

President's Message Bob Lauver - January 2012



Whew! 2012! We are almost 30 years past George Orwell's 1984. I remember reading the book prior to there being a Vietnam Conflict; the news of the day was that President Kennedy was sending "Advisors" to Laos to stem the expansion of Communism in Southeast Asia. To a kid in high school in the early 1960's, 1984

was so far in the future that the vision of Orwell seemed all too possible. I can remember talking to buddies that we could still be around to see the new millennium – 2000! A lot of history has passed as we have walked the trail of our lifetimes and now it is 2012. We have been blessed with having not just witnessed the passing of time; we have made some of the history of the era. In this upcoming year we are engaging in projects that will help us mark and note that history.

I have signed, and work is underway, on the development of a **new NDQSA website**. I am anticipating that this will be a menu driven format that will make it much easier to post and research the stories and photographs of our members. Information about the organization and our activities will be current and easy to find. The forum function will continue and it is my desire that it becomes a much more active site for our members. There will also be a dedicated supply room so that all can see new products as they become available. The website committee anticipates seeing the first version of our new look within the next few weeks. I have a deadline of the new website going live during the first half of 2012.

Project Eagle is moving much faster than anticipated. The committee chairmen, Vincent Tedesco and Luke Clark, along with all members have been active with design, procurement of materials, and location of a site at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. We are initiating fund raising activities with the publication of this newsletter. I would ask that all members and individuals with interest in the activities of Air Defense Artillery make a contribution to what promises to be an outstanding permanent

Memorial to the Air Defenders of the Vietnam Era. We intend to have an artist's rendition of the monument at this year's reunion. We will also be selling memorial engraved bricks/pavers at that time. **Let's get behind this project and make it a reality.**

My wife Sue, Bruce Geiger and I visited the Northwest on a recon for this year's reunion. We looked at and met with many Hotels in the Greater Seattle/Tacoma area. With great thanks to my New York based negotiator (Bruce) I am pleased to announce that I signed a contract with the **Murano Hotel in Tacoma, Washington**. Not only will this be one of the most modern and luxurious hotels at which we have met, but this is one of the most spectacular regions of the country. This was negotiated for a rate of **\$99.00 per night!** Kudos to Bruce! The Hotel is located a few blocks from the waterfront with dining and museums within walking distance. There is public light rail nearby. The committee has even arranged a travel agent to coordinate an Alaskan Cruise after the reunion if you are interested. The cruise is not affiliated with NDQSA, you are on your own to make plans and reservations.

Details for the reunion events are still being worked out but we anticipate a day trip on Thursday which will include transportation via boat to Blake Island with a Native American Salmon Bar B Que Feast and ceremonial demonstration with a return to Pike's Place Market for local shopping. Friday will involve a bus tour of a Hudson Bay (1700's) Fort and Trading Post where we will hold our memorial service followed by lunch and a tour of Fort Lewis which many of us passed through on our return to the "World" from Vietnam. Saturday's annual banquet promises to be very special with local food and an outstanding speaker.

In addition to our normal activities in the Hospitality Room we will be honored Friday evening with a discussion of "Air Defense Artillery – Then and Now" by Colonel Vincent Tedesco. **I am asking you all to talk with your buddies, get out your rosters, call and get people to the reunion!**

We also need a name for the reunion!

Send suggestions to me at rhlauver@juno.com

**Minutes of
NDQSA Board of Directors and Executive Officers
Conference Call, December 28, 2011**

Members Present	Time in	Time out
President: Bob Lauver	10:59 AM ET	1:15 PM
V P.: Paul Hanson	Unavailable	
V P.: John Huelsenbeck	11:01 AM ET	12:58 PM ET
Secretary: Dave McCray	10:56 AM ET	1:15 PM ET
Treasurer: Allan Penwell	Unavailable	
Past President: Bruce Geiger	Unavailable	
Joseph Belardo	11:06 AM ET	1:03 PM ET
Luke Clark	10:59 AM ET	1:15 PM ET
Bob Cuce	10:57 AM ET	1:15 PM ET
Duane Gettler	10:57 AM ET	1:15 PM ET
Paul Kopsick	11:15 AM ET	1:15 PM ET
Sam Hopkins	10:59 AM ET	12:50 PM ET
George Nagelschmidt	10:59 AM ET	1:15 PM ET

Bob Lauver convened the Board of Directors meeting December 28, 2011 at 11:08 AM ET.

Bob Lauver called for approval of September 15 BOD Minutes which were mailed by Bob prior to meeting. A motion was made to accept the minutes and seconded. Motion carried unanimously and minutes were accepted.

Reports of Officers:

President, Bob Lauver – Deferred to later.

Past President, Bruce Geiger – is unavailable.

Vice President, Paul Hanson – is unavailable.

First Vice-President, John Huelsenbeck – has no report.

Secretary, Dave McCray - is officially recording the e-mail vote and phone call vote to move forward on the Web Site Contract. The vote was unanimous and approval was granted. More detail below.

Treasurer, Allan Penwell – Allan provided a report and Bob Lauver read the report. The report stated we are close to year end and financials will be reported after completing the year-end audit. Operating cash is over 15K higher than last year even with only a small profit. This occurred primarily due to excellent inventory sales and timing difference related to the Gold Star Mother funds for the spring Vietnam trip. Year end cash balance should be around 55K. There are no outstanding bills at this time. We had a small profit based on a record income of 66K which included 14K inventory purchases.

