

Website:

www.ussstoddard.org

Date:

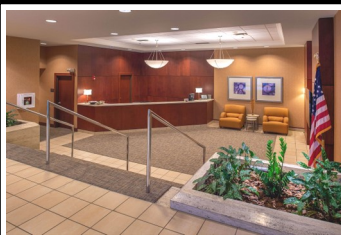
July 2023



USS STODDARD ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

**USS STODDARD DD566
WWII * Korea * Vietnam**

**33rd Stoddard Alumni Reunion
Saint Louis, Missouri
September 28th–October 1st, 2023**



Sheraton Westport Plaza Hotel
900 Westport Plaza
St. Louis, Missouri 63146

**USS Stoddard Rate \$144
Plus Taxes**

Rate 3 Days Prior or After
Subject to Hotel Availability

Call: 888-627-7064

Ask for:

**USS Stoddard Group Rate
Sheraton Westport Hotel**

Cutoff for Rooms 9/7/2023

Includes:

- Buffet Breakfast For 2
- Free Wi-Fi
- Free Parking,
- Free Airport Shuttle



Hosts:

**John & Carlene
Rauh**

Email: CJRAUH@LDD.NET

Soon it will time for the 33rd USS Stoddard Reunion. Carlene and I live only 90 miles south of St. Louis in the town of Perryville, MO. If you are driving, or renting a car to come to the reunion, a side trip to Perryville is just 1-1/2 hours away. You might be interested in visiting the following:

- The only **exact** size replica of the Vietnam Wall. The granite stone came from the same quarry in India as the one in Washington DC.

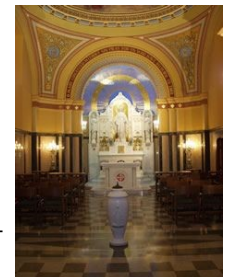


- The American Tractor Museum created to celebrate the iconic machines that were the backbone of America. One of the largest tractor museums.



- The National Shrine of the Miraculous Medal with a beautiful church, Rosary Walk to a beautiful grotto built by seminarians during WWI and other small shrines along the walk.

- The Perry County Military History Museum, Carlene is the Curator, so I'll bet you can get a private tour.



If you are interested in visiting any of the sites, let us know and we will send you additional information.

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Friday- Enjoy a guided tour of the downtown area and the *St Louis Riverfront*. Visit the iconic **Gateway Arch** and enjoy the movie, “*Monument to a Dream.*” Also enjoy the newly remodeled, state-of-the-art *Arch Museum*, which traces the story of the Native Americans, explorers, pioneers, and rebels who made America possible.

Enjoy an included lunch at **Favazza’s Restaurant** located in the famed Italian neighborhood known to locals as “*The Hill.*” Lunch will include Sicilian chicken with a side of pasta, Italian salad, Italian bread and butter, coffee, tea or water, and cannoli for dessert.



This afternoon, enjoy a Day Fresh tour at the **AB Brewery**, which highlights the journey of a beer from seed to sip. Guests will start the tour with a visit to the **Clydesdale paddock and stables**, then go to the *Beechwood Aging Cellar*, the historic *Brewhouse*, and the *BEVO packaging facility*. All guests 21 and over will get multiple samples on tour and will take home a day-fresh bottle of beer. (Please note this is an extensive walking tour that lasts about 1 to 1 1/2 hours. **(There are tables at Brewery Center if you don’t want to do all the walking. Our tour will visit the famous Clydesdales first.)**)



Saturday -Enjoy a drive through **Forest Park**, home to the **1904 World’s Fair** and many of St. Louis finest attractions and museums.

Visit **Soldiers Memorial**, a state-of-the-art museum facility in downtown St. Louis that honors military service, veterans, and their families. Featuring the new exhibit, **VIETNAM AT WAR AND AT HOME**

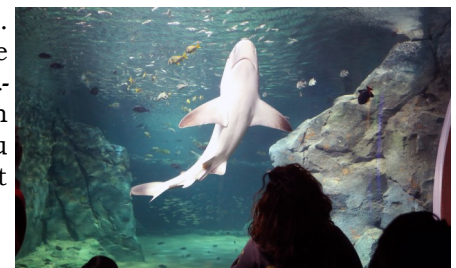
You will enjoy a self-guided tour. **USS Stoddard Memorial Service** onsite at Soldiers Memorial.



Next stop is historic **Union Station** where you will enjoy lunch on your own at one of the many dining options – Station Grill; Landry’s; Train Shed; 1904 Café or the Soda Fountain.

