

# USS Gunston Hall LSD 5

## Newsletter of the USS Gunston Hall Reunion Association

Summer



2005

### *Reunion '05*

*Live music, lavish buffets, good friends, companionship and a few tall tales.*

Sixty nine shipmates and sixty one guests attended the '05 reunion in Las Vegas, some of them coming from great distances. **Ken Nielsen** RD, 53-54 came the farthest from his home in Denmark. An accomplished musician, Ken jammed with the band on stage Tuesday night with his soprano sax.

Several shipmates were registered and had made plans to attend but were forced to cancel due to health and personal considerations. They were **Lyle Hansen**, RM, 51-54, **Darrell Harris**, SK, 52-53, **Gene Hauser**, YN, 53-54, **Pete Pador**, PN, 54-56, **John Sonnelitter**, BM, 46-47, **John Thomson**, BM, 49-50, and **John Tradup**, YN, 54-56.. Hopefully these shipmates will be able to attend our 2007 reunion.

We were privileged to have in attendance Carol Nugal, daughter of shipmate **Kenneth DeHart**, CDR, 51-52 who passed away just last December and the family of shipmate **Jim Johann**, LTJG, 43-46, which consisted of his daughters Carolyn Schuit, Pam Johann and his widow Pat Johann. It was great to have these ladies come to our reunion to honor two of our shipmates who served on the Gunston Hall. Thanks ladies for honoring your fathers. I know how proud you are of them. It was a pleasure to meet you and hope that you can attend other reunions with us in the future.

### *At the Dinner Dance ...*

The NJROTC from Centennial High School in Las Vegas presented colors. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Chod's granddaughter, Marissa did a tremendous job in singing the National Anthem. Great job Marissa! (See picture on page 2)

The original plan was for Carl Grove's two piece combo to provide the music. At the last moment we were able to secure two additional musicians, bringing us even closer to a big band. We had a

*Continued on Page 2*

### *Presentation of Colors*



NJROTC, Centennial High School, Las Vegas

### *A few good men...*



### *If you were unable to attend ...*

and you receive this newsletter via the Internet, the 2005 Member's Directory has been mailed to you.

## At the Dinner Dance (continued from Page 1)

saxophone, keyboard, trumpet, fluegel-horn, and drums plus our own **Ken Nielsen** sitting in.

Many shipmates commented on how great the band was and the dance floor was crowded much of the evening. We saw some pretty good dancing out there! Everybody was having a good time.

Ten black and white framed photographs of the ship, two framed color canvas prints and a U.S. Navy flag were auctioned off during Tuesday evening's festivities. This was a highly profitable venture as all of the picture framing was provided at no charge to the association by Absolute! Framemakers of Los Angeles which is owned by a shy and retiring shipmate who prefers anonymity but will be revealed here as **Jack Buick**, RD, 56-59. Thanks much, Jack.

**Bill Driscoll's wife Doris** assisted Ron by drawing the winning tickets for the pictures. Thanks, Doris. Also thanks to **George Biss**, MM, 60-63 for helping out selling many tickets for the drawing.

While we're at it I'd like to thank our treasurer **Chod Cremer** for all his hard work the last two years and many unnamed others who helped out during the reunion.

Many shipmates have expressed to me how much they enjoyed the food and the Carl Grove band that provided us with great music during the evening.

- Ron Kennedy

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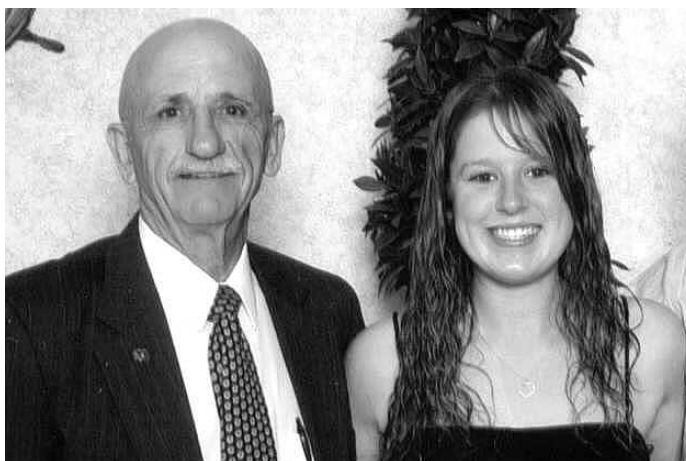
*Thanks for the outstanding job done by you and members who helped make this one of the best reunions that I have attended.*

-Quincy Stephens, 49-50

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## From the Editors ...

Many shipmates took the time to let us know how much they appreciate the newsletter in this new format. Those receiving it via the internet were especially enthusiastic about it. The most frequent comment regarding content was about the sea stories that we have printed.



## The Business Matters ...

The fun was interrupted on Monday morning to hold the business meeting.

**Ron Kennedy** and **Chod Cremer** were both re-confirmed in their positions as Chairman and Treasurer by unanimous voice vote with no dissenters.

Several changes were presented, discussed and agreed upon. Most significantly, the location of future reunions will be determined by majority rule as in the past. However, the selection will be limited to cities proposed at the business meeting. It was also decided that the current host city could not be a candidate for the next reunion so that no city will be the host for two consecutive reunions. Further, it was decided that "anywhere" votes will no longer be counted. The following candidate cities for the next reunion were agreed to by those attending the meeting: New Orleans, San Diego and Norfolk. Your vote must be for one of these three cities. Details and ballots will be provided in a timely manner. Only association members whose dues are current will be eligible to vote.