Next Bob Lauver moved to Committee Reports (note they are not necessarily in order of discussion):

Membership Committee: Paul Kopsick made several new contacts mostly related to photo archiving. Returned newsletters resulted in 4 -5 members having passed and

about 20 for lost contact information. Already, we have over 200 Active Members paid through 2012 out of the 480 paid members from last year. Paul Kopsick will order the new membership cards from Vistaprint. Also he will order postcards to be used in locating DQS Vets. With over 200 memberships now paid Paul requested permission to order from Kinko's membership directories. A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to print 250 directories.

Nominating Committee: (Sam Hopkins & Joe Belardo) Paul Kopsick will put in the newsletter a call for nominations for Executive Officers. The nominations are due by the end of February in anticipation of printing ballots for the reunion. Nominations will also be called for at the Annual Membership meeting. Completed Ballots will be mailed to Dave McCray; Secretary for collection and to remain sealed and passed to the Nominating Committee prior to the Annual Membership Meeting in Seattle.

Legislative: Paul Kopsick received the 2011 form NP-20 from the state of Indiana for reporting on our non-profit status. He forwarded it to Allan Penwell, Treasurer for processing.

Good Works Committee: (Paul Kopsick, Bruce Geiger, Sam Hopkins) Paul Kopsick reports 32 rounds of 40mm ammo were formally presented to VMMV for use on their restored Dusters. Paul purchased and restored the rounds and was reimbursed the \$500 for his efforts. Alan Coors was appreciative of the gift and continues to support the NDQSA. Sam Hopkins reports he has located two worthy causes in Seattle. They were the VA Medical Center and the Fisher House. In the discussion, it was decided to commit to \$3,000 with NDQSA Treasury guaranteeing \$1,500 if needed and the remainder to be raised by the membership for the Fisher House. Motion was made, accepted and approved unanimously.

Publications/Historian Committee: Paul Kopsick published three newsletters in 2011. Follow-ups on returned newsletters are performed by Paul K. The newsletters are the only way of tracking the loss of contacts. Over 800 members receive their newsletters by e-mail. The next newsletter will be published in mid-January. Sharing of Vietnam experiences is encouraged. Please send them to Paul Kopsick.

Reunion Committee: (Bob Lauver, Paul Hanson, Bruce Geiger, Sam Hopkins, Mary Severin and Gary Hunsaker) Bob Lauver announced the signing of a contract for the reunion at the Hotel Murano in Tacoma for July 11-15,

2012. The cost will be \$99/night double occupancy with parking \$10 per night. The rates are available 4 days prior to reunion and 4 days after reunion. A breakfast rate has been negotiated at a reasonable rate. The internet is available in the meeting room and lobby. Hotel is close to water and other amenities. Memorial service will be on Friday July 13th at the Fort Nisqually Museum or the museum at Fort Lewis which has a Duster and Hawk as part of their exhibit. Contact will be made with the local VVA chapters to arrange flags, bugler and honors for the service. Other tours (Fort Lewis, Blake Island-native owned island, 7 day Alaskan Inside Passage Cruise that starts on Sunday with prices from \$1,030 to \$1,870) may be arranged with details to be provided later. Bob has obtained a speaker who was an active Company CO in Hue and is now a retired Colonel. Bob stated Airport shuttles and a Train Station are available. Other items mentioned were Salmon fishing available, Mt. Rainer Park tours and our Hotel is pet friendly. Complete details will be available in our newsletter.

Operation Eagle Committee: (Luke Clark, Vincent Tedesco, Joe Belardo) Luke stated that the ADA Museum people are not involved in the discussions. David Christianson is our sole contact. No actual formal quotes have been obtained yet. The estimates are for three levels. The first level is 35-40K that has no benches. The second level is for 50-55K which has 6 benches and bricks. The third level is 80K and has larger stones and more expensive stones. NDQSA plans to make paver brick available as a fundraiser for the project which includes a red brick with laser engraving which provides black glass lettering. This includes 3 lines of lettering with no set-up or engraving fee. Luke will proceed with the designs and approval from Fort Sill. Project is moving faster than anticipated. Luke also mentioned options for corporate donations. It was suggested that we start with a guarantee of 20K to the project from Treasury funds. Bob Lauver asked we delay that motion until we decide on which of the three we pursue and after we obtain approval from Fort Sill.

Products Committee: (Paul Kopsick, Bob Lauver, Duane Gettler) Duane reported he needs shirts. He has 14 on back order awaiting shirts. Bob reported Polo Shirts will be shipped around January 1 and T-shirts will be shipped January 9th directly to Duane. Bob reported he is not satisfied with the embroidery of the Duster on the heavy jackets. He is still working on them and those who had ordered the jackets have been contacted. The hat design is not finished. Bob encourages anyone to provide suggestions on the design of the new hat. The Committee decided to sell all the old T-shirts for \$10 including shipping to expedite the sale of the remaining items. Duane stated we have one

case of hats which contains 144 hats and two boxes of 25 remaining.

Website Committee: (Bob Lauver, Allan Penwell, Paul Kopsick, Bruce Geiger, Robert Schmeisser and Bob Cuce) As mentioned above, an e-mail vote was taken by 11 Board of Director's members and 2 phone votes by members for approval to sign the Mojo Contract and to move forward. Approval was given to Bob Lauver unanimously on November 17, 2011. The e-mail contained a copy of the contract for members to review. The specifics of the contract are as follows: Website consulting, website design and development (15 pages), website navigation planning, inclusion of a simple and secure forum, setup of a Paypal store, formatting of supplied photos and logos, access to a web-based CMS to edit website content, CMS training session, Proofreading for typos, two rounds of client changes, both parties will be responsible for testing before website launch. Website will be menu driven. Pricing is \$5,000 plus an annual Web Hosting Option fee of \$360. Contract with MoJo was signed by Bob Lauver November 22, 2011. Work will commence the first week of January, 2012 and is anticipated to become active in the second quarter of 2012.

