

Website:www.ussstoddard.org**Date:**

January 15, 2006

USS STODDARD ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

**USS Alabama - Mobile Bay****Inside this issue:**

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**Admiral Semmes Hotel
(Radisson) - Mobile, AL.**

USS STODDARD DD566
WWII * Korea * Vietnam

18th Reunion - Mobile, Alabama (Oct. 11th-14th) - 2006*from presidents,***Al Plapp and John Rauh...****Al Plapp**

Al and Kathy Plapp and John and Carlene Rauh will be the hosts for the 18th Annual Stoddard Reunion.

**John Rauh**

Enjoy the Southern charm of beautiful Mobile Bay on the Gulf Coast—**October 11th-14th**. Mobile has many unique attractions. The host hotel will be the Admiral Semmes Hotel (Radisson) in downtown Mobile. The Stoddard crew will tour Mobile, the Cathedral, Historic Fort Conde, Bellingrath Gardens, and the USS Alabama Battleship. There will be a luncheon cruise aboard the Southern Belle on the Fowl River and a visit to Pensacola Naval Air Base and Museum. "Cubi Point Officers' Club" has been moved from the Philippines to the Air Museum and the Blue Angels are based at the air base in Pensacola.

The Stoddard memorial service will be on the USS Alabama. Reservations at the Admiral Semmes Hotel will be made directly with the hotel. The address is 251 Government Street, Mobile, AL 36602. The phone number is

251 432-8000. Make certain you mention the USS Stoddard Reunion. Rooms are \$89 per night and suites are available for families. Parking is free and breakfast is included.

Look for Reunion Registration in the March Newsletter.

NEWSLETTER NOTICE

Please note that you are receiving a dues envelope with this year's January newsletter. The dues for 2006 are now due.

If you have been paying your dues with your reunion registration, it was for the reunion year. Dues will not be include with the registration this year. In the past many who did not attend the reunion did not know when the dues were due. We hope this will eliminate some of the confusion. We know some members are paid in advance.

Also, if your dues are paid for 2006 or further ahead, your mailing address label should indicate the year. If it does not, please let us know. The dues envelope can be returned also to request to be taken off our mailing list.

Because of the increase cost to mail the newsletter, we will be unable to continuing mailing the newsletter if dues are not paid. However, the newsletter and other information can be accessed from our website: www.ussstoddard.org.



Thank you Dave and Susan for hosting a great Stoddard Reunion.

The Stoddard Crew



San Francisco



Sebastian Winery Tour



*from email coordinator,
bob hoag...*

I request that anyone with email updates, please let me know sooner rather than later. I continue to have problems with emails bouncing back either because the email address has changed or some "spam blockers" are set to block our email.

When your email is sent

2005 Reunion Highlights

Dear Friends,

The Sacramento Reunion is now history and left us with many good memories.

From San Francisco's Fisherman's Wharf and the tour of the SS Jeremiah O'Brien – to the Napa wine country and gold panning at Sutter's Mill everyone had a great time.

The group had the opportunity to tour the Capitol in Sacramento and visit the California Viet Nam Memorial.

The dinner-dance at the Towe Auto Museum was a perfect end to our reunion.

This year we welcomed several new attendees.

We enjoyed having you as our guests in Sacramento. See you in Mobile.

Dave and Susan Pietz



Gold Panning-Sutter's Mill

back I have no choice but to delete it from the database, until you send us a change of address.

If you do not wish to receive email from us, please let me know and I will remove your email address from the list.



*from secretary,
carlene rauh ...*

Annual Business Meeting 2005

17th Annual Stoddard Alumni Meeting—Sacramento, CA

The Stoddard Presidency passed from Dave Pietz to the new co-presidents, Al Plapp and John Rauh, who announced plans for the 18th Reunion in Mobile, Alabama.

Fred Grimm has taken on the duties of Treasurer from Jay Romike, and Carlene Rauh will serve as Secretary.

