



USS Gunston Hall

LSD 5

Spring 2013 Newsletter of the Gunston Hall Reunion Association

Only a few weeks left until...

San Antonio 2013

Hello Shipmates,

Well our San Antonio reunion is right around the corner so I hope that all of you have made your plans for being there as time is growing short. We will be giving the hotel a final count very soon so if you haven't made your hotel reservations by now I suggest that you do so at once to avoid being shut out. Reunion dates are **April 28-30, 2013** and the hotel is the Doubletree by Hilton at the San Antonio airport and the address is 37 NE Loop 410, San Antonio. Their phone numbers are **1-800-535-1980** or **210-366-2424**. Rates are \$111 per night and includes all taxes and **you must tell them you are with the USS Gunston Hall reunion to get these special rates**. You may also click the on-line link on our reunion webpage.

If you are flying in the hotel provides a complimentary shuttle from the airport to the hotel. The North Star mall is just across from the hotel and provides great shopping, restaurants and everything in between. The hotel features an outdoor pool, fitness center, restaurant and bar and complimentary internet access. Chod and I will be checking in everybody in the hospitality room on Sunday April 28th. We will have our hospitality room all three days and we will have snacks and beverages available. (coffee, beer, soft drinks and wine). Alcohol cannot be taken out of the hospitality room at any time. The cost for both dinners on Monday and Tuesday is \$98 per person or \$196 a couple and must be sent to Chod no later than April 15th. These prices include all service charges and taxes.

Regarding the tour of the Nimitz museum we will have a charter bus pick us up at the hotel on Monday April 29th at 7:45 AM and we will arrive at the museum around 9 AM which is when it opens. This will give us plenty of time to check out all the museum has to offer. We will leave the museum at 1 PM so we can get back to the hotel no later than 2:30 PM. Our dinner Monday night will commence at

6:30 PM so everyone will have a chance to rest up before dinner.

Prices for the museum are \$8 each and our WWII veterans are free. So as you check in at the hotel on Sunday please have your museum money ready for our treasurer Chod Cremer. That way he can pay for everybody all at once at the museum and make it much easier for all involved. We will charter a 57 passenger bus and we will first take all shipmates going and after that we can take others who want to go until we fill it up.

We will also be having dinner at the hotel on Tuesday night at 6:30 PM. As everybody knows the attire for our dinners is casual from slacks and sport coats to jeans and everything in between. As long as we look decent that's what matters. I'm sure many pictures will be taken so we all want to look good. Pictures will be shown in future newsletters I'm sure.

Our business meeting will take place on Tuesday morning at 10 AM in the hospitality room. Be prepared to offer choices for the 2015 reunion location. Also a new chairman and treasurer will be selected so our association can continue on. It has been my pleasure to serve as chairman for the last 10 years and Chod has been treasurer for twenty years ever since the association was formed. It is now time for somebody else to take over.

We will announce the winner of the free room at the reunion.

Any questions or comments just e-mail me or give me a call.

Thanks for all your support. Now let's have a great reunion.

Ron

Connections

Harry Trapp, MR, 52-54

Looking forward to seeing you all in San Antonio Next April.

Jim Denman, RM, 65-69

Email : JimDenman@ymail.com

comments : None

William Roadman, RM, 66-70

Email : wroadman@gmail.com

Captain Wilbur A. Sundt, U.S. Navy (retired), 85, of Fort Atkinson, passed away quietly on Saturday, June 9, 2012

Robert C Pollock, FTGSN, 64-67

Email : robertcpollock@yahoo.com

Interested in joining and attending reunions



U.S.S. Flagstaff PGH-1 in the Gunnsack's well deck.
Viet Nam 1968

Dues Expired?

Send your check for \$20 for a full years dues made out to GHRA to our treasurer If your dues are expired, you must include the \$20 when you redister for the reunion. We can't do it without your support. Thanks much.