Old/New Business:

Paul Kopsick stated the History Fanatics have obtained the Truck and are looking at a Quad which will cost about 20K plus 8K for the guns. Luke will send an e-mail asking for a progress report.

NDQSA will start a SLT restoration project with the goal to secure a Xenon SLT and possibly a jeep to mount it on for NDQSA related activities. Paul Kopsick and Jim Kurtz (H-29) are to coordinate the fundraising efforts. Paul Kopsick & Joe Belardo will explore additional sources for these items.

A committee was set up to plan NDQSA activities related to the 2012 Veterans Day Parade in DC. Plans are to have a Duster, Quad 50 gun truck and SLT jeep in the parade for men to march behind. There is a possibility of a hospitality suite the night before in a local hotel.

Bob Lauver reiterated the next meeting would be in March. A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and accepted. Meeting adjourned!

Minutes compiled by
David McCray,
Secretary

Minutes approved by
Bob Lauver,
President

**NDQSA Board of Directors and
Executive Officers July 9, 2011-July 2012**

Elected July 9, 2011

Executive Officers (5): (serving two-year terms of office through Annual Business Mtg. in 2012.)

President: Bob Lauver, (570) 374-1699 rhlauver@juno.com

Vice President: Paul Hanson, (610) 909-0632
pdhanson1@comcast.net

1st Vice President: John Huelsenbeck (260) 347-2898
sjfarms46710@gmail.com

Secretary: Dave McCray, (405) 692-4038 sooner3@cox.net

Treasurer : Allan Penwell, (217) 359-3720
a.penwell@comcast.net

Immediate Past President: Bruce Geiger
(914) 576-1050 cell:(914)924-3224 bmgeiger@aol.com

Board of Directors (7): (serving two-year terms of office until 2013 unless elected to Executive Office)

Joseph Belardo, (908) 754-5129 fishpopjoe@yahoo.com

Luke Clark (Parliamentarian), (337) 239-4193
lukeclark@yahoo.com

Bob Cuce, (631) 277-2893 bcuce@esbores.org

Sam Hopkins, (Chaplain)(903) 586-4488)
sampat1964@suddenlink.net

Paul Kopsick, (Historian) (202) 262-9560
dqshistorian@cox.net

Duane Gettler, (641) 742-3630 dumagettler@gmail.com

George Nagelschmidt, (315) 343-1528 No Email

Appointed Position

Sgt. At Arms Duane Harvey, (608) 754-1377
bohnr50@att.net

Advisors

Steve Moore, (484) 593-0467 lsmooredqs@yahoo.com

Vincent Tedesco, (570) 748-2428 suztedesco@aol.com

Larry LaPrairie, (601) 721-2777 laprairiepainting@cox.net

Montgomery T. Speir, (919) 787-5448

Advisors Emeritus,

Victor Hugo, (703) 893-3797

Douglas Mehle, (850) 916-4879

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN!

NDQSA by-laws call for opening nominations for the expiring five Executive Officer positions: President, Vice-President, 1st Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

The positions current terms expires in 2012 and new elections are need to fill these positions for the years 2013/14.

The Nominating Committee has confirmed that the current slate of Executive Officers are willing to enter their names for another two-year term.

Nevertheless, the nominating process and official balloting process must still be followed.

Also additional names can be submitted for inclusion on the 2012 ballot form. If you are interested in submitting any additional names for inclusion on the official 2012 ballot, you have until the end of February to submit your nominations. If you plan to nominate another person, you need to make sure that person knows that he is being nominated and will agree to serve according to the by-laws. Any names submitted before the February 28th deadline will be contacted for confirmation that he wants to be nominated.

During the Annual Business meeting, the by-laws allows for nominations from the floor, but by that time most of the mail-in ballots will have already been cast.

So if you want to nominate someone for one of the five positions, you must contact Sam Hopkins or Joe Belardo before March 1st.

**ANOTHER DUSTER PHOTO
BOOK IS IN THE WORKS**

NDQSA has been contacted by David Doyle who is the author of several of the Squadron photo books of various armor and weapon systems. The historian plans to meet with him to share some of the archived material for the new book to be titled "M42 Dusters in Action".

This will be a great opportunity for NDQSA to get a wider dissemination of our history to more of the general public.

More as the project develops.

Good Works Committee

For the past several years, the NDQSA has made a donation to some worthy local charity that benefits veterans and/or active duty personnel at the site where we hold our annual membership reunion. In 2012, the Good Works committee has selected the Fisher House near the Puget Sound Veterans Medical Center in Seattle as our service project for this year. The Fisher House serves the families of our nation's wounded warriors, giving them comfortable free boarding while their family member is in the hospital. During their stay (which can be very extended at times), the families must provide for their personal needs, often on very limited means and income.

The NDQSA in conjunction with the Fisher House Volunteer Services Department will provide pre-paid shopping cards for the staff to distribute to families as needed. Whether you plan to attend the reunion or simply want to help support a very good cause, you are invited to make a donation to this service project either with your reunion registration payment, or as a designated contribution to the NDQSA for the Fisher House program. Thanks for responding to this earnest worthwhile appeal.

— Chaplain Sam Hopkins

The NCO Corner

OK guys, it is time to start planning for Seattle/Tacoma in July. The venue is spectacular and I know many of you haven't been back to see Mount Rainier since you either flew out or returned from Vietnam. This could be one of the most beautiful locations we have chosen yet!!

