

TO: U.S.S. STODDARD ALUMNI AND THEIR LADIES

July 29, 1995

The 8th Stoddard Alumni Reunion will be held at the **Crown Sterling Embassy Suites, 4914 Constitution Ave., Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808; (504)924-6566, (800)433-4600; FAX (504)923-3712 on October 11 through 13, 1996.**

The enclosed Crown Sterling Suites' form may be used to make your hotel reservation. Be sure to mention that you are with the *U.S.S. Stoddard* Reunion. The hotel also has an airport shuttle available. Guests will enjoy a complimentary full breakfast cooked to order daily.

Thursday Afternoon Oct. 10: The hospitality suite will be open 1PM - 'til for registration.

Friday Schedule: A plantation tour is planned for Friday leaving the hotel at 9AM and returning at 5PM. The tour will include a visit to the LSU Rural Life Museum, a visit to Nottaway Plantation in White Castle, LA and a visit to Tezcuco Plantation in Burnside, LA with lunch at Tezcuco. The cost of this tour is \$40 per person. We need a minimum of 40 people to get the bus and the bus carries a maximum of 47. An additional bus can be made available with the same conditions. An informal dinner is scheduled for Friday night in the Atrium at the hotel. The menu will be Chicken Monterey at a cost of \$14 per person.

Saturday Schedule: Here is the plan for our Tin Can fix. Busses will pick us up at the hotel at 9:30AM and take us to the *USS Kidd*. We will be piped aboard for a visit and a memorial service with bagpipe music on the forecastle at 11AM. Following the tour of the *Kidd*, we will have lunch next door at the Catfish Town atrium, compliments of the *Belle of Baton Rouge Casino*. The *Belle* makes regular river cruises with one scheduled for 1:30PM which will last about 2 hours. Since the *Belle* is a casino, they are doing the lunch at no charge, and of course, there is no charge for the cruise. Gambling aboard the boat is a matter of personal choice and is not mandatory to receive the services we have just described. After the cruise we will be bussed back to the hotel about 4PM. The cost of these activities will be \$11 per person for a gangway pass to the *Kidd* and to cover other expenses related to the memorial. Upon our return to the hotel, the "Reunions" Inc photographer will take pictures from 6PM to 8PM for the annual memory album followed by the Saturday night banquet. The dinner will consist of prime rib with stuffed potato.

Please have your picture made by the professional photographer at the Saturday evening banquet. It will cost you nothing. You will have an opportunity later to purchase a copy of your picture - if you want it. If not, keep in mind that you are under no obligation at any time to buy anything from "Reunions" Inc. Whether you buy or not, your pictures made at the reunion will still be printed in the memory book for the benefit of all.

Sunday Schedule: Breakfast and say goodbye.

Treasurer Pat Duncan, 502 N. Hill St., Meridian, TX 76665, (817)435-2196 must have your reunion registration form and check **no later than September 14, 1996.**

Byron Goodwin

Byron Goodwin, President
30950 Meadow Wood Dr.
Denham Springs, LA 70726
(504)665-5185

*** FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK ***

Don Whitworth
2915 Fox Hill Dr., Arlington, TX 76015-2110
Home (817)465-6833, FAX (817)557-0966

WHERE IS OUR SHIP? Her remains, still moored near Mare Island, are awaiting the salvager's torch.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE goes to Guy J. Smith of Black Creek, Wisconsin for his support of the *Alumni*! His father served aboard *U.S.S. Terry DD513* during World War II. Because of friends named Stoddard, Guy's attention turned to us. This patriotic gentleman's enthusiasm has not been limited to words alone. We too have been recipients of his generosity. He has made large contributions to our treasury and has given us historical data related to *Terry* and World War II for our library - to say nothing of his many enjoyable phone calls. He has done all of these things for us because he would like to see us continue as an active organization so that we may enjoy the company of our shipmates in days to come. We sincerely hope that Guy will always be among us. We join him in the memory of his Father and the men of *U.S.S. Terry DD513*. We proudly enclose one of his letters and look forward to meeting him in person at Baton Rouge.

TONY MORRIS has - again this year - donated the latest set of national telephone listings (all 85 million of them) on compact discs to the secretary's office. With Tony's invaluable help, our search goes on for shipmates adrift.

CONGRATULATIONS to Paul and Dorothy Boesenberg who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on April 20, 1996 in Anamosa, Iowa. Paul, a *Stoddard* plank owner, and his family hosted our second reunion at Cedar Rapids, Iowa in 1990. Good health, long life, and happiness, Paul and Dorothy!

WE ARE PLEASED to hear from shipmate J. D. Wilder FC2c. Jimmy was one of the original crew who commissioned *Stoddard* at Seattle. He served aboard from that time until his discharge in February, 1946. We look forward to seeing you in Baton Rouge, Jimmy.

