OCTOBER, 2014 SPECIAL ISSUE

## N A A V

#### **National Association of Atomic Veterans**

Website: <u>www.naav.com</u> – E-mail: <u>naav.cmdr@naav.com</u> - Darryl Hirst –the newsboy

THE NEWSLETTER FOR AMERICA'S ATOMIC VETERANS SINCE 1979





#### THIS NEWS LETTER'S GOALS...

- 1. AN INTRODUCTION
- 2. NEW MEMBERS
- 3. SHIRT SALES

As heard, through Facebook that was placed by Director Steve Harrison. "We all need to start getting new members. All veteran that have had any contact with Atomic Radiation or nuclear such as nuclear subs, air craft carriers and any contact with depleted uranium. All of these veterans now qualify as atomic veterans. One way is to ask some of your members to help you and make them your area commanders." (more on page 2)

### A new look for a new quarterly NAAV newsletter.

Since the passing of Cmdr. Ritter we have been without a line of communication. No question, any organization will wither without a way to "get the word out" and that is our goal. My name is Darryl Hirst and I'll be the newsboy. I'm a life member of NAAV, a DAV (from an award from the VA for the scarring left from skin caner – , a USN RM2 at Operation Redwing (1956) aboard the USS Crook County LST611 and living in Washington state. <a href="mailto:newsboynaav@gmail.com">newsboynaav@gmail.com</a>

The NAAV annual meeting was held on September 20-21 in Tigard, Oregon. From the minutes ...

https://www.facebook.com/download/1533996123504687/NAAV%20B oard%20minutes%209.14.docx

#### Amendments to the By-Laws of the Articles of Incorporation

Article 1 – Board of Directors

The Board shall consist of no more than 8 Directors (change from 7), and may be reduced to an uneven number, as may be required by circumstances or other events.

Fred Schafer - Director / National Commander F.L. Grahlfs - Director / Vice Commander H. Frank Farmer - Director / Treasurer Barbara Schafer - Director / Secretary G.H. Jenkins - Director / Director at Large

Robert Pfeifer - Director / Director at Large

Steve Harrison - Director / Director at Large

Haskell Watts – Director / Director at Large

WE WOULD LIKE THIS NEWSLETTER TO BECOME AN ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER. FOR EACH MEMBER THAT CAN RECEIVE THIS THROUGH E-MAIL WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR ADDRESS OR VERIFICATION OF THAT ON FILE. YOU CAN EXPECT A CONTACT FROM YOUR STATE COMMANDER BEFORE LONG. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO E-MAIL – NOT TO WORRY WE'LL KEEP BUYING AND LICKING STAMPS.

National Association of Atomic Veterans Tigard, Oregon

www.naav.com

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#### Okay, let's get them signed up! Help us find the new veterans who qualify as Atomic Vets.

Listed on the NAAV Facebook page is, in part the following: The mission of NAAV was established in 1979 for allowing the Atomic Veterans to speak, with a single voice, to their inability to get a fair hearing related to their health issues relating to exposure to "ionizing" radiation while participating in test detonation or "post-test" event. ... Atomic Veterans were members of the United States Armed Forces who participated in atmospheric and underwater nuclear weapons tests from 16 July, 1945 to 30 October 1962. ...part of the Occupation Forces assigned to Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan soon after the detonation of Atomic-Bombs over those respective cities, and those American prisoners of war (POW's) who were housed in close proximity to those cities. These Veterans fit the VA's "official" description of an Atomic-Veteran. ... There is a second group of veterans who may have been involved in radiation exposure events. These include post test events related to nuclear weapon devices detonated underground or in shafts (after 1962) that may have provided an

exposure event, or those who's duties involved regular use of radiation producing equipment or processes, such as power plant technicians aboard nuclear powered Aircraft Carriers and Submarines, X-ray technicians, and those veterans assigned to the Enewetak Atoll radiation clean-up projects. These veterans fit the VA's "official" description as Occupational radiation exposed veterans.

Here is what I did. I telephoned four individuals that I knew fit into the second group and were not members of the NAAV. I told them our story (just about what is in the above paragraph, using it as a guide, and if you wish – (heck read it to them.) I asked each one to join and then mailed an application form. One of whom served in the Navy aboard a nuclear submarine has now joined our group. When you make a contact you will never know who you personally are doing a good deed for. Maybe, for someone's spouse, child, …?

Do this and you will be helping someone. Ask them to join and get them an application or let them know they can get one through <a href="http://www.naav.com/html/apply">http://www.naav.com/html/apply</a> now.htm .

Find them in your family, a neighbor, put a letter to the editor in your news paper, give some information to your American Legion, DAV, or military groups that you know of. We really need your help. We'll do what we can but we need your help. Let's get new members for the exact reason you and I joined. Thank you, newsboynaav.gmail.com.