After lunch, visit St. Louis’ newest attraction, the **St. Louis Aquarium at Union Station**. Interact with 13,000+ sea animals as you

explore the waters of a freshwater river to the shallow waters of a salt marsh all the way into the deep, dark abyss of the open ocean.



Saturday Evening -“Taste of St. Louis Buffet” all the great foods that St. Louis is noted for including: Toasted Ravioli, Pork Steaks, Fitz’s Root Beer, Goey Butter Cake and Ted Drew’s Ice Cream.

Sunday Afternoon-USS Stoddard Alumni Annual Meeting

Sunday Evening -USS Stoddard Banquet & Raffle at the Sheraton Westport Hotel

Please remember to bring your items for raffle. (Preferably from your home state)

USS Stoddard 33rd Reunion—Plan of the Day

(All times are tentative)



Thursday

1:00 PM Registration
Afternoon Hospitality Room Open

Friday

8:30 AM Meet in Hotel Lobby
8:45 AM Board Bus
9:00 AM Arrive at St. Louis Arch "Gateway to the West"
10:00 AM Movie on Building of the Arch
11:30 AM Board Bus for Lunch
12:00 PM Lunch at Favazza's Italian Restaurant on what locals call "The Hill"
1:15 PM Board Bus for Anheuser-Busch Brewery Tour and "The Clydesdales"
3:15 PM Board Bus for Hotel
4:00 PM Arrive at Hotel
5:00 PM Dinner on your own

Saturday

8:30 AM Meet in Hotel Lobby
8:45 AM Board Bus
9:00 AM Tour of Forest Park home of the 1904 World's Fair and Many Museums.
10:00 AM Arrive at Soldiers Memorial (Self Guided Tour) & USS Stoddard Memorial Service.
11:15 AM Board Bus
11:30 AM Union Station and Lunch on Your Own.
1:30 PM St. Louis Aquarium at Union Station
3:00 PM Board Bus for Hotel
4:00 PM Arrive at Hotel
6:00 PM Taste of St. Louis Buffet at Hotel

Sunday

10:00 AM USS Stoddard Alumni Annual Meeting
12:00 PM Lunch on your own
6:00 PM Cocktail Hour
7:00 PM Annual Banquet and Raffle



Please remember to bring your home state items for the raffle.

Please remember that those flying to St. Louis will be limited as to items they can take home.

Why Do Navy Pants Have 13 Buttons?



Navies all around the world are filled with traditions, some dating back hundreds of years. Many of these traditions are so old that their origins have long been forgotten, but the reason why sailors have exactly 13 buttons on their trousers has a known explanation. These bellbottom trousers, nicknamed “Crackerjacks,” were introduced with the US Navy in the early 1800s and were designed entirely for practicality. The flared ends were better suited for rolling up during laborious tasks. In addition, if a sailor was to fall overboard, the thick-wool trousers would quickly become extremely heavy. The flared bottoms made them easier to remove without taking off any footwear. Some theories suggest the flared bottoms were simply implemented to give sailors a unique appearance. The crotch area of the trousers features a flap called the “broadfall” and 13 buttons keep the broadfall in place. At the time the zipper was not commonplace on clothing, and even if it was, it would have rusted in the salty air sailors are exposed to. The broadfall is held in place by exactly 13 buttons, a number that is often said to represent the United States’ original 13 colonies. This explanation is untrue. Originally the broadfall had 15 buttons, but the Navy reduced this to just seven to save material. However, sailors soon complained that the broadfall was too small. This is partly because diet changes increased sailors’ size, and because the smaller flap was uncomfortable for their “equipment”. The Navy listened and made the broadfall bigger. With more material came the need for more buttons, resulting in six more being added bringing the total to the 13 we have today. This number was probably chosen to maintain visual symmetry.

Other pieces of the uniform had their uses too. For example, the neckerchief could be used as a headband or a cleaning cloth. It also kept their uniforms clean. This was because sailors in the 19th century often sported long hair. To keep their hair out of the way during tasks it would be tied in a ponytail and stuck down with a sticky tar-like substance. The neckerchief kept this off the rest of their uniform. Like the “13 buttons 13 colonies” explanation for the bellbottom trousers, the neckerchief also has an alternative and equally unlikely origin. Allegedly the piece of fabric is a symbol to honor Admiral Lord Nelson, with the three white lines representing his three major victories. Today the uniform is for dress rather than actual work, but these features have been retained to maintain traditions.

