

HAPPY VALLEY REUNION CLUB
USS VALLEY FORGE, CV-45, CVA-45, CVS-45, LPH-8, CG-50

Articles of Association By-Laws

WE, the Members in Good Standing (MIGS) of the Happy Valley Reunion Club (HVRC), all having served in the U.S. Armed Forces, aboard the USS Valley Forge – Hereby submit ourselves to be Governed by the HVRC Steering Committee, The Articles of Association By-Laws (AOAB), and the additional changes, required necessary for functional operation.

ARTICLE I. Name and Headquarters.

Section 1: The name of this Organization shall be the Happy Valley Reunion Club (HVRC).

Section 2: The Principle Office, shall be in the state, county, and city where the elected Secretary Treasurer (S&T) resides.

ARTICLE II. Object – Qualification – Membership.

Section 1: The object is to locate shipmates, who served a hitch or stretch aboard the USS Valley Forge, and hold an annual reunion during September or October at a site approved by the Steering Committee and an additional approval by the MIGS.

Section 2: The Qualification to become a member of the HVRC is for shipmates who have served aboard the USS Valley Forge and incudes Ships Company, Embarked Air Groups, Detachments, Squadrons and TDYs.

Section 3: The membership is for HVRC members whose dues are paid through the present year. Members are required to pay dues to become and remain MIGS of the HVRC. Members are then qualified for voting and entitlement privileges as MIGS of the HVRC.

ARTICLE III. Dues – Disposition – Solicitation.

Section 1: The dues for MIGS are reviewed annually. MIGS are located and contacted the prior year for dues and shall be notified by the S&T. Cost of the dues is \$20 for membership and entitlement for the next six years.

Section 2: The Disposition of funds is the responsibility of the Steering Committee. The annual carryover funds shall be deposited in a separate bank account and maintained by the S&T to be used solely for projected operation of the HVRC, supporting the annual reunion, and maintaining a balance in the bank account.

Section 3: Solicitation of funds shall be forwarded to the Steering Committee for action.

ARTICLE IV. Quorum – Voting – Amendment.

Section 1: MIGS present at Reunion Body Business Meeting, constitute a Quorum.

Section 2: A 2/3 majority vote in the affirmative, is required for passage of any matters becoming binding.

Section 3: An amendment to the AOAB can be made by members of the Steering Committee at a Reunion session. The Elected Officers of the Steering Committee who were not present at the session must be notified by Mail of the new amendment. A negative response to this amendment must be submitted to the S&T within 15 days of the change or the amendment becomes binding.

ARTICLE V. Meeting – Region Reunion Track Boundaries

Section 1: The Steering Committee shall meet prior to the reunion body business meeting annually, and after if any business requires it.

Section 2: To each region, at a site, approved three years in advance by the Steering Committee. When the reunion chairman is approved, at a reunion site held in the other Area of that Region. Each region is divided by MIGS membership into two areas, and MIGS are divided into three regions with the boundaries moving east or west by state, maintaining a north and south, as near as possible. Boundary line to equalize MIGS membership in those three regions.

ARTICLE VI. Steering Committee Authority – Elected Officers – Duties – Removal – Uncovered Article.

Section 1: The Authority of the HVRC shall be exercised by the Steering Committee and the elected officers.

Section 2: When a Reunion Chairman is approved by the Steering Committee, he becomes a member of the Steering Committee along with the Past, Present and future approved members, which comprises the Steering Committee.

Section 3: The President, three regional Vice-Presidents, and the S&T are all elected officers, of and by the Steering Committee. Elected to serve a three-year term.

Section 4: The Office of Chaplain, CMAA, Historian, and Web Master are appointed by the President, and shall serve at his pleasure.

- A. President, Chairman of the Steering Committee and the Reunion Body meetings. Of the office of President is vacated at any time, being by his choice, death, or cause, the Steering Committee Officers, including the four appointed Officers (Chaplain, CMAA, Historian, Web Master) shall elect one of the three VPs to fill out the term as President Pro-Tem until the next regular election. The VP will then be drawn from the Steering Committee fill that Chair Pro-Tem.
- B. Region 1 Vice President – Oversees West Coast activities.
- C. Region 2 Vice President – Oversees Mid-West activities.
- D. Region 3 Vice President – Oversees East Coast activities.

These Vice Presidents oversee their activities in each of their areas. Most important is that they solicit the members in their area to host a Reunion, when it is time for the Reunion to be held in their Region.

