



# USS Gunston Hall

## LSD 5

Spring/Summer 2011 Newsletter of the Gunston Hall Reunion Association

### *Hello Shipmates*

By most accounts our tenth reunion was a very successful one; we had a very good turnout. Several people remarked that it was the best one they have attended. I can't argue with them. Everything went off on schedule from beginning to end and everybody seemed to have a great time. One definite highlight was a guided tour of the Boeing aircraft plant in Everett, WA that was arranged by Bob Sundquist, HM 51-53. One of Bob's neighbors David Reese works for Boeing and provided us with a ground floor tour that is usually reserved for dignitaries. The tour was amazing and it is hard to visualize how big the plant is until you see it in person. 98 acres under roof. Thanks again to Bob and David. Great job!

Also a few hours were spent in the hospitality room with shipmates swapping sea stories and admiring the authentic model of the ship that Ron Silver built for us. Thanks Ron. It is rumored that there might have been a few brewskies consumed during this time as well.

On Monday night we had our first dinner and were entertained by Nash Fung, a gifted young magician who amazed us with his many talents. I was also happy to have my grandson Kegan join us. He is in the Navy stationed at Bremerton and he along with Ed Tank MM 63-65 assisted Nash on stage with some of his tricks.

Tuesday morning we were fortunate to hear a tape of one of the survivors of the USS Indianapolis tragedy in WWII and his story of the events they went through waiting to be rescued. This survivor was the grandfather of Nicole Crumb, the Holiday Inn sales coordinator. Thanks Nicole.



*Plankowners E.L. Tolbert and Andy Andrews*

Tuesday evening we had our final dinner and were entertained by the music and songs of the David Cooley trio who did a great job in getting the crowd going. Many of our shipmates and their wives showed some excellent dance moves on the floor while the band had the place rocking and rolling. A good time was had by all!

I would like to personally thank Chod Cremer our treasurer for all his hard work for the association along with Jack Buick, RD 56-59 who does most of the work of the newsletters we all enjoy.

Also thanks again to Bob Sundquist and Harry Trapp, MR 52-54 for all their assistance in making the reunion the success it was. You need to have lots of help for it to come off successfully and thankfully I had plenty of good help. Thanks everybody.

*Please go to page 3*



We were split into two groups for the Boeing tour. Above is group 1. We will get the group 2 photo on the website

# Connections

## Connections (Continued)

As always, the entries have been edited and condensed to save space. The original, complete comments remain in the log on the website.

**Ed Wosick**, SFP 2, 1965-68

Email : dareddie@hcinet.net

Change of address and e-mail address 12/16/2010

**Jim Hyman**, PN3, 1965-67

Email : jimhyman@prodigy.net

Been awhile since I've visited, but, glad to read names in the log that bring back wonderful memories.

**Hal Diebolt**, SK, 1954-56

Email : hdbbr@q.com

Just learned that jack carroll who was the oil king during this same time period died. We grew up together in Omaha and went on active duty together. and on the Gunston Hall

**Cory Reilly**, SFP, 1968-71

Email : coryreilly@yahoo.com

**Greg DeLos Santos**, YN, 1968-69

Email : gregngerri@comcast.net

Buds with Wm "Barny" Barnett and Greg Conrad. . Did anyone tell XO Langley I left the ship or is he still looking for me, LOL

**John ( Jack ) Rybkoski**, SF, 1960-64

Email : jr1231@att.net

Can't make the reunion, wishing everyone the best.

**Oliver Humphrey**, MM, 1966-70

Email : ziggie2000us@yahoo.com

comments : I would like to hear from all of you.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

**Wayne Kidd**, MM, 1968-70

Email : waynekidd@q.com

My first ship. Made the last wespac cruise and 25 of us stayed on board to train the Argentines.

**Orv Rempfer**, BM, 1957-60

Email : rempfoj@centurytel.net

Last attended reunion was 2005. Be good to see some of my old Navy buddies.

**Bob Chamberlin**, BM, 1963-64

Email : coo5621@sn.com

comments : looking for al salois,james ray,kondrackie ,ron nichols, ken shigley maxbass,komis,bob fender,birk

**Debbie Herron**

dherron868@aol.com

comments : My father, Major Don E McPherson, USMC retired served on the Uss Gunston Hall LSD 5. When he passed away in 1997 I received a piece of his memobilla the bronze plaque from the USS Gunston Hall which he received from the Captain.

**Ronald Derr**, LT, 1968-69

ronaldderr@Yahoo.com

comments : Ship's navigator. Looking forward to a reunion on the East Coast someday

**Steve Newton**, FN, 1948-49

Email : sfig@aol.com

comments : I enjoy reading about the old LSD-5

**Stephen Ouellette**, EN, 1965-67

Email : egdive@citolink.net

**Shelton Weaver**, BM, 1959-62

Email : papamoon@suddenlink.net

comments : cant wait for seattle one good liberty port

**Ira Colhoff**, RM, 1951-55

Email : colhoffi@yahoo.com

comments : Went to the 1ST/2ND/3RD reunions, but after Beanie Weber/Archis Stegman passed away, I'm sorry to say it has been hard to return.

**Oliver Humphrey**, MM, 1966-70

Email : ziggie2000us@yahoo.com

comments : I want to know if anyone knows Robert Carvalho, he was on the ship around 1968 as a MM

**Jack Sherrill**, ENS, 1963-64

jack.david.sherrill@gmail.com

comments : Great times on the gunny sack ... started out as gunnery officer 3rd div. Also 1st and 2nd before I left.