There was discussion regarding finding more shipmates. It is recognized that it is becoming increasingly difficult as the names remaining on the "Not Found" lists have little or no location information to provide a starting point. We are also a diminishing population ... age is taking its toll. **Bill Ludtke**, RD, 1956-59, volunteered to research new approaches.

Chod reported that the operating expenses are down significantly from prior years. (See his report on page 3). Among other cost improvements, it was noted that neither he nor Ron are taking any reimbursements for telephone expenses.

The members approved certain changes to the bylaws. If you receive this newsletter via snail mail, the revised bylaws are enclosed. They are available on-line for those receiving the e-version.

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*This was the first business meeting in years that was free of unpleasantness.*

- Don Parsley, SK, 51-54

*I really enjoyed myself and I think everyone at the reunion thought it was a huge success.*

- Bill Ludtke, RD, 56-59

*Ardis and I had a very good time and enjoyed seeing everyone ... you did a fantastic job with the banquet and with the business meeting!!*

- Robert Roh, SK, 54-56

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## Contributors ...

There was a gratifying response to our call for members to send pictures taken at the reunion. There are more photos than we could fit in this newsletter. There will be more on a new page on the website. Those contributing are:

**Judy (Mrs. Ed ) Flook**  
**'Perk' Perkins**  
**Tom Knox**

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## Treasurer's Report

Balance Forward  
at the close of 2003 reunion ... \$3,289.91

Dues and Contributions  
Received 5/2003 to 4/2005 ... 5,520.00  
Interest earned ... 5.73  
Total ... \$8,815.64

Treasurer's Expenses  
Postage ... -\$151.50  
Copies ... -20.00  
Total Treasurer's expenses... -\$171.50

Expenses  
Imperial Palace ... -\$2,156.00  
Musicians ... -350.00  
Color Guard ... -50.00  
Transferred to Chairman acct -3,600.00  
Previous Chairman expenses -200.00

TREASURY BALANCE 5/2005 \$2,288.14

Chairman's Account  
Transferred in ... \$3,600.00

Chairman's expenses:  
Postage ... -418.60  
Printing ... -1,236.89  
Office Supplies ... -634.91  
Miscellaneous  
(Website, mugs, pictures, etc.) -1,134.90  
Balance in Chairman's account ... 174.70  
Transactions after 4/22/05 not included

Please note that there are no charges made for telephone because our Chairman uses his own Cell Phone at his own expense and your treasurer hasn't charged GHRA for telephone charges since 1997!

Respectfully submitted May 1, 2005  
/s/ Chod Cremer  
GHRA Treasurer

Editor's note ...  
The original signed copy is on file in the ship's office.



I had a good time, and will definitely be going again ... Nice to meet you and the other guys for sure, I felt very welcome there!  
Tom Knox, SN, 1967

## TRIVIA-----2005 Las Vegas

By geographic area ...

WEST---West Coast to the Rockies.  
CENTRAL---Rockies east to Nashville.  
EAST---Nashville to the East Coast.

Active Members:

West ... 82  
Central ... 52  
East ... 42  
TOTAL ... 176

In addition we have one member in Denmark and one member with an unknown address or total paid membership of 178.

REUNION REGISTRATIONS

West ... 43  
Central ... 19  
East ... 7

Texas and other Foreign Countries 3  
Total Registered ... 72

TOUR OF DUTY REGISTERED

43-47 1  
49-54 28  
55-59 23  
60-65 12  
65-70 8

We have added 9 new members since our 2003 reunion.

Charter members present from our 1993 Santa Rosa reunion.

Chod Cremer ... 1950-53\*\*  
Bill Driscoll ... 1962-65\*\*  
Jack Ealy ... 1959-62  
Ted Holmes ... 1953-55

\*\* Perfect attendance!

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## VOTING RIGHTS

**Remember, if your dues are not current, you are not able to attend the reunion or vote on GHRA matters. The voting for the next reunion location is coming up ... if you are delinquent, you will NOT receive a ballot!**

For those shipmates that receive this newsletter via the Internet, please note that your dues due date is a part of your e-mail header. The 3 or 4 digit number after your name in the "To" section of your e-mail header is the month and year your dues expire. If you receive this via US Mail, your due date is the 3 or 4 digit number after your name on the mailing label. Your check or money order for \$20 must be payable to "GHRA" and sent to our treasurer, Chod Cremer, P.O. Box 201, Agency IA 52530. (Note that the PO Box number has changed!) Do NOT make the check payable to Chod; that just complicates banking it.

## *A Good Time Was Had By All!!*



### **NEW ADDRESS**

CHOD CREMER, our treasurer, has a new address. Please send your dues to:

**Chod Cremer, P.O. Box 201, Agency IA 52530**

**USS Gunston Hall LSD 5 Reunion Association  
Ron Kennedy (PN, 57-59), Chairman  
11832 W. Virginia Avenue  
Avondale AZ 85323**

**<http://www.ussgunstonhall.org>  
Email: [info@ussgunstonhall.org](mailto:info@ussgunstonhall.org)  
623/907-3688**