Visits to Seattle, Ft. Lewis, Puget Sound, possibly Vancouver and Victoria, British Columbia are only a few of the things available. For those of you who have not seen the Northwest in July, you have a treat coming!!! This is truly a setting made for the wives and families so get your plans together as the Reunion committee have put together a spectacular package. Add your own ideas and it gets even better!

Last reunion we only found a couple of new NCOCS grads and the activity has not increased much during the year. Please put on your thinking caps and start contacting men from your classes to get active and participate in their association. NCO's are a special group and we need to keep looking for those who have not been contacted. Some may need our help or attention, some may not realize we are out here, and some may just need a nudge to rejoin the last NCOCS group in the Air defender's world. Please help me go out and find them.

If you have any information about NCOCS grads that you have not sent me please do so a.s.a.p. to pdhanson1@comcast.net or 610-909-0632. I'll be here somewhere. Until Seattle/Tacoma -- Stay well !!!!!

— Paul Hanson, Vice President

NEW PROJECT

SEARCHLIGHT RESTORATION

Until now, our only restoration projects have been related to the two Dusters at the VMMV - Tank Farm and the Quad-50 Project with History Fanatics near Houston.

We now have a new project that will be of interest to the NDQSA searchlight veterans. We have information on acquiring 23 inch Xenon searchlight(s) for reunion and special projects. The folks at VMMV have expressed interest in adding a M-151 jeep and searchlight to their holdings. At the last VMMV "Open House" last August, NDQSA was given a prominent location in which a Duster, a trailer mounted Quad-50 and a M-151 Jeep were set up for display.

We would like to add a searchlight or two to the display this coming year. To that end, we are asking all NDQSA members, especially the Searchlight Vets from B-29, G-29, H-29 and I-29 to step up and include a small donation for this new project. We need a couple of thousand bucks to acquire the SLTs and if possible we would like to get a M-151 to dedicate to the project as well.

So please take a look at the new order form and show your support by mailing in a check designating a donation for any of the fine projects: Operation Eagle, Quad-50 Project, SLT Project and for this years Good Works Project which is the Fisher House in the Seattle/Tacoma area.

VETERANS DAY PARADE 2012

We believe that Vietnam Veterans Memorial group will be staging another parade for Vietnam Vets to mark the 30th Anniversary of The Wall.

If this is confirmed, NDQSA will sign-up and all ADA Vietnam Vets are invited to march with us. It is hoped that we will be able to march alongside a Duster, a Quad-50 Guntruck and a Searchlight Jeep.

How amazing will it be to be parading down Constitution Avenue behind the very weapon systems you fought with in Vietnam?!

Again your donations to the various restoration funds will help insure that these vehicles are ready and available for the parade.

So this will be a busy year, with the July reunion in Tacoma, the VMMV Open House in August AND the parade on Veteran's Day in Washington DC on November 11th. Mark your calendars and start making plans!

Collared Polo Blk, Gn, Wh \$30

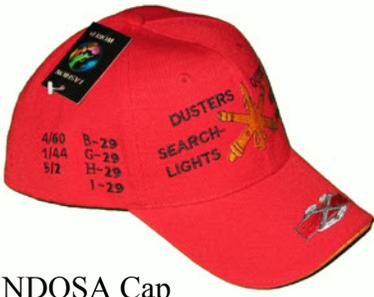
NEW NDQSA PRODUCTS

T-shirts : Black, Tan, Gray \$15 each



New Heavy Jacket
Embroidered with
Name and Weapon
\$140+ any extras

NDQSA PRODUCT SALES



NDQSA Cap



Light Jacket
Embroidered with
Logo and Weapons
\$85 each

New Products Size Chart

Subject to stock on hand
Give 1st & 2nd choice on color

Light Jacket: Medium
Large
\$85 XL
XXL
XXXL

Mens Polo: Small
Black Medium
Green Large
White XL
\$30 XXL
XXXL
XXXXL
XL Tall
XXL Tall

Ladies Polo: Small
Black: Medium
White: Large
\$30 XL

T-shirt: Medium
Black: Large
Tan: XL
Gray: XXL
\$15 XXXL
XXXXL

SPECIAL ORDER ITEM

Heavy Jacket: Medium
Large
\$140+ XL
XXL
XXXL

(Duster) (Quad 50) (Searchlight)

You can have your name, unit, years of service added at an extra cost.

Use the order form on the back of this page to order these items.



Patch Coins and Pin Sets

- NDQSA Patch: \$5 each
- Challenge Coin: \$10 each
- NDQSA Pin Set: \$8 each
- NDQSA Lucite Coin: \$25

Special Offer
While supplies last, all old style T-shirts will be available for \$10 each with purchase of any other products.



New Product
50-cal
Bottle opener
\$12 each

2012 MEMBERSHIP INVOICE / ROSTER UPDATE /PRODUCT & BOOK ORDER FORM

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

Roster Contact Information (Please print)

First Name: _____

Middle Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Nickname: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Email(s): _____

Home Phone: () -

Cell Phone: () -

Service Information (Vietnam) (fill out even if on file)

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

Dates of other tour (m/yr): ___/___ to ___/___

Primary MOS: _____

Primary Battery /Unit: _____

Attached to: _____

Names of bases:

Names/Hometown of buddies: (if there are many, list them on a separate sheet of paper)

Rank (highest E-grade while in Vietnam)

Grade: Officer: _____ NCO: _____ EM: _____

Valor Awards

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

If paying dues presents a hardship for you but you still want to be an Active Member, check box []. Some members have made donations to assist you.

Would you agree to get future newsletters by email or from the website to save on printing and mailing costs? Yes ___ No, please mail it ___

Sort 2012 Roster by: Unit/Yr () Alphabetically ()

DUES – DONATIONS – PRODUCT ORDERS

Make check payable to NDQSA.

