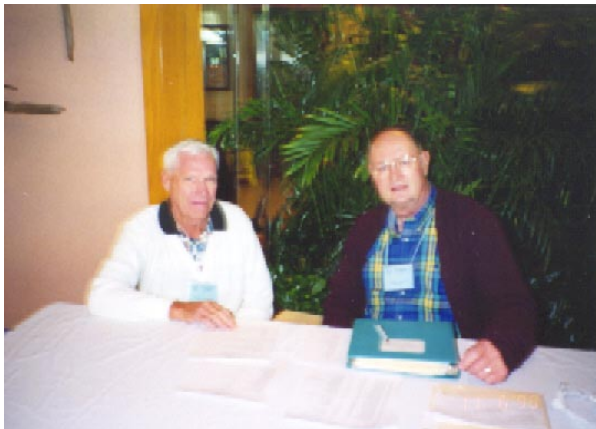




# LITHO NEWS

## 1st Annual Navy Lithographer's Association Reunion

The Navy Lithographer's Association (NLA) held its first annual reunion November 4-8, 1998, at the Treasure Island Inn, Daytona Beach, FL. This four day affair found 27 folks (LIs) and 19 spouses and friends of the attendees, gathered together to get acquainted and organize our reconstituted group.



*Bob Lindquist, Julian Dracon*

Upon arrival at the Treasure Island Inn, each person received a welcome from Julian and Gladine Dracon, who arranged the reunion. Attendees received personalized name badges, a copy of the current association rosters (165 names, addresses and telephone numbers), a list of the 125 deceased LIs, a list of those persons who were attending the reunion and a schedule of activities planned for the reunion.

After checking in and getting settled, the reunion folks were seen gathering in large and small groups, renewing old acquaintances and meeting people many of us had heard of in our Navy LI careers, but never met. Many of the attendees learned they had served on the same ships or stations, but at different times. Sea stories flowed endlessly, taking all of us back to nostalgic times that were remembered with delight and sentiment.

The following individuals traveled to Daytona Beach for this historic event:

<u>Attending LI</u>	<u>Others in Party</u>	<u>Home (City and State)</u>
Baker, Freeman C "Buddy"	Doris - W	Jacksonville, FL
Beeby, Francis L "Frank"	Rosemary - W	Ocala, FL
Bradley, James D "Jim"	Marie - W	Oviedo, FL
Bush, Michael J "Mike"		Fairfax, VA
Cranford, Norman "Spike"		Spring Hill, FL
Diamante, John		Pensacola, FL
Dracon, Julian R	Gladine - W	Littleton, CO
Fricks, Francis "Frank"		Rome, GA
Fortuna, James "Jim"	Fran - W + 2 guests	Wheaton, MD
Gabor, Jay K	Rita	Chesapeake, VA
Gibson, John L	Barb McCurmb-Friend	New Port Richey, FL
Gossett, Kenneth R "Ken"		Springfield, OH
Hacker, John I "Red"		Houston, TX
Huckeby, Floyd R	Georgette - W	Vallejo, CA
Jennings, Leon A		Port Jervis, NY
Judd, Donald K "Don"	Mary - W	Muskegon, MI
Kennedy, Ira E	Nancy - W	Harrisburg, NC
King, Lowell		Toledo, OH
Kuhn, Harold A	Kuniko - W	San Diego, CA
Lavender, Charlie	Sandra - W	Simpsonville, SC
Lindquist, Robert "Bob"		Clermont, FL
Malinski, Francis A "Frank"		Inglis, FL
Maranchik, Jack		Orlando, FL
Russell, Lester L		Mesa, AZ
Sheppard, Owen H	Phyllis - W	Casselberry, FL
Vogler, William V "Bill"	Jeri - W	Dover, NH
Wigandt, Albert "Al"	Friend	Virginia Beach, VA

Most of those present at the reunion were retired Navy LIs. However, John Diamante is currently on active duty as the LI Exam Writer at Pensacola, FL, Lowell King is a Retired Reserve LI and Mike Busch is a recent active duty Navy LI retiree. Also in attendance were Owen Sheppard and Frank Beeby, who were Officers in Charge (OICs) at the CINCLANTFLT Print Plant at various times in the 1950's and 60's.