NEW SHIPMATES ♦ Ken Smith of Arlington, VT sends us the address of Wendell Stetson, Hazelton Road, Rowe, MA 01367. Ken has now added a total of eight people to our mailing list. ♦ Bill Hurst of Hanover, NH brings aboard Gene Deffebach, 145 Horseshoe Dr., Grants Pass, OR 97526. ♦ Bob Hoag of Silverdale, WA adds James R. Collier, 14855 Olympic View Loop Rd. NW, Silverdale, WA 98383. ♦ Shipmates reporting aboard are: E. Thomas Hacker, 70 Portland St., Yarmouth, ME 04096; Dan E. Sedgwick, 827 Gold Ridge Rd., Sebastopol, CA 95472; and William G. Bozarth, P2248 S. Highway 129, Milford, UT 84751. WELCOME ABOARD, SHIPMATES! We hope each one of you can join us in Baton Rouge this fall!

OUR LIBRARY has grown this year because of the thoughtfulness of our own. They shared pictures and ship's data which has given us the opportunity to put copies of their memorabilia in our library. ♦ Mrs. Adele Grell, widow of Lt. Clinton Grell, WWII CIC Officer, provided photos, press copies, a history of our ship, an anniversary issue of the *Stoddard Stern Sheets* (April 15, 1945), crew lists, a roster of officers of Destroyer Squadron 57, and the "RESULTS OF THE SECOND BATTLE OF PEARL HARBOR, dated 2 December 1945. The "Second Battle" is a memorandum from the CO to the crew following their liberty in Honolulu. Taking one look at that memo, one would think it came from Mr. Robert's *Bucket*. But there is some good news in it. No one rode a motorcycle off a pier. ♦ Bill Wilde, WWII Radioman, of Waltham, MA let me make off with his WWII crew list of radiomen and snapshots long enough to copy them. Bill, it was a treat seeing you and Doris in Boston. ♦ Many thanks to Tom Hacker for sending his resumé to go in our ship's history, copies of his photo album made at Trieste, Italy in 1952, and the 1951 Recommissioning Program.

SHIP'S STORE: Have you heard the old rising-price story? Well, it has found its way aboard. The costs of our hats and shirts have crept up some every year. And as I am sure you know, the U.S. Post Office is in on the act too. So, we are finally forced to raise our prices for these two items just to break even. This is our first price increase since we began offering *Stoddard* items in 1991.

1. *U.S.S. Stoddard* Bumper Stickers - \$1.50 ea. Blue letters and numbers on a gold background.
2. Ship's History - \$10.00 ea.
3. U.S.S. *Stoddard* Alumni Roster - \$2.00 ea.
4. Hats - \$15.00 - They are adjustable - one size fits all. Available are:

AS A REMINDER -

The 1997 U S S Stoddard Alumni Reunion will be held October 30 thru November 2, 1997 at the Best Western Oak Hills, 7401 Wurzbach Rd., San Antonio, TX 78229, (210)614-9900, Res. (800)468-3507, FAX (210)614-2105.

Our single occupancy rate is \$55.00 plus tax per night and a double occupancy rate of \$60.00 plus tax per night. These rates include a **full complimentary breakfast buffet** each morning. For our traditional Friday evening meal, the hotel will treat us to a **complimentary Authentic Mexican Welcome Reception that includes a Mexican buffet and drinks (soft, beer, and Margaritas on the rocks)**. We will have our traditional Saturday banquet in the hotel. The banquet dinner will provide a choice of Sliced London Broil at \$20.00 per person (tax and gratuity included) or Hunters Chicken at \$20.00 per person (tax and gratuity included).



PLAQUE PROGRESS REPORT

All necessary paperwork has been completed and submitted to the Nimitz Museum staff. They are now working on our project. We are happy to recognize the following enthusiastic shipmates and friends who have sent donations toward the \$350 required to manufacture and install our plaque. We encourage you to join them by sending your contribution to Treasurer Pat Duncan, 502 N. Hill St., Meridian, TX 76665, (817) 435-2196. Please make checks payable to U.S.S. Stoddard (DD 566) Alumni.



FAMILY MEMBER

Adele Grell
Jewell Trotter

WORLD WAR II

Leroy Bill
Pat Duncan
Ted Iwaszko
Dale Patterson
Bob Peniston (Friend)

IN MEMORY OF

Clint Grell WWII
Charles Trotter WWII

Danny Rizzolo
Norman Roy
Bill Springer
Don Whitworth

KOREAN WAR

Helmer Tietjen
Walter Roemke

VIETNAM WAR

John Erway
Lawrence Feezel



SICK BAY

Bob Conolly has been hospitalized. Cards and well wishes may be sent to his home address. Ann will pass them on to him. RAdm. Robert C. Conolly, 11329 Fawn Lake Pky., Spotsylvania, VA 22553.