Shipping is included in the price of all items.

Circle payment(s) for: (2012) (2013) (2014) (2015)

Dues: \$25 per year (Jan-Dec) \$ _____

Donations: *Operation Eagle* \$ _____

Quad-50 restoration \$ _____

NEW! Searchlight Restoration \$ _____

*30th Reunion Good Works Project * \$ _____

Book order : single book @ \$ 60 _____

multiple books @ \$ 55 _____

reorder @ \$ 50 _____

Challenge Coin: ___ coin @ \$10 _____

Lucite Coin*: ___ coin @ \$25 _____

NDQSA Pin Set: ___ sets @ \$8 _____

50-cal bottle opener ___ @ \$15 _____

NDQSA T-shirt (black) (gray) (green)

SIZE: _____ @\$15 each _____

NDQSA Polo T-shirt (reg) (tall) (women's)

SIZE: _____ @\$30 each _____

(white) (black) (green)

NDQSA Light jacket

SIZE: _____ @\$85 each _____

NDQSA Heavy Embroidered jacket

SIZE: _____ @\$140 each _____

(Duster)(Quad) (Searchlight)

NDQSA Cap 2 for \$10 while supplies _____

NDQSA Patch \$5 each _____

Old style T-shirt (size) ___ \$10 each _____

TOTAL _____

**Mailing Label →
Cut out
Use tape**

**NDQSA
PO Box 2903
Fairfax VA 22031-2903**

LNAME:

CHK #.....

\$..... H / L

National Dusters, Quads & Searchlights Association

< READ EVERYTHING >

Air Defense Artillery
"First to Fire....Last To Leave"

30th NDQSA Reunion

Tacoma, WA
July 11-15, 2012

WWW.NDQSA.COM

Name: (print)

Cell Phone Number:

Which days are you planning to attend the reunion? (circle)

July 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17
S M T W T F S S M T

Remember to make your hotel reservations ASAP to insure room availability. If you have already made your reservations check this box [].
If you are local or not staying at the reunion hotel check this box [].

To help in planning for reunion activities please pre-register now and send in fees for the following activities. As always, should something unforeseen happen and you are unable to attend the reunion, you will receive a refund.

ACTIVITIES

- | | Persons/Amount |
|--|---|
| 1.Thursday 12 th : 0900-1830 hrs - cruise to Blake Island and Tillicum Village | (\$89 per person) x ___ / _____ |
| 2.Friday 13 th : 09 00-1600 hrs Tour and Memorial Service | (\$35 per person) x ___ / _____ |
| Note: Everyone going to the Friday memorial services is expected to sign up for the trip. | |
| 3.Saturday Luncheon Banquet with Guest Speakers, | (\$35 per person) x ___ / _____ |
| 4.Voluntary donation to Boston VA service project fund | (any amount) _____ |
| 5 . Reunion registration fee make sure you add it in to your total! | (\$15 for individual/ \$20 per family) \$ _____ |
| 6. | Total>>>> \$ _____ |

**Make your pre-registration check payable to NDQSA and send to the NDQSA Treasurer:
Allan Penwell, NDQSA, 2408 N. Nottingham Ct., Champaign, IL 61821-7017.**

Wednesday 11 July 2012

Setup and Registration

Thursday 12 July 2012

9:30 AM – 6:30 PM

Boat Cruise Tour

Cost - \$89.00 per person.

Catch the bus to the dock at Seattle

Narrated cruise to Blake Island and Tillicum Village.

Northwest Salmon

Buffet Lunch.

Native American

Dance Performance.

Explore the Island.

Return to Seattle.

Stop at Pikes Place Market

Bus back to the Hotel.

Friday 13 July 2012

9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Tour and Memorial Service

Cost \$35.00 per person

Pick up at the Hotel Murano

Travel to Point Defiance Park

Memorial Service at Fort Nisqually.

Travel to Joint Base Lewis-McChord.

Lunch at the Base.

We are attempting to set up a Striker

Demonstration along with a visit to

the spectacular Fort Lewis Army

Museum (Scheduled to reopen early

2012). There is a Duster and a Hawk

on the grounds. Return to Hotel

Saturday 14 July 2012

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Annual Business Meeting

(all members required to attend)

12:00 – 3:00 PM

Annual NDQSA Banquet

Cost \$35 per person

Honored Speakers

Awards and Presentations

Evening Hospitality Room Activities

Fundraising Activities and Auctions

SUNDAY 15 July 2012

Morning Service and break down

Optional post reunion cruise



30th Annual NDQSA Reunion

Tacoma Washington



July 11 -15, 2012

By far this will be the nicest hotel the NDQSA will have held a reunion at. It is devoted to art glass and is located in the middle of downtown Tacoma near the water and other attractions.



Hotel Murano

<http://www.hotelmuranotacoma.com>

Dbl Deluxe or King Deluxe \$99 + tax

Phone: 1(888)862-3255 or 1(253)238-8000

Special online reservation for NDQSA ([click here](#))

Wednesday 7/11/12 pm - Discussion of Public Transportation and how to get around the Tacoma/Seattle Area. Things to visit and sights to see. Presented by representatives of the Hotel and TravelTacoma: <http://www.traveltacoma.com>

LeMay America's Car Museum :

www.lemaymuseum.org

Tacoma Glass Museum:

www.museumofglass.org

Tacoma Art Museum:

www.tacomaartmuseum

Dupont Historical Museum:

www.dupontmuseum.com

(Washington State)History Museum:

www.wshs.org

Reunion Registration Fee:

(\$15 for individual/ \$20 per family)

Help give a name to our reunion

send suggestions to President [Bob Lauver](#)

Thursday 7/12/12

9:30 am-6:30 pm -

Argosy Cruise to

Tillicum Village/

Blake Island \$ 89 pp

Seattle's Island Experience

Cruise, Show & Salmon

Bake in the Spirit of

Northwest Natives

<http://www.argosycruises.com/publiccruises/tillicum.cfm>

and upon return, explore Seattle's Pike's Place Market.



