



NATIONAL DUSTERS, QUADS & SEARCHLIGHTS ASSOCIATION JANUARY 2014 NEWSLETTER REUNION ANNOUNCEMENT

2014 REUNION WILL BE IN WASHINGTON DC May 24-29

The 2014 Reunion Committee has arranged for hotel and meeting space at the DoubleTree hotel in Crystal City, Virginia, just across the river from Washington DC. See the reunion flyer and registration form inside this newsletter for details.

NDQSA is planning to outdo the 2013 reunion with possibly the largest turnout of all time. Besides being back in the nation's capitol, anticipated activities to include: a tour of the Marine Museum; and a visit to the VMMV "Tank Farm" with its two running Dusters, Quad-50 and Searchlight Jeep. Other displays and activities are also being planned around that visit. It is also the weekend of the "Rolling Thunder" Parade from the Pentagon thru the Washington DC Mall.

MINUTES OF LAST BOARD MEETING

Board members participated in another conference call to recap the activities and planning for the 2014 reunion. Association finances are strong, restoration projects are continuing, and plans are being finalized for the 2014 reunion in Washington DC in May.

NDQSA MAILING ADDRESS HAS CHANGED

NDQSA, PO Box 890130, Oklahoma City, OK 73189

NEW SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2014-16

The Nominating Committee has completed our internal task of proposing a slate of executive officers for the next two-year period. Technically nominations are still open for positions, but there are prerequisites for anyone that is nominated. Check your by-laws for details. The formal ballot will be shipped to all active members with the 2014 Rosters with a return SASE.

MEMBERSHIP & ORDER FORM

The multipurpose form has been updated again for 2014. This is the form to use to pay your annual dues, make donations to projects and to order product.

MEMBERS THAT HAVE PASSED

We strive to keep everyone informed of the passing of members and others in our community. Please take a moment to check the listing. If you know of any other ADA vets that have passed, please pass them on to the historian.

HOW TO ATTEND A REUNION – A PRIMER

Attending a reunion is a daunting task especially if it is your first time. Will I know anyone? What should I do? What should I wear? How should I participate?

NDQSA AT KENNEDY CENTER HONORS

NDQSA Historian was asked to participate in the 2014 Kennedy Center Honors program to be part of the group of Vietnam Veterans that came on stage during Garth Brooks' tribute to Billy Joel during the singing of "Good Night Saigon."

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

NDQSA President Paul Hanson recaps some of the highlights of his second year as president of NDQSA and looks forward to the 2014 Reunion in Washington DC from May 24-29th. He will not be seeking a second two-year term which means that all five Executive Officer positions are open for nominations for the 2014-2016 term.

Presidents Message

January 18, 2014



Believe it or not, we have all survived another year and are now poised to leap into a new and exciting year of friendship and continued camaraderie. Who ever thought this bunch of motley Air Defenders could survive our tours in the hostile environment of Vietnam and come

later as the band of brothers and sisters that NDQSA has become. Thinking back is mind boggling, but looking forward is nothing less than exciting!

This year we will be gathering in our nation's capital in late May with the opportunity and honor to march down Constitution Avenue in the "Welcome Home" parade many of us prayed for so many years ago. Thanks to Paul Kopsick's hard work, a number of us were able to march in last year's parade and to honor SGT Joe Belardo who was appointed the Vietnam Grand Marshal. Believe me when I say that the pride we all felt in our welcome by the crowd that lined the parade route was phenomenal and I hope all of you are able to join us this year and also receive the "Welcome Home" you so richly deserve! It is a feeling not to be missed if you can be there, especially as you will be marching with fellow NDQSA members and families.

Along those lines, if you thought last year's reunion was a smashing success, and it was, come to Washington D. C. and see what your Board of Directors and the Women's Auxiliary have in store for you this year. The DoubleTree hotel is magnificent and Washington D.C. is a place you can spend months in and never see all of it. The day after the parade, we have a special treat at the Tank Farm that will be an experience you won't forget and events throughout the week that will make this reunion special. Please make it a point to join us and bring your family to a Memorial Day celebration at "The Wall" on the Mall they will never forget. Enough said except to say that you need to get your reservations in and get the registration form flyer filled out and turned in so we can better serve you at this reunion.

Speaking of serving, I will not be seeking another two-year tour as your president at this time. I wish I could plead poor health, or maybe not, but as many of you know, I am engaged in a Doctor of Educational Leadership program here at Neumann University and I am about to ratchet-up the program as I start into my dissertation process. Why an old sergeant got himself into this situation is a mystery, but here I am and I cannot devote the needed time into both the association and my studies to the level this program requires. I can say however, that being your president during these last two years has been one of the highlights of my leadership career. Together, with the help of some of our very fine air defenders, we have built one of the most beautiful and meaningful memorials to our fallen brothers that any organization could want. WE celebrated that event with one of the largest memorial exercises that Ft. Sill has had so far when dedicating any monument to a unit's fallen soldiers. We have gained membership into the United States Army Air Defenders Association for our entire membership, for life, and have ensured NDQSA will never be forgotten, even when there are no longer any NDQSA members to keep our banners flying. We have distributed many gifts and needed supplies to Fisher Houses in Ft. Sill and Washington D. C. and have done so in a way that many wounded warriors from other wars knew that Vietnam Veterans had not forgotten their sacrifices. Many other activities have occurred behind the scenes by your Board of Directors who will always have my greatest gratitude and admiration. Thanks guys and gals for the whole organization benefited from your efforts!

Enough of that except to say that I hope all of you can attend this year's reunion and make this another wonderful NDQSA event filled with brotherhood and friendship. I will see you in Washington and will be proud to march down Constitution Ave as your departing president. Good luck to you all and stay safe and healthy!!

-Paul D. Hanson.



NDQSA Officer

Election Nominations

All active dues paying members of the NDQSA are invited to submit nominations for the 2014 election of the association's executive officers. Members in good standing may submit their own names or the names of other eligible members for the ballot. As long as the nominee consents to be listed on the ballot, their names will be submitted for election to the voting membership. Each nominee will have their photo and a brief introductory biography included with the ballots to help the membership become familiar with the nominee's qualifications. The ballots will also allow for write-in votes of any qualified member to be elected into an office. Furthermore, last minute nominations may be made during the annual membership business meeting at the 2014 NDQSA reunion in Washington, D.C.