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

Shipmates planning to attend

ANDERSON Mike RM 66-68
ANDREWS Andy MM 43-46
BACK Don BM 53-54
BEYER Bob RM 69-70
BRUNELLE Robert RM 61-62
BUICK Jack RD 56-59
CORNER Bud BM 57-60
CRAYCRAFT. Jim EM 66-70
CREMER Chod BM 50-53
DEGROOT Jerry LTjg 52-55
DIZONA Joe RM 63-66
DRISCOLL Bill BM 62-65
DUNKLEBERGER Gary RM 60-62
FROELICH Greg BM 65-68
HARDY Ken EM 67-70
INFANTE Val MM 52-56
JOJOLA Lucas BM 65-69
JONES Kelly BT 65-68
JOSEPHSON Jerry BM 57-60
KELLER Richard DK 52-53
KENNEDY Ron PN 57-59
KIRALY Joe LT 67-68
KNOX Tom SN 67
KOMIS George SN 62-65
KOOISTRA Tom MM 65-67
LEON Ray MM 49-50
LOTHAMER Roger MM 67-68
MCLAUGHLIN Earl RD 68-70
MCMILLIN Floyd SN 60-62
MCQUATE Dick RM 64-66
NEWTON Bill SN 57-61
O'CONNOR Rory MM 60-64
O'KELLEY Pat GM 51-54
PERES Dick YN 53-54
PETERS Jim BM 57-59
PFISTER Marion MM 61-64
PRIZZI John MM 53-56
ROH Bob SK 54-56
SUNDQUIST Bob HM 51-53
TANK Ed MM 64-65
TIDWELL Bob MM 59-63
TOLBERT E.L. MM 43-46
TRAPP Harry MR 52-54
TROGLIN Terry Lee BM 64-66
VOLLMER Robert FN 67-68
WEAVER Shelton BM 58-62
WHITEHILL Joe ET 56-59
WRIGHT Jimmy RD 56-58
WALLERSTEIN George LT 51-53

Check the website for updates:
ussgunstonhall.org

Positions Available

We are at a Crossroad...

Our Chairman has made it quite clear that he will be retiring effective with the end of the San Antonio reunion. In the past, Ron has 'caved' when we all leaned on him to stay for one more tour of duty. It seems very unlikely that he will change his mind this time.

On one or two earlier occasions, we touched on the possibility of changing the structure so that we have the duties and responsibilities shared among several of us. Several other ships have done it this way with what would seem to be a success. U.S.S. Belle Grove LSD-2 has seven shipmates sharing the duties plus a chaplain! We can do with fewer than that but at the least we should probably have: a treasurer; newsletter editor; webmaster; secretary. The first three are self-explanatory, the secretary would be the guy maintaining the database and responding to queries. It could possibly be joined with treasurer to make a one man secretary/treasurer. That might even make some sort of sense as it could eliminate redundant bookkeeping.

We would then need someone to organize the reunions. Rather than have a permanent member, we could rotate the responsibility so that a shipmate closest to the chosen city would be recruited.

It doesn't say much of us as a group if we enjoy the play but don't want to help keep it going.

There are many ways to keep us together, this is just one suggestion. Whatever, if we don't get our stuff together in San Antonio this will be the last reunion!

In Memoriam

**Samuel Morreale BM, 1969-70.
Roger Merriott, BM, 1961-64**

Shipmates who attended the Branson reunion will recall that **Roger Merriott** displayed a model of the U.S.S. Gunston Hall LSD-5 that he built

A note from Chod...

To All Shipmates,

The GHRA needs a new treasurer. I've been treasurer for 20 years, since the first reunion in Santa Rosa in 1993 and would like to retire!

The scope of the job is pretty much self-explanatory; keep track of all monies and keep track of members dues and reunion registrations.

Since each member's dues expire 12 or 24 months after they are paid, there is not any great influx of work to be done. Admittedly, there is a busy time in the months preceding and following our reunions since quite a few members pay their dues during those periods of time.

Once or twice a month I send a list of new dues payments to our association President so his records will correspond with mine.

All records are on the computer and will be provided to the next treasurer. I keep four different records. One shows a historical and current dues expiration for each member. One record shows a pedigree and dues expiration. One record shows a history of attendance at our reunions and the fourth lists attendance at the current reunion. Obviously the next treasurer can do as he wants in this regard.

I also have a paper copy showing each shipmates membership number and dues payment record. This is redundant but is the only numerical record we have.

This may seem to be a lot of work but it really isn't. It doesn't take a genius to do it or I would have been screwed a long time ago.

Chod Cremer

Free Room

One lucky shipmate will win a free ride! We will announce the winner at the Monday dinner. His room will be paid for the entire 3 days. The winner will be drawn from the names of those that made room reservations on or before February 28.

Reunions Past



Roger & Bonnie Merriott at Reunion 2009 Branson



Reunion 2007 San Diego



Reunion 2011 Seattle



Reunion 2007 San Diego



U.S.S. Gunston Hall, Saigon River, Viet Nam, 1969

USS Gunston Hall LSD 5 Reunion Association

Ron Kennedy (PN, 57-59), Chairman
11832 W. Virginia Avenue
Avondale AZ 85323
623/907-3688
info@ussgunstonhall.org

