

Website:

[www.ussstoddard.org](http://www.ussstoddard.org)

Date:

January 31, 2016



# USS STODDARD ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

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

**28th Reunion—Portland, Maine**  
**October 12th – October 15th - 2016**



**Clarion Hotel**  
**1230 Congress St.**  
**Portland, ME 04102**

[www.clarionhotel.com](http://www.clarionhotel.com)

Group Rate: \$119.00  
with breakfast

Phone: 844-212-9178



**Hosts:**

**David & Sandy St. Clair**

email: [david.stclair566@gmail.com](mailto:david.stclair566@gmail.com)

## WELCOME TO PORTLAND, MAINE



Portland is the largest city in the State of Maine and is the county seat of Cumberland County. In 2013, the city proper had a population of 66,318. The Greater Portland metropolitan area is home to over half a million people, more than one-third of Maine's population.

Walk down the sidewalks and cobblestone streets of the revitalized **Old Port District**, where you can browse through bookstores, explore craft shops and eat to your heart's content. Visit the Portland Head Light, which dates back to 1791, and is the oldest lighthouse still in continuous use in the U.S.



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# Join Us For The 28th USS Stoddard Reunion

## Freeport, Maine

The town of Freeport Maine is best known for outlet stores and LL Bean. It was voted the "Best Weekend of Shopping in New England" by Yankee Magazine Readers for the second year in a row. Be-



yond being a shopper's paradise, the town of Freeport is also known as The Birthplace of Maine. Colonists used to gather for meetings at Jameson Tavern. Many historical buildings are still standing in Freeport thanks to the local historical society, including many original homes, schools and churches.

In addition there will be a tour of **Maine Maritime Museum** and a cruise past the historic **Bath Iron Works Shipyard**, which has built vessels since 1884. The Bath Iron Works built Fletcher Class destroyers during WWII. The Fletcher class destroyers were one of the shipbuilding success stories of WWII, bringing together endurance, speed and firepower. Several BIW-built ships served with particular distinction in the Pacific. The USS Nicholas DD-449 was the most decorated ship in history. Between February 1942 and November 1943 BIW launched no fewer than 32 Fletcher Class ships. Most of us remember the USS Braine DD-630, USS Cogswell DD-651 and USS Ingersoll DD-652 all were built by Bath Iron Works. The Bath Iron Works is now working on the Zumwalt and Arleigh Burke Class Destroyers.



The USS Zumwalt DDG-1000 was christen recently and it is possible we might see her or her sister ship the new DDG-1001 on our cruise by the shipbuilding plant.



## Kennebunkport, Maine

The town center, the area in and around Dock Square, is located along the Kennebunk River. Historically a shipbuilding and fishing village, for well over a century the town has been a popular summer colony and seaside tourist destination. The Dock Square area has a district of souvenir shops, art galleries, seafood restaurants, and bed and breakfasts.

Our hosts arranged for a Lobster bake with entertainment at Fosters, stop at Nubble Light-house, and time in Old Port.

## Portland Harbor

The USS Stoddard memorial service will be on our narrated cruise of Casco Bay.



