our unit ("G" Battery, 65th Artillery) rides shot-gun for 3rd Marine Division convoys, and helps man the Marine perimeters at night."

His quad-50's are mounted on a two-and-a-half ton truck. He sits in the middle of an electrically controlled turret with two machineguns on controls inside the turret.

"The guns all fire together,"

said Wilson, "and we can put out 2,000 rounds a minute. They have an effective ground range of 2,000 meters and an aerial range of 1,000 meters," he said.

The quad-50's were originally designed for anti-aircraft warfare, but have proven highly effective against ground troops. His truck has been operating in support of Operations Chincock and "Big Horn," along Highway No. 1.

"We carry 6,500 rounds of .50 caliber ammunition with us," he said, "and each gun is always loaded. That's a lot of firepower!"

"My only worry here is mines," Wilson said. "The VC have been mining roads here pretty heavily. But in a fire-fight," he adds, "I don't think I'd worry much with all this firepower wrapped around me!"

2 SEA TIGER

SGT Wilson would be killed on 9/07/67 and two days later on 9/09/67, SGT James Lee Tweed would perish.

From Bob Lauver: Although Squad Leader of his Quad 50, Tweed was in the Gunner's sling. The convoy hit an ambush, and Jim must have been one of the first hit. The driver said that a sniper in a tree fired directly down on them. Jim never got a chance to return fire.

James Scott recently visited Ft. Bliss and Oro Grande. He says not much is left around Ft. Bliss, but Oro Grande looks the same. The Quonset huts are still there! You can even see them by using Google Earth.

Although Juarez has been the recent focus in the news of drug wars and killings, a couple of years ago it was still safe enough to visit. James' wife still says it has the best \$2-dollar Margaritas she's ever tasted. They toasted to the memories of our Fallen Brothers.

Vietnam Casualties

WASHINGTON (S&S) — The Defense Department has announced the following casualties in connection with the Vietnam conflict.

KILLED IN ACTION

Army
SP5 Juan Ramirez, Ly
Cpl. Ronald P. Cherr
Calif.
SP4 David A. Schultz, So
Sgt. Eric P. Muller, Gre
SP4 Ray A. Archuleta, I
Pfc. Gerald F. P. Wen
Fla.
Sgt. Kenneth W. Tate, A
Cpl. Gary L. Gillen, A
Pfc. Orrin J. Cassata, C
SP4 James V. Hembree
Cpl. William E. Hocker
Ky.
SP4 William E. Lawson Paducah, Ky.
Sgt. James M. Wilson, Utica, Ky.
Sgt. Leroy J. Draby, Scottville, Mich.
SP4 Edwin P. Prentice, E
Cpl. William J. Doran, N.Y.
Pfc. Robert S. Barnes, F
Pfc. William R. Brennan, Ha
SSgt. Dillard Brock, Ha
Sgt. James L. Tweed, Fi
SP4 Robert D. Blough, S
SP4 Robert L. Righter J
Ohio.
Pfc. Ronald B. Kerner,
SP4 Willie L. Jones Jr.,
Pfc. Terry R. Litz, Olan
SP4 Leon Simms, McG
Pfc. Richard B. Lozano, I
Pfc. Leonard J. Tauschel,



In preparation for voting at the next Business Meeting, the Bylaws Committee, Chaired by Vice-President Robert Lauver, has presented the following draft document for consideration. It will replace the existing NDQSA Constitution. All members, whether in active or inactive status are encouraged to express your views on the new document. Send your comments via email to NDQSA@cox.net or contact one of the officers by phone. Please be specific and identify yourself fully.

DRAFT BYLAWS OF THE NATIONAL DUSTERS QUADS SEARCHLIGHTS ASSOCIATION, INC.

ARTICLE 1 - Introduction and Definition

These Bylaws constitute the rules adopted by the National Dusters Quads Searchlights Association, Inc. (the "Association"), for the management of its affairs.

General

Section 1.1 – **Name:** The name of the Association shall be National Dusters Quads Searchlights Association, Inc. Abbreviated: NDQSA and historically known as Dusters, Quads and Searchlights or DQS.