**Richard Peak**, BT, 1959-62

Email : rkpeak@gmail.com

comments : boarded the gunny late in 1961, caught up with her in Hong Kong.

**Emile Messana**, BM, 1968-69

Email : messanae@bellsouth.net

comments : Reading these post brings back many memories. While on board I served a coxswain of the LCVP and Captains GIG. I was assigned to 1st division.

**Orv Rempfer**, BM, 1957-59 / Joyce

Email : rempfoj@centurytel.net

comments : Hi all, We had a great time at the 2011 reunion. Got to see a lot of old buddies. Received some pictures and hope to get mine out soon.

**Carl Wayne Birks**, BM, 1964-66

Email : cwbirks@gmail.com

comments : 2nd. Div. compartment cleaner, mess cook, port wingwall deckape, 40mm gun captain,captains gig coxswain,master at arms.We were a good bunch of guys

**George Koomis**, SN, 1962-65

geo.komis@gmail.com

comments : Had a great time at reunion was good to see the crew before & after

**Jesse Juarez**, SM, 1964-67

Email : jessie.juarez@yahoo.com

comments : I great time in Seattle reunion! Met old ship mates from my time on the Gunny Sack. And made friends with new shipmates from years past. I really looking forward to the next reunion where ever it maybe. TKS Jesse and Irene

**Jose E. Chavez**, BM, 1965-69

los\_chavez\_ept@yahoo.com

comments : Is there any ship movements logged between 67 and 69?

**Bob Hamner**, SN, 1969-70

## *A Good Time Was Had By All*

I hope that everyone has as much fun at the next gathering as we all did at this one. Thanks for all of your hard work.

**Harold Larson**

Ron thanks again for all you do running the show me and my wife had a great time in Seattle you put on a fantastic 3 day reunion!

**Bob Beyer**

Ron, You are very deserving of kudos for a well run reunion.

**Jerry De Groot**

Ron, another great reunion. Rita and I met some new friends too. Thank you very much for all the hard work you did to make this reunion a good one. Bravo Zulu!

**Joe Kiraly**

Hi Ron, it was a good reunion!

**Tom Knox**

Romy and I just want to thank you for putting on an excellent reunion. I know that you have put in a lot of time and effort in putting this together and we just wanted to let you know that we really appreciated it. Thanks again,

**Tom & Romy Niblack**

Ron, Just wanted to extend my kudos and say Thank You to you and all who put on the Reunion. It was Outstanding, and you guys did a Great Job. Please extend my congratulations to everyone who worked so hard on this. I look forward to seeing you in either Norfolk or San Antonio in 2013.

**Chuck Wellington**

Ron, Thanks for a great reunion. I really had a great time and thanks for all the effort and time you have put in to make it work. Looking forward to the next one where ever it is.

**Andy and Kathleen Andrews**

### **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](mailto:info@ussgunstonhall.org)  
623/907-3688

## *Reunion Notes from Chod's Minutes* *The following excerpted from Chod's minutes of our business meeting:*

At our tenth reunion we had 51 shipmates and 40 spouses and guests for a total of 91.

A financial report was distributed

Those in attendance selected Norfolk, San Antonio and Pensacola as potential sites for 2013. Ballots will be mailed to all current members at a future date.

The 2013 reunion will be in the same April/May time frame

Ron Kennedy has agreed to another tour of duty. I have agreed to a **FINAL** tour as your treasurer.

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### *Greetings Shipmates (cont. from page 1)*

Hope to see all of you again in 2013 wherever it will be. And for those of you who weren't able to attend I hope to see you at our next one. Wishing all of you good health and happiness. - Ron

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## *Internet Links*

### **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))

## *Membership*

Please check the date behind your name ... that is the date your dues expire. If your date doesn't show up give me a call or e-mail me. Let's all get together and keep our association alive and well for as long as possible. 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. Thanks much.

**Chod Cremer, Treasurer**

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

## *At The Reunion*

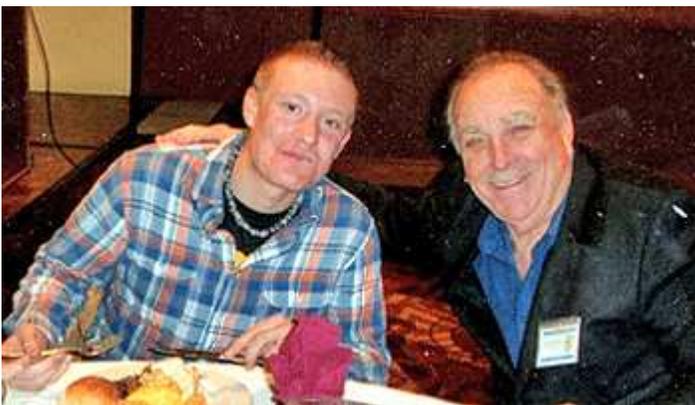
*A sampling of photos ... there will be more on the website soon*



Dick McQuate, RM 64-66 and Barbara



Orv Rempfer 57-59, Jim Peters, 57-59 and Bill Newton, 57-61



Grandson Kegan with Grandpa Ron



Rory O'Connor MM 60-64 and Pam



Jerry Josephson, BM, 57-60 and Margie

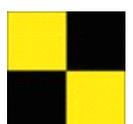
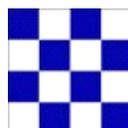


### *Photo Credits*

Thanks to our photographers ...

**Doris Driscoll, Tom Niblack, Marion Pfister**

**SEND YOUR PICTURES** for the website



Marion Pfister, MM 61-64 and Ginger