The Nominating Committee has presented the following slate of names for executive offices for 2014-2016. The nominations are:

President	– John Huelsenbeck,
1 st Vice President	- Bob Cuce,
2 nd Vice President	– Paul Kopsick,
Secretary	- Garry Severin
Treasurer	– Allan Penwell.

The deadline for submitting additional nominations to be listed on the official ballot is February 28, 2014. Send all nominees to Sam Hopkins, 1027 Timothy, Jacksonville, Texas. For more information about the nominating process, call Sam at (903) 586-4488 or send a message to sampat1964@suddenlink.net

MEMBERS THAT HAVE PASSED

Jerry Mulkey of B-4/60th '70-71 9Nov12 TX
Ernest Bowsher B-4/60 '70 5Dec12 FL
David Irons B-4/60th 1967 27Feb2013 CT
Talma Lee Brown G-29th/1-44th 67-68 13Mar13TX
Asa Fitzpartick C-1/44 Khe Go Bridge 14Mar13 WV
Dale Larue Smith H-29th 67-68 3Apr13 IN
Ronnie Dean Davidson C-5/2 & D-71 '70-'71 5Jul13
Jimmie Blalock D-5/2 '66-67 3Nov13 NC
Ed Willmarth, D-5/2 '66-67 Jan13 OH

NEW MEMBERS/CONTACTS

Thomas Glover H-4/60 67-68 El Paso TX
[Preston Brown](#) B-29th '67-68 WV
Robert Haecker D-4/60 '68 IN
David Redman D-71 1971 MN
[Larry DeSenville](#) A-1/44 '66-67 TN
Bob Hovorka C-4/60 '69-70 IL

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

There were a lot of returned newsletters last time around. A number were due to guys with split mailing addresses or 'snowbirds'.

It costs the Association over a dollar for each returned newsletter, and if we need to mail them out again to another address, that is another \$.70.

If you have multiple addresses and your listed address does not save or forward bulk mailed items, please contact the Historian to make other arrangements for receiving your newsletters.

2014 Membership Rosters

By the time you receive the paper version of this newsletter, the 2014 Membership rosters will have been printed and possibly even mailed out.

When you get your roster there will also be your 2014 membership card. There will also be the official 2014 Executive Officers Ballot along with a self addressed stamped envelope (SASE).

Some of you will also find a copy of the DVD from the Operation Eagle Dedication Ceremony at Ft. Sill. If you ordered a brick and were not at the reunion and already picked up your copy, it will be included in the mailing. We have just enough copies to cover those members that ordered a brick. Members that want their own copy of the DVD will have to borrow a copy from a member with one and make a copy.

SECURE YOUR NDQSA ROSTERS!!

When you are ready to discard your old NDQSA Members Roster, please handle it as CONFIDENTIAL information. Please shred it or otherwise destroy it so it can not end up in the hands of an identity thief. A copy of our 2007 Roster was utilized by an identify thief according to Lifelock™.

**Summary of NDQSA Board of Directors and
Executive Officers Meeting December 19, 2013
Amended with subsequent information as needed.**

Members Present	Time in	Time out
President: Paul Hanson	11:28 AM ET	1:30 PM ET
1 st Vice President: Huelsenbeck	11:29 AM ET	1:30 PM ET
2 nd Vice President: Bob Cuce	11:27 AM ET	1:30 PM ET
Secretary: Dave McCray	11:25 AM ET	1:30 PM ET
Treasurer: Allan Penwell	11:40 AM ET	12:24 AM ET
Past President: Bob Lauver	11:27 AM ET	1:30 PM ET
Director: Joseph Belardo	11:43 AM ET	1:15 PM ET
Director: Luke Clark	11:25 AM ET	1:12 PM ET
Director: Bruce Geiger	11:30 AM ET	1:30 PM ET
Director: Duane Gettler	11:28 AM ET	1:30 PM ET
Director: Paul Kopsick	11:29 AM ET	1:30 PM ET
Director: Sam Hopkins	11:28 AM ET	1:30 PM ET
Director: George Nagelschmidt	11:28 AM ET	1:30 PM ET
Asst Secretary: Garry Severin	11:25 AM ET	1:30 PM ET
Chairman of St. Barbara Committee: Vince Tedesco	11:28 AM ET	11:55 AM ET

Paul Hanson convened the Board of Directors meeting December 19, 2013 at 11:30 AM EDT with a special presentation by Colonel Vince Tedesco. See below in St. Barbara & Molly Pitcher Committee.

Reports of Officers:

President, Paul Hanson – no comments
First Vice President, John Huelsenbeck – no comments
Second Vice-President, Bob Cuce – no comments
Secretary, Dave McCray – no comments
Treasurer, Allan Penwell – Allan indicated they would start treating product on the accrual basis of accounting and he will need an inventory from Duane and others as of December 31, 2013. Allan also asked that we approve Kallembach & Associates for another year for the audits. Bruce Geiger made a motion to approve using Kallembach & Associates for the audits again. Joe Belardo seconded the motion and was approved without dissent and thus approved. Allan will be retiring from his bank position on December 27th. Congratulations Allan! Financial Statements as of November 30, 2013 had been e-mailed to the board members prior to the Board meeting.

Dave McCray e-mailed the minutes to the Board of Directors before the meeting. However, the Board neglected to approve the September minutes and they need to be approved at the next meeting.

Membership Committee (Joe Belardo, Paul Kopsick):

Paul Kopsick stated we have over 300 paid dues for 2014 already. Paul asked we continue with the prior printing arrangement for additional rosters and he be giving a 25 cent increase per roster. The motion was made by John Huelsenbeck and seconded by Joe Belardo. No dissenting votes were cast and approved. Paul also asked that we watch the

Kennedy Center Honors on CBS December 29th. Paul is part of the Honor Guard on the left side of the stage, back row with a red hat. The Honor Guard saluted the Presidential box and the President returned the salute.

