



USS Gunston Hall

LSD 5

Winter/Spring 2010 Newsletter of the Gunston Hall Reunion Association

Seattle

2011

Hello Shipmates,

I hope this finds you and your families doing well and looking forward to a great summer season. And it's not too early to begin thinking about making plans to attend our reunion next year in Seattle. I am currently receiving proposals from several hotels in the area and will be negotiating with them to get the best possible deal for us. Right now we are looking at May 1-3, 2011 as the dates for our reunion, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday as usual. The week before this one is Easter and I know that most would like to spend that time with their families and friends. We will plan on having a dinner buffet on Sunday evening and on Tuesday evening. As most of you know, there are many attractions and things to do in the Seattle area so I expect that we will have a great reunion for all of our shipmates, wives and guests.

From what I have seen so far hotel prices will probably be in the \$85 to \$125 range per night depending on the hotel and its facilities. Most of them provide free 24 hour shuttle service from the Seattle airport to the hotel and



many other amenities.

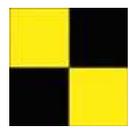
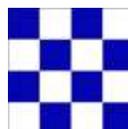
I will be keeping you informed of the details as they progress through newsletters and e-mails. And as most of you already know members must have their dues current in order to attend the reunion. So I encourage all shipmates to make sure that their dues are up to date. I will soon be sending out an e-mail reminder of dues expiration dates for some of our shipmates whose dues have already expired. **And to those who do not have internet service just remember the month and year that your dues expire is immediately after your name on the envelope label.** If we are to keep GHRA going and keeping our shipmates connected we must have members stay current.

Let's have a great 2011 reunion in Seattle and I look forward to seeing you there.

- Ron



Where it all started



Connections

There have been many visitors to our website in recent months. Following are comments left by some of those visitors. There are several notes from the sons and daughters of shipmates looking for contact with some of their dad's friends. If you recognize any of the names, take a moment and fire off an e-mail. As usual, some of the comments have been edited to make it all fit. The originals are intact on the website.

Robert VanDusen, BM3, 69-71

Email : dusie454@verizon.net

I was Captains gig coxwain. And I was glad to be aboard.

Richard P. Hester, S2c, 4 -47

Email: lsthatcher@bellsouth.net

My father R. P. Hester died at the age of 28 from a cerebral hemorrhage. I am interested in the health of the other men who served with my father.

Eugene Moyer Jr., GM3, 43-45

Email : gom56@charter.net

My dad Eugene Moyer Sr. passed away august 1st 2007. He was very proud to have served on the GUNSTON HALL. I am very pleased that took him & brought him back.

George May, GM2, 43-45

Email : belindageyer@yahoo.com

I have a couple of pictures to put on how do I do it

John Anspach, PF3, 57-59

Email : olddog36@verizon.net

Did not realize I cooked meals and washed that many meal items for that many shipmates during mess duty

Dawn Lacoste Herring, MM2, 1943

Email : dlh263@msstate.edu

My father Wallace Lacoste, MM2, was on board 1943-44 Mom remembers a friend he had named Mac. Dad died in 1988 and we like any info or documents available.

Charles C. Todd, lcpl, USMC

Email : mrchristian7397@sbcglobal.net

I signed the book back in 2006 and just wanted to update my email. I had a great ride on the and back from Cuba

Dean Hedlund, YN2, 60-66

Email : coaster@lakedalelink.net

Retired - UA fitter - welder - plbr (migrant worker North America, Canada & Antarctica LOL) 35 yrs.

Trapp Harry D, LCdr, 52-54

hdtrapp@juno.com

Always enjoy the Newsletters and notes from Ron. Sorry to learn about the loss of Shipmates, but we know we will all get orders cut to go to that final duty station.

John Hetsko, HM2, 66-67

Email : jahetsko@hotmail.com

First ship and I had a fantastic time and met a lot of great guys. Thought of it often.

Lew Hevel, PN, 54-55

Email : lhevel@isp.com

Ron and all others involved in keeping the spirit of our ship alive, "Thank You". It is good that many former crew members have a way to keep their identity with the Gunston Hall and each other.

John Ross, Ltjg, 55-56

Email : jross@begleycompanies.com

Leon Ladish, SK3, 60-62

Email : lladish@everestkc.net

Just learned of GHRA. Would like to hear from my shipmates.

Cynthia Norwood

Email : Cynthiaanorwood@aol.com

My father served on Gunston Hall in WWII.

Jack D. Stewart, MMC, 1946

Email : jstewart735@comcast.net

I doubt if I was aboard more than a month.

