

## **USS Somers Crewmembers Association**

The following are the minutes of the first reunion/meeting of the former crewmembers of the U.S.S. Somers (DD947) at a reunion held on April 24<sup>th</sup> 2010. The reunion was held at the home of Tom and Mary Anne Goforth at 15709 Williams Road, Cameron, Oklahoma.

### **The following crewmembers were present:** (in alphabetical order)

William Banks	Stockbridge, Georgia
Garland Broussard	Lake Charles, Louisiana
John Buckman	Sturgis, Kentucky
Michael Demeter	Atherton, California
Rod Given	Clarksville, Arkansas
Tom Goforth	Cameron, Oklahoma
Russell Hartley	El Dorado, Arkansas
Ron Hulme	Traer, Iowa
Bill Hutchens	Warren, Michigan
Jerry Jeffrey	Eldon, Iowa
Steve Lewis	Lindstrom, Minnesota
Roy Lindberg	Cattaraugus, New York
Delbert Long	Kansas City, Missouri
Charles Mitchell	Belton, Missouri
Bob Plante	Pennellville, New York
Gary Rose	Rye, Texas
Jim Schmid	Joshua Tree, California
Bill Tankersley	Midlothian, Texas
Bob Tapley	Tucson, Arizona
Tommy Joe Wood	Wichita, Kansas

### **The following crewmembers were not present at the meeting:**

Rod Given, Charles Mitchell and Bob Tapley.

Mr. Michael Demeter called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., Saturday, April 24, 2010. The first order of business, proposed and approved by consensus, was to conduct this meeting and all future meetings according to Robert's Rules of Order.

The next order of business was to elect a "paid position" of Secretary/Treasurer. Mr. Michael Demeter made the motion to nominate Bob Plante for the position and Garland Broussard provided the second. Bob Plante accepted the nomination; however, declined to accept compensation for the position. A voice vote was conducted. All present were in favor of the motion by voice vote. Opposed, None. The motion carried unanimously.

### **New Business:**

1. Mr. Michael Demeter made a motion to look into the formation of an "Association" specifically for the former crewmembers of the U.S.S. Somers (DD947) and (DDG34) inclusively. Those present agreed to not limit membership only to (DD947) but to those crewmembers of (DDG34) as well. The Secretary/Treasurer is to research the requirements of an Association and begin the process as necessary. Garland Broussard provided a second to the motion, all were in favor by voice vote and the motion was carried unanimously. Opposed, None.
2. The Secretary/Treasurer is to open a checking account in the name of the association (**USS Somers Crewmembers Association**) to safeguard its funds and to set up a financial ledger to keep track of deposits and expenditures.
3. A motion was made by Mr. Michael Demeter to set annual dues at Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) per member to cover the expenses of the "Association." The expenses include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - a. Attorney fees for consultation for the establishment of the "Association."
  - b. Expenses associated with a bi-monthly newsletter and associated mailing costs.
  - c. Expenses associated with hosting or reimbursement to the host(s) of future reunions and any expenses incurred for the annual meetings of the "Association."

Garland Broussard provided a second to the motion, all present were in favor of the motion by voice vote. Opposed, None.

### **Future Business:**

Discussion ensued among the members present concerning future reunions/meetings. Consensus was the next reunion is held in 2011 at a date to be determined. Tom Goforth volunteered his home at Williams Road, Cameron, Oklahoma for the next reunion. There were concerns exhibited by the members about the amount of work and cost incurred by Tom and Mary Anne, not to mention the intrusion of so many in their home. However, both Tom and Mary Anne insisted they would be happy to open their home to the members, spouses and friends for the 2011 reunion. Based on their insistence, the membership agreed to have the 2011 reunion at the home of Tom and Mary Anne Goforth.

Discussion continued to determine a monetary donation per person upon arrival at the reunion to offset the costs by the Goforths for food, beverages, rental of tables and chairs, use of their home, clean up and other expenses that may be determined later. A specific dollar amount was not determined at this time but will be discussed among members and set at a later date but prior to the reunion in order to timely advise all members. All agreed with the per person contribution to the reunion host. Opposed, none.

### **Pending Action:**

The Secretary/Treasurer collected Eight Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$850.00) in dues that will be deposited in a Bank of America checking account. Three (3) members departed prior to the meeting.

The Secretary/Treasurer will mail to all potential members on the current mailing list, that could not attend the reunion, an 8X10 photo of those crewmembers that attended.

The Secretary/Treasurer will also make 19 copies of the DVD provided by Mr. Michael Demeter titled "Westpac 1965" and mail them to all those present at the reunion.

With no further business to address, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m., Saturday, April 24, 2010.

Signed and Submitted

Robert P. Plante  
Secretary/ Treasurer  
USS Somers Crewmembers Association