Buy a shirt
Buy a shirt
Buy a Shirt
Help Gillie
Help Hack
Help NAAV



From our webpage: For the latest update on matters affecting Atomic Veterans click <a href="http://thomas.loc.gov">http://thomas.loc.gov</a> and search on "atomic veterans" or "radiation-exposed veterans" or other words you want to search on

If you have a "letter to the editor" (ooops, newsboy) and it is less than 100 words and we can find newsletter room, I'll try to get it in. Nothing inappropriate – stick to the point.

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Printing on the back of your other shirt. "VA's New Slogan"

Recently seen on Facebook placed by Director Steve Harrison.

Looking over the State
Commander list the following are
open: Delaware, Florida, Idaho,
Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky,
Maryland, Montana, Nevada,
South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah
and Wyoming. Interested give
Gillie Jenkins a call at 804-3348585 or Steve Harrison at 503888-1942.

and by Steve

the NAAV Facebook page is now on the NAAV website

<u>www.naav.com</u> Just "click" under "Hot Topics"





# LET'S BUY A SHIRT WE'LL MAKE GILLIE HAPPY AND KEEP HACK WORKING. WHEN YOU HELP THEN YOU HELP THE NAAV.

Gotta thank Jake Lamkins for recently posting on FB the following information from Gillie Jenkins.

#### ATOMIC VETERAN SHIRTS FOR SALE ANY & ALL PROFITS WILL BE DONATED TO NAAV

THE SHIRT WITH THE ATOMIC BOMB. BOTH SHIRTS ON THE FRONT WILL HAVE YOUR NAME ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF YOUR CHEST @ ATOMIC VETERAN ON YOUR LEFT CHEST .

TO ORDER PLEASE SEND NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE #, E-MAIL, SIZE, WHICH SHIRT, ATOMIC BOMB OR VA"S NEW SLOGAN. ONE SHIRT IS 30.00 ONE OF EACH IS 55.00 SEND ALL YOUR INFO TO

GILLIE JENKINS 10500 DAKINS DR. NORTH CHESTERFIELD, VIRGINIA 23236-2016 .

PLEASE ORDER TODAY & HELP NAAV, YOUR ORGANIZATION . THANKS IN ADVANCE

GILLIE JENKINS

VA State Commander atomicgillie@verizon.net

WITH OUT RUNNING TO YOUR FAVORITE REFERENCE, DO YOU (OR MAYBE) DID YOU KNOW WHAT THE WW1 GROUP NAMED THE "RED STAR" WAS? HINT: WOUNDED MEN ON THE BATTLE FIELD WERE HAPPY TO GIVE THEIR DOG TAGS TO THIS GROUP. THE TAGS WERE RETURNED TO FRIENDLY LINES AND THEN SOMEONE KNEW WHO WAS STILL ALIVE THEN VENTURING OUT TO ASSIST.

#### Is there no justice?

On Veteran's Day last year a lady walked up to me with an outstretched hand and said "Thank you for your service." Glanced at my cap seeing the words Atomic Veteran said "Interesting, I've not caught wind of that." She just turned around and walked away.

**OCTOBER**, 2014

## National Association of Atomic Veterans

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SPECIAL ISSUE

Attached is an e-mail, from Gillie and is directed to all of us.

#### To all state commanders:

Please send all members in your state a copy of the News Letter via email or USPS standard mail. If you wish to be reimbursed, NAAV will reimburse you for all costs.

#### To all members:

Please supply your state commander with your current email address if you have one. If not, be sure they have the current mailing address and contact information.

#### To all:

We now have 2 shirts available, pictures are attached in this email. Holiday seasons are coming and it would be a great time to support your NAAV. All profits will be donated to NAAV. The shirts are POLO style shirts, \$30 per shirt or our special (2) shirts - 1 of each, \$55 total. To order shirts or if you have any questions please contact VA State Commander, Gillie Jenkins 804-379-5673 or cell 804-334-8585.

I would like for you folks to know how important it is to our organization to have an email address of yours on file. If you don't use a computer maybe one of you children do and they would let you keep up to date. If you don't or can't then please don't be concerned we'll make sure you keep up with the newsletter through the USPS.

Also, if you have a computer and are not on what is called Facebook you are missing a lot of information and will be "up to date".

Okay, here is some important stuff, I think.

National Commander – Fred Schafer <u>derf@trcschafer.com</u> National Vice Commander - F. L Grahlfs <u>flg17@caa.columbia.edu</u>

Treasurer - H. Frank Farmer - 541-259-1559

Treasurer - Barbara Schafer

Director of State Comm - G. H. Jenkins - atomicgillie@verizon.net

Robert Pfiefer Director at Large (2014-2015

Steve Harrison Director at Large (2014-2015)

Haskell Watts Jr. Director at Large (2014-2015)



The next newsletter will be around the middle of December and will be #1 for 2015. I plan on a different format, but building a template is a real?.