# Highlights of Albuquerque Reunion



***Thanks to John Gerten, Bill Melyan and Vicky Tristan for all the great reunion pictures!***

# Albuquerque Reunion List of Attendees

Clem	Altherr	MM2	52-55
Eric	Soriano		
Debbie	Soriano		
Mike	Altherr		
Michelle	Altherr		
Herby	Anaya	MM2	64-67
Debbie	Bailey		
Susan	Garcia		
Jane	Acosta		
DJ	Sider		
John	Ochoa		
Julian	Romero		
Tina	Anaya		
Andy	Apodaca		
Sammy	Anaya		
Loretta	Anaya		
Mercy	Renteria		
Martin	Benitez	SK2	65-67
Delia	Martinez		
Henry	Bennage	YNSN	50-54
Shelia	Bennage		
Rod	Bergeron	MM3	63-66
Linda	Bergeron		
Cecil	Berlin	BMSN	52-54
Marilyn Lee	Berlin		
Marlene	Brant		
Chris	Bolen		
Castulo	Camarillo		
Marilou	Camarillo		
Clint	Coneway	LTJG/CPT	66-69
Greta	Coneway		
Phil	Opedahl		
Karen	Opedahl		
Tom	Davis	MM3/C	44-46
Mark	Davis		
Valerie	Davis		
David	Davis		
Millie	Derrington		
Howard	Dobbins	IC3	66-69
Delia "Gricel"	Dobbins		
Robert	Fix	SN	66-67
Sharon	Fix		
John	Gerten	TM3/TMC	66-67
Zeke	Giesecke	STG3	66-69
Cathy	Podratz		
Byron	Goodwin	RD2	59-62
Linda	Goodwin		
Michael	Green	BMSN	69-70
Daisy	Green		
John	Halicks		
Pat	Halicks		
Loid	Hawkins	SN	54-56
Sandra	Hawkins		
Cathy	LaGoe		



Oscar	Hayden	BT1	66-68
Victor	Heath	RD3	61-62
Bonnie	Heath		
Robert	Hopfauf	SN	66-67
Josie	Hopfauf		
Alice	Hopfauf		
Don	Hummel	EMFN	51-52
Shirley	Hummel		
Carl	Jones	MRFN	64-68
Arvilla	Jones		
Elton	Jorschumb	BTFN	68-69
Lori	Jorschumb		
Paul	Kranwtschekno	MM2	64-67
John	Laible	LTJG/CPT	66-69
Cricket	Laible		
James	Lupo	SMSN	57-57
Penny	Lupo		
Bill	Melyan	DC3	66-67
Ulla	Melyan		
Stephen	Merrill	ET2	65-67
Betty	Merrill		
Ray	Merrill	MM2/LCDR	63-66
Dane	Owens	MM3	67-68
Gail	Owens		
Richard	Pederson	SN	55-57
Helen	Pederson		
Ernesto	Perez	STG2	66-68
Dolores	Tijerina		
Delbert	Ping	USAF/SSGT	63-72
Sharon	Ping		
Al	Plapp	MME3	65-66
Kathy	Plapp		
John	Rauh	SK3	67-68
Carlene	Rauh		
Rick	Riggs	FTG2	64-68
Susan	Riggs		
Steven	Romack	Army	
Renee	Romack	Army	
Grayce	Sanger		
David	St.Clair	BMSN	65-69
Sandra	St.Clair		
Garry	Stone	BT3	62-66
Marilyn	Stone		
Paula	Stone		
Diego	Tristan	SF2	64-69
Vicky	Tristan		
Don	Weaver	BT2	67-69
Walter	Westphal	RM2	62-63
Ethel	Westphal		
Dan	Withers	ETN3	65-66
Roxane	Withers		
Robert	Wooden	BM3	51-54
Stella	Wooden		



## Subject: AGENT ORANGE

### *Letter from Frank Kasmarski (MM3 1964-1968) to the Veterans Administration*

I request that the USS Stoddard DD566 be put on the 211 AOSHIPLIST. The attached ships logs clearly indicate that the ship was in Saigon River & the Mekong Delta. I have submitted these logs over 2 years ago and to date have not been added to the list. Per Training Letter 10-06 Department of Veterans Affairs it clearly states that "anchoring in one of these locations is not the same as anchored in an open water port; these are inland water ways. When deck logs refer to anchoring in the "mouth" of one of these locations, or any other indentifiable river location, C&P Service has determined that this is sufficient to establish service on the inland water ways".

Your immediate attention to this matter will be greatly appreciated.

