

USS Gunston Hall LSD-5

1943 - 1970



Winter 2013 Newsletter of the Gunston Hall Reunion Association



Hello Shipmates,

I hope that all of you are enjoying the holidays with your families and friends and everybody had a Merry Christmas and are looking forward to a great New Year in 2014. Also at this time let us remember the shipmates that are no longer with us. Our ranks are getting smaller with each passing day.

One of the things we have to do is vote for the city where our 2015 reunion will be held. The three choices are Las Vegas, Norfolk and San Diego. I believe any of these locations will be an excellent choice and would draw a good attendance. Las Vegas and San Diego have always been popular destinations and I'm sure Norfolk would be also. I need all active members of the association to notify me by March 1, 2014 with their vote. Remember only members whose dues are current are allowed to vote so make sure your dues are up to date. You can notify me by e-mail, U.S. mail or by phone.

I still have some t-shirts left over from our San Antonio reunion so if you would like to buy one just let me know. The price will be \$11 each or \$19 for two which includes shipping. These are good quality Hanes beefy shirts with U.S.S. Gunston Hall lettering on the back in 3/4 inch letters and monogrammed on the front also. I only have four

large, 16 medium and 4 small sizes left.

As most of you know Chod Cremer has retired as treasurer and has been replaced by Bob Beyer, DC 69-70. Bob's address is 3911 Lower Saxtown Rd., Waterloo, IL 62298-4611 so when renewing your dues just remember to send them to Bob. Chod is now living the life of Riley which he earned through his many years as our treasurer. Thanks Chod for all you have done for us.

If anybody has recently moved, changed their phone number, have a new e-mail address or any other changes please let me know so we can stay in touch. I've had several e-mails bounce back so if you have a new one please give it to me. This is very important.

Also we still need a new chairman to take over my job. We've had several people offer to assist me which I appreciate but I'm retiring one way or the other so we need somebody to step up and take over.

So everybody get your dues current and think of where you would like to go in 2015 and let me know. I'm sure the 2015 reunion will be a great one as have all the others. Thanks to everybody for their help and cooperation in keeping our association running.

Ron Kennedy

Connections

Robert (Bob) Garner, MR, 66-69

Email : wuddabout@sbcglobal.net

A long time on board, good times, hello A div.

Floyd A McMillin, SN, 60-62

1mcmillin@rtinet.com

Terry Troglin, BM, 64-66

Email : nilgot22@gmail.com

Made it to my first reunion (in Texas) and had a great time. Tied up with some old buddies and met a lot of other ship-mates and their wives.

** WEBMASTER NOTE: Terry sent pictures and a video clip from the 2013 Reunion, Go to 'Reunions>2013. **

Louie Adams, BT, 65-68

lcajr55@aol.com

comments : what a ride

Ira Colhoff, RM, 51-55

Email : colhoffi@yahoo.com

I recently got back a box of slides from my days on the Gunny Sack.

** WEBMASTER NOTE: Ira sent the pictures. Many are now on this site. Go to 'Photos>Korea & the 50s' **

Jesse P Juarez, SM, 64-67

Email : jess_jua@yahoo.com

comments : Well done on the new format.

I have some pictures of my tour.

I would like to share. How do I get them posted?

Tom Morgan

Email : tmorgan@deansrv.com

I am one of 7 of JC Morgan (Jake). My father passed away in 1984. I am trying to learn more about him.

If anyone knew him I would love to hear from you or see any pictures of him.

** WEBMASTER NOTE: **Jake Morgan, MM, 1943-45**

Ken Jackson, MM, 60-63

Email : oceanviewken@aol.com

comments : Where are some of my old shipmates that I sailed around the oceans with for 3 years, when we were all so young. What are you doing these days. Lets exchange emails, photos and get a few laughs.

Paul Emmitt, PFC, USMC, 1965

Email : premmitt@pacbell.net

comments : I was the young Marine PFC Radio Repairman that was given full access to the ships radio repair facility in August 1965. The NCO treated me like part of his team. You guys were amazing, Thank You.

Jim Craycraft, EM, 66-70

Email : jim.craycraft@gmail.com

GHRA Website

ussgunstonhall.org

There have been many changes to our website in the past few months. The basic organization of it has been changed to be better suited to the content and much new content has been added.

There are new photos that **Ira Colhoff, RM, 51-55** has sent showing the ship and shipmates from his service dates. From the main menu page, go to the Photos tab and then select 'Korea and the 50s. The shipmates in most of the pictures have been identified but there are a few blanks. If you recognize yourself or any shipmate, please drop a note to: webmaster@ussgunstonhall.org. If you are looking through other pages and find that you can identify a person, place, or time send a note about that as well.

Terry Troglin, BM, 64-66 sent us pictures from the 2013 San Antonio reunion and a very funny video clip starring Shelton Weaver, BM, 58-62 and Ron Kennedy, PN, 57-59. We expect that this Internet exposure will lead to important film and TV contracts for both.