During the reunion, there were two organizational and one Board of Directors meetings held. These meetings laid out the framework under which the Navy Lithographer's Association will function. See news article "NLA Organizes."

The final function of this reunion was on Saturday evening, November 7th, with the reunion banquet attended by 47 people. It began with a social hour followed by dinner, and continued with folks lingering on with some dancing in the hotel lounge.

At the dinner, letters were read from Jo Zackary, wife of LIC John Zackary (deceased 7-98) in Franklin, NC, and Terry Kerby, daughter of LIC Maurice L. Van Valck (deceased 10-98) in Green Cove Springs, FL. Both John and Maurice were planning on attending this reunion. A minute of silence was held in reverence for the memory of all departed Navy Lithographers.



*Sandra and Charlie Lavender*

Also at the dinner, special recognition was given to Sandra and Charlie Lavender, who, one month earlier had married. Congratulations to our youngest “newly-weds”.

## **NLA Organizes**

During the reunion, several meetings were held and the following decisions were made concerning the NLA.

**Name of Organization:** It was decided to use the title Navy Lithographer’s Association (NLA) as the official designation for the group.

**Membership:** Membership in the NLA is to include any person who served in the Navy or Marine Corps in the Printer/Lithographer ratings; i.e., [PRTR, PI, LI, or equivalent MOS, Marine Corps]. Membership is also extended to individuals who were in the affiliated ratings of Illustrator Draftsman (DM) and Journalist (JO); and to Navy and Marine Corps, Warrant and Commissioned Officers who were assigned primary duty as OICs or collateral duty as Printing Officer at ships or stations. Additionally, NLA members are individuals, with prior service in the Navy or Marine Corps, and they can be in an Active Duty, Reserve, Retired or Non-Career status.

It was recommended that the NLA Roster identify members who were PIs before switching to LIs. Also, a recommendation that membership forms include the

year a member first enlisted in the Navy or Marine Corps and the year they retired or departed from active duty as appropriate.

**Leadership:** Several types of organizational administration and leadership were discussed. The group decided they would elect seven individuals to be the NLA’s Board of Directors, with representation from the active duty status and from persons who resided across the United States. The Board of Directors is to select the following officers: President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, an Active Duty Representative, Retiree Representative and such committee chairman as needed.

The following individuals were elected to the Board of Directors: John Diamante (Active Duty), Michael Busch (Recent retiree), Julian Dracon, Dick Henbest, Al Wigandt and Jim Bradley (Retired).

**Purposes/Policies/Procedures:** These items are to be developed, arranged and disseminated by the Board of Directors, to the membership. All members of the NLA are encouraged to contact the Board of Directors with ideas and opinions they feel should be considered.

**Finance:** It was felt, that for the first few years, the NLA should seek operational funds on a donation basis. A minimum of \$10.00 annually was suggested. The policy of NLA’s finances should be reviewed periodically.

**Legal:** It was felt that the NLA should:

- Be a non-profit organization.
- Have a Federal IRS, Employer Identification Number (EIN).
- Obtain a Non-Profit Bulk Mail Permit (200 names needed).
- Have by-laws (this is referred to the Board of Directors for action).
- At the appropriate time, secure IRS war veterans approval.

A motion was made and passed that the NLA be incorporated in the State of Colorado, (this is the state of residence of the NLA’s Secretary, Julian Dracon).

**Records:** The group felt that membership records should be kept to include:

- All persons who express a desire to be on NLA's mailing list. For the time being, it will include any person who is referred by an NLA member as a member eligible individual.
- A list of all NLA member eligible persons who are deceased.
- A list of widows of NLA member/eligible persons.