Nominating Committee (Sam Hopkins, Joe Belardo):

Sam stated he had not received any nominations other than those discussed in September. Sam listed those running for office are John Huelsenbeck for President, Bob Cuce for First Vice-President, Paul Kopsick for Second Vice-President, Garry Severin for Secretary, Allan Penwell for Treasurer and Dave McCray will assume the Asst. Secretary position (non-voting member). Ballots will go out with the Rosters since both are only for dues paying members.

Legislative (Bruce Geiger, Bob Lauver):

No Comments

Good Works Committee (Sam Hopkins, Bob Cuce & Bruce Geiger):

A discussion was held where to do our Good Works project in the DC area. At the end of the discussion Paul Hanson asked for a proposal and Bob Lauver made a motion to use the Fisher House in Bethesda, Maryland. Bruce Geiger seconded the motion and no dissenting votes were cast and thus approved. Joe Belardo provided the number as 301-295-5334. Bob and Sam will work out the details and make contact to find out what they need.

Publications/Historian Committee (Paul Kopsick):

A flyer will be sent out detailing the reunion information and will be available on the web site too. Also, the next newsletter will be sent out around the 3rd week of January.

Reunion Committee (Bob Lauver, Bruce Geiger, Mary Severin, Paul Hanson, Sam Hopkins, Dave McCray, Paul Kopsick & Joe Belardo):

Paul Hanson asked Bruce Geiger to present the detail on the next reunion. Bruce stated he signed the contract today and it will be May 24 through May 29 as the departure date. The hotel will be the Doubletree Hilton in Crystal City, VA and it can accommodate all our needs. Bruce stated the cost will be \$109 plus a 13% tax and the rate is good 3 days prior and after the dates above for members extended stays. The cut-off for reservations is May 2nd, but may still be accommodated if room is available. We will get the standard 1 free room for every 40 room nights so we can gift these to members at the auction on the 28th. There is a \$10 parking rate with in-out privileges. The room block guarantee by the Association is 80% of 360 room nights. We will have the complementary hospitality room, BOD meeting room and the Members Business Meeting room. There is a \$5,000 commitment for food and beverages for the Banquet on the 28th. Bruce also negotiated a \$17 breakfast buffet inclusive of tip and taxes, plus a 10% discount on all other restaurants in the hotel. We will be allowed to bring in our own drinks including alcohol drinks and snacks into the Hospitality room as long as they are purchased in Virginia. All Board of

Directors will be upgraded to a one bedroom suite. When the men are in the members meeting the Women's Auxiliary will have their ladies continental breakfast in the Hospitality room. There is a \$10 charge per lady to the Association. The hotel is 2 blocks from the Pentagon Metro. There are free shuttles to and from Regan airport and the hotel.

Bruce gave the following schedule for reunion:
(See other portions of the newsletter for details.)

Joe Belardo is looking into having commercial passenger Vans available for trips into DC for individuals. There will be a small charge of \$5 per person. Joe is also working on our Monday Wall ceremony.

Products Committee (Duane & Mary Gettler, Bruce Geiger, Paul Kopsick & Bob Lauver):

Duane and Bob discussed Polo Shirts. It was mentioned that the order sheet has Polo T-shirts on it and should be changed to Polo shirts. Duane was asked about Mary's shoulder and he said it is doing fine, but still a little weak. Bruce will review the 50 Cal bottle openers and coins.

Website Committee (Bob Lauver, Paul Kopsick, Allan Penwell, Bob Cuce, Bruce Geiger, Robert Schmeisser):

Bob Lauver stated he will be having a meeting with Mojo Active after the first of the year. Bob's goal is to have the new web site up and running by March.

St. Barbara & Molly Pitcher Committee (Vince Tedesco, Paul Hanson & Suzanne Tedesco):

I added this new committee based on the following discussion. Vince Tedesco made a presentation for a proposal to be added. Since we are now members of the ADA Association, Vince has proposed that we adopt the use of their ancient artillery award called the St. Barbara award along with the ladies Molly Pitcher award. Vince told the history of the St Barbara and Molly Pitcher award. The St. Barbara award is made up of two parts: The first is an honorable award and is less demanding and anyone can be awarded. The second part is the Ancient award that can only be recommended by current Ancient award recipients. Vince has won the Ancient version of this award and has agreed to be the NDQSA representative.

The Molly Pitcher award is also less demanding and to be given to ladies. Suzanne Tedesco is a recipient of this award and will chair the Molly Pitcher group. As members are awarded they will become members of the committee. The award has a medal attached to a red ribbon and comes with a Certificate. It will be presented annually at the reunion. It was suggested we present 2 Duster, 2 Quad, 1 Searchlight, 1 Hawk and 1 or 2 to wives this year. The committee will make the final decision. There is a cost of approximately \$25 per award that will be paid by the NDQSA Treasury.

Paul Hanson requested a motion to adopt Vince's proposal to begin using our affiliation and membership in the ADA and

initiate giving this award to our membership. Bob Lauver made the motion to adopt Vince's recommendation. Sam Hopkins seconded the motion and no dissenting votes were cast. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Luke Clark asked Vince if he had a copy of the ADA association By-Laws. Vince said he has, but they need updating because of the move from Fort Bliss to Fort Sill. Vince will supply him a copy as soon as they are finalized. Paul Hanson asked about membership cards from the ADA. Paul Kopsick will work with Vince to give him the information so he can pursue the cards after the first of the year. He will try to have them ready to distribute at the reunion.

Special Committee Reports:

Special Projects – Restoration Notes -- Other:

Special Washington DC T-shirts design contest with a \$250 award going to the best design. Only 75-100 will be run on this special edition and when gone they are gone.

Dave McCray will obtain a new Post Office Box number after the first of the year. The official change will occur after the newsletter and the web site will be updated. The old mail box will be kept an extra six months and then there will be the usual six month forwarding. Paul Kopsick will monitor activity of the old PO Box.

Luke replaced 22 bricks with errors at the Memorial site. One more brick needs to be replaced and he will do it before the reunion in May.