The Forgotten Stanza of Our National Anthem



There are many occasions at which our national anthem, *The Star Spangled Banner*, is played or sung. It is an expected beginning of every baseball or football game and the fans stand with hands over their heart as the familiar words are sung:

*O say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there.
O say, does that star spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?*

But did you know that there is another stanza (*in some hymnals there are as many as four stanzas*) to *The Star Spangled Banner*? Seldom is it sung and yet in view of recent world happenings, it is most fitting — perhaps even more fitting than the first familiar stanza. Its words are:

*O thus be it ever, when free men shall stand
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation!
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the heav'n rescued land
Praise the Pow'r that hath made and preserved us a nation!
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just;
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust!"
And the star spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!*

Excerpt from *The Roving Saint* / June 2003

Some Alumni Members have not paid their dues. Please send your \$10 annual dues to continue receiving the Alumni Newsletters.

Summary of Action on 17 March 1967

Friday afternoon, after completion of conducting destructive fire against shore installations, the two spotter aircraft were taken under fire and hit. Stoddard in attempting to close in on the pilot who ditched, received heavy fire from the shore batteries and sustained some light shrapnel damage to one lift raft, port side of bridge and one hit in the Engineering berthing compartment, just above the water line. Fortunately, no one on the Stoddard received wounds. The prompt action taken by all hands was outstanding. Repair party rapidly shored the hole and the gun crews left behind about one hundred twenty-five "USS Stoddard Specials", when they returned the fire. The downed pilot was sighted by other aircraft and the helo. The helo was just over the pilot, ready for pickup when he received heavy small arms fire from small craft closing. His abrupt change of position in clearing the area of small arms fire caused two aircraft to maneuver violently to clear the helo and the aircraft concerned evidently had a mid-air collision. Now three pilots were known to be in the water, the placement of the spotter who first ditched was unaccounted for.

USS Stoddard DD-566 and USS Ingersoll DD-652 were joined by two other DD's, the USS Gridley DLG-21 and the USS Mansfield DD-728 to conduct a search. Numerous aircraft, shipmates of the downed pilots, also were on the scene. The picture became cloudy; for a short while we thought a rescue helo and crew might have also have went down enroute to the scene. We received "good word" that the helo was ok, he was still on board the carrier awaiting the call.

Two pilots were finally located and retrieved. The flare ship lighting the way for the helo as the helo closed in and sighted the pilot's light.

After the two pilots were recovered, a sweep of the area was conducted by the aircraft. No further signs of the remaining two pilots and the search was discontinued.

About 0150 Saturday morning CIC heard a pilot's distress "beeper" in the water, Stoddard and Ingersoll immediately started a search and were joined by aircraft and a helo. No contact was made. The weather closed in and we temporarily abandoned the search until day light hours.

Saturday morning a message was received stating a third pilot had been picked up by the USS Ponchatoula AO148, approximately 100 miles from the scene of action. He was identified as the pilot of the second spotter aircraft originally with USS Stoddard.

In summary, the missing pilot was one involved in the mid-air collision.

These are the recollections of Jack Young, SM3 of the "picking up the pilot" event on March 17, 1967 as seen from the Bridge of the USS Ingersoll DD652

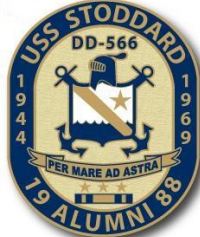
(His recollection was on a email sent to Dan Withers in 2003 - 36 years after the event)

I remember that day like it was yesterday. We (USS INGERSOLL AND USS STODDARD) had made the plan to go in and get a downed pilot. As all nosey people are all of us were on the bridge and signal bridge wanting to watch it all happen. The OOD told us signalmen that the Stoddard was putting their whale boat in and going to pick up the pilot. We were to be at Stoddard's port quarter and cover you. I watched as the whale boat was lowered until it just touched the water. Just as it touched the water when I got yelled to go to our port side because no one was covering it. I pouted but did go. Thirty seconds did not go by and I counted Thirteen red muzzle blasts. I screamed like a little girl "counter battery" I then just stood there blinking my eyes because I thought I would be taking one of those shells between the eyes. When I heard them hit and it was not me, I ran to starboard and watched horror pieces of Stoddard fly through the air. We turned to port and with rapid continuous fire, laid down a bunch of ammo on them. Stoddard's whale boat with at least five men in it was actually skipping over the water. I'm not sure at that point if the guys knew why they were being treated to such an exciting ride. Next, I will never forget looking at the hole in Stoddard and seeing someone looking out. His eyes were like two platters. The OOD started yelling for me to send Stoddard what degrees to steer and shoot. I remember thinking if I screw this up, they will shoot me. The signalman used the battery hand held light. When you are stressed by time it gets hard to read the light but when being fired at and getting hit that man should have gotten a medal. We never even got one little hit on us. It is comical to think about now as no one was hurt. I would give a million bucks to have a picture of the guys in the whale boat. I'm thinking they are looking forward to kicking someone's butt once back on deck. I will back up a bit. We got to a point I could see the pilot through the big eyes and fifty caliber tracers bouncing off the water around him. I was told he was never picked up and one or two more planes were lost over that, but scuttlebutt was thick as you well remember. By the way when I screamed counter battery the captain and OOD came thru the pilot house to my side looking at me like this better not be a joke. I wonder how I made it thru two Westpac tours. I get a little too talkative but those days I whined about then I would love to have one or two more days of it. The Navy had a way of making a kid age a bit. If you have some time, I liked a good sea story as long as it starts this ain't no s#\$@.