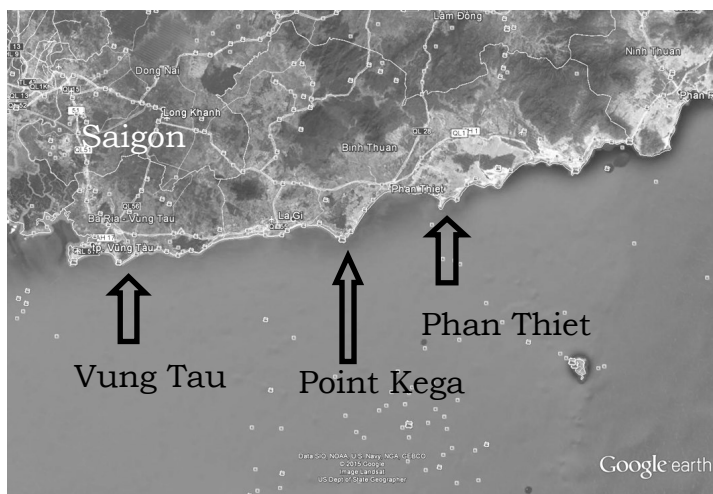
Frank Kasmarski

### *Response from Veterans Administration Mr. Kasmarski,*

*Very sorry for the delayed response. Thanks for the deck log information on the Saigon River. I am adding the ship as shown below. However, my research on Point Kega shows that it is not inland but rather is a coastal point halfway between Vung Tau and Phan Thiet.*

**USS Stoddard (DD-566) operated on Saigon River during September 1965.**

**USS Stoddard Deck Logs submitted to VA also show Stoddard anchored in Saigon River – Sept.3rd 1965.** As of the date of this January 2016 newsletter the USS Stoddard has not been added to the 211 AOSHIPLIST. As soon as we receive word we will let the USS Stoddard Alumni know in the our newsletter. Location of Point Kega shown below.



## THANK YOU BOB

**The USS Stoddard Alumni Association extends our appreciation to Bob Hoag for his years of service to the association as our email coordinator!**

**Thanks Bob—happy sailing,**

**THE CREW**

## 2015 Albuquerque Reunion

### THANK YOU FOR A GREAT REUNION!



**Our Hosts: Herby, Debbie, Susan, Merci**

### Supplement to Alumni Directory 2013

(Please make the changes to your 2013 Directory)

<b>Casey, Paul F.</b>	Deceased	9-19-2014
<b>Dishman, Gary</b>	Deceased	5-28-2015
<b>Duncan, Pat</b>	Deceased	7-13-2015
<b>Korst, Leroy</b>	Deceased	8-5-2015
<b>Morrell, Charles</b>	Deceased	7-25-2015
<b>St. Clair, David</b>	New Email	david.stclair566@gmail.com
<b>Watson, Walter</b>	Deceased	10-9-2015

### New Item in Ship's Store

USS Stoddard license plate

\$20 including shipping

Order blank on back page of newsletter



*carlene rauh,**secretary...*

**USS Stoddard Alumni Association  
27<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting – 2015  
Albuquerque, NM  
September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

President, Art Anaya opened the meeting.

Secretary, Carlene Rauh read the minutes of the 26th Annual Meeting at Branson, MO. Upon motion made by John Laible, seconded by Bill Melyan, the minutes were approved.

Bill Maylan submitted the treasurer's report. Beginning balance (1-1-15) was \$23,977.10, with income of \$18,778.00, for a total of \$42,755.10. Expenses to date of \$16,523.48, with an ending balance as of August 26, 2015, of \$26,231.62, with outstanding reunion bills. The 2015 annual accounting will be published in the January 2016 Newsletter. Upon motion made by John Rauh, seconded by Al Plapp, the treasurer's report was approved.

Dan Withers gave an update of his research of Agent Orange stating that the Stoddard has not been designated as being in "brown water."

Dan reported that the alumni donation from last year helped purchase an air compressor the 1983 cutter restoration.

Al Plapp reported on his trip to Vietnam last year and stated he will be going again this year with a group of veterans who served in Vietnam.