Paul Kopsick is getting updates from Robert Ratliff on his quad-50 gun truck and fund raising. Robert found some flash suppressors and put them on his plastic barrels, but now are causing them to droop. He is seeking a solution. See History Fanatics at [WIDOWMAKER](#)

NDQSA has officially cut ties with the in Pennsylvania VVA group that has searchlight jeeps.

Paul Kopsick stated that NDQSA continues to receive donations for Operation Eagle.

Next Board of Directors meeting is January 24, 2014 at 11:30 AM ET.

A late motion to adjourn was made Dave McCray, seconded by Paul Hanson without dissenting votes and approved. Meeting adjourned!



32nd Annual NDQSA Reunion

“Operation DC – Welcome Home”

WASHINGTON DC

May 24-29th 2014



After many years **NDQSA** is pleased to have our 32nd Annual Reunion back in Washington DC, and have two special events. The first is for all attendees to March or ride in the National 2014 Memorial Day Parade down Constitution Avenue. The second is a special day trip to visit the National Marine Corps Museum and the nearby VMMV Tank Farm, to view their Dusters, a Quad 50 and Searchlight Jeep.

DoubleTree Hotel – Crystal City
300 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA 22202
Call: 1-703-416-4100 or 1-800-222-8733
Reunion Group Code: ‘DQS’ Deadline May 2, 2014

For online hotel reservations Click here --> [DoubleTree](#)
or go to www.NDQSA.com for more links



Hotel Discounts: Daily Buffet Breakfast \$17 includes tax & gratuity; 10% off at all hotel restaurants; discounted parking \$10/day (includes in/out privileges); free shuttle to Regan airport (DCA) & metro also to local restaurants.



Saturday 5/24/14 Afternoon:
Registration opens in Hospitality Suite.
You are on your own to explore around the city.
Hospitality Room closes at ~12:00 midnight.

Sunday 5/25/14
8:30AM Informal Chaplain’s Service (Hospitality Rm.)
You are on your own to explore around the city.
Watch the annual ‘Rolling Thunder Parade’ as several hundred thousand motorcycles rumble up Constitution Avenue or visit any of the other area attractions like Arlington National Cemetery, Museums and/or Memorials on the Mall, National Zoo, etc.
Hospitality Room closes at ~12:00 midnight.

Monday 5/26/14
Round Trip Bus Fee: \$13 per person
10:00 Buses leave for Washington DC area.
NDQSA Memorial Service at The Wall
2:00 thru 4:00 NDQSA will be marching and/or riding in the Memorial Day Parade on Constitution Ave.
4:30 Buses will return to the hotel.
Hospitality Room closes at ~12:00 midnight.

Tuesday 5/27/14 All Day
Round Trip Bus Fee: \$18 per person
Bus Trip to National Museum of the Marine Corps, Quantico, VA in the morning. You are on your own for lunch at the Museum. Busses leave at 12:30 PM
Afternoon trip to nearby VMMV Tank Farm for activities with Dusters, Quad 50 and Searchlight jeep.
4:30PM the busses will return to hotel.
Hospitality Room closes at ~12:00 midnight.

Wednesday 5/28/14 \$40 per person
9:00 - 11AM Annual Business Mtg. Room TBD
9:00 - 11AM Women’s Continental Breakfast in the Hospitality Room.
12 PM- 3:30PM NDQSA Luncheon Banquet, Guest Speakers & Awards
Evening auctions and raffles.
Hospitality Room closes at ~12:00 midnight.

Thursday 5/29/14
9:00 AM Chaplain’s Service in Hospitality Room followed by cleanup and out by noon.

NDQSA PRODUCT ITEMS 2014

Multi weapon Light Jacket



Logo Patch \$5



Logo Sticker \$5



50-cal bottle opener \$12



NEW NDQSA Cap \$15 Made in the USA



Duster, Quad & SLT Embroidered Jacket Artwork



NDQSA Challenge Coin \$10 @

NDQSA Pin Set \$8 @



NDQSA BUMPER STICKERS
Duster- Quad-50-SLT-HAWK-Vulcan
\$10 each

New Products Size Chart
Subject to stock on hand
Give 1st & 2nd choice on color

T-shirt: Medium
Black Large
Green/Khaki XL
Gray XXL
\$15 XXXL
XXXXL

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

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

Light Jacket: Medium
Large-OUT
\$85 XL
XXL
XXXL

SPECIAL ORDER ITEM

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

(Duster) (Quad 50)
(Searchlight) (HAWK) (Vulcan)

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.**

NDQSA HISTORY BOOKS ARE
SOLD OUT

D-

/ /14 # \$

Q- S- E- P6

Mailing Label ->

Cut out and tape to envelope

NDQSA

PO Box 890130

Oklahoma City, OK 73189

2014 MEMBERSHIP INVOICE / ROSTER UPDATE / PRODUCT ORDER FORM

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

This version super cedes any previous forms as certain options are not available.

Roster Contact Information (Please Print)

Are you a new or existing contact (New) (Existing) circle one

First Name: _____

Middle Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Nickname: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email(s): _____

Home Phone: () -

Cell Phone: () -

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

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

Addtn'l tour (m/yr): ___/___ to ___/___

Primary MOS: _____

Primary Battery/Unit: _____

Attached To: _____

Names of bases:

Names/hometowns of buddies you knew:

Rank (highest grade while in Vietnam)

Grade: Officer: _____ NCO: _____ EM: _____

Valor Awards

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

If you want to get the newsletter only by email and forego the paper mailed copy, please check this box. () If you want to switch back from email to paper mail please check this box ().

DUES - DONATIONS – PRODUCT ORDERS

Make check/MO payable to NDQSA

Shipping is included in the price of all items.

