

REUNION #49 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

14 April 2026

President Tim Kenefick called the meeting to order at 0900.

Chaplain O'Brien - Opening prayer.

The minutes of the Reunion #48 Executive Board and General Membership Meetings as published in the August 2025 Aerograph were accepted.

President Report – President Tim opened by welcoming the Executive Board and expressing happiness that everyone is doing well. He plans on visiting Norfolk to try recruit more active-duty members.

First VP Report: No report but would have new business to present at the appropriate time.

Second VP Report: No report.

Secretary/Treasurer Report:

Finances

The Association is holding a total (3 CDs and checkbook) of \$41,075.78 as follows:

Checkbook = \$5,354.00, breakdown:

General fund = **-\$252.30**

Life members fund = \$1,625.94

Scholarship fund = \$240.00

(Includes a \$200 donation from Richard Schultz in memory of Moon Mullen)

Reunion fund = \$3,740.36

3 CDs combined value = \$35,721.78

Members = 280

Life members = 263

Dues paying members = 17

Aerograph

EMAIL = 230

USMAIL = 15

UNKNOWN ADDRESS OR EMAIL ADDRESS = 46

Note that the general fund as shown above is negative \$252.30, with most of the operating expenses going to website management (hosting) and shipping from Tom Miovas to me as S/T transition. The available checkbook funds have a balance of \$5,354.00. As of 28 April 2026, we have gained three new dues-paying members and two life members since the last reunion. We received two scholarship fund donations totaling \$15,000 that were immediately forwarded to the AMS. The three CDs listed are all maturing the week of 20 April 2026.

Secretary/Treasurer requested that we roll the smaller CD (\$4,379.32) into the operating funds (checkbook) to maintain working funds. A motion was made, seconded, and approved without further discussion to roll the smaller CD into the general fund account.

A motion was made that the Secretary/Treasurer combine the two larger CDs into one CD with the best interest rate available. Motion was seconded and approved after much discussion.

A motion was made to have the Secretary/Treasurer investigate the possibility of moving our accounts to a Navy Federal or other account at a higher interest rate. S/T will confirm with the Board before making any movement of Association funds. Motion was seconded and approved after discussion.

A motion was made that the Aerograph Editor be paid for ALL reunion travel expenses (transportation, lodging, etc.), not just transportation as he had been getting in the past reunion. The move was seconded and during the following discussion it was pointed out that the Constitution and By-Laws clearly give the power to approve that payment to the Executive Board. The members in attendance approved the payment for the Editor's travel as well as the reimbursement for the door magnets that all attendees received to put on their stateroom doors.

According to the By-Laws, the Secretary/Treasurer shall be reimbursed for travel expenses also. This year, the cost of the cruise for him was reimbursed by the cruise line so the Association had no travel expense for S/T this year. Now that he has moved to Florida, transportation was six hours of driving down and back and no reimbursement was requested.

Historian Report: Historian not in attendance – no report.

Aerograph Editor Steven (Smitty) Smith stated that he has enjoyed being the editor and he hopes to be doing so for the foreseeable future.

Webmaster Report: No report as Gary Cox had to remain home due to weather damage.

Reunion Committee Report: Ed Straten gave an update on the very busy schedule we would have the next days including a bridge tour and a special recognition event for Rich McKay (top cruiser on this cruise).

Nominating Committee Report: No report – no nominations required until next reunion.

Finance Report: Chairman Larry Warrenfeltz reported the S/T just gave him the financial report and he would be reviewing it before the General Membership meeting in the afternoon.

Scholarship Committee Report: Chairman Mike Gilroy was not in attendance. AMS selects two students and keeps Mike in the loop during selection process to confirm the nominees are NWSA-approved students. Mike is invited to the AMS Meeting when the Scholarship Awards are presented.

Old business – None.

New business

A motion was made to send the Aerograph to all the NMOC HQ, Centers, Facilities, and Keesler (approximately 16 extra mailings). The motion was seconded and approved after discussion.

Dick Thayer brought up LCDR Rob Josephs' email addressing an article he submitted to the Aerograph in 2022. Discussion by the Executive Committee followed. Dick Thayer stated that the crux of the matter is "Do we want to try to continue to be an open organization trying to acquire new members from current and recently retired Aerographers' Mates and Meteorology / Oceanography Officers, OR simply be an organization made up of those folks from an earlier time? Working against us being a growing organization is the fact that professionally today's personnel performing the meteorology and oceanography duties have very little in common with us who did forecasting with limited prepared products."

There was considerable sentiment that if the Association has no way to connect with the AG's of today, we may not be able to add to our membership with younger Sailors. Others stated we should continue to try and visit the weather centers and recruit. All agreed we should continue to get together with old shipmates and swap sea stories. Dick Thayer stated that as a former instructor and CO of the school, he will make a special effort to reach out to retirees.

At this point, the multinational Concierge and hotel support staff came and introduced themselves and we gave them our thanks for the great service we received. Ed thanked them for working so hard with Patti in setting the reunion up over the past year.

President Tim requested that the Vice Presidents review the Constitution and By-Laws over the next 300 days to determine if changes need to be made, especially regarding the funding of travel reimbursement for the Aerograph Editor and Secretary/Treasurer.

Reunion #50: President Tim has identified a venue in Charleston, SC, not far from the Charleston airport and near the Tanger Outlet Mall. Planned dates are 12 – 16 April 2027. Plans are to visit the USS Yorktown and possibly a WWII submarine.

The meeting adjourned at 1140.

REUNION #49 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 14 April 2026

Note: Duplicate minutes mentioned in the Executive Board Meeting above are excluded.

The meeting was called to order by President Tim Kenefick at 1308.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Master of Arms.

Chaplain Pat O'Brien led us in prayer and the Two Bell ceremony. The Two Bell ceremony and reading of the Necrology was conducted by Chaplain Pat O'Brien and Dick Thayer. We have said farewell to 29 shipmates and eight spouses over the past year.

President – Tim gave Patti Straten and Lori Casperson a well-deserved Atta girl. Lori deferred to Patti as doing all the hard work once Lori identified the cruise.

Finance Chairman Report – Larry reported that the financial reports were in order.

Old Business – None.

New Business – See EXECUTIVE BOARD minutes and the following:

Reunion #50: President Tim has identified a venue in Charleston, SC, not far from the Charleston airport and near the Tanger Outlet Mall. Planned dates are 12 – 16 April 2027. Plans are to visit the USS Yorktown and possibly a WWII submarine. Anyone who would like to help, please contact President Tim Kenefick.

Discussion around recruiting continued from Executive Board meeting. Suggestions to advertise reunions in veterans' magazines; FRA, VFW, American Legion, etc.

Dick Thayer presented his suggestion for the 2028 reunion. He'd like to bring it the west coast; Idaho, California, Washington, or Oregon. Will take significant effort, especially if Reunion Chair wasn't living there. Suggestions and offers to lead or help are welcome.

Meeting adjourned at 1358.

Submitted,
Secretary/Treasurer Cap Casperson
sectrenwsa@gmail.com