Section 1.2 – **Location:** The location of the principal office of this Association shall be as determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 1.3 – **Fiscal Year:** The fiscal year of the Association shall begin on the first day of January and end on the last day of December.

Section 1.4 – **Tax Status:** None of the aforementioned objectives shall be construed to authorize the Association to conduct activities for monetary profit or financial gain or to engage in any activity not consistent with the organizations tax exempt status.

ARTICLE 2 - Purpose and Powers

The Association shall have the purposes and powers as may be stated in its Articles of Incorporation, these Bylaws, and such powers as are now or may hereafter be granted by law.

The Association has as its objectives and purposes:

- a. To promote acquaintance, good fellowship, and friendly relations among its members.
- b. To identify and recognize all who qualify for membership in the Association.
- c. To recognize the history and achievements of the members of the Association.
- d. To promote good works and assistance to those who carry on the mission of the members of the Association.
- e. To pay homage and respect to those who gave their lives accomplishing the mission of Dusters, Quads, Searchlights, and related Air Defense and Artillery units in service to the United States.

ARTICLE 3 - Membership

Section 3.1-**Definition of Membership:** The members of the Association are those individuals having membership rights in accordance with the provisions of the Bylaws.

- a. **Active Member:** Annual dues paid in full on time.
- b. **Inactive Member:** Annual dues not paid on time for the fiscal year.

Section 3.2-**Classes of Membership:** The Association shall have three classes of Members designated as follows:

- a. **Regular Members:** A Regular Member shall:
 1. Have been a member of the Army of the United States who served honorably in the Vietnam War and throughout their Army service and was assigned or attached to active duty with dusters, quads, searchlights or other related ADA as documented by their DD 214 or other evidence of service.
 2. Election of new members shall be by vote of the Board of Directors at any regular meeting. A vote of a majority of the Directors shall be required for election to membership. If an application for membership is not approved by the Board of Directors then the applicant shall be promptly notified of such action.
 3. Active Regular Members (ARMs) are entitled to vote on any action required by the Association and may participate in any discussions or debates leading up to such a vote. ARMs may serve as a voting member

of the Board of Directors as more fully set forth in Article 4 of these Bylaws.

- b. **Associate Members:** An Associate Member shall:
 - 1. Be an individual with an interest in the activities and history of the Association not otherwise qualified to be a Regular Member of the Association and having been approved by the Board of Directors.
 - 2. Not be entitled to vote on any action required by the Association. However, Associate Members may participate in any discussions or debates leading up to such a vote. An Associate Member may serve as a non-voting member of the Board of Directors as more fully set forth in Article 4 of these Bylaws.
- c. **Honorary Members:** Honorary Members are designated by the Board of Directors of the Association in recognition of distinguished service rendered to the Association, to the Government of the United States, or for any such other reason deemed worthy by the Association's Board of Directors. Honorary members shall:
 - 1. Retain their membership for life and shall be exempt from annual dues or special assessments.
 - 2. Have the same privileges and duties as any other member unless specifically excluded or limited by these Bylaws.
 - 3. Not be entitled to vote on any action required to be taken but Honorary Members may participate in any discussion or debate at any meeting.
 - 4. Not have the privilege of holding elective or appointive office, but may be appointed to serve on committees at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Section 3.3-Voting:

- a. All Active Regular Members of the Association shall have voting privileges and each shall have one vote in the affairs of the Association. The vote may be in person at the annual reunion or by absentee ballot, properly completed and received by the designated individual prior to the opening of the reunion. Members must be in active status (current dues paid for the fiscal year) for their vote to be accepted.

- b. Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, members shall be entitled to participate in all the activities, to receive the benefits of all the services of the Association, and to vote upon all matters that come before the general membership of the Association for action.

Section 3.4-Dues:

- a. Dues are legal obligations of Regular and Associate members of the Association.
- b. The amount of annual dues shall be determined by the Board of Directors for each class of membership.
- c. Dues should be paid at the beginning of the fiscal year but must be paid prior to the commencement of the annual business meeting of each calendar year. Failure to pay dues by that date shall render the member to inactive status within the Association.