Dues: circle payment(s) for (2014) (2015) (2016) (2017)

DUES ARE \$25 PER YEAR \$ _____

Donations: Operation Eagle \$ _____
Quad 50 restoration \$ _____
Searchlight restoration \$ _____
2014 Good Works \$ _____

Product: NDQSA Emb. Patch ___ @\$5 = \$ _____
NDQSA Logo sticker ___ @\$5 = \$ _____
Bumper Sticker ___ @\$10 = \$ _____
Circle (Duster)(Quad)(SLT)(HAWK)(Vulcan)

Challenge Coin: ___ coin @\$10 = \$ _____

NDQSA Pin Set: ___ sets @\$8 = \$ _____

.50-cal bottle opener ___ @\$12 = \$ _____

NEW NDQSA HAT ___ @\$15 = \$ _____

NDQSA T-shirt (black)(grey)(green)
Size: ___ # ___ @\$15 = \$ _____

NDQSA Polo Shirt (black)(white)(green)
Size: ___ # ___ @\$30 = \$ _____
(regular) (tall) (Women's)

NDQSA Light Jacket
Size: ___ # ___ @85 = \$ _____

NOTE: Only Med and 3XL jackets are left

Custom Embroidered Jacket
Size: ___ # ___ @145 = \$ _____

Circle (Duster)(Quad)(SLT) (HAWK)(Vulcan)

Allow 60 days for delivery.

TOTAL \$ _____

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

2014 NDQSA REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE READ EVERYTHING CAREFULLY AND MAIL THIS FORM TO THE TREASURER – SEE ADDRESS LABEL BELOW

32ND ANNUAL NDQSA REUNION, WASHINGTON DC MAY 24-29TH, 2014

DoubleTree Crystal City
300 Army Navy Drive
Arlington, VA 22202

Phone Reservations: 1-703-416-4100 or 1-800-222-8733
Use Group Code: DQS Room Rate: \$109 + tax single/double
For Online Hotel Reservations click here [\[DoubleTree\]](http://DoubleTree) or visit www.NDQSA.com
Group Self-Parking Rate: \$10 per day (includes in/out privileges)

OPERATION DC



WELCOME HOME

Name: _____ Spouse: _____
 (print)

Cell Phone Number: _____
 Which days are you planning to attend the reunion? (circle)

May 21 22 23 **24 25 26 27 28 29** 30 31 1
 W Th F **S S M T** W Th F S S

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 [].

Parade Plans
 (check box)

I (we) plan to march ()

I (we) will need to
 ride ()

I (we) DO NOT plan to
 march ()

To help in planning for reunion activities including buses and meals, please pre-register now and send in fees for the following activities.
 As always, should unforeseen circumstances occur and you are unable to attend the reunion, you will receive a refund.
 Activity times are tentative and subject to change as plans are finalized.

ACTIVITIES

<p>Saturday May 24th Setup and Registration Hospitality Room Opens Open Day for Sightseeing</p> <p>Sunday May 25th "Rolling Thunder" Parade Hospitality Room Open</p> <p><u>Washington DC Attractions</u> Arlington National Cemetery, 'The Wall', the Pentagon, National Museums on the Mall, National Zoo</p> <p>All accessible via nearby Metro</p>	<p>Monday May 26th 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM Bus ride to DC, Parade, Memorial Service at 'The Wall', Museums</p> <p>Cost: \$13 per person round trip</p> <p>2:00 – 3:30 PM NDQSA marching in Memorial Day Parade</p> <p>4:00 PM Buses Return to Hotel</p> <p>Hospitality Room in evening</p>	<p>Tuesday May 27th 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM Bus ride to Marine Corps Museum Quantico, VA</p> <p>Cost \$18 per person round trip You are on your own for lunch at Museum cafeterias.</p> <p>12:30 PM buses leave Museum for VMMV Tank Farm with 2 restored Dusters, Quad 50, Searchlight & other historical programs.</p> <p>4:30 PM board buses for return trip to the Hotel</p> <p>Hospitality room in evening</p>	<p>Wednesday May 28th 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM Annual Business Meeting (All members required to attend) 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM Ladies Continental Breakfast in Hospitality Room 12:00 Noon to 3:00 PM Annual NDQSA Banquet Guest Speakers, Awards, and Presentations</p> <p>Cost: \$40 per person Evening Hospitality Room Activities, Auctions & Raffles</p>
			<p>Thursday May 29th 9:00 AM Chaplain's Farewell Service</p>

Select & Pay for Activities

No.of Persons Amount

Saturday May 24 th and Sunday May 25 th – Sightseeing on your own – Hospitality room open.	
Monday May 26 th : 1000–1600 hrs. – Memorial Service at 'The Wall' & Memorial Day Parade	(\$13) x ____ = \$ _____
Tuesday May 27 th : 0900-1600 hrs. - US Marine Corps Museum & Tank Farm Dusters, Quad & SLT	(\$18) x ____ = \$ _____
Wednesday May 28 th : Luncheon Banquet with Guest Speakers and Awards	(\$40 per person) x ____ = \$ _____
Voluntary donation to 2014 Fisher House service project fund	(any amount) \$ _____
Reunion Registration fee: <u>Make sure you add it into your total!</u>	(\$20 per individual / \$25 per family) \$ _____
Total >>>>>>	\$ _____

Allan Penwell, NDQSA
1501A Theodore Drive
Champaign, IL 61821

Make your pre-registration check payable to **NDQSA**
 and mail to NDQSA Treasurer:
 ← Cut out this address label and tape it to your envelope.

Tear off this
 page, fill it out
 and mail it in.

Order of Saint Barbara From Wikipedia

The award is named for Saint Barbara, the patron saint of artillerymen. Saint Barbara day falls on December 4 and is traditionally recognized by a formal Dining-In or military ball, often involving presentations of the Order of Saint Barbara.



Order of Saint Barbara is a military honor society of the US for both the US Army and the US Marine Corps Artillery, including field artillery and Air Defense Artillery.

The Order of Saint Barbara is awarded through the U.S. Field Artillery Association (USFAA) and the Air Defense Artillery Association (ADAA) and has two levels:

- The Honorable Order of Saint Barbara is awarded to those individuals who have demonstrated the highest standards of integrity and moral character, displayed an outstanding degree of professional competence, served the Artillery with selflessness; and contributed to the promotion of the Artillery branch. The approval is reserved for O-5 Field Artillery commanders when no O-6 commander is available. They may approve the award for those in or associated with their commands. When there is no such Field Artillery commander available, the Commanding General of the United States Army Field Artillery Center and Fort Sill is the approving authority.
- The Ancient Order of Saint Barbara is reserved for those members of the artillery community who have achieved long-term, exceptional service to the artillery surpassing even their brethren in the Honorable Order of Saint Barbara. The

approving authority for this award is the Commanding General, United States Army Field Artillery Center and Fort Sill.