Friday 7/13/12 \$ 35 pp

9:00 am-4:00 pm

NDQSA Memorial

Service at Fort Nisqually

Living History Museum

in Port Defiance Park and

to Joint Base Lewis/McChord for Lunch, Stryker

Demonstration, and

Ft. Lewis Army

Museum.

[http://www.metroparkstacoma.org/page.p](http://www.metroparkstacoma.org/page.php?id=825)

[hp?id=825](http://www.metroparkstacoma.org/page.php?id=825)



Saturday 7/14/12 \$35 pp

12:00 pm-3:00 pm -

NDQSA Luncheon Banquet,

Honored Speakers,

Awards & Presentations.

VA Puget Sound Fisher House Donations

NDQSA has identified agent [Kassandra Gehry](#) if you want to try and reserve a Princess Alaska Cruise after the reunion. You need to decide and act quickly since this will be the height of the season and the best cabins will not be available after February. Contact her ASAP if you want to find out more. Refundable deposits & insurance available. 1-800-565-2784 Mondays-Thursdays 7am-3:30 PST

PROJECT EAGLE

-Luke Clark 4/60 - Vincent Tedesco 1/44th

The grand plan is for NDQSA to sponsor a Memorial for the Soldiers who died in Vietnam while assigned or attached to Air Defense Units.

Committee members: Bruce Geiger, Paul Kopsick, Joe Belardo, Paul Hansen, Bob Lauver, Dave Maray, Vincent Tedesco and Luke Clark

A request for the actual location of the Memorial has been presented to Fort Sill. As soon as we get more definite cost estimates for three different Memorial Proposals with estimated costs of \$40,000, \$60,000 and \$80,000.

The NDQSA Board of Directors will select the best design and a formal request will be made to the Army for approval. There is no doubt that the Memorial will be approved. Two of the reasons the army must approve all memorials is to ensure that the Memorial is donated to the Army free of any cost to the government and that there be no COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING.

A 6 foot 5 inch tall Marble Eagle Sculpture made from marble quarried from Marble Mountain just South West of Da Nang has been donated to include the cost of preservation and transportation to Fort Sill. This Sculpture will rest on a 5 foot tall block of granite and will be placed at the entrance of the memorial.

A well known Portrait Artist, Margo Poe, has volunteered to paint a Landscape Portrait of our memorial free of charge. We will make copies of this Portrait available to any one for a small fee. All funds collected from sale of Memorial Portraits will



be used in construction of the Memorial and copies will be available at the 2012 Reunion.

Fund raising will consist of Donor Brick purchased by NDQSA Members and friends of NDQSA. We will also solicit actual cash donations from members to supplement any shortfall in funds from Brick Sales.

There has been a special account administered by the NDQSA Treasurer. You may start making contribution to the fund NOW. We will have a table setup at the next reunion to accept contributions and for the purchase of 4"x 8" Donor Paver Bricks. The bricks will have three lines engraved with your:

NAME,
YOUR UNIT OF ASSIGNMENT
DATES OF SERVICE IN VIETNAM

The memorial would be a fitting tribute to the men who died defending us and our country. Any contribution, no matter how small or large by the the men who proudly served with these true AMERICANS will show that we have not forgotten them.

If you have already paid your 2012 dues, you can still use the NDQSA multipurpose form to send in your donations, or just send a check to the NDQSA Post Office Box for processing.

NDQSA
PO Box 2903
Fairfax VA 22031

Remember this is a fund raising program and the cost of the memorial brick represents that ideal. If you do not want to do the "paver" for yourself, maybe do one for a buddy, a buddy that has passed or guys from your squad.

We are not allowed to have bricks engraved with commercial names or businesses.

The goal is to coordinate a NDQSA reunion at Ft. Sill when this is all done!

*** NEW MEMBERS * NEW CONTACTS ***

We are very pleased that we continue to locate and bring new contacts into our Brotherhood.

If they were in your unit or not, why not use the [email link](#) and welcome them to the Association.

[Jerry Stewart](#), B-4/60 '70-71

[S. David Koonce Jr.](#), H-1/44 '68-69

Terry Lancaster, E-41 '68-69

Louis Silas, G-65 '67-68

Virgil 'Randy' Meadows, A-5/2 '66-67

Charles Masiongale, A-5/2 '66-67

Richard Papp, A-5/2 '66-67

George Laurel, H-5/2 '66-67

Jose Diaz-Cotto, E-41 68-71

[Dennis Palmer](#), G-65 '68-69

[John Stencil III](#), H-5/2 '67-68

So how did we find all these guys in just a few months? Well we worked at it. The roster update calls made by volunteers asked for names and hometowns of men to research. We did not find them all, but we did find a few and that is progress. We implore you to remember names and share them with us. Check your papers, photo albums and letters home.