Julian Dracon was assigned responsibility for membership efforts for retired and non-career eligible persons.

John Diamante was assigned responsibility for membership efforts for active duty eligible persons.

Lowell King was assigned responsibility for membership efforts for reserve eligible persons.

Additionally, NLA will establish liaison with the Navy Memorial in Washington, DC, and will keep historical records to include information on the LI rating, LI schools (Navy and DOD), duty stations and ships with printing plants, photographs associated with NLA personnel and facilities and items of interest in printing technology.



*1st group meeting - Jay Gabor (not shown) was making a point*

**Reunions:** The group felt that reunions should continue on an annual basis. The next reunion will be determined by the Board of Directors, with suggestions that the following cities be considered; Virginia Beach (Norfolk) VA, San Diego, CA, Houston, TX, Phoenix, AR, Memphis, TN, and Kansas City, KS.

The reunion length should be four or five days and should include recommendations for specific airlines with favorable rates.

Meetings at each reunion should include a Board of Director's Meeting (for planning) and a General Membership Meeting.

Recommendations were made for social events to possibly include:

- One formal sit down dinner.
- A group breakfast.
- Separate activities for spouses and guests; luncheon, tours, programs, shopping, etc.
- An off-site activity or visit to a military facility for all attendees; ship with print shop or ship open house or ship commissioning/decommissioning.
- A guest speaker on a suitable topic.

The responsibility/coordination for a reunion should be by a member(s) who lives in the locality of the reunion.

**Activities Between Reunions:** After each reunion there should be a newsletter published for the benefit of all those persons for whom the NLA has names and addresses. Newsletters could be published quarterly.

Also, there should be an information newsletter published before the next scheduled reunion; outlining, dates, locations, hotel costs, social events planned with associated costs and other pertinent information.

An updated taps/deceased list should be part of each newsletter. Also, e-mail addresses of NLA members should be published in each newsletter.

Membership rosters should be mailed to each person, membership eligible, that the NLA gets a name and address. An up-to-date membership roster should be available for each member attending a reunion.

At the second organizational meeting, the afternoon of November 7th, President Bradley announced the names of those persons elected as NLA officers and the chairs of several committees. A listing of those elected follows on the next page.

President*	James "Jim" Bradley	Oviedo, FL
Vice President**	Michael "Mike" Busch	Fairfax, VA
Secretary/Treasurer	Julian Dracon	Littleton, CO
Board Member	Al Wigandt	Virginia Beach, VA
Board Member	John Diamante	Pensacola, FL
Board Member	Dick Henbest	Eugene, OR
Board Member	John "Red" Hacker	Houston, TX
Chair 2nd Reunion	Harold Kuhn	San Diego, CA
Chair 3rd Reunion	James "Jim" Fortuna	Wheaton, MD
Chair Membership	Al Wigandt	Virginia Beach, VA
Active Duty Liaison	John Diamante	Pensacola, FL
*Older Retirees Liaison	Jim Bradley	Oviedo, FL
**Younger Retirees Liaison	Mike Busch	Fairfax, VA

It was announced that the 2nd NLA Reunion would be in San Diego, CA, sometime between October 1 and November 15, 1999. The reunion will be 4 days and 3 nights, and Harold Kuhn will be the reunion chairman. The reunion will have special events for spouses and guests.

The year 2000 reunion will be in the Norfolk/Virginia Beach, VA, area and the chairman will be Jim Fortuna. The year 2001 reunion will be in Mid-America.

The Board of Directors will write by-laws for the NLA, which will be presented to the members in attendance at the 2nd NLA reunion for ratification.

Dues for the NLA will be by donation: suggestion \$10.00 per year.

The NLA will have a twice-yearly newsletter.

The Board of Directors recommends that term of office for the board is 2 or 3 years each, with staggered election of board members each year. John (Red) Hacker was appointed to the Board of Directors as a seventh member.