The alphabetical listing in the 'In Memoriam' section has a few names that are actually links to more pictures, more information or an obituary. At this time, there are only a few but more will be added as we get more information.

In addition to changes in content, there are changes in the software that will make navigation easier and faster.

And still, it is not finished and hopefully never will be ... it is a work in process. As new material comes in, it will be added. There is a lot of room for expansion.

Connections

Oliver Humphrey, MM, 66-70

Email: ziggie2000us@yahoo.com

Just wanted to say hello and hope everyone had a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Also, if any of you are on Facebook could you add me as a friend? Would like to hear from you

Editor's note: Presently we have two Facebook pages. Go to Facebook and search for 'USS Gunston Hall LSD-5' LSD-44 also has pages.

Cliff Boxer, EM, 67-70

Email : cliffordboxer1902@comcast.net

I am watching a CD of home movies from Gunston Hall's last trip to Viet Nam 69-70. Takes me back. Thanks to Ken Hardy who made the CD/movies.

Editor's note: We hope to get some parts or all of these movies on line in the near future.

In Memoriam

Ellsworth Frank Frankson, SK 51-54
Gary Metcalf, MM 51-54
I. S. Sam Lazarov, LT 53-54

As many of you know, the GHRA website has a section that lists all of the shipmates that have gone on before us. The list may be ordered alphabetically or by dates of service.

A new feature has been added to the alphabetical list. Some of the names appear in an italicized lighter blue font. These are actually links that will open a new pop-up window when you click on them. The pop-up has more information, possibly a photo and maybe a second link to an on-line obituary. Like everything else, we can only publish the information that is given to us.

YOUR INPUTS ARE NEEDED

Some of you guys will have noticed that there are fewer newsletters, larger type, repeats of earlier articles and less interesting material than once before.

We don't manufacture the stuff nor does it fall from the sky. Everything you see in these newsletters and on the website comes from you and we are tapped out!

Send whatever you have ... photos, sea stories, news clippings and any related miscellany. Memories of experiences are good. Don't worry about quality or grammar ... our expert staff will make corrections where needed. If it is something you treasure it will be handled appropriately and returned after it is copied or photographed.

New Masthead

Like the new look on page 1?

Tom Knox, SN, 1967, has created that new graphic for us. There is also some of Tom's work scattered throughout the website.

USS Gunston Hall LSD 5 Reunion Association

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

Bob Beyer, DC, 69-70
3911 Lower Saxtown Rd.
Waterloo, IL 62298-4611
<http://www.ussgunstonhall.org>
E-mail: info@ussgunstonhall.org

HOT ROD RACE PACIFIC STYLE

A somewhat apocryphal original poem penned and submitted by **Johnnie Hall**, GMC, 1952-53 (now deceased).

Now me and my buddy "Side cleaner Mo",
Took off on a can from Sasebo.
The chow was bad and the fuel was low,
But that doggone can could really go.

Now along about the middle of the night,
We're steaming along with all our might.
When a cruiser behind us blinked his lights,
Blew his whistle and pulled up alongside.

We had twin screws on this old can,
And you might think we were in a jam,
But to folks who don't dig this kind of jive,
That's sixteen boilers and an overdrive.

Now we were tin can men and likely knew,
We'd race all night till something blew
The fantail was bent down like it's stuck with
glue,
And through the waves we flew and flew.

The OOD was pale and said he was sick,
Said he was just a nervous wreck
But why should we worry, for what the heck,
Us and that cruiser were neck and neck.

Now on the ocean we did glide,
A-flying low and A-flying wide.
Our skipper screamed and crew they cried,
But us and that cruiser stayed side by side.

We looked over the fantail and heard something
comin',
Thought it was a jet by the way it was
ahummin'.
It was hummin along at a terrible pace,
And we knew right then it was the end of the
race.

As it steamed by we looked the other way,
And the guys on the cruiser had nothing to say.
For there in front of us was a Reserve JG,
Conning a hopped up LSD!

Editor's note: If any of you believe this, send me an e-mail. I have this bridge for sale...

Reunion 2013 Revisited

Pictures from Terry Troglin, BM, 64-66



Chod Cremer, BM, 50-53 receiving a plaque expressing gratitude for his many years service as our treasurer. **Joe Dizona**, RM, 63-66 is the presenter.



Rory O'Connor, MM, 60-64 and **Ken Hardy**, EM, 67-70



Reunion 2015

Although more than a year away, we must start planning for the next reunion. Tentative dates are April 26-28 or May 3-5. First step: choose a city. At the 2013 reunion, three candidate cities were nominated (see below). Make your choice and let Ron know before March 1, 2014. If you do not vote, you lose your right to bitch about the selected location.