+ RECENTLY IDENTIFIED AS PASSED +

James E. Beaver, D-4/60 '66-67 ('11- CA)

Dave Letow, D-71 ('11 - AL)

Frank A. Bassarab SLT '69-70 ('09 -)

James Kelsey 1'44 ('02 - NY)

Richard Crosson D-5/2 ('03 -MI)

James Polisano, C-1/44 '67 ('07-MI)

Chris Iaconis D-1/44 '69-70 ('11 - TX)

We honor and mourn those that have passed. "Rest in Peace, Brothers"

**MEMBERS DEALING WITH SEVERE HEALTH ISSUES
KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS**

These are 1/44th guys that Don Wolfe is tracking, if you know the current status of any other struggling individuals please contact the Historian. dqshistorian@cox.net

Les "Red" Dietze, has had brain bleeding and strokes. Red has light and fright syndrome. Lights of all kinds set Red off, memory and health bad.

Cal Murphy, has cyst on both kidneys.

Cleve Lanier, having joint troubles and sever depression after his son was paralyzed from the neck down and wife doing badly.

Don Wolfe, having ALS/Lou Gehrig's and a stroke. Three major back operations that have left him in a wheel chair.

Joe Belardo, quadruple bypass, having problems with his neck and throat.

Cooper Thomas, both knee's replaced and his wife having serious health problems.

Jerry "Doc" Butler, going blind and many health issues, not good.

Frank "Mike" Beldone, major health issues, trying to hang in there.

Harry "Gabby" Garberino, diabetes and feet problem, not doing good but still makes reunions.

Paul Conley, having serious health issues, neck, heart[other].

USE YOUR ROSTER

CALL A BUDDY!

Please make an effort to stay in contact with your buddies. Try to plan to attend a reunion as a group. The best way to ensure that you will see a buddy at a reunion is to invite him. See if you can carpool in and maybe share a hotel room. If you do not make the effort, you will lose the chance to make it happen. DO IT!

FROM THE ARCHIVES...

*** SMOKE ON THE WATER! ***

Did you know that Dusters fired missions from the water!



The use of a Landing Craft, Mechanical-8 (LCM) as a firing platform and transport for the twin 40mm gun, M-42 was tested during January 1968. The area of operation was in the Qui Nhon bay area.



Carl Giordano, H-4/60, sent in his slides for archiving and they contain images of H-101 firing from the LCM. Officers at the time were: LTC Bill J. Monyham, MAJ Jesse Johnson, CPT C.G. Berk, and **LT Vermillion**.

Carl had just arrived in country in January 1968

and while awaiting assignment to B-Btry, he was involved in several missions for H-Btry including the testing of the Dusters on LCMs. The ORLLs (quarterly reports) show that there were several days in January that the Dusters were seagoing: the 8th, 9th, 18th, 21st and 22nd.

During these actions, many firing missions were completed against enemy sampans, bunkers, staging locations and even a cave. At least once their firings resulted in secondary explosions.

They also performed a beach landing, reconnaissance through the landing site and recovery and reloading onto the LCM thru 4 feet of water!



The after action report states: The stability of the LCM in protected coastal waters is sufficient for the M42 to provide accurate fires. The degree of stability, type and accuracy of fires being dependent upon the amount of sea and the movement of the LCM. While the LCM is at the halt, it provides relatively the same stability as a landmass. If the LCM is moving, accurate fire can be provided, but the gunner and azimuth tracker must keep their sights on the target and constantly adjust for both elevation and direction. This presented little problem since the M42 was designed to fire on a moving target. When a reverse situation exists, as in this case, the weapon moves and the target is stationary; it is noted that in the open sea, the stability of the LCM was not sufficient for the M42 to operate effectively. The pitch and roll of the LCM even in relatively calm seas, has too great for accurate and safe firing.

The other Duster Battalions certainly explored the use of landing craft and pontoons in deploying the M42. The only ADA group to test their flotation ability was the Vulcan Combat Team. They actually drove their M-163 APCs into the water and traversed the river.

Vulcan Flotation Demonstration - Dong Tam near Bien Hoa River - 5 Apr 1969
Left: Duster Buster "Have Gun Will Travel" Sgt. Lang
Right: Duster Runner "Have Gun Will Travel" Sgt. Padilla



NDQSA WEBSITE TO BE UPDATED

The Executive Board has contracted to have our old website updated to reflect new Internet technologies. It will still have a version of the FORUM and possibly will have an on-line ordering option for NDQSA products.

The new site will make it easier for us to post new articles, stories and photos. Our old site was so out of date that the steps to even update the newsletter were difficult and time consuming.

The goal is to have a more attractive and meaningful site with sections for all the different units.

Therefore we are once again asking for members to share their stories, look for paperwork and rummage through the old photo albums and make your material available to the historian for the website.

NDQSA T-SHIRTS AND HEAVY JACKETS ON BACK ORDER

NDQSA is sorry that many of the orders for certain size t-shirts had to be delayed. The embroidered jacket artwork is also being revised. We are working at restocking the depleted items and hope that by the time this newsletter is out, all back orders will be filled and mailed out.

All the volunteers that work in tracking the orders, storing the products and mailing them out are doing their best and we appreciate your support and patience. If your order has still not been filled by the time you read this, contact the Historian. He processes the orders and should be able to determine what the problem is.

A new product this quarter is a bottle opener shaped from a .50-cal bullet and shell. We are now offering the previous version t-shirts at a close out price of \$10 each (with any additional purchases).

So consider a challenge coin, one of the new polo shirts or any of the other NDQSA products.

NEWSLETTERS RETURNED FOR BAD MAILING ADDRESSES

John Pavlovic, Fairbanks, AK
Cecil Lamb, Hollywood, FL
Wendel Wilson, Renton, WA
Ken Hoskinson, West Union, WV
Bruce Mensch, Milton, PA
Richard Dinsmore, Gunter, TX
George Faulk, Pensacola, FL
Michael Giancola, Las Vegas NV
Leland Sterns, Pitcher, NY
Daniel Bavuso, Ft Washington PA
Robert Pearson, GER

If you are in contact with any of these men please contact the historian with their contact information.