## Rating Update

John Diamante gave a most informative update on the LI rate as it exists in the active duty Navy today. He noted the number of persons in the rate, about 300 or so; he described the transition the Navy is currently undergoing from offset to digital technology for printing production. John also reviewed the progression of women in the LI rate in sea billets; the Navy personnel management shift of the LI rate from the miscellaneous rating group to the supply rating group and the establishment (from Navy Printing & Publication Service) of the Defense Automated

Printing Service (DAPS), a DOD wide organization. The NLA members asked John a number of questions and shared their opinions concerning changes taking place in today's Navy. "It isn't your father's printing technology or his Navy today, and today's Navy doesn't use sails or fuel oil for propulsion sources either."

*Editor's note:* As of the printing of this newsletter a commonality study was recently conducted on the LI rating and it was recommended that the Lithographer's merge with the Photographer's Mates (PHs). The recommendation will be processed up the chain of command for approval or disapproval. No time frame is known concerning conversion if this is approved.



*2nd group meeting - Navy LI rating update*

## Deceased NLA Members

The NLA decided they would keep a list of all known deceased persons, who were LIs and who would have been eligible for membership in the association. To date we have been able to determine that approximately 125 LIs have passed away. Presently, the names of the deceased have come from the "TAP List" of the "Naval Affairs magazine, published monthly by the Fleet Reserve Association; and from association members who tell us about the death of an LI. It is the association's intention to maintain a NLA Deceased List, to publish this list at each reunion and at other suitable times, and to hold a suitable memorial for the deceased at each reunion.

We need the help of each person who receives this newsletter to keep our "deceased" list current. If you know of the death of a person eligible for membership in our group, please contact the association secretary,

Julian Dracon, 6671 S. Race Circle W., Littleton, CO, 80121-2730, phone (303) 795-5350, E-mail: jiffy@rmi.net. We would like to know the name of the deceased, the approximately month/year of death and the last known residence (city/state). If you know the next-of-kin and residence of a deceased LI, please pass that along also.

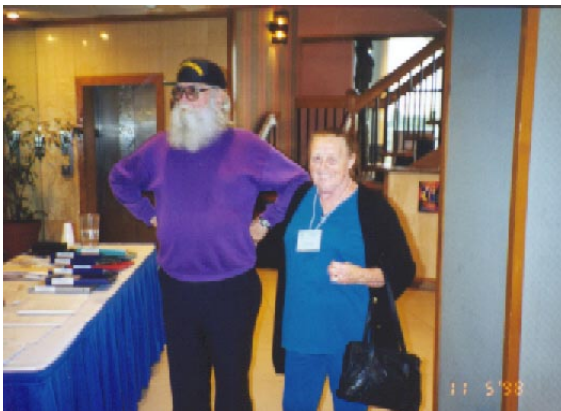


*Lester Russell, John "Red" Hacker*

We regret to inform you that LIC Lester L. Russell of Mesa, AZ passed away on December 17, 1998, a little over a month after he attended our 1st reunion in Daytona Beach, FL.

## **NLA Logo**

The members viewed a couple of symbols for a suitable logo and decided to use the symbol printed on the front cover of the 1962 CINCLANTFLT Print Shop Year Book. The NLA name will be around the outer perimeter. John Diamante will work on the graphics for the logo.



*Registration Area - Buddy and Doris Baker*

## **Announcing the 2nd Annual NLA Reunion**

Plans for the 2nd Navy Lithographer's Association Reunion are underway. Announcements for the plans of this reunion have been sent to the following organizations for publication in their monthly/quarterly magazine or newsletter:

- **Shift Colors** (Navy Personnel Command)  
The NLA Reunion notice will be in the Spring 1999 edition
- Transitions Section (**Navy Times**)
- **Naval Affairs** (FRA)
- Reunions (**Naval Institute Proceedings**)
- Reunions (**VFW**)

The 2nd reunion will be in San Diego, CA; the scheduled date is 3-6 November 1999. It will be a four-day, three-night affair. Harold Kuhn is the Chairman of the 2nd NLA reunion. Specific details for the reunion; i.e. hotel, lodging rates, schedule of events, including meetings, meals/dinners, tours, special events will be published at a later date and sent to all member eligible persons for which we have names/addresses.