Section 3.5 – Meetings:

- a. The Annual Meeting of the membership of the Association shall be held at least once each calendar year at a time and place designated by the Board of Directors.
- b. Special meetings of the Association may be called by any of the following:
 - 1. A majority of the Board of Directors.
 - 2. The President.
 - 3. Not less than 1/3rd of the voting members of the Association.
- c. A meeting notice stating the date, time and place of any meeting of the members shall be delivered to each member of the Association not less than thirty (30) nor more than ninety (90) days before the date of the meeting. In the case of a special meeting, the meeting notice shall include the purposes for which such meeting is called. Notices to the members shall be by first class mail or by electronic or facsimile communication and shall be directed to the address reflected on the membership roll of the Association. Notice will be deemed delivered on the date it is mailed or distributed electronically.
- d. Only Active Regular Members are entitled to vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the members. Members of any other class of membership are not entitled to vote.
- e. A quorum shall consist of one-tenth of the active members of the Association, based on those present to vote including those who submitted

valid absentee ballots. A majority of the votes of those members constituting the quorum shall be required to determine any action unless a greater proportion is required by law or by the Bylaws of the Association.

- f. The Rules contained in *Robert's Rules of Order* shall govern this Association in all cases to which they are applicable, including meetings of the membership and Board of Directors, provided that said rules of order are not inconsistent with these Bylaws or other special rules that may be adopted by the Association from time to time.

Section 3.6-**Termination of Membership:**

Membership in the Association will terminate upon any of the following events:

- a. Death of the individual
- b. Receipt by the Board of Directors of the written resignation of a member, executed by the official representative of the individual.
- c. By a majority vote of the Board of Directors if the member has been determined to engage in activities that compromise the reputation of the Association.
- d. Any person whose membership in the Association is terminated for any reason except that of final dissolution of the Association shall relinquish and forfeit any and all rights, title, and interest in any funds or other property belonging to the Association.
- e. The return of any transmittal, sent by any means, due to insufficient, incomplete, or inaccurate recipient address will result in the recipient being removed from all mailing lists until such time that correct address information is received.
- f. The failure to pay dues by the end of any fiscal year will result in the member being relegated to inactive status until such time as dues are current.

Section 3.7 - Reinstatement: If a former member wishes to seek reinstatement as a member of the Association, the confirmation process for new members applies.

ARTICLE 4 – Directors

Section 4.1 - **Definition of Board of Directors:**

The Board of Directors is that group of persons vested with the management of the business and affairs of this Association and who are subject to the statutes applicable to the Association, its Articles of Incorporation, and these Bylaws. The Directors shall be elected by the active regular membership at the annual business meeting based upon recommendations from the Nominating Committee. Nominations may also be

made by any active regular member. The nominees receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected.

Section 4.2 - **Designation**

- a. The Board of Directors shall consist of an odd number or at least nine (9) but no more than thirteen (13) voting members including the six Executive Officers. (See Article 5)

Section 4.3 – **Terms of Office:**

- a. A Director's term shall begin at the conclusion of the annual meeting at which the director has been elected.
- b. Directors shall be granted the authority to manage the Association to the extent provided by law.
- c. The term of each director shall be two years. Terms of directors shall be staggered with about half of the positions commencing in odd numbered years and the remainder commencing in even numbered years. The election of directors shall take place right after the election of the five executive officers, who shall also serve as directors along with the immediate past president. Terms of the initial directors will be determined by lot.
- d. Election of directors shall take place at the annual meeting of members. Each voting member may cast one vote for each director position open for election at such meeting. Election shall be awarded to the candidates receiving the largest number of votes based on the number of positions subject to the election.
- e. The term of office of any Director with two (2) consecutive unexcused absences from meetings of the Board of Directors during the twelve (12) month period following the annual meeting may be terminated by the President and the unexpired term filled in accordance with the requirements of Article 4.3.g.
- f. A Director may be removed from office if a majority of the Board determines that it is in the best interests of the Association to do so. Such removal may only come after an investigation, the submission of a written report to the Board of Directors and an opportunity for the Director to answer the charges or allegations in the report against him or her. The unexpired term of the Director removed in accordance with this provision of the Bylaws shall be filled in accordance with Article 4.3.g.

g. Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors, either by death, termination or resignation may be filled by appointment by the President subject to approval of the Board of Directors and the appointee will serve for the unexpired term of the predecessor in office.

