

# NAVY SEABEE VETERANS of AMERICA

## 2025 MID-YEAR ZOOM MEETING

Saturday, **MARCH 15, 2025** at NOON

### Invited members and Roll Call

<b>COMMANDER</b>	Dwight Hamborsky	<b>PRESENT</b>	*	<u>STANDING COMMITTEES:</u>			
<b>VICE COMMANDER</b>	Eric Treece	<b>PRESENT</b>	*	CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS	DAVID J. BUCHANAN	<b>PRESENT</b>	
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Charles Coffin	<b>PRESENT</b>	*	LIFE MEMBERSHIP	Chuck LOMBARDI	<b>PRESENT</b>	
<b>TREASUER</b>	Gerald Kissinger	<b>PRESENT</b>	*	PUBLICATIONS	JACK F. TANGEN	<b>PRESENT</b>	
<u>DISTRICT COMMANDERS</u>				*	NAT'L PUBLICITY	CHRIS CHELINE	<b>ABSENT</b>
North East	OPEN/ John Cubit	<b>ABSENT</b>	*	RESLUTIONS	FREDDIE Sauseda	<b>ABSENT</b>	
South East	John Hillyer, III	<b>PRESENT</b>	*	INTERNET	JACK F. TANGEN	<b>PRESENT</b>	
North central	Roger Jacobson	<b>PRESENT</b>	*	FINANCE	CHRIS CHELINE	<b>ABSENT</b>	
South Central	Chett Winchell	<b>PRESENT</b>	*	MEMBERSHIP	ANTHONY AMEZQUITA	<b>PRESENT</b>	
North West	Ralph Bean	<b>PRESENT</b>	*	CONVENTION	CHARLES COFFIN / ELAINE COFFIN	<b>PRESENT</b>	
South West	Gerald Kissinger	<b>PRESENT</b>	*	<u>APPOINTED OFFICERS</u>			
<u>PAST NATIONAL COMMANDERS</u>				*	PARLIAMENTARIAN	CHUCK DOUGE	<b>PRESENT</b>
21-23	JACK F. TANGEN	<b>PRESENT</b>	*	CHAPLAIN	MICHAEL BONCHECK	<b>ABSENT</b>	
18-21	JIM FUREY	<b>PRESENT</b>	*	SERVICE OFFICER NATIONAL	THERESE BRANDES	<b>ABSENT</b>	
16-18	JOHN J. HILLYER III,	<b>PRESENT</b>	*	COUNSELORS	DAVID J. BUCHANAN,	<b>PRESENT</b>	
14-16	DAVID J. BUCHANAN,	<b>PRESENT</b>	*	COUNSELORS	JIM SORENSEN,	<b>ABSENT</b>	
08-10	V. R. "BEAR" HOLLAND	<b>ABSENT</b>	*	HISTORIAN	TED MONTUORI	<b>PRESENT</b>	
06-08	DAVID J. BUCHANAN,	<b>PRESENT</b>	*	MASTER AT ARMS	AMANDA TEMPLETON	<b>ABSENT</b>	
04-06	JAMES E. WHITE,	<b>ABSENT</b>	*	SHIPS STORE	ERNIE/ BETTY NELSON	<b>PRESENT</b>	
<u>NATIONAL TRUSTEES</u>				*	REGISTERED AGENT	STEVE DEVEREAUX	<b>PRESENT</b>
1 Year	AMANDA TEMPLETON	<b>ABSENT</b>	*	<u>DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:</u>			
2 Year	RODGER JACOBSEN	<b>PRESENT</b>	*	FLORIDA	TED MONTUORI	<b>PRESENT</b>	
1 Year	JACK F. TANGEN	<b>PRESENT</b>	*	ILLINOIS		<b>ABSENT</b>	
2 Year	Steve DEVEREAUX	<b>PRESENT</b>	*	INDIANA	ROBERT WOOTEN,	<b>ABSENT</b>	
2Year	Chett WINCHELL	<b>PRESENT</b>	*	MASSACHUSTTS	JAMES PEDONE	<b>ABSENT</b>	
			*	NEW YORK	JOHN A. CUBIT,	<b>ABSENT</b>	
			*	TENNESSEE	CHETT WINCHELL	<b>PRESENT</b>	
			*	OHIO	PATRICK LEIHER,	<b>ABSENT</b>	
			*	WASHINGTON	RALPH BEAN, CHARLIE MONROE	<b>PRESENT</b>	

All titles are listed above and will not be used throughout the Minutes.

