



## USS GUAM LPH-9 Association Newsletter

**President**  
Jim Webb

**Vice President**  
John Coburn

**Secretary**  
Al Getter

**Treasurer**  
Richard Daggett

For our first newsletter I would like to do a short Bio, on our new President, Jim Webb and Vice President John Coburn. They were elected for the 2011- 2012 year at our reunion in Annapolis, Md 2011.

Jim was born on May 6, 1945 at the Navel Hospital Pensacola Florida. At the end of W.W. II, the family moved to McAllen Texas where he was raised. Shortly after graduating from McAllen High School in 1964 he joined the Navel Reserve Unit. The Unit was commanded by his high school Chemistry teacher, Commander D.L. Enderly. Jim's first and only active duty assignment was the USS Guam LPH-9 as an engineman E-3. He worked on small boat engines, hydraulics and A/C compressors and systems.

Returning to McAllen Texas after 2 yrs. of active duty Jim was hired by Texair as an A/C SystemTech. The man that hired him was an ex Navel Officer. Today he and Jim own the company.

In June of 1966 after he had a job he married his high school sweetheart Martha Meadows. She has stood by his side and supported him for 44 wonderful years. They have two children, a daughter Wendy and a son Jimmy. They have three wonderful grandsons ages 21, 5 and 3.

We all wish Jim a successful year, and he has all of our support.

Our new Vice President for 2011-2012 is John Coburn.

John was born Laurel, Md. On August 30<sup>th</sup> 1946, and raised in Bowie, Md. After high school he joined the Navy in 1964 and was sent to boot camp at The Great Lakes Training Center. His first ship out of boot camp was the USS Oglethorpe AKA100. He was transferred to the USS Guam LPH-9 first division in November 1964. John is a plank owner and was first helmsman to steer the ship on our original trail out of dry dock. John became the Captains boat coxswain and was there to pick up the Gemini 11.

After the Navy John moved to Maryland and got married. He has one beautiful daughter Heather ( that we met at the reunion ) and two grandchildren. John worked for the Postal Service and retired from there. He now works for the Harbormasters office in Annapolis. John plans to retire from his curreant job next year and move to Pine Island Florida.

We would like to introduce you to our entire Executive broad,

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**2012 Reunion Chairman**  
Richard Daggett  
  
Frank Walker

We would like to Thank John Coburn and Joe and Sharon Kiedel for a great reunion. If you missed this one you really missed all the excitement. First we had an earthquake on Tuesday afternoon while we were at the Naval Academy. What a scare that was !! Next there was a hurricane coming in on Saturday when we were all to leave for home. Some of our shipmates had to stay a day or two longer before they could safely leave. We did have the tour in Washington DC I think we all had a great time, The tour guide we had was so very nice he took extra time to show us a few extra sights. The hospitality room was wonderful with all the snacks and beverages. We would like to thank everyone who helped in anyway at this year's reunion. The banquet was great we had a wonderful raffle with a lot a gifts, and we made money. Once again John would like to Thank everyone who donated or helped in anyway to make this reunion a great success. John would also like to say a BIG thank you to all the ladies for the hard work they always do at our reunions, without their help our reunions would not be the reunions they are. The traveling plaque was won by JB Gavin. (see you next year)

We did have one lady that worked so hard on this reunion and was unable to stay with us thru the whole reunion Ms. Sharon Keidel. Sharon came ill with cancer a few months before the reunion, but she hung in there until we could all get to see her. She was taken to the hospital on Tuesday where she remained for a week. We sent her a get well gift in hopes to cheer her up. She is home and doing better now and Joe keeps us updated.

I hope ALL of you are planning to attend next year's reunion in Branson, MO. Richard and Frank have worked at making this reunion hopefully one without an earthquake or hurricane. But one of fun and laughs. Will have more info in the next newsletter.

We want this newsletter to inform everyone of up coming events, news about our shipmates and spouses, and of all our friends we have met in the last few reunions. If you have something you would like to have put in the newsletter please contact Patti Gavin @ 330-699-0161 or by e-mail. We will be doing BIOS on all of our officers in the up coming newsletters

In closing if you have any question or concerns please contact Jim Webb I'm sure he will be able to answer or help you if he can.

To those who have been ill we wish you a speedy recovery. To those who have lost a loved one our Deepest Sympathy