*Leon Jennings, Ken Gossett, Mike Busch, Julian Dracon*

## Navy Lithographer's Association Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of the Navy Lithographer's Association is listed below. Please contact any member of the board for assistance or to have questions about the association answered.

### President

James "Jim" Bradley  
3713 Becontree Place  
Oviedo, FL 32765-9630  
407-366-9044  
chiefbrad@worldnet.att.net

### Vice President

Michael "Mike" Busch  
10313 Latney Road  
Fairfax, VA 22032  
703-425-4314  
licmike@aol.com

### Secretary/Treasurer

Julian Dracon  
6671 S. Race Circle W.  
Littleton, CO 80121-2730  
303-795-5350  
jiffy@rmi.net

### Board Member

John Diamante  
4309 Burtonwood Dr.  
Pensacola, FL 32514  
850-476-3833  
jdiamante@bigfoot.com

### Board Member

John "Red" Hacker  
2631 Pomeran  
Houston, TX 77080  
713-462-3628

### Board Member

Richard "Dick" Henbest  
4250 Pearl  
Eugene, OR 97401  
541-343-2413

### Board Member

Albert "Al" Wigandt  
5760 Susquehanna Dr.  
Virginia Beach, VA 23462  
757-497-1739

## Navy Lithography on the Wide World Web

<http://www.geocities.com/Pentagon/Quarters/8003>

### What you'll find here:

- Roll Call Listings of Active Duty, Retired, Reserve, and Former Lithographers with e-mail addresses  
*(This area is constantly being update as new information is supplied)*
  - NLA Area with previous and upcoming reunion information and photographs
    - Archive Area with photos and LI related information  
*(This is a new area and dependent upon your input)*
    - Various other printing related links

## Membership in the Navy Lithographer's Association

In the next several years, we are hoping to expand our member list so that it will include a significant number of individuals who were Navy LIs, Marine Corps MOS (Printer/Lithographer) and eligible affiliated persons. We have a very enthusiastic active duty person in LIC John Diamante, who has the knowledge, closeness and ability to spread the word to the 266 active duty LIs. Many of these folks will be invaluable in keeping the NLA viable into the future.

We need you help! Here is how you can assist the NLA.

If you have the names/addresses of eligible persons with whom you correspond, and you will share that list with our association, we will send these people information about our organization and its activities.

If you have old names/lists from cruise books, etc., of folks who are member eligible, please send them to our association secretary. We have the ability to search the Internet "world wide web"; (People Search White Pages for names, addresses, telephone numbers). It helps if you have first names, middle names or initials and last names. The association will send them an initial postcard asking that they consider joining the NLA. To date we have had a 60% success rate in identifying such persons and a 99% positive response from those we contact.

The enclosed membership form can be used to join our association. You may make copies of it and pass it along to any person you believe would be interested or eligible to be a member of the Navy Lithographer's Association.

**Note: If you have not personally contacted Julian Dracon with your mailing and membership information, please use this form to do so. Although, you received this newsletter some names and addresses have been provided by other association members, cruise book listings, Internet searches, etc.**

Please mail all forms to the association secretary, Julian Dracon, 6671 S. Race Circle W., Littleton, CO 80121-2730, Phone (303) 795-5350, E-mail: jiffy@rmi.net.

I desire to have my name added to the Navy Lithographer's Association mailing list.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle One:   Active   Retired   Reserve   Non-Career

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Pre 1958 (Circle Prior Designation):   PI   or   PRTR

MO/YR Entered Active Duty: \_\_\_\_\_ MO/YR Retired or Left Active Duty: \_\_\_\_\_

Duty Stations: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Comments/Suggestions/Information:

At present, dues for the NLA are by donation; \$10.00 per year is suggested.