Zoom Mid-year meeting **March 15<sup>th</sup> 2025** 12:00pm-?

Opening

Roll Call of Officers

Commander's Report

National Vice Commander At Large

Approval of Minutes of Previous Conventions

National Secretary

National Treasurer/ Finance, budget

Past National Commanders

National District Commanders

Constitution and By-Laws- **Nothing to update at this time**

Internet /Publications

Life Membership **Deceased members**

Membership, **Island closing**

National Publicity **Tri-fold brochures**

Ship store, **Small Store financials**

Report of Remaining Officers

Resolutions, **? if the two are still on table 2 submitted Resolutions**

Report of Remaining Committees

**New Business**

**Offices open**

**NOMINATIONS** volunteers to J. **TANGEN** (CHAIR) or any **PNC**

**Old Business**

2025 convention, **DOUGE'**

2026 convention

Hampton Road, Va.

New Port News, Va.



A **MOTION** was proposed by D. **BUCHANAN** and seconded by D. **HAMBORSKY** to accept the **Investment Policy**, as presented to the National Executive Committee on March 15, 2025, as a 3-page document, and send it to the 2025 National Convention and Reunion membership with a **recommendation for adoption**. The motion was approved by voice vote with no nays.

**PNC reports**, D. **BUCHANAN**, J. **FUREY**, J. **TANGEN** have submitted reports and J. **HILLYER, III** will submit his report momentarily.

**District Commanders reports**,

C. **COFFIN** announced that G. **KISSINGER** is the only District Commander to submit a report.

C. **WINCHELL** asked what reports were to be submitted and C. **COFFIN** explained a report of his activities was to be submitted prior to this meeting. C. **WINCHELL** said he would forward a report electronically asap.

**Constitution and Bylaws Report**

C. **COFFIN** stated he had a report from D. **BUCHANAN**, Chair, and there had been NO activity since the 2024 Convention and Reunion to act upon.

**Internet and Publications report**

C. **COFFIN** stated J. **TANGEN** had submitted his report and the only question C. **COFFIN** asked is if he had received a bill for the Internet service. **YES!** and the was close to last years.

**Life Membership Report,**

C. **COFFIN** introduced and welcomed **C. LOMBARDI** to the Committee.

**C. LOMBARDI** talked about the work that had been transferred to him and his efforts to catch up with to make things current. He is contacting the Departments and Island Commanders when they get a Life Member. He asked about the efficiency of send information to him and he will then send the money to C. **COFFIN**. They will have a conversation offline.

**Membership report- 5 Islands Closings** C. **COFFIN** reported

1. **X-7 Port Hueneme, Ca.**, This Island is about ?? completed in its deactivation. cc
2. **X-3 Sarasota, Fl.** This Island is **completely** deactivated as of 031525. djb
3. **X-2 Lakeland, Fl.**, This Island is about **60%** completed in its deactivation. djb
4. **X-8 Lee Co., Fl.**, This Island is about **80%** completed in its deactivation. djb
5. **X-1 Red Banks, NJ.**, This Island is about **25%** completed in its deactivation. cc

C. **DOUGE'** has reconciled Island **X-5 Fort Lauderdale**, where he is the Secretary, and found close to 50 deceased members on the roster.

C. **COFFIN** suggested having an **informal meeting** for ALL islands to see how they are handling recruitment and what are some ideas to increase membership. This will be on the agenda for the 2025 Convention and Reunion.

## Publicity Report

C. **CHELINE** was not in attendance, but C. **COFFIN** hoped she would be able to flood the social media sites with information about the 2025 National Convention and Reunion.

## Ship's Stores

E. **NELSON** had submitted a report saying that everything is progressing well. The older coins are sold out. B. **NELSON** summarized the operation and suggested doing something in the way of a coin for its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Order small. The **SEABEE Stamp** was discussed, and it is not in the works to be issued. B. **NELSON** stated she still has several coasters.

A. **AMESQUITA** asked about a problem with a garrison cap he had ordered. She advised A. **AMESQUITA** to contact the manufacturer himself.

D. **HAMBORSKY** stated the manufacturer will correct it.

C. **LOMBARDI** talked about his directions from J. **CUBIT**, former Life Membership Chairman, regarding the numbering of the Life Membership cards.

