

USS Gunston Hall LSD 5

Newsletter of the USS Gunston Hall Reunion Association

Fall 2006

Hello Shipmates,

It's getting closer to reunion time - I want to make sure that everybody has all the skinny on the details. The reunion will be held April 29 – May 1, 2007 in San Diego, CA at the Red Lion Hanalei Hotel. I think everybody will be pleased with the hotel; it's a little pricey compared to Las Vegas but we checked out many hotels with higher room rates that weren't nearly as nice. Ken Sevick, SH, 57-60 and his wife Jenny were invaluable in helping us in the selection process. Thanks Jenny and Ken for your assistance. For anybody that has internet connection you can check out the hotel at it's website: www.hanaleihotel.com.

Room rates are \$127.07 per day which includes all taxes and up to four persons in the room. This rate is good for three days before and three days after the reunion for anyone who wants to stay longer. Vehicle parking is \$3 per day. Guests may not live in motor homes or RV's parked in the lot. A golf course is adjacent to the hotel and transportation from the hotel to malls and other attractions is available. Everybody must make their own hotel reservations by calling the hotel. The reservations number is 1-800-882-0858. **Be sure to tell them you are with the USS Gunston Hall reunion.** You can also book your room on their website (use the above link to the hotel). You will need our password: gunstonhal (one 'l'). The website will lead you through the process. You will be asked for a credit card which will hold the room for you but you will not be charged anything on your card until you check out at the end of the reunion. So start making your reservations as soon as possible. Doesn't cost you a thing and the sooner you book the better room selection you will have.

We will have a dinner on Sunday evening and a Royal Hawaiian Luau dinner on Tuesday evening. Costs will be \$82 per person or \$164 per couple. This price includes both meals, a hospitality suite and various refreshments along the way.

There will be a drawing for a free room – see page 4 for details. Last reunion Bill Soulsburg was the lucky winner.

At this time we have approximately 85 shipmates who have indicated they plan on attending the reunion so get your reservations in soon so you won't be shut out. San Diego has many great attractions to visit including the USS Midway CVB-41 museum.

This will be a great reunion. It will be like a homecoming after a long cruise. Looking forward to seeing all of you again and meeting some new members. If you have any questions concerning the reunion don't hesitate to e mail me or give me a call. If you haven't already, please let me know if you are planning on going to the reunion.

See you there! - Ron



One of San Diego's many beaches

Reunion VIII

Spring 2007 ...

Be There or Regret Having Missed It!



Balboa Park

In Memoriam

Clyde Poe EN, 62-66

Shipmates of the USS Gunston Hall LSD5 mourn the passing of another GHRA member. Clyde was not just a member, he was a founding member and a member of our executive committee from 1993 until our 2003 reunion. During those ten years he was always there when he was needed. Not many of our shipmates know just how big a role Clyde played in the building of our association. History shows that we chartered with 17 shipmates in November 1993 and seventeen months later we had located 380 shipmates and held our first big reunion in Vegas with an attendance of more than 240. Clyde played a major part in locating those shipmates. Enough credit can never be given to the Poe family for such dedication and hard work. Our loss is felt by many, our hearts are sad as we bid farewell to a great shipmate and friend. We share with Pat and Roseanna in their loss and want them to know they too can have pride in the part Clyde played in creating GHRA.

Excerpted from a submission by Bill Greene, Chairman Emeritus

Arthur L. Franks, SM, 43-45

Arthur was a plank owner and contributor to GHRA and the website. You will find a photo of him on the WWII page at www.ussgunstonhall.org. Arthur had attended the 1999 reunion.

Richard Jensen, MM, 50-54

Dick was 75 and was an active member of our association. He had attended four reunions with 2005 being his last. He was also planning on attending our 2007 reunion

Harold Beehler, MR, 63-64

Harold was 69 at the time of his death. Many of us remember him from the 2005 reunion.