Section 4.4 - **Meetings**

- a. Regular or special meetings of the Board of Directors will be held at a time and place designated by the President or at the written request of a majority of the Board. Meetings may be in person or by conference call.
- b. A simple majority of the Board of Directors will constitute a quorum. The act of a majority of the Directors present at a meeting in which a quorum is present will be the act of the Board of Directors itself unless a greater number is required under the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation of this Association or any provision of these Bylaws. A Director may vote either in person or by proxy executed in writing by the Director. No proxy will be recognized as valid more than thirty (30) days from the date of its execution unless expressly provided otherwise in the proxy.
- c. Notice of meetings: A notice of meetings shall be provided to the Directors not less than ten (10) nor more than ninety (90) days before the meeting. The lack of notice shall be deemed waived if a Board Member attends a meeting without objection or absent members sign a written consent thereto.

ARTICLE 5 -Executive and Appointed Officers

Section 5.1 – **Executive Officers:** The executive officers of the Association shall consist of a president, vice president, 2nd vice president, secretary, treasurer, and the immediate past president if so willing or available to serve. If the immediate past president is included in the Board of Directors he shall be entitled to vote on all issues as long as he maintains his active status.

Section 5.2 – **Terms of Office:** Executive Officers shall be elected by the membership at the annual business meeting based upon recommendations from the Nominating Committee. Nominations may also be made by any Active Regular Member in good standing. The nominees receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected. Each executive officer shall serve a

term of two years. The position of president shall be limited to a total of two (consecutive or nonconsecutive) terms. There shall be no term limits for other officers.

Section 5.3 – **Duties:** The duties of each office shall include, but not be limited to, duties prescribed by law and those additional duties set forth below. The president may assign additional duties to any officer as the president deems appropriate.

Section 5.4 – **President:** The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association. The President shall, when present, preside at all meetings of the members and directors; the President shall have general management and direction of the business of the Association.

Section 5.5 – **Immediate Past President:** The Immediate Past President shall have the primary duty of providing consul and continuity to the President and other officers of the Association. The Immediate Past President shall have such additional powers and duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors or by the President.

Section 5.6 – **Vice-President:** The Vice-President shall, in the absence of the President, perform all the duties of the President and when so acting shall have the powers of the President. The Vice-President shall have such additional powers and duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors or by the President.

Section 5.7 – **2nd Vice-President:** The 2nd Vice-President shall, in the absence of the Vice-President, perform all the duties of the Vice-President and when so acting shall have the powers of the Vice-President. The 2nd Vice-President shall have such additional powers and duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors or by the President.

Section 5.8 – **Secretary:** The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings of members and of the Board of Directors; he shall see that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of the Bylaws or as required by law; he shall be the custodian of the records and of the corporate seal or seals of the Association; he shall see that the corporate seal is affixed to all documents, the execution of which on behalf of the Association under its seal is duly authorized, and when so affixed may attest the same; and he shall perform

such other duties as, from time to time, may be assigned to him by the Board of Directors or by the President.

Section 5.9 – Treasurer: The Treasurer shall have charge of and be responsible for the reporting of all petty cash, funds, securities, receipts and disbursements of the Association, and shall deposit, or cause to be deposited, in the name of the Association, all monies or other valuable affects such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as shall, from time to time, be selected by the Board of Directors. He shall engage an independent auditor to audit the books annually and shall present the audited financial statement to the Board of Directors at the annual business meeting. He shall render to the President and to the Board of Directors, quarterly and whenever additionally requested, an account of the status of investments and the financial condition of the Association; and, in general, shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the Board of Directors or by the President.