Order of Saint Barbara Medallion

Those awarded the Order of Saint Barbara receive a medallion attached to a red ribbon. The medallion for the Honorable Order is silver, the Ancient Order has a gold colored medallion. One side of the medallion has a cannon, the other a likeness of Saint Barbara standing by a tower with three windows. The medallion will be worn with the cannon side facing the chest and the bust of Saint Barbara facing out and in view. The Order of Saint Barbara should be worn only at Artillery functions such as Saint Barbara's Day celebrations, Artillery balls or Artillery dinings-in and dinings-out. Commanders, O-6 and above, may designate other occasions for wear as appropriate.

Molly Pitcher

The **Honorable Order of Molly Pitcher** is bestowed by the U.S. Field Artillery Association (USFAA) and the Air Defense Artillery Association (ADAA) to recognize women who have voluntarily contributed in a significant way to the improvement of the U.S. Field Artillery or Air Defense Artillery Communities. The award is named after Molly Pitcher who distinguished herself during the American revolutionary war

The Honorable Order of Molly Pitcher is also bestowed by the U.S. Field Artillery Association (USFAA) and the Air Defense Artillery Association (ADAA) to recognize women who have voluntarily contributed in a significant way to the improvement of the U.S. Field Artillery or Air Defense Artillery Communities. The approval is reserved for O-5 Field Artillery commanders when no O-6 commander is available. They may approve the award for those in or associated with their commands. When there is no such Field Artillery commander available, the Commanding General of the United States Army Field Artillery Center and Fort Sill is the approving authority

NDQSA will be announcing the Santa Barbara and Molly Pitcher honorees at the 2014 Awards banquet on May 26th in Washington DC.

HOW TO ATTEND A REUNION

- A PRIMER -

I have been involved in the planning and operation of NDQSA reunions for several years now and I am still amazed at the comments we have received from individuals that had been truly overwhelmed by the reunion events. Conversely I have seen guys walk in to the hospitality room, look around a bit and then leave, never to return. I wonder, why did they come in the first place and what did they expect?

Will I meet anybody I served with in Nam?



The answer is yes, no and maybe! If you are still in contact with buddies and coordinated ahead of time to attend a reunion, yes, they will be there. If you didn't, then the answer is likely no. Still there is always a chance that someone will walk in 'out of the blue' that served with you. It has happened and does still happen.

NDQSA has made it a point to move the reunions locations around the US and in major cities with the hopes of making it possible for all DQS vets to have a chance of attending a reunion. You have to remember that NDQSA is not made up of a single Army unit. It is composed of 14 different artillery units encompassing a class of weapons, Air Defense/Artillery that served nearly seven years. This is part of our uniqueness.

This year we are in Washington DC again, the most important city in the world for Vietnam Veterans with The Wall and Arlington Cemetery and all the nation's monuments and museums. We have purposely planned this reunion to coincide with Memorial Day so we can March as a group in the nationally televised parade down Constitution Avenue and ending up at the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial.

NDQSA is not a military 'sponsored' veterans group. DQS started as a bunch of guys from a single unit and has grown to become one of the largest and most

respected Veterans groups in the country. Aside from the first AD/A units that trained and deployed together, we NDQSA vets largely had no real bond to our specific units. Most of us were drafted and traveled to and from Vietnam alone or maybe with a few guys from AIT. We served in small teams of 2 or crews of 5-6 and when we left Nam, we returned to a country that took out their frustrations with the Vietnam War on the men and women their country sent into harm's way. That caused many of us to suppress or hold our time in service as a dark time never to be acknowledged, let alone honored.

Well, this is our time now! Sure there have been a few parades and ceremonies around the country that paid the long overdue honor to Vietnam Vets, but we never got to march as a unit, as a battalion with our buddies.

This is the year! And with many of us in our 60's, 70's and 80's, this may well be the last chance we will have to bring together such a large contingent of AD/A Veterans in one place at one time. NDQSA will be marching and you are all invited to attend the reunion and it is up to you to contact and invite your buddies. Still if you come alone you will not be disappointed.

How can I get guys to attend a reunion?

NDQSA's Historian has spent a decade expanding and refining our Roster. It is sorted out by unit and by year. Active (dues paying) members get a copy and can see who has been located from your unit and timeframe. It is not complete by any stretch but it is a starting point. Look in your old paperwork and photo albums for names and hometowns and contact the Historian for help.

Do I come alone or can I bring my family?



NDQSA prides itself as a family oriented group. These reunions are as much for them as it is for you. It is not a bunch of warhorses boozing it up telling war stories (well maybe just a few). Wives and children are just as much if not more interested in learning about what it was like to serve in Vietnam. The hospitality room is set up with displays and memorabilia. We have water, sodas and beer available with a donation jar to help cover

costs. There is no 'cash bar' with hard liquor and members monitor each other's behavior.

If you are coming as a single, that is fine too. You can even try to hook up with another single and share a room to help keep your costs down. Contact the Historian with your schedule if you are looking for a roommate.

What do I wear?

You can wear whatever it is you are comfortable wearing. There are a few events where shorts and t-shirts are not appropriate (Remembrance Ceremony and Banquet) but other than "no shoes, no shirt, no service" you are good to go. NDQSA has various polos, t-shirts, jackets and hats to help identify you as a NDQSA Vet.

What should I bring to a reunion?

Well, certainly bring any photo albums, paperwork and memorabilia you have from your tour in Nam. There are tables where these items can be displayed. If you already have one of the NDQSA History Books don't forget to bring it so guys can sign it.

NDQSA has wonderful evening programs of fundraising that includes daily "50-50" drawings and on the last night we have Chinese and live auctions of items brought by members. These are generally handmade or patriotic items but it is also a chance to 're-gift' that unwanted Christmas present to a good cause. These auctions have become one of the highlights of the reunion. Be sure that when you come that you stay for the Wednesday evening program. You can drop off your auction item(s) at the sign-in desk.

What if I am flying in for the WDC reunion?