JACK Q. YOUNG SM3

USS Ingersoll DD-652

USS STODDARD DD566
 WWII * Korea * Vietnam



John laible,
chaplain...

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Though the skin of this vessel was made of steel, her heart consisted of the flesh and blood of those who manned her. They brought her to life, gave her personality, and lent her their strength to serve our country's needs. Through their deeds, they won her a place of honor in the record of our Nation's Navy.

We remember THE USS Stoddard, and we honor all who served in her. Their names and stories are known to many of us, because our lives touched as shipmates, friends and family. They, and we, are also known to you O GOD, every shipmate living and dead, and every family member who gave their love and support.

Loving God, in your mercy grant peace and eternal rest to those shipmates who are no longer with us. Bless their memory and continue to comfort their loved ones. And to those of us who remain, give us a sense of pride for having done our duty, the joy of rekindling friendships with our shipmates, and faith that is strengthened by the memory of your presence with us, through every challenge and danger. We ask all these things in your holy name. Amen."
 (Adapted from a prayer By Chaplain John Gundlach US Navy)

May They Rest In Peace

Bowns, Jerry E.	RD3	66-68	2-14-2023
Brennan, Robert	MM2	50-53	2-23-2023
McCord, Robert L.	SN	58-61	1-23-2020
Miller, Carroll A.	SN	51-53	5-30-2023

Southwest Airlines has a hub in St. Louis. They are likely to have more flights available and they have several non stops to various cities.

Lambert International Airport is served by:

- Air Canada - Southern Airways Express
- Alaska Airlines - American Airlines - Cape Air
- Delta Airlines - Frontier Airlines - Lufthansa
- Southwest Airlines - Spirit Airlines - United Airlines.

"Meet me in St. Louis,"

John and Carlene

Registration due September 7th

Hotel Reservations due September 7th

Please return your registration as soon as possible!

President: John Rauh
 email: cjrauh@LDD.net

Secretary/Newsletter Editor: Carlene Rauh
 email: cjrauh@LDD.net

Treasurer: Bill Melyan
 email: keystonewillie@verizon.net

Storekeepers: Steve & Renee Romack
 email: chief3r@gmail.com

Chaplain: John Laible
 email: captjohn42@gmail.com

Webmasters: Dan & Roxane Withers
 email: dwithers@rodaxwireless.com

Email/Database Coordinator: John Rauh
 email: cjrauh@LDD.net



carlene rauh,
secretary...

Sheraton Westport Plaza Hotel

900 Westport Plaza, St. Louis, MO 63146

Reservations: 888-627-7064 Ask operator for

"USS Stoddard Group Rate" of \$144

Hotel Shuttle: Shuttles start at 6:00 AM until 11:00 PM and leave every half hour. The vans are white and have a scrolling lighted sign that says servicing Sheraton and Doubletree Westport Hotels. The drivers will help with luggage - let the driver know you are at the Westport Sheraton. It's only a 10 minute drive. The Shuttle picks up at both terminals on the baggage claim level.