Section 5.10 – Sergeant at Arms – The board will appoint an appropriately qualified individual to serve as Sergeant at Arms for a term of two years. The Sergeant at Arms shall be responsible for maintaining order during all meetings. The Sergeant at Arms shall maintain sign-in sheets for all membership meetings. The Sergeant at Arms shall collect and count any and all written ballots when secret elections or other secret votes are conducted.

Section 5.11 – Chaplain: The board will appoint an appropriately qualified individual to serve as Chaplain for a term of two years. The Chaplain shall be responsible for providing pastoral services to the organization at all meetings. The Chaplain is entitled to participate in meetings.

Section 5.12 – Historian: The board will appoint an appropriately qualified individual to serve as Association Historian for a term of two years. The Historian will be responsible for researching, compiling, and authenticating the records of the activities of the Association and the members thereof.

Section 5.13 – Appointed officers may, but are not required to be, members of the Board of Directors at the time of their appointment.

Section 5.14 – Multiple Offices: One person may hold no more than two of the above offices simultaneously, except that the offices of: president and vice president or 2nd vice president; president and secretary; or secretary and treasurer, may not be combined.

Section 5.15 - Removal of Officers: Any Officer elected or appointed to office may be removed by the persons authorized under these Bylaws to elect or appoint such officer whenever in their judgment the best interests of the Association will be served.

Section 5.16 - Vacancy in the Office of the President: If the office of President shall be vacated for any reason, the Vice-President shall become acting President for the remainder of the unexpired term. If for any reason the Vice-President cannot serve, then the 2nd Vice-President shall become acting President for the remainder of the unexpired term. If the Vice-President or the 2nd Vice-President should be required to serve an unexpired term of the President, this term shall not count against the two term limit.

Section 5.17 – Vacancies: If a vacancy occurs in any office for which provision for filling such vacancy is not otherwise provided for in these Bylaws, then any such vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the Board of Directors for the remainder of the unexpired term and until a successor have been duly elected and qualified at the next regular election.

Section 5.18 – Compensation: All officers shall serve without compensation except that they may be reimbursed for actual out-of-pocket expenses incurred in the performance of the duties of their office. Paid expense shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 6 - Standing Committees

Section 6.1 - Committee Identification: The Board of Directors shall annually recommend, the Chairpersons of the following standing committees:

- a. **Membership Committee** – Identify and recruit members.
- b. **Legislative Committee** – Identify legislation of interest to members and veterans in general.
- c. **Reunion Committee** – Identify locations of interest to the membership, negotiate, and plan reunions.

- d. **Good Works Committee** – Identify projects of interest and pertaining to members and veterans in general.
- e. **Publications Committee** – Plan, organize, layout, print, and distribute all publications and mailings (either traditional or electronic, to include web site and forum) of the Association.

From time to time it may be necessary to change either the name of the committee as the reason for its purpose no longer exists or the affairs of the Association would be best handled by a different organizational structure. The Board of Directors may make such changes as may be necessary for the effective management of the Association provided that the same shall not be inconsistent with the provisions and requirements of these By-Laws. The President shall be a member Ex-Officio of all committees.

Section 6.2 - Nominating Committee: At its regular meeting the Board of Directors shall appoint a Nominating Committee, one of whom shall be appointed Chairperson by the Board of Directors, and one of whom shall be a member of the Board, whose duties shall be to identify candidates for nomination to the Board of Directors at the next Annual Meeting of the Association. They shall notify the Secretary in writing at least thirty days (30) before the date of the Annual Meeting of the names of such candidates and the Secretary shall immediately notify members and present the candidates to the Board of Directors for their consideration and approval. At the Annual Meeting, the Committee shall place the names of their candidates in nomination for election.

Section 6.3 - Special/Ad Hoc Committees: The President may appoint any desired committee which shall serve during his term of office.

Section 6.4 - Committee Meetings: Committees shall meet whenever called by their respective Chairperson and upon such notice and under such rules of procedure as they may in such case determine.

