

CCCA Summer Newsletter June 2016

This was from Tom Lyons

It's been mentioned before, going to bring it up again. Don't feel pressured though, just feel wanted, needed. Now you've joined the Association, you've made us one man stronger; all of those ones have combined to make a large single team. We're now looking for those of you willing to volunteer to help us grow the organization, If you're feeling really adventurous, you could volunteer to be a Regional Manager if you live in one of the open regions that need to be filled. If you are feeling adventurous, just not REALLY adventurous, you could volunteer to be a Detachment Commander. Detachment Commanders are the one guy every swinging boat guy in your state reports to, and then you and the rest of the DCs report to your regions Regional Manager. These are the eyes and ears in the field working together to pool our CCCA boat guy's resources in every state of America. I'll not kid you; it's a lot of work; for Zero Pay. But it can be rewarding work. And you are doing it for a stellar cause, preserving our history and keeping the Brotherhood of and for boat guys, past, present and future.

If you're feeling adventurous or really adventurous and think you'd like to take it on, contact Steve Lareza or Tom Lyons. We'll send you a copy of the position description for the spot you're interested in along with an application. Yep, we're going to check up on you, just like you were applying for a job down the street. Then the Board will vote on you to make it all legal. Every day is an opportunity to Reach out and invite a new member to join.

Elections are coming up in August at the West Coast Event and Ballots thru Sept 2016 .Term is Two Years.

Following Offices are open President, Treasurer, Secretary, Two Vice Presidents will be appointed for Fundraising and Membership, may add a third VP for Regional managers as we get more regions.

June 24, 2016 solicitations for officers closes .Send in Nominations into secretary@combatantcraftcrewman.org or by mail to CCCA Secretary, PO Box 6912, San Diego, Ca, 92166.

July 15 a ballot will be posted on the website as a pdf file

Print and mail in to CCCA Secretary, PO Box 6912, San Diego, Ca, 92166 by Aug 16 or vote in person at Region 1 Social on Aug 19.

2016 Region 1 event and all members are welcome. We are looking at a tentative fee Of \$20 online registration and \$25 at the door per adult. Registration is for 18 and older, kids under 18 are free. Adults get T-Shirts and food. Kids are free no t-shirts

CCCA Ship Store and Website

A Great Place to get things and support CCCA. Remember Father's Day , Birthdays and other Holidays .

Mike has made changes to web site and added four new Tabs. Ladies Aux , Historian's , In Memoriam tab and Veteran's Information Tab

What the CCCA means to me....

1 a few words from The CCCA Vice-President

As I look back these past few years, it becomes apparent to me that the Combatant Craft Crewman Association has one of the pillars of my life. I find great satisfaction watching this non-profit 501C3 grow. It's been very challenging at times and that is ok. I don't know of anything in life that hasn't been. Like many of you the feeling of "Brotherhood" is something that I truly treasure.

After meeting so many of you there are some very common themes that emerge and I would like to take this time to share my thoughts with you'

I would like to acknowledge all those who have gone before me. The service and sacrifice you made during the Vietnam War was extraordinary and I count myself fortunate to have the privilege to be taught by many of you. I took many of those lessons learned forward with me through my 30-year career.

To my generation, it was a sincere honor to serve with and alongside of you. Despite the poor conditions and limited funding, we were able to complete our missions with the same tenacity and out of the box thinking that is the hallmark a Combatant Craft Crewman. It was our ability to capitalize on the lessons learned and master our techniques and tactics that lead to the formal SWCC training program and into what I call the next generation of the SWCC community.

To the Modern SWCC warrior, you now bear the standard of excellence in the Naval Special Warfare Combatant Craft Crewman Community. I was so very impressed with how far you have all come during my latest tour to SBT-20. I consider it an honor and privilege to be part of the CCA, dedicated to" Preserving the history and Keeping the Brotherhood alive with Honor and Integrity". I want you all to understand just how committed I am to making this association work. We have reached some great milestones:

- Create the Bylaws**
- Establish Board of Directors**
- Celebrating our 50th Anniversary of our special community**
- Achieving our 501C3 Status**
- Opening Regional Chapters**
- Fully Operational and user friendly ship-store**

These milestones are wonderful accomplishments in their own right. However, there is more to accomplish in the future. I would sincerely welcome you to share your concerns and ideas to help us become better. I promise to continue to keep an open dialogue and lines of communication, so that together we grow the CCCA into a nationally recognized organization that will make a positive impact serving our community.

I am not interested in negative controversy that has plagued some factions of our older and new generations of CCCA members. In fact I celebrate the contributions of every generation to the whole. I've always been proud to be an American Sailor! As I stated too many of you I guess that's probably one of the unique aspects of my middle generation. I'm looking forward and back with pride knowing that only as a team where we truly successful!

I am focused on continuing to improve the CCCA, grow its membership, and fulfill its mission.

We need to better identify and communicate what our goals are and work together to accomplish them. You will be hearing from me on a regular basis On this subject, as I intend to submit regular articles for Our Newsletter.

Jim Thomas (one of our most valued Founder) needs our combined support to share our stories and concerns in this forum. I also

Intend to look into some new forums on behalf of multiple members requests.

I know that many of you out there want to be heard! ! You have experiences and stories that we all could benefit from! I may not see all of you every day, But damn! You all continue to amaze in in the different paths that you walked and the things you have accomplished. However, our common bond is this community. I would bet that most look back upon your time within this community

with great pride and patriotism! Despite all the unfavorable challenges you faced, people you have lost; the things you remember most about your times in this community are the friendships you made and achievements you accomplished. The shared pain only made you cherish the sense of "Brotherhood" all that more.

I ask each one of you to write a short biography of yourself that you would be willing to share along with a picture of you then and now, and perhaps a couple of stories about your experience in the community .I think that this will help us to build relationships and sense of brotherhood of our membership base. If you decide to decline, that's totally fine also. I understand that Personal Identifiable Information is a concern. I am not asking any of you to share anything you don't want to. I just want to build interaction and network of our community.

I ask you to put aside your differences and focus on what we can do to honor each other contributions. We all consider ourselves special, and in fact most of you don't know what challenges each generation has faced. So let's not make what defines us, but rather, let's focus on how we can help our community and family get through the tough times now and in the future. Our mission has always been greater than the individual ... it's been about the team, the family, and the mission!

Sincerely

Joseph Zemlin (MHSSE)

Combatant Craft Crewman Vice President

V/R Jim Thomas