Robert (Bob) Horch, MM, 49-52

Bob passed away on Sept. 12th, 2006 and was an active member of the association. He had attended five consecutive reunions starting in 1997 and was planning on going to San Diego. Bob was also on the LSD44 cruise in 2002 and loved to play cribbage. There is a photo on our Reunion 2005 website page.

Our sympathies and condolences go out to their families and friends.

Connections

The office crew has compiled several lists of shipmates from different tour dates. They are currently working with a list of 489 names and have developed solid leads as to the whereabouts of 260 of the 489. Thirty three shipmates have been contacted at this time. Eleven of them plan to attend the reunion. This effort is on-going; we will update with new names in the next newsletter.

Ernest Alnas SN 55-56 No e-mail

Al Barros IC 53-57 barros 2@hotmail.com **

Max Barsness FN 58-59 zebra@midwestinfo.net

Don Brown BT 56 No e-mail **

Irye Couch BM 52-54 iryec@aol.com

Jim Craycraft EM 66-70 jim.deb@cox.net

Harry Dengel BT 62-66 harryd243@hotmail.com

Bob Forrer MM 58-60 bsforrer@bright.net

Jay Gesser BT 67-69 No e-mail

Gerald Gilmore PN 65-66 bettyjerry@gmail.com

Hank Greenler MR 55-57 No e-mail

Bob Grimes IC 68-70 bubbabid@msn.com

Stephen Griswold SF 66-67 biggriz@bellsouth.net

Kurt Hand SK 66-68 kurtehand@hotmail.com

Ken Hardy EM 66-70 kandslbirds@aol.com **

Earl Jowers SN 69-70 mr_j_57@yahoo.com

Wayne Kidd MM 68-70 waynekidd@coinet.com **

Gary Lingofelter FN 65-66 dale.lee@earthlink.net

Bob Luke MM 66-68 No e-mail **

Hank Lunn BM 67-69 hanklunn@sbcglobal.net

Nelson Nutter MM 65-66 n292@sbcglobal.net **

Tom Reinhardt BT 65-67 No e-mail

Dick Reynolds LT 68-69 richardandmary@cox.net **

Forrest Roberts HM 67-68 forrob1@yahoo.com

Gary Rugg HM 65-66 ghrugg@centurytel.net

Jim Sigafos LTjg 68-70 jsigafos@fea.net **

Mike Stahel HM 61-62 hmcstahelusmc@yahoo.com

Vern Steman GM 57-60 No e-mail

Wilbur A. Sundt Cdr 66-68 No e-mail

John Valentine BT 59-63 bvalentine7@earthlink.net

Harmon Vaughn RM 65-67 alphazman@comcast.net **

Chuck Wellington MM 69-70 craw146@aol.com **

Jimmy C. Wright RD 55-59 jwright123@comcast.net **

In addition, **Bill Driscoll**, BM, 62-65 has located:

Peter Sylvester SN 61-63 pesy7@aol.com **

** These shipmates plan to attend Reunion VIII

Not surprisingly, a number of shipmates have passed on. Using the Social Security actuarial tables, we should expect that more than half of the men that served from 1943 to 1950 and about one-third of those from the early 50's have died. Our membership base is a fixed number and is aging; the youngest of us will be in his mid-fifties at this reunion. Perhaps equally problematic is that a number of our fellows have no interest in joining us or are unable due to health and/or financial restrictions.

Nostalgia



'M' Division, Hong Kong, WestPac, 1960

Submitted by **Bob Tidwell, MM**, 1959-63

Internet Column

DO YOU HAVE E MAIL?

About 70% of our members have E-mail addresses. E-mail helps a great deal in saving postage, printing and other costs. It also provides instant communication compared to U.S. mail. If you now have E mail capability and you are not currently receiving e-mail communications from us, please send your address as soon as possible so I can add you to the list. Thanks for your cooperation.