## RESOLUTIONS REPORTS, 2 Resolutions submitted, both by A. **AMESQUITA**

F. **SAUSEDA** was not in attendance and C. **COFFIN** explained the Resolutions.

### **Resolution 2025-01**, a 3 tiered membership program.

There was a great deal of discussion over this Resolution as to its **purpose** and **improper formatting** and its **value** to the NSVA. There was **NO author listed** for this Resolution.

C. **WINCHELL** asked if they were submitted in timely manner? **YES**

D. **HAMBORSKY** talked about the lack of form for this document. He asked A. **AMESQUITA** if he had been “wordsmithing” his document and the answer was It is **“perfect as it is”**.

A. **AMEISQUITA** went on to explain the purpose of his Resolution and the success the American Legion and the VFW is having with this format.

D. **HAMBORSKY** spoke to the missing information on the resolution.

A. **AMESQUITA** explained he had sent the document to the National Secretary so he could do his due diligence on it.

C. **COFFIN** immediately explained to A. **AMESQUITA** that was not his job to critique his Resolutions. He had requested that it be corrected on 3 separate occasions and nothing was done.

A. **AMESQUITA** suggested he could correct it now and send it out on Monday. This was determined to be too late as the Committee would not be in session to discuss it.

D. **HAMBORSKY** asked D. **BUCHANAN** for his opinion on the resolutions as presented.

D. **BUCHANAN** stated in his opinion the Resolutions were **NOT in a proper format** as outlined at the 2022 Convention and Reunion in Colorado and they would be **better presented as PROPOSALS** so they would not change the Constitution and Bylaws.

C. **COFFIN** asked D. **BUCHANAN**, past chair of the Resolution Committee to explain the resolutions in F. **SAUSEDAs** absence.

**Resolution 2025-02**, pursuit of a **Federal Charter for the NSVA**

C. **COFFIN** explained that at this time the NSVA is not eligible to qualify for a **FEDERAL CHARTER** given the size of the NSVA and the financial security.

It has been pursued before, and we were not eligible for it then.

C. **MONROE** spoke about his experience with other organizations who have or have tried to obtain a Federal Charter.

E. **TREECE** thought the NSVA was dysfunctional and needed to try different ways to increase the membership.

G. **KISSINGER** asked what the cost in dollars and time is to move this Resolution forward.

C. **COFFIN** broke down the logistics of the need to have an office in DC and staff it and have funds available for a full time lobbyist.

C. **WINCHELL** asked what is the benefit to the NSVA to have a Federal Charter. At this time the cost outweighs the benefit.

G. **KISSINGER** spoke about the issue needing a champion to drive it forward and no one stepped forward to undertake the responsibility.

E. **NELSON** thought it did not cost a dime to move forward until it does start to cost the NSVA money.

C. **COFFIN** noted that the National Commander can appoint a **feasibility committee** at any time. For this resolution, it might be wise to **form a committee to investigate and provide facts on obtaining a Federal Charter in 2025 at the 2025 Pre-Convention meeting.**

R. **JACOBSON** suggested reaching out to the **FRA (Fleet Reserve Association)** for space and advise on how to obtain a Federal Charter.

D. **BUCHANAN** made the motion, seconded by C. **WINCHELL**, to request the National Commander to form a committee to study the feasibility of securing a Federal Charter for the NSVA and to send **Resolution 2025-02** to the 2025 National Convention and Reunion general membership without a National Executive Committee recommendation pending the results of the feasibility study to be presented at the Pre-Convention Executive Board meeting.

A show of hands across the screens of the Zoom meeting was **NOT** conclusive.

C. **COFFIN** asked if there were any members **opposed to this motion and heard none.**

A. **AMESQUITA** stated basically we are not keeping this apart from the Executive Board? **NO!**

This motion was **passed unanimously.**

D. **HAMBORSKY** asked who is willing to serve on this feasibility Committee?

D. **BUCHANAN** suggested the **author of the Resolution chair this Committee.**

This appointed Committee will be made up of

- A. **AMESQUITA** as Chair,
- C. **COFFIN**, member
- G. **KISSINGER**, member
- E. **TREECE**, member
- E. **NELSON**, member

E. **Nelson** presented a template created in **2022** to be used as a guideline to aid members in writing resolutions by the Resolution Committee Chair for the Colorado Convention and Reunion. Although it was his first time seeing the form, it had been available on NSVA.org as a guideline for writing Resolutions.

G. **KISSINGER** went to the NSVA.org website during the meeting and verified it was still listed under the “**FORMS**” tab.