Byron Goodwin will remain as Chaplin and announced Sheila Bennage has offered to help him. Dan and Roxane Withers will continue maintaining our web site and the data base and Bob Hoag will continue managing our member email services.

Dave Pietz volunteered to maintain the ship's store.

Many of the duties handled by the retiring secretary, Marilyn Harpster, have been divided among the new officers.

It was discussed and unanimously decided to send gifts of appreciation to Marilyn Harpster and Jay Romike for their many years of service to the association.

continued on page three

Annual Meeting Minutes con't from page two

**ALUMNI
DUES
ENVELOPE
ENCLOSED
FOR 2006**

Al Plapp and John Rauh gave an update on the 2006 Mobile Reunion. Details will be in the January Newsletter. There was discussion and suggestions to hold the 2007 Reunion in Buffalo.

Dues will remain at \$10 per year. This year a dues envelope will be sent to members with their January Newsletter. This will separate the dues from the reunion fees later in the year. All members will be notified in the January Newsletter

that unless dues are paid, the newsletter will not be mailed to them because of the costs. However, it will be available on the web site.

There was discussion concerning the annual donation to a Navy related program. After several suggestions, it was unanimously agreed that the amount of the donation would be \$500 and it was the consensus of the group that the donation should be made to an organization involved with the annual reunion. Upon motion made by Dan Withers, seconded, and unanimously approved by the membership, the USS Stoddard Alumni Association will donate the sum of \$500 to the SS Jeremiah O'Brien Foundation.

I received the following letter from an alumni member attending his first Stoddard Reunion in Sacramento.

Dear Carlene,

Here are my thoughts you asked for on the past reunion it was a definite plus!

Ship's reunions—there are nothing like them. I had a twenty-year Navy career with Amphibs, Destroyers, Aviation, Submarines, In-country Vietnam, and Recruiting Duty. Of them all, the four years I spend on destroyers (USS Buck DD761, USS Lofberg DD759, USS Stoddard DD566, and USS Orleck DD886, were some of my most memorable. I have attended a couple of submarine reunions but the 17th reunion of the USS Stoddard was my 1st destroyer reunion. I guarantee it will not be my last. There is something deeply satisfying in renewing old friendships with shipmates and making new friends with those who served before and after. Listening to stories of those who served onboard before you and relating stories to those who served after you is a richly rewarding experience. If one has the opportunity to attend a reunion, be it their 1st or their 18th, please do so. There is an affirmation that settles into ones spirit after a reunion that you not only served your country with pride, but you served it with one of the best bunch of sailors in the Navy—Destroyer Sailors. God Bless each and every one! Hopefully we will see you at the next reunion in Mobile.

Sincerely,

Howard Pommerening

USS Stoddard DD566—
YN3, 58-59

YNC(SS), USN—Retired



**2006
REUNION
MOBILE, AL
OCTOBER
11TH-14TH**



Ship's Store

dave pietz, storekeeper...



**Stoddard Ball Cap w/Ship Silhouette and
USS Stoddard DD-566— \$13.00**

Stoddard Alumni Patch- \$4.00

Stoddard Coffee Mugs—\$6.00



Golf Shirts and Sweatshirts

White or Navy

Golf Shirts (Sizes: M, L, & XL) - \$25.00 (Size XXL) — \$27.00

Sweatshirts (Sizes: S,M,L) - \$20.00 — (Size XXL) - \$25.00

Jackets—Navy (Sizes: S,M,L) - \$45.00 - (Size XXL) - \$47.00

"NOTICE"
FOR SHIP'S STORE ORDERS

Please remember in addition to the price,
there is a \$6 shipping fee.

**Make checks payable to: USS Stoddard Alumni
Association**

Send orders to:

David Pietz

7133 Lily Way

Brownsvalley, CA 95918

Email: dpietz@infostations.com

WELCOME ABOARD!