Robert M Goodrich, MM, 55-56

Email : goodrichfj@juno.com

My father, Bob, served on the Gunny during operation "Passage To Freedom" in Vietnam, Jan/Feb 1955. Would like to hear memories.

Bob Friscia, BT2, 56-58

Email : francesfriscia@att.net

comments :

Walt Glenn, SK2, 65-67

Email : wglenn@bendcable.com

In an era long forgotten, it is good to see someone remembers. So glad that things have changed for today's military.

Coleman "Carl" Forbes, GM3, 1967

Email : carlforbes@hughes.net

Was Master-At Arms while the ship was in dry docks in Portland, Left in Dec. 67 to go back to the gun line in Viet-Nam. I did meet a great bunch on board and would like to re-connect with them. This is a great site Keep up the good work.

Jack W. Boyd, LT, 62-64

Email : photoj76@yahoo.com

I caught the "Gunny Maru" in 1962, just in time for the Cuban Missile Crisis. Returning from the Caribbean, the Captain gave me the job of navigator, my most enjoyable ship board job.

Connections, continued

Doug Veazey, Cpl USMC, 1965

Email : dkvz@att.net

We steamed from White Beach, Okinawa to Da Nang, Viet Nam in Feb 1965. We were the 1st LAAM Battalion, Bravo Battery, USMC. (Hawk Missiles) Semper Fi, Doug

Cliff Boxer, EM3, 67-70

Email : clifford.e.boxer@verizon.net

I added a USS Gunston Hall LSD-5 page to my Facebook page. Take a look and add a comment.

R. Greg Crews

Email : rgregcrews@gmail.com

My Grandad, Glendon Boyce Crews, served on the USS Gunston Hall LSD-5 during the Bomb Tests at Bikini Atoll. If anyone has any info, I would appreciate it.

Shelton Weaver, BMSN, 1958-62

Email : pappamoon@suddenlink.net

HELLO every body hope every is doing well.

Richard Cecil, E4, 58-62

Email : seajaycecil@yahoo.com

I do this to honor my father CHARLES HILL CECIL, MM2. He served aboard the Gunston Hall during ww2 in the South Pacific.

John F Rybkoski Jr., SF2, 60-64

Email : jr1231@att.net

Now that I am older I would like to find out how to receive our ribbons for my legacy to my children and grand children.

Patrick Kelley, MR2, 67-70

Email : ibabettingfool@cs.com

Had some fond memories aboard the Gunny. Often think about the good times we had. I remember the Capt one day in Subic Bay saying we were a bunch of lovers not fighters. Must have had a good reason to say that!!!!

In Memoriam

Darrell Harris, SK, 1952-56
Wallace LaCoste, MM, 1943-44
Larry McNabb, EM, 1950-54

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

Internet Links

Seattle

For the Official Seattle site:

<http://www.seattle.gov/html/>

For a list of attractions:

<http://www.helloseattle.com/Attractions.cfm>

or

<http://www.seattle.gov/html/visitor/points.htm>

Nimitz Museum

<http://www.nimitz-museum.org/memorial-wall/photos.php?img=USSGunstonHall.jpg>

(You must squeeze it into one line)

Other Links

American Naval Fighting Ships:

<http://www.hazegray.org>

<http://www.navsource.org>

<http://www.military.com>

Current military news and events

<http://www.americasupportsyou.mil/americasupportsyou/>

There is also an entry for the ship in Wikipedia

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Gunston_Hall_\(LSD-5\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Gunston_Hall_(LSD-5))

Nostalgia

You gotta love this!

<http://oldbluejacket.com/inthenavynow>

Membership

The next reunion is coming up very quickly. In order to attend and participate, dues must be current. Please check the date behind your name on the mailing label or the header of the e-mail... that is the date your dues expire. If your date doesn't show up give me a call or e-mail me. Send your check for \$20 for a full years dues made out to GHRA to our treasurer. We can't do it without your support.

Chod Cremer, Treasurer

P. O. Box 201,
Agency, IA 52530.

E-mail

If your e-mail address has changed please let me know. I have sent out many messages that come back undeliverable so please send me your new address. And, make a note to update GHRA whenever you change your e-mail in the future. It's easier, faster and much cheaper through e-mail than through U.S. mail. Thanks for your help on this.

Earlier Reunions



1993 – The Original Group



A few of the 2003 attendees



Plankowners in 2009

GHRA has held biannual reunions continuously since 1993. The 2011 reunion in Seattle will be our tenth.

Shipmates wives always play an important part. **Bill Driscoll's** wife, **Doris**, has attended ALL reunions.

Unfortunately, we do not have any photos earlier than 2003 with the exception of the one in 1993. It would be great to have some from the earlier years to put on the website. If you have any, let us borrow them!



Part of the '05 gang