J. **TANGEN** reaffirmed that everyone needs to read their **CAN DO** magazines carefully and use the [NSVA.org](http://NSVA.org) website for information concerning the NSVA. Information is posted on each site.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Nominations**

**ZEFFY** is **AN ONLINE PAYMENT PLATFORM** and C. **COFFIN** has been looking into it. Island X-3 Myrtle Beach is using this platform now and E. **TREECE** is working in tandem with C. **COFFIN** to perfect this for the NSVA. There is **NO** fee for this service.

J. **TANGEN** asked what the limits to this system are. This **account will be only for deposits**. All this is done within the Navy Federal Account.

E. **NELSON** asked if mobile deposits can be made to the Navy Federal account. **NO!**

C. **COFFIN** described our **TAX EXEMPT** status. The NSVA is an **active 501c4 not for profit organization**, Chartered in the state of Illinois.

### **OPEN OFFICES,**

The **nomination Committee** is made up of the Past National Commanders, J. **TANGEN**, Chair, J. **FUREY**, J. **HILLYER, III** and D. **BUCHANAN**. J. **TANGEN** will be sending out a questionnaire to **ALL** elected and appointed officers asking if they would like to remain in their respective Office, if applicable or if they would like to run for a different office. He asked for a timely response from **ALL**.

C. **DOUGE'** asked of the **\$20.00 registration** where does any surplus money go. Historically there is no surplus funds of the registration.

C. **WINCHELL** asked about the logistic of Resolution 2025-01, how will it affect the current Life membership status. C. **COFFIN** stated this **separate from the Life membership fund**.

G **KISSINGER** talked about the Life membership disbursement to Districts.

A. **AMESQUITA** talked about adding money to his existing LM membership to give him another member of a tier that is not established. **NO**.

E. **NELSON** suggested to A. **AMESQUITA** that adding to an existing Life Membership account would be an accounting nightmare for the Life Membership chair and suggests if you indeed want to move up a tier you should pay the full cost of that tier.

A. **AMESQUITA** exhibited his garrison cap with **SILVER**, Life Membership from another organization.

A. **AMESQUITA** criticized the National board for not supporting his efforts in the.

C. **LOMBARDI** agreed with E. **NELSON** about the amount of work it would create.

E. **NELSON** asked C. **LOMBARDI** about the status of the Life Membership cards and went on to explain how he was proceeding.

E. **NELSON** asked where he could find information on applying for a new Membership card.

J. **TANGEN** again reemphasized the fact that **everyone needs to read the CAN DO** magazine and refer to the NSVA.org webpage for information, updates and forms.

At this point the **meeting turned confrontational** and had to be **called back to order**.

E. **NELSON** addressed the committee about the need to place an **“AD”** in the Convention program book and talked about the rewards from advertising.

E. **NELSON** also talked about membership of the NSVA, applauded E. **TREECE** for his efforts but stated there was a problem in communicating with the Force Master Chief of the SEABEES.

E. **NELSON** advised that someone needs to work getting to the Force or KingBee, but not E. **NELSON**, someone else.

D. **BUCHANAN** asked if we could return to the meeting.

G. **KISSINGER** asked to discuss his **letter of September 21, 2024 to the 6 District Commanders** about keeping in contact with the Islands about their LM payout checks not being cashed or even receiving them.

C. **COFFIN** said to G. **KISSINGER** he had authorization to re-issue a LM check to the N. Nevada Island.

C. **COFFIN** asked K. **DOUGE** for an update on the **2025 Convention and Reunion**.

As of this meeting there are 20 people registered.

C. **COFFIN** asked C. **WINCHELL** about the **“QUILTS of HONOR”** ceremony.

### **2026 Convention venue**

There are only 2 “RFP” from the hotel in New Port New city center and Hampton Road.

D. **HAMBORSKY** asked if this was Island sponsored or a NSVA Convention. **NSVA sponsored.**

Request are too far from the time we need to meet.

2027 Colorado area

2028 Myrtle Beach area.

D. **HAMBORSKY** stated that the National Convention and Reunions were traditionally held in the Commander home state or Region. He was immediately corrected as this has **never been a rule**.

**The next Convention Zoom is April 10, 2025, at 8:00pm.**

D. **BUCHANAN** made a **MOTION**, that since there is **NO** further business to conduct, to adjourn this meeting and seconded by J. **FUREY** and unanimously approved by a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:19pm.

Notes by djb