Babson, Sanford G.	63 Ensign
Barlow, Walter	59 SK3
Bjork, Ronald L.	64-68 SK3
Blankenship, Arden	52-53 BM2
Bozich, Francis E.	63 SM1
Bunnell, Barton	44-45 PO SN1
Daly, Martin H.	65-67 FT3
Deetjen, Donald G.	65-68 QM2
Delich, Warren L.	60-61 SN
Dietzler, Andrew John (Jack)	63-66 LTJG
Fetterhoff, John W. (Jack)	51-53 SN
Finocchio, Mario F.	59 J03
Groesbeck, Robert L.	66-67 SFM2
Guk, Leonard G.	53-57 RM2
Hancock, Rex	62-63 MM2
Hayden, Oscar	65-67 BT1
Hennessy, Fred J.	51-53 SN
Irelan, Charles	51-53 FN2
Iritano, Salvatore (Sam)	51-53 FN2
Jaap, Fred	63 LCDR
Johnson, Cortland	57-61 S03
Kulawiak, Edwin J.	50-51 MML2
Lind, Franklin	59-63 BT3
Mallett, Ronald J.	52-53 SN
Merryfield, Elgie R.	51-53 MM2
McCollum, Harold	57-59 LTJG
McElhannon, Dixon K.	63 MM2
Rubin, Julius	67-68 SN
Slusher, Don	63 QM3
Spencer, Wilbur	54-55 GM3
Strunk, Jesse W.	44-45 PO RD2
Sultenfuss, Robert S.	65-66 RM3
Summer, Stan	54-56 SK1
Wiedergott, William (Fritz)	52-54 BT2
Williford, Jamie D.	61-63 RM3

Alumni at Sacramento Reunion

Altherr, Clem and Corrine
 Bailey, Frank and Mary Lou
 Balzer, Glen and Doris
 Bennage, Henry and Sheila
 Brant, Tom and Marlene
 Butler, Robert and Pat
 Byassee, Gerald and Karen
 Campbell, Phil and Susan
 Crenshaw, Fred and Elizabeth
 Davis, Robert and son, Bill Davis, Jr.
 Davis, Thomas and Joyce
 Donovan, Timothy and Maureen
 Downs, Eugene
 Elkins, Royce
 Fix, Robert and Sharon, and

Daughter, Mary

Frye, Ralph
 Goodwin, Byron and Linda
 Grimm, Fred and Lynn
 Harris, Charles and Barbara
 Heath, Victor and Bonnie
 Hummel, Donald and Shirley
 Hurst, Bill and Chris, and
 Daughter, Cheri

Lee, Gary and Joyce
 Liske, Paul and Diane
 Markey, John
 McElroy, Raymond and Scotty
 Morrell, Charles and Cindy
 Morris, Anthony and Maria
 Mosely, Frank and Diane
 Nemec, LeRoy and Marjorie
 Paullus, Art



Petren, Stephen and Janet
 Pietz, David and Sue
 Plapp, Al and Kathy
 Pommerening, Howard and Patsy
 Puckett, Troy and Barbara
 Quaschnick, David and Gail
 Rauh, John and Carlene
 Rhinehart, Donald and Barbara
 Riggs, Rick and Susan
 Robinson, Neil and Charlene
 Roemke, Dee and sisters, Carmel & Brenda
 Sanger, William and Grayce
 Shea, Irving
 St. Clair, Dave and Sandy
 Stoye, John and Phyllis
 Trotter, Jewel, and son, Dave
 Wilder, James
 Withers, Dan and Roxane
 Wooden Robert and Ruperta

from chaplain, byron goodwin...



TAPS:

1974

Barkyoumb, Lynn E. 57-59 ET3

1980

Ing, Joe 58-60 BTC

1986

Posen, Jerome 43-45

1993

Wurmser, Sol 44-45

1998

Meadows, James W. 98 RM3

Salmon, Peter 58-61 SOG2

Schwabeland, Warren 60-61 SF3

2001

Pezzullo, Giacomo 52-53 IC3

Sleeper, S. J. 58-61 Capt.