Marlene Brant asked members to let her know if there were anything they would like in the ship's store.

Carlene Rauh reported this year there were several members who had last minute cancellations because of illness or family illness. After discussion, Zeke Giesecke made a motion to refund the registration fees to the members and waive donations this year. Martin Benitez seconded the motion and the members unanimously approved the motion.

**In addition, it was suggested that if members wish to attend the reunion that they reserve their hotel room as soon as they know, and send their registration as soon as possible. This would avoid not having enough rooms and makes it easier for the host to finalize reunion**

**the various tours, etc. Hotel reservations can be cancelled without charge if your plans change at the last minute.**

Bob Hoag has asked to have someone take over as email coordinator.

The following slate of officers was unanimously elected for 2016 upon motion of John Laible, seconded by Dane Owens.

President, Dave St. Clair

Secretary, Carlene Rauh

Treasurer, Bill Melyan

Email coordinator, John Rauh

Chaplin, Al Plapp

Storekeeper, Marlene Brant

Webmasters, Dan and Roxane Withers

Dave and Sandy St.Clair reported on their plans for next year's reunion in Portland, Maine. The hotel will be the Clarion in Portland with breakfast for \$119.00 per day. The hotel will honor the prices 2 days prior and two day following the reunion. The dates of the reunion will be October 12 – 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

Upon motion made of Diego Tristan, seconded by Bill Melyan, the meeting adjourned to the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Portland, Maine 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

*Carlene Rauh*

Secretary

*john rauh,**email/database**Coordinator...*

Please make sure you send me any email address changes. Every time I send out an email I get several returned. If you haven't gotten an email from me lately then we don't have your email in our database. Also please let me know if you find that any of our shipmates have passed away so that I can let all the Alumni know.

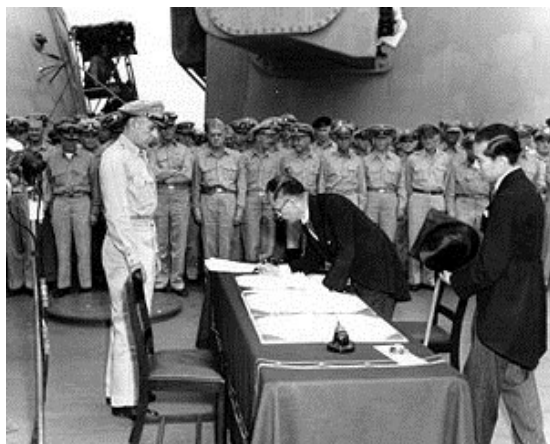
**Email me at: [cjrauh@LDD.net](mailto:cjrauh@LDD.net)**

*John*

# Stoddard History—September 2, 1945

## Japanese Surrender at Tokyo Bay

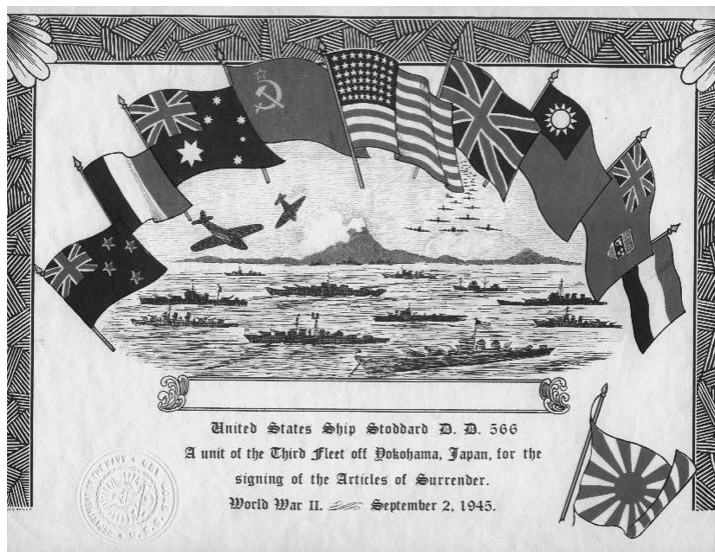
The surrender of the Empire of Japan was announced by Imperial Japan on August 15 and formally signed on September 2, 1945, bringing the hostilities of World War II to a close. By the end of July 1945, the Imperial Japanese Navy was incapable of conducting major operations and an Allied invasion of Japan was imminent. Together with the United Kingdom and China, the United States called for the unconditional surrender of the Japanese armed forces in the Potsdam Declaration on July 26, 1945—the alternative being "prompt and utter destruction". While publicly stating their intent to fight on to the bitter end, Japan's leaders (the Supreme Council for the Direction of the War, also known as the "Big Six") were privately making entreaties to the still-neutral Soviet Union to mediate peace on terms more favorable to the Japanese. Meanwhile, the Soviets were preparing to attack Japanese forces in Manchuria and Korea (in addition to southern Sakhalin and the Kurile Islands) in fulfillment of promises they had secretly made to the United States and the United Kingdom at the Tehran and Yalta Conferences.