Exit 18 in Terminal 1

Exit 15 in Terminal 2 (Southwest Airlines)



**USS Stoddard DD-566
33rd Reunion-St. Louis, Missouri
September 28th -October 1st, 2023**

Make your hotel reservations directly with the hotel and ask for the Sheraton Westport Plaza Hotel, St. Louis, MO
USS Stoddard Group Rate, Room rates: \$ 144.00 Standard Room; plus (taxes) with full hot breakfast.
 Phone Number **888-627-7064** or online <https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1671213405865&key=GRP>
 Room rate honored 3 days before and after reunion. **Registration Due By September 7th, 2023**

Name: _____ Lady's Name: _____
 Stoddard Service Years: _____ Navy Rate or Rank _____
 Guest Attending with me: _____
 Street Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Email _____

		<u>Price</u>	<u># of Guests</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>Thursday 9/28</u>	Registration Fee – per person (Guests attending banquet only -No Fee) <u>Registration Fees help pay Misc. Costs of Reunion</u>	\$ 20	X _____	= \$ _____

<u>Friday 9/29</u>	Tour of St. Louis Downtown Area and Riverfront St. Louis Arch, Museum and movie “Monument to a Dream.” Lunch at Favazza’s Restaurant on the famous “Hill.” Visit the AB Brewery, Clydesdale Stables, Brewhouse, Beachwood Aging Cellar and BEVO Packing Facility.	\$125	X _____	= \$ _____
Friday Eve	Dinner on Your Own			

<u>Saturday 9/30</u>	Drive through Forest Park site of the 1904 World’s Fair. Soldiers Memorial Museum & Stoddard Memorial Service. Lunch on your own at Union Station w/many dining options and entrance to the Aquarium at Union Station.	\$100	X _____	= \$ _____
Saturday Evening	Taste of St. Louis Buffet at Hotel	\$ 52	X _____	= \$ _____

<u>Sunday 10/1</u>	Lunch on Your Own USS Stoddard Business Meeting			
Evening	6:00 PM Cocktails, Banquet, & Raffle			

Please put attendee name after entrée selection

<i>Entrees include:</i>	<i>Chicken Marsala</i> _____	\$52	X _____	= \$ _____
	<i>Chicken Marsala</i> _____	\$52	X _____	= \$ _____
	<i>Salmon w/ Chardonnay Sauce</i> _____	\$52	X _____	= \$ _____
	<i>Salmon w/ Chardonnay Sauce</i> _____	\$52	X _____	= \$ _____

Make checks payable to: USS Stoddard Alumni Association

GRAND TOTAL \$

Tips and taxes are <i>included</i> for all events.

Mail to: USS Stoddard Alumni
 4337 S. Highway 51
 Perryville, MO 63775

John Cell: 573 517-1996
 Carlene Cell: 573 517-2463
Email: cjrauh@LDD.net



USS Stoddard Alumni Association
4337 S Hwy 51
Perryville, MO 63775

USS STODDARD SHIP'S STORE-ORDER FORM

TO: Steve & Renee Romack
 3215 Kestrel Court
 Martinsville, IN 46151

Phone: 317-750-4189 Email: chief3r@gmail.com

Item	Size	Price	Qty.	TOTAL
Golf Shirt - navy	L	\$28		
Golf Shirt - navy	XL	\$29		
Golf Shirt - navy	XXL	\$30		
Golf Shirt - navy	XXXXL	\$30		
Golf Shirt - white	L	\$28		
Golf Shirt - white	XL	\$29		
Golf Shirt - white	XXL	\$30		
Golf Shirt - white	XXXXL	\$30		
Sweatshirt - navy	L	\$27		
Sweatshirt - navy	XL	\$28		
Sweatshirt - navy	XXL	\$29		
Sweatshirt - navy	XXXXL	\$29		
Sweatshirt - cream	L	\$27		
Sweatshirt - cream	XL	\$28		
Sweatshirt - cream	XXL	\$29		
Sweatshirt - cream	XXXXL	\$29		
Jacket - navy (LT.WT.)	L	\$43		
Jacket - navy (LT.WT.)	XL	\$43		
Jacket - navy (LT.WT.)	XXL	\$45		
Stoddard Ball Hat -navy		\$13		
Stoddard Ball Hat (mesh)-navy		\$13		
Stoddard Coffee Mug		\$ 6		
Subtotal				\$ 10.00
Shipping				
Stoddard Pic. 8 X 10 (Side View)		\$6		
Stoddard Pic. 8 X 10 (Rear View)		\$6		
Stoddard Pic. 11X17 (Color)		\$8		
Stoddard License Plate		\$20		
Stoddard Sinking DVD		\$8		
4" Stoddard Patch		\$5		
3 1/2 x 4 Steam Demon Patch		\$10		
Stoddard Alumni Pin		\$5		
*TOTAL ORDER \$				

SORRY NO CREDIT CARDS

***Checks only payable to: USS Stoddard Alumni Association**

Ship to: NAME _____
 STREET _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____