2002

Balthazar, G. R. 58-59 SN

2004

Persyn, John '61 MC

2005

Acord, Delbert

Ausland, Aaron 65-66 CS3

Carr, Sam 68-69 XO

Gossman, Frank 59-63 GMC

Kerchner, Craig 59-62 QM3

Kovacs, Charles 60-61 RM1

Lee, Joe 62-63 LtJG

Pettit, Alvin 63-64 GM3

Slinker, Gary 64-66

Rizzolo, Danny 44-45 Y1

Danny served as the Stoddard Alumni Chaplain for many years. Thank you Danny, and God's speed.

They Are Veterans



He is the cop on the beat who spent six months in Saudi Arabia sweating two gallons a day making sure the armored personnel carrier didn't run out of fuel.

He is the barroom loudmouth whose behavior is outweighed in the cosmic scales by four hours of unparalleled bravery near the 38th Parallel in Korea.

She is the nurse who fought against futility in Da Nang and went to sleep sobbing every night for two sold years.

He is the POW who left one person and come back another.

He is the drill instructor who has never been in combat, but has saved countless lives by turning no-accounts into Marines.

He is the parade-riding legionnaire who pins on his ribbons and medals with a prosthetic hand.

He is the white-haired guy bagging groceries at the supermarket aggravatingly slow, who helped liberate a Nazi death camp.

A vet is an ordinary and extraordinary human being—someone who offered his life's vital years in the service of his country.

He is a soldier and a savior and a sword against the darkness, and nothing more than the finest, greatest testimony on behalf of the finest, greatest nation ever know. We will never be able to repay the debt of gratitude we owe.

-Author Unknown-

USS STODDARD DD566
*WWII * Korea * Vietnam*

Co-Presidents: Al Plapp
 email: aplapp@ims-1.com
 John Rauh
 email: cjrauh@lidd.net

Secretary: Carlene Rauh
 email: cjrauh@lidd.net

Treasurer: Fred Grimm
 email: grimmfred_@hotmail.com

Storekeeper: David Pietz
 email: dpietz@infostations.com

Chaplain: Byron Goodwin
 email: gbugsy@sboglobal.net

Webmasters: Dan & Roxane Withers
 email: withers@direcway.com

Email coordinator: Bob Hoag
 email: rwh@donobi.net

Newsletter Editor: Carlene Rauh
 email: cjrauh@lidd.net

*from webmasters, dan and
 roxane...*



Please remember to notify us if your email address or postal address has changed.

Without current email addresses and postal addresses, we are unable to keep in touch with you.

Bob Hoag continues to have good addresses bounce back because your "spam blocker" keeps our mail out. You will need to allow our email to be delivered.

treasurer, fred grimm...



Account Balance 1-1-05..... \$13,225.92

Income:

Dues	\$ 1,740.00	
Donations	\$ 135.00	
Raffle	\$ 470.00	
Ship Store	\$ 1,770.50	
Reunion	\$17,330.00	
Misc. Income	\$ 919.00	
Total Income:	\$22,364.50	\$22,364.50

Expenses:

Reunion Refunds	\$ 1,380.00	
Newsletter Expense	\$ 2,977.03	
Reunion Expenses	\$17,111.48	
Administrative Work	\$ 272.00	
Donation	\$ 500.00	
Bank Charges	\$ 13.52	
Total Expenses:	\$22,254.03	\$22,254.03

BALANCE..... \$13,336.39

We are enclosing the 2006 dues envelope with this newsletter. In the past it has been confusing as to when the dues were due. Therefore, this year the dues will be collected in January and February, and not with the annual reunion registration.

Also, with the rise in postage and other costs, we will be unable to mail the newsletter to everyone unless their dues are paid. We are mailing to everyone in January so that you have the opportunity to let us know if you wish to remain on our active alumni list.