ARTICLE 7- Restrictions of Association Officers, Committees and Members

Section 7.1 - Compliance with Bylaws: Members of the Association shall comply with all the Bylaws of the Association.

Section 7.2 - Restriction of Action: Members, Committees or individual officers shall take no action in the name of the Association, not specifically provided for in the Bylaws of the Association, either individually or together with other members of the Association, without authorization of the Board of Directors of the proposed action.

ARTICLE 8 -Financial Operations

Section 8.1 - Fiscal Year: The fiscal year of the Association shall begin on January 1st and end on the 31st of December.

Section 8.2 - Association Funds: The operations of the Association shall be supported from dues, individual contributions, and other activities, which may be approved by the Board of Directors from time to time.

Section 8.3 - Books and Records: This Association will keep correct and complete books and records of accounts based on the Association's fiscal year, and will keep minutes of the proceedings of its member meetings, and Board of Director meetings. The Association will keep at its office/office of the President, a membership register giving the names, addresses, and showing classes and other details of the membership of each, and the original or a copy of its Bylaws including amendments to date certified by the Secretary of the Association.

Section 8.4 - Inspection of Books and Records: All books and records of this Association may be inspected by any member, member's agent or member's attorney, for any proper purpose at any reasonable time on written demand under stating such purpose. Such books and records shall also be audited annually by an independent accounting firm.

Section 8.5 - Non-Profit Operation: Compensation – This association is a Non-Profit Corporation, and as such it will not have or issue shares of stock. No Officer or Board Member will be paid, and no part of the income of this Association will be distributed to its members, Officers, or Directors for services rendered.

Section 8.6 - Loans to Management: This Association will make no loans to any of its Officers, Directors or employees.

NDQSA MEMBER ROSTER UPDATE

Section 8.7 – **Disbursements:** The Board of Directors shall make payments from existing funds at such times and to such persons and in such amounts as they deem necessary to conduct the activities of the Association. The Treasurer shall disburse all monies under the direction of and to the satisfaction of the Board of Directors. Proper vouchers and receipts shall be submitted and secured for all Association disbursements.

Section 8.8 - **Claims for Expense Refunds:** All vouchers for expenses incurred by Officers or Directors must be submitted not more than sixty (60) days after expenses are incurred or they shall be declared void unless otherwise approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 8.9 - **Rights to Assets of the Association:** No member of this Association shall have any vested right, interest or privilege of, in, or to the assets, function, affairs, or franchises of the Association, or any right, interest, or privilege which may be transferable or inheritable, or which will continue if his/her membership ceases, or while he/she is not in good standing. Expelled members shall have no property rights to assets of the Association. On dissolution, assets of the Association remaining after the payment or discharge of all liabilities of the Association shall be disseminated with liquid assets being donated to (to be determined when appropriate) and memorabilia to (to be determined when appropriate) as defined in the Articles of Incorporation.

ARTICLE 9 -Professional Assistance

Section 9.1-**Professional Assistance as Required:** The Board of Directors may, from time to time, employ professional and special assistance to better meet the Association's objectives as defined by these Bylaws.

ARTICLE 10 -Amendments

Section 10.1- **Amendment to these Bylaws:** The power to alter, amend, or repeal the Bylaws of this Corporation is vested in the members. Such action must be taken pursuant to a resolution approved by a majority of the Directors and by two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at a general membership meeting plus absentee ballots, properly completed, received by the designated individual prior to the opening of the meeting.

One of the most important services an Association can provide its members is the ability to contact other members and to find men they served with. The NDQSA Contacts List (aka the Roster) is such a resource. Unfortunately, it takes a lot of work and cooperation to maintain such a resource, even with the advent of the World Wide Web.

The reality is that an individual's contact information is a dynamic thing. Area codes change. Zip Codes change. Addresses change and of course email addresses change.

If you have not paid your annual dues in the last few years, you can be sure that some part of your contact information is no longer correct. Even if you received this newsletter by mail, your address might not be exactly correct, and other facts may also have changed.