If you can, try to fly in to DCA - Regan National Airport. It is located about a mile from the hotel and the hotel has a free shuttle. If you have to fly in to IAD - Dulles International Airport you will be 20+ miles to the west and will have to take an expensive cab or shuttle to get to the hotel in Crystal City.

If I live nearby how do I plan to participate?

Remember, being local can still mean that you have more than an hour commute each way and have to deal with traffic and parking. Too often have I seen local guys pop in for a few hours and to never partake in any of the scheduled activities. You are defeating the whole purpose of our gathering...if you do not gather! These are suggestions for people that live near WDC.

While you typically will not choose to partake in the general sightseeing of Saturday and Sunday, as it is the weekend you should at least come in to the hotel in the evenings to meet with your brother members. Plan on a

few hours (at least one night) to see who is here and to make plans for dinners, etc. with buddies and to make new contacts!! You will not regret it.

Do sign up for the Monday Parade and Remembrance Ceremony. Park for the day at the hotel and take the bus with the group. It is much more fun and practical than trying to find a parking spot in downtown DC.

Do sign up for the trip to the Marine Museum and the afternoon programs at the Tank Farm. It will be a coordinated daylong event with lots of hands-on time with a Duster, Quad and Searchlight, plus several surprises. Do not miss this!! Park at the hotel.

Now this is going to sound odd, but I really suggest that you make a hotel reservation for one or two nights, at least Wednesday the 28th. If you are local, and only partake in the day activities, you will not get full experience of the Hospitality Room. You are cheating yourself. Consider it a special night out. Bring the wife and take her to dinner. Seriously, this may be the only reunion you attend. Don't shortchange yourself.

What do I do in the Hospitality Room?



First of all, you need to show up. There will be a registrations table where you can verify your account and make any changes to planned activities. There is also a sign-in book that has been part of our reunions for many years. Please sign in one line per family. List your hotel room number in case we need to locate you. If local please leave a cell phone number. If you have not pre-registered you can do it then, and if you still need to pay your 2014 dues, you can do it then. You can also drop off any items you have for the auction/fundraising. You will be given a name tag on a lanyard so others can read your name, unit and hometown. There will be a products table manned by volunteers where you can buy NDQSA items and apparel from our inventory. The \$20/25 registration fee helps defer the cost of name tags, lanyards, and other reunion related handouts.

The Historian will set up in a corner of the room and he will help you place any items you brought for display. He will also ask about any photos or paperwork you might have that he can borrow to archive. He will have boxes of reference material on hand and be available to discuss personal stories and inquiries for information. He will have little stickers that you can place on your name badge that further indicates your unit and history. The Historian will also hold a commemorative stamp cancellation for this reunion. Donations accepted.

There will be tables and chairs where guys and their wives will be sitting and talking and sharing stories and photo albums. Some of the tables will be full and some will not. Returning members will probably be grouped together but that does not mean they are not interested in meeting you. Quite the contrary! As hard as it might seem to some, all you have to do is walk up to a table and say "Hello, my name is and I served with this unit at this time." From then on you are all 'old friends'.

What is a "50-50" drawing?

A "50-50" is a way that groups raise funds for projects and programs. A fifty-fifty is held at least once an evening. Tickets can be purchased for a set amount and at drawing time, the pot is split in half (typically >\$100) and a number drawn. The winner can then claim their share of the pot.

How do the raffles and auctions work?



We typically have two types of auctions: Chinese and Live and also 'lot drawings'. The auctions are set up on Wednesday afternoon for completion that evening.

Lot drawings are set up whereby most of the donated items are scaled by general value and assigned a number. A plastic cup is also given that number and placed nearby. You will be able to purchase colored tickets in different denominations which you write your name on that you can then place in a cup. When the drawings begin, the name drawn is the winner of the item. (Hint: bring a bunch of mailing labels from home to use on your tickets). This is a lottery drawing, no one knows who wins until the name is drawn.

The Chinese auction is set up with a donated item and a bid sheet. These are typically 'higher end' donations that are not appropriate for the lot drawings. The item will be described, a starting price set and then people will come up and review the price and if they want to make a bid, they will write in their bid and name. Anyone can make a higher bid until the auction is closed (which will be announced ahead of time). The winning bid must be honored and be paid for at the sign-in desk.

Live auctions are reserved for 'special' items. Everyone gets to bid and at least once there will be a ridiculous bidding war by 2-3 guys for some minor item. Last year it was a web-belt and holster. Other more serious and prestigious items, like quilts, and bladed weapons have garnered extremely generous bids. Another aspect during these 'tribute' auctions is for members to make 'donation bid' to 'pump up' the final bid for an honored participant.

In the past, this fundraising was a key way to support the Gold Star Mother Program and thousands of dollars were raised. NDQSA currently tracks these funds for use in special projects and vehicle restoration programs.

Also on the last evening, we will hold a drawing for a one-night rebate on your hotel bill. All attendees registered at the DoubleTree will be eligible. The number of free rooms drawn is dependent on the number of rooms reserved by NDQSA attendees. Good Luck!

What about the Awards Banquet?



The Awards banquet begins at noon right after the annual business meeting on Wednesday the 28th. This is when we all assemble for a buffet style lunch and get to listen to guest speakers and to hand out awards and commendations to members and officers. This year we will have another two-star general, a former 1LT from 5/2d who will address the membership. We will also begin an annual program with the announcing of "Order of Santa Barbara" and "Molly Pitcher" awardees. The current NDQSA President, Paul D. Hanson will then formally turn over the title to the new incoming President which will have been announced in the morning's annual business meeting.

What about the Annual Business meeting? Why do I have to go to it?



The annual business meeting is the only time in the year when the members and the board of directors can get together to discuss and vote on association matters. There will be the official tallying of the votes on the 2014 slate of officers (executive officers) and the announcing of the next President of the association. We will also be nominating and voting on future reunion locations and announcing the location of the next reunion. There will be committee reports and discussions of projects and programs effecting NDQSA. We strongly encourage all 'local' NDQSA members to come in early on Wednesday and participate. This is your association and the BOD strives to be inclusive and responsive to the membership.