Each year we are looking for someone to host a Reunion. If there are no bids for a Reunion in the area for that year, it can be held in any other area. If there are no bids for a Reunion for any area, there will be no Reunion for that year.

E. Secretary-Treasurer:

- 1. Receive and review all incoming mail to the HVRC. Prepare replies with other Officers signature when required. Maintains files for seven years.

2. Receive monies for the HVRC and maintain a Debit and Receipt book, maintain the Bank Account, have two members audit the Financial Records, during the Reunion, prior to the meetings.
3. Maintain a Surety Bond for the Office of the S&T of at least \$15,000 with an upgraded of \$5,000 as needed and to renew the Surety Bond every year or as needed.
4. Maintain membership roster of all located shipmates, and a MIGS directory, and Update a directory every two years, or as often as finances will bear.
5. Order nametags at HVRC expense, for the upcoming reunion chairman, and mail out reunion notices to national publications.
6. Prepare the Agenda with input from elected officers for the annual reunion meetings.
7. If no reunion is scheduled for any year, the President and other elected officers, shall arrange for audits and inventory reports by 30 September of that year.

Section 5: Any elected officer may be removed from office at any annual reunion Steering Committee meeting, for any justifiable reason, as determined by the Steering Committee and a pro-tem appointed until the next regular scheduled election. A reunion chairman may be removed prior to his reunion function, by the elected officers, by mail and naming the newly appointed reunion chairman.

Section 6: Any matters not covered by the Articles, shall be referred to the Steering Committee, for any discussions, and dispositions, adding Article or Section as necessary if approved.

ARTICLE VII. Locating Shipmates – Paying Dues – Attend Reunion.

Section 1: If you know a shipmate or find one, who served aboard the USS Valley Forge, regardless of status onboard, ships company, air group or detachment, Navy or Marine, get from him his Name, Address, Phone Number, Years Aboard, Rate and Division and send him a copy of our application for membership to the HVRC. If you do not have a copy, send the information to the S&T so that a copy can be sent to the shipmate.

Section 2: Please pay your dues of \$20 when due and requested to be paid in advance, to share in the overall cost for the operation of the HVRC and reunion support for six (6) years. It is suggested that if your dues are due, say by the end of a year 2009, that you send them into the S&T by 1 July so that the S&T can get your new card to you ASAP.

Section 3: The annual reunion rotates around the country, so please make an attempt to attend, especially when it is at a site in your region or area.

ARTICLE VIII. Patriotism – Honor Deceased Shipmate.

Section 1: At reunion body business meeting, the chairman calls the meeting to order and brings all hands to attention to salute the colors, and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Section 2: Notify the S&T or Chaplain of any deceased shipmates since the last meeting, so that tribute can be paid to them at the banquet in front of all attending the reunion.

ARTICLE IX. Dissolution of HVRC – Liquidation.

Section 1: When Steering Committee rules the HVRC is no longer solvent, the S&T shall start proceedings to dissolve the HVRC, sending IRS intention and liquidation proceeding.

Section 2: Prior to liquidation of funds to the Navy Marine Relief Society, the S&T shall close all accounts by writing a final check and forwarding it to the Navy Marine Relief Society, and making final report to the IRS and to the State IRS if warranted.

ARTICLE X. Indemnification of the Elected Officers and the Steering Committee.

Every elected officer or Steering Committee member, shall be indemnified by the HVRC against all expenses and liabilities including counsel fees reasonably incurred upon him in connection with any proceedings to which he may be made a party or in which he may become involved by reason of his having been an officer or Steering Committee member of the HVRC or any settlement thereof, whether or not he is an officer or a Steering Committee member at the time such expenses occurred, except in such cases wherein the officer or Steering Committee member is adjudged guilty of willful malfeasance in the performance of his duties. The foregoing right of indemnification shall be in addition to any not exclusive of all other rights to which such officer or steering committee member maybe entitled.

Irv Parolari, Pres HVRC

LeRoy F. Holzwarth, S&T HVRC

25 July 1975 Original By-Laws Approved
26 July 1985 Changed to Articles of Assn & By-Laws
27 July 1991 A.O.A.B. Updated and Approved
13 Oct 2001 A.O.A.B. Updated and Approved
21 Nov 2008 A.O.A.B. Updated and Approved
08 Apr 2010 A.O.A.B. Updated and Approved

IRS Approved HVRC Non-Profit status EIN 330143674 RC Sect 501(e)(19) War Veterans, FTB State of CA
non-profit status approved, IRS 1-7-86, FTB 5-21-86