THIS IS IMPORTANT!!!

The Membership Committee plans to try and update all the names in the Roster during April. That is some 2400 names to try and call. You can make that task more reasonable by sending your full address, phone number(s) and email address, if you have one, to: NDQSA, PO Box 2903, Fairfax VA 22031 or emailing it to NDQSA@cox.net.

Whether you send in your dues or not, **please do this NOW**, or at least real soon. We do not care. We simply want to be able to contact you and to allow for other vets to contact you.

If we can reduce the number of names that require verification of contact information, it will be a big help. The resulting roster will then be worth printing and distributing to active members.

We would also like to confirm which units you served with and when you were in Vietnam, so include your unit(s). If you are looking for someone, if you know of someone that may not be in our list, please provide that information too. We want to be a resource to as many of our fellow ADA vets as we can locate.

Please help us make our Roster the best it can be.
Do it now, please! - Thank You

MEMBERSHIP FORM / ROSTER UPDATE FORM

(tear off this page and mail the top half in with your up to date contact information and unit history)

Contact Information (Print)

First Name: _____

Middle Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Nickname: _____

Current Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Email(s): _____

Home Phone: () -

Alt. Phone: () -

Service Information (Vietnam)

Dates of 1st tour (m/yr): ___/___ to ___/___

Primary MOS: _____

Primary Unit: _____

Secondary Unit: _____

Tertiary Unit: _____

Primary Location: _____

Grade: Officer: _____ NCO: _____ EM: _____

Valor Awards

PH () DSC () SS () BS/V () ACM/V ()

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Dues: \$25 per year (make check to NDQSA)

Mail address: NDQSA,
PO Box 2903,
Fairfax VA 20031

We understand that many vets are on fixed and limited incomes. Don't worry if you can't return to Active status, we will still support you in any way we can. Just keep your contact info current and you will get the newsletters.

We are pleased to report that we are already at 70% of last year's total of 250 Active members. What is even more encouraging is that 40% of the 2009 dues payments are from Inactive members returning to Active status. For the record, we have a 1:10 ratio of Active members subsidizing the Inactive members.

If you can handle it, try to maintain your Active status. Especially this year because the next Roster is going to be as up to date as we can get it.

If you want to help making calls, contact Joe Belardo, Chairman of the Membership Committee.
josephbelardo@yahoo.com We will assign groups of names to volunteers soon.

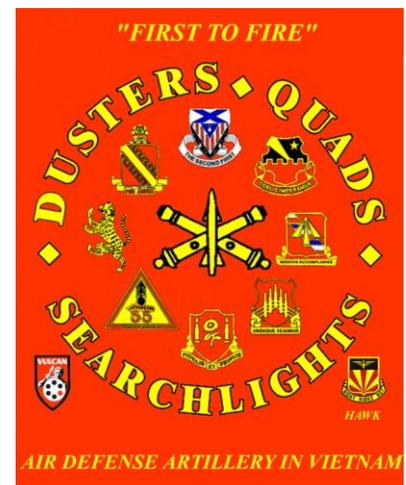
NDQSA HISTORY PICTORIAL BOOK

The 2006 Book Committee has finished their assigned tasks. The DQS History Book is complete and is being printed. We are expected it to be ready and hopefully mailed out in May/June, before the July reunion.

Here are some stats. The book contains 160 pages, which is 25% larger than when we started the project. Roughly one-third of the book is history, one-fourth is stories and the rest is biographies. There are over 300 original photos and images, sixty-three individual stories and 356 biographies with another 562 bio photos.

The interesting thing is that collectively we still only have about 250 book orders. So if you are new to the Association or you have been waiting until the book has been printed to put in an order, now is the time. I repeat, NOW IS THE TIME!

The order form is on the last page of this newsletter, or you can call Turner and use your credit card.



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Phone: (270) 443-0121

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 - We regret that we cannot accept any more biographies for inclusion in the book, but you are encouraged to send a personal bio to the DQS Historian for the Association's Archives
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2 - DQS - HB - For Office Use Only

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