40MM PROJECTILE POINTS FOR SALE

As part of the Duster restoration project at the VMMV "Tank Farm" Historian Paul Kopsick acquired and restored a number of 40 mm projectile points to use with VMMV's empty brass 40 mm casings. NDQSA gifted 32 rounds to their museum.



Paul has additional 40 mm projectiles available for sale to members that have shell casings but no projectiles. The cost is \$35 each, shipping included.

Although he does not have them on hand right now, if you are interested in a complete brass shell and projectile, he will try to acquire them. Drop him a note or email. The anticipated price will be \$80.

National Veterans Society Alaska Cruise

7 night Seattle Roundtrip Alaska Cruise

departing July 15, 2012
Princess Cruises - Star Princess



Date	Day	Port of Call	Arrive	Depart
July 15	Sun	Seattle, WA		4:00p
July 16	Mon	at sea		
July 17	Tue	Ketchikan, AK	6:30p	4:00p
July 18	Wed	Tracy Arm Fjord, AK	6:00a	10:00a
		Juneau, AK	2:00p	10:00p
July 19	Thu	Skagway, AK	6:00a	5:00p
July 20	Fri	at sea		
July 21	Sat	Victoria, BC	7:00p	11:59p
July 22	Sun	Seattle, WA	7:00a	

Double Inside Stateroom <i>with 3 category free upgrade</i>	\$1,023 USD	per person
Double Obstructed Oceanview Stateroom <i>with 3 category free upgrade</i>	\$1,073 USD	per person
Double Oceanview Stateroom	\$1,723 USD	per person
Double Balcony Stateroom <i>for the price of an oceanview for a limited time only</i>	\$1,723 USD	per person

Triple/Quad Inside Stateroom	\$1,173 USD	\$723 USD	Guest 1 & 2	Guest 3 & 4
Triple/Quad Obstructed Oceanview Stateroom	\$1,173 USD	\$822 USD	Guest 1 & 2	Guest 3 & 4
Triple/Quad Oceanview Stateroom	\$1,723 USD	\$822 USD	Guest 1 & 2	Guest 3 & 4
Triple/Quad Balcony Stateroom	\$1,873 USD	\$922 USD	Guest 1 & 2	Guest 3 & 4

Passports are required for this type of trip. There will be a deposit needed to make a reservation and for a limited time, there is a 100% refund of the deposit if plans change. Alcohol, soda and bottled water are not included. Gratuities of about \$80 per person also not covered.

P T S D POST TACOMA STRESS DE-FUSER

No sooner than the Tacoma reunion location was voted on, members ask about the possibility of taking an Alaskan Cruise afterwards.

While not an official part of the reunion, we can report that we have made contact with a cruise planner named Cassandra Gehry and she has presented us with some options for a specific cruise that leaves the Sunday after the reunion, July 15th 2012. NDQSA is not affiliated in any way with the cruise but there is a good chance that several NDQSA members will sign up for the cruise.

Therefore, **this is your opportunity** to make something special happen with friends and/or families. Understand that **you are on you own to make arrangements** with the agent. There are many room options to consider and Cassandra will help you, but the reality is that **you need to make a decision ASAP**. These cruises typically are all booked up by February, so if you ever wanted to do one of these trips, this is your chance to travel with friends.

The rates quoted are only good thru January 31st and are inclusive of taxes and charges. You will see differences between what may be online but work with Cassandra to find out what best suits your needs. Depending on when folks book there may also be shipboard credits or specials due to a certain class not selling. Just don't delay!

BOTTOM LINE: Anyone wishing to take part in this cruise should contact Cassandra ASAP. These cruises sell out early, **February may be too late for certain rooms**. If our group wishes to room or dine together, she will arrange it. She is the point of contact for the cruise - not NDQSA! Her office hours are Sundays 8am-4:30pm and Mondays-Thursdays 7am-3:30 PST

1-800-565-2784 CassandraG@cruiseexpertstravel.com

LIMITED TIME OFFER - ACT QUICKLY!



**National Dusters,
Quads & Searchlights Association
P.O. Box 2903 Fairfax, VA 22031-2903**

Forward Service Requested



**Air Defense Artillery
“First to Fire....Last To Leave”**

**30th Annual Reunion
July 11-15, 2012 Tacoma, WA**

WWW.NDQSA.COM

Many of you have already paid for multiple years, so **look carefully at the mailing label for the year which shows when you are paid up through.**

However, if you see 0000 we have not seen a dues payment in a while. If you can't afford dues, we fully understand so don't worry about it. We are just glad to get an update on your status and verification of your contact information, phone numbers and email.

Rosters will be printed out and mailed in February so please make any updates or changes **IMMEDIATELY!!**

If you have changed your phone #/email address recently send an email to dqshistorian@cox.net or leave message at 202-262-9560.

To be sure you get the newsletter via email, tell your email program to accept emails from: dqshistorian@cox.net and ndqsa@cox.net

MISSION STATEMENT

The **National Dusters, Quads & Searchlights Association™ (NDQSA™)** is the original, official representative, and holds the longest, continual and official annual reunion for ADA Veterans who served in Vietnam. The NDQSA was founded in 1981 by John Huelsenbeck et al and has grown to over 480 active members with an identified directory of over 2200 ADA Vietnam Veterans and supporters.

NDQSA is an IRS 501(c)(19) non-profit veterans organization and is incorporated in the State of Indiana.

We welcome and encourage all ADA Veterans who served in Vietnam to join NDQSA and to share the fellowship, mutual support, and continued service to our Nation on behalf of all military veterans and active duty personnel.