The wives that are attending the reunion will have a social gathering on their own with a Continental Breakfast in the Hospitality Room at the same time.

What about the parade? Are there options for those that cannot march?



We want this to be a special event for everyone and we do not want to exclude anyone, which for health reasons cannot make the mile long march from partaking in the day's events. If you cannot walk you will be able to ride in one of the many vintage jeeps and trucks that will be accompanying us. Family members can march too!

Certainly anyone can set up along the parade route to cheer the marchers in the parade. If you want to be part of the parade we will work to get you into the parade. Based on last year's event, we will be waiting in a staging area on Madison Ave near the Art Museum.

We are calling the march, "The Lost Convoy--- Brothers on the Wall". We plan to have each marcher carry one of the 211 rubbings of a name on The Wall from our AD/A units. This way we will honor them by having them 'in spirit' march with us. If you lost a buddy in Nam we will try to make their name available to you so you can march together. Pretty cool, eh!

Why were the normal days for our reunions changed this year?

We had to change our typical Wednesday thru Sunday days for our reunion this year because of our plans to March in the Monday Memorial Day Parade. Our activity at the Tank Farm had to be on a weekday so the only day it could be was Tuesday after the parade. This then meant that our business meeting and awards banquet had to be on the following Wednesday.

We opted to start the reunion on the weekend so people would be able to travel into WDC during non-working days. It was handy that the annual 'Rolling Thunder' parade was being run the on Sunday before our formal activities start. This way people can decide when they want to come into town and when they want to leave. Note: the \$109 hotel rate is valid for 3-days before and after the reunion: the 21th of May thru June 1st. You can take advantage of these dates to plan a longer family vacation and to take in other sites.

What about lunches and dinners?

Aside from the Banquet, you are on your own for all meals. There are nice restaurants in the hotel with great views of WDC and there are many other very nice places to eat just a few blocks to the south of the hotel. Try to eat early and get back to the Hospitality Room for the evening activities.

If you have any other questions that were not discussed contact any member of the Reunion Committee.

NDQSA Historian At Kennedy Center Honors Ceremony – Billy Joel



The NDQSA historian was part of the honor guard of some 40 Vietnam Veterans that saluted (literally) the Commander in Chief and Billy Joel at this year's Kennedy Center Honors program. Billy Joel's 1982 song 'Goodnight Saigon' is his homage to the men (and women) that served in Vietnam. It is the highlight of any Vietnam reunion that plays music.

Well I got fortuitous email just days prior to the event asking for local Vietnam Vets to participate in the ceremony. I had to give up my Saturday and Sunday but I got a chance to see how a major theatrical production is done. Our group of veterans came from every branch of service and included Corporals to Colonels. We had an Army double amputee, a Marine in dress blues with a cane, Rolling Thunder and Patriot Guard in their colors, Army Cavalry NCO's in their characteristic hats and even a Red Cross Donut Dollie. I wore my red "Support our troops" (Red Friday) t-shirt under my vintage OD-shirt with patches.

It was a very special weekend for all of us, even as the ice storm hit the day of the performance December 8th. We were part of Garth Brooks' three song montage of three of Billy Joel's hits: "Only the good die young"; "Allentown" and ending up with "Goodnight Saigon." Only the last two song made the final editing for TV.

They tried various options for bringing us on stage during the three choruses of the song singing "We said we would all go down together" but they finally decided to bring us out only during the final chorus. Literally for just about 30 seconds of the show. It was certainly done that way in an effort to make the biggest impact at the end of the show. Some of us were concerned that



we were simply being used as 'props' like when disabled vets are wheeled out at sporting events, etc. However, we had a number of special moments throughout the weekend, meeting other groups of young singers and performers while waiting in an alternate auditorium on Sunday. We also got to meet a few celebrities like: Garth Brooks, Don Henley, Glen Close, Tony Bennett and even Snoop Dogg. So you know Snoop Dogg's father served with B/4-60th Dusters in '68-69.

Anyway...when we came out for the final chorus and lined the sides of the stage, arm-in-arm singing the final chorus...the entire theater ERUPTED! I have never seen an entire theater rise in unison in less than one second, clapping, yelling, and yes crying!! It was f@#ing outstanding!!

Then during the applause, the Marine on the right side called us all to "ATTENTION!" Then the 7th Cav NCO on the left side had us "PRESENT ARMS" and we saluted the President's Box and the Commander-in-Chief returned our salute all while the entire audience cheered. After "ORDER ARMS" we retired from the stage but came out one last time for the finale song "Piano Man". I am on the left in the back row saluting in the picture below.

If you missed the show, you can still see it and other related clips on the internet: Garth Brooks and Vietnam Vets

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Hh82llukEA>

Garth Brooks talking about the segment:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UL5TDxtq8Mk>

And the finale:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f1J_5Y-tomc

NDQSA has invited all the Kennedy Center Honors Vietnam Veterans to march with us in the Memorial Day Parade and many have already indicated they will march with us.



**National Dusters, Quads &
Searchlights Association
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**Air Defense Artillery
“First To Fire...Last To Leave”**

**32nd Annual Reunion – 2014
OPERATION DC – WELCOME HOME**

May 24-29th, 2015

WASHINGTON D.C.

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. (2014, 2015, 2016 or 2017)

However, if you see the number 0000 or 2013 and below, we have not seen a dues payment from you in a while. If you can't afford the dues, we fully understand so do not worry about it. We only ask that you update your status and verify your contact information, phone numbers and email address. Just mail in the info using the multipurpose form.

2014 Rosters are printed out and mailed in late January or as soon as your check is processed and will contain the most up to date information. So please make any updates or changes ASAP!

If you have changed your phone number or email address recently, send an email to dqshistorian@cox.net or leave a message on (202) 262-9560.

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

MISSION STATEMENT

The National Dusters, Quads & Searchlights Association tm (NDQSA tm) is the original, official representative for ADA Veterans who served in Vietnam. NDQSA was founded in 1981 by John Huelsenbeck et al, holds annual reunions and has grown to over 490 active members with a directory of over 2200 ADA Vietnam Veterans and supporters.

NDQSA is an IRS 501(c) (19) non-profit veteran's 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.