

USS Gunston Hall LSD-5

1943 - 1970



Spring 2018 Newsletter of the Gunston Hall Reunion Association

Reunion 2019

San Diego, Sunday, April 28 through Wednesday, May 1, 2019

We are confirmed for these dates at the Holiday Inn, San Diego - Bayside. The room rate including taxes will be \$145.25, single or double occupancy. We may arrive Sunday afternoon and depart Wednesday morning. However, the special rate may be extended three days prior and three days post reunion.

There will be a 10% discount for meals purchased at the hotel's restaurant. The GHRA charge for meals and hospitality refreshments has yet to be determined.

Free parking is provided for those driving to San Diego. A free airport shuttle is

available for those flying into San Diego.

As in the past, we are individually responsible for making room reservations in a timely manner. Reservations may be made any time after June 1, 2018 but must be completed before March 15, 2019. Obviously, sooner is better as it allows time for us to plan accordingly.

Individuals must identify themselves as part of USS Gunston Hall Reunion at the time of making reservations in order to be eligible for the special group rate. Please call (800) 662-8899 or (619) 224-3621 to make reservations.



Activities

We are all familiar with the wealth of activities, restaurants, shopping and sightseeing opportunities the city offers. Bill and Doris Driscoll are currently checking out possible group activities which will be announced once finalized.

For those wishing to explore independent opportunities, Googling 'San Diego Attractions' will yield many websites. Within the next few days, the GHRA website will list a few of the seemingly best options.

The website will be updated with information as it becomes available. Check in frequently.



Color guard at 2007 San Diego Reunion

Membership

In order to attend reunions and participate in GHRA activities it is necessary to be a dues paying member. If your dues have lapsed you can re-up for only \$20 regardless of when your membership expired. You will be brought up to date and have a full year of paid membership for only 20 bucks!. ***If you update now, you are covered through the 2019 reunion.*** Mail your check to Bob Beyer at the address below.

USS Gunston Hall LSD 5 Reunion Association

Bill Driscoll, Chairman
3828 Agave Court
Perris CA 92570

Bob Beyer, DC, 69-70, Treasurer
3911 Lower Saxtown Rd,
Waterloo, IL 62298-4611

Jack Buick, 56-59, Webmaster

Musings

Just across the ocean
Viet Nam is the spot
Where we are doomed to spend our time
In the land that God forgot

Down with the smoke and whiskey
We're gallant boys in blue
Right in the middle of nowhere
Thousands of miles from you

As swabbies of the gator fleet
We earn our measly pay
Guarding others millions
At a buck and a half a day

In our bunks at night we dream
Of a pretty little miss
Of holding her in our arms
And stealing a treasured kiss

Here in the heat and wet we march
Our boots are filled with sand
But we are not called convicts
We're owned by Uncle Sam

The time we spent there
Is the time we'll never miss
Don't let the draft board get you
And for God's sake don't enlist

For when we had for those Pearly Gates
You'll hear Saint Peter yell
Fall in you boys from Viet Nam
You've spent your time in hell.

Author Unknown.

Don Dye, MM2, 1967-70 submitted the poem to be shared with shipmates.

Share...

Most of us have some sea stories that we recall fondly. Share yours with your shipmates. We will use the stories in future newsletters and, if there are enough, a dedicated web page will be created for them.

Likewise pictures. We never have enough pictures.