INTERESTING LINKS

Our own LSD 5 website:

<http://www.ussgunstonhall.org>

The LSD 44 site:

<http://www.gunston-hall.navy.mil>

If you are interested in visiting the USS Midway:

<http://www.midway.org>

For info on San Diego attractions:

<http://www.sandiego.gov/directories/visiting.shtml>

<http://www.sandiegan.com>

Reunion Attendees

To see a list of those planning to attend the reunion, go to ...

<http://www.ussgunstonhall.org/Special/attend.html>

Reunion Updates

There is a special page on our website that has all of the information regarding the reunion. It will be updated periodically. Even if you have read it already, it will be a good idea to check back from time to time.

<http://www.ussgunstonhall.org/Special/>



'E' Division, 1952 submitted by **C.T.Levett, ET**, 51-52 (right, standing)

Pay Scales

This is Part 2 in the re-enlistment program series.

| | 1955 | 2005 |
|-----|------------|------------|
| W-4 | \$354.90 | \$3,573.30 |
| W-3 | 323.70 | 3,197.40 |
| W-2 | 260.80 | 2,871.30 |
| W-1 | 251.20 | 2,603.10 |
| O-8 | \$1,021.80 | \$8,459.40 |
| O-7 | 850.00 | 7,119.00 |
| O-6 | 631.80 | 5,784.00 |
| O-5 | 507.00 | 4,961.10 |
| O-4 | 429.00 | 4,388.40 |
| O-3 | 351.00 | 3,823.20 |
| O-2 | 335.40 | 3,541.00 |
| O-1 | 296.40 | 2,948.10 |

Your Room is Ready ...



A typical "King" room at the Red Lion

... **and it could be FREE!**

The hotel provides a free room. Chod Cremer, our treasurer, will conduct a drawing to see who will get it. **In order to qualify, your dues must be current, you must register with the hotel and Chod must have received your check for \$82/single or \$164/couple on or before December 1, 2006.** Remember, you do not pre-pay the hotel. Your credit card will not be charged until checkout. However, you must send a check to Chod to cover your share of the GHRA expense.

Remember ... your dues MUST be current for you to attend the reunion, to participate in any GHRA business matters and for you to continue receiving this newsletter. Check the expiration date on the mailing label or the e-mail header. Send your 20 bucks for one year and/or your Reunion fee to:

Chod Cremer
PO Box 201
Agency IA 52530

Reunion VIII

April/May 2007 ...

Be There or Regret Having Missed It!

USS Gunston Hall LSD 5 Reunion Association

Ron Kennedy (PN, 57-59), Chairman
11832 W. Virginia Avenue
Avondale AZ 85323
<http://www.ussgunstonhall.org>
E-mail: info@ussgunstonhall.org
623/907-3688



History

Part Three of a series Vietnam War Campaigns

Source: www.navsource.com



Vietnamese Counteroffensive

14 to 17 June 1966
28 to 29 June 1966

Vietnamese Counteroffensive - Phase II

21 July to 11 August 1966
25 August to 4 September 1966
10 to 20 September 1966
2 October 1966
25 October to 6 November 1966
14 to 18 December 1966

Tet Counteroffensive

3 to 14 March 1968
26 to 30 March 1968

Vietnamese Counteroffensive - Phase IV

7 to 9 April 1968
13 to 17 April 1968
9 to 12 May 1968
21 to 23 May 1968
28 May to 3 June 1968
10 to 14 June 1968
19 to 25 June 1968

Vietnamese Counteroffensive - Phase V

13 to 19 July 1968
24 to 28 July 1968

Vietnam Summer-Fall 1969

1 to 10 September 1969

Vietnam Winter-Spring 1970

5 to 11 November 1969
27 November to 1 December 1969
12 to 15 December 1969
20 to 22 December 1969
30 December 1969 to 2 January 1970
14 to 16 January 1970
22 to 27 January 1970

Register Early ...

*you could win a **free room** and
you will be helping the planning committee!*