The surrender ceremony was held on September 2, aboard the United States Navy battleship *USS Missouri* (BB-63), at which officials from the Japanese government signed the Japanese Instrument of Surrender, thereby ending the hostilities. Allied civilians and military personnel alike celebrated V-J Day, the end of the war; however, some isolated soldiers and personnel from Imperial Japan's far-flung forces throughout Asia and the Pacific islands refused to surrender for months and years afterwards, some even refusing into the 1970s. The role of the atomic bombings in Japan's surrender, and the ethics of the two attacks, is still debated. The state of war formally ended when the Treaty of San Francisco came into force on April 28, 1952. Four more years passed before Japan and the Soviet Union signed the Soviet–Japanese Joint Declaration of 1956, which formally brought an end to their state of war.

***USS Stoddard*** was there during the signing and received the certificate below:

**United States Ship Stoddard D.D. 566**  
**A unit of the Third Fleet off Yokohama, Japan, for the**  
**signing of the Articles of Surrender.**  
**WWII. September 2, 1945**





*bill melyan,**treasurer...*

**USS Stoddard Alumni Association Financial Statement  
January 1, 2015 - December 31, 2015**

**Beginning Balance 1-1-2015** **\$23,977.10**

**INCOME – 2015**

Membership Dues	\$ 2,025.00
Donations/Bar/Raffle	\$ 1,794.00
Ship's Store	\$ 1,229.00
Reunion Registration	\$16,290.00
Refunds (tours)	<u>\$ 447.30</u>

<b>Total Income</b>		<b>+ \$21,785.30</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$45,762.40</u></b>

**EXPENSES – 2015**

Newsletter Costs / New Directory	\$ 1,623.20
Adm.expenses (Supplies, postage, etc.)	\$ 287.55
Ship's Store – Merchandise	\$ 1,125.36
Ship's Store – Postage	\$ 157.54
2015 Reunion expenses	\$ 14,745.64
2015 Reunion Refunds	\$ 1,900.00
2016 Reunion -Hotel Deposit	<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>

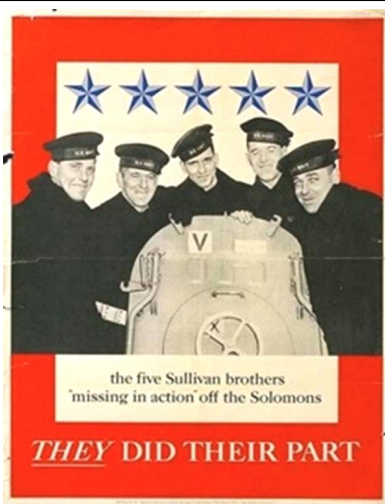
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b><u>-\$ 20,839.29</u></b>
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<b><u>Ending Balance as of: 12/31/15</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 24,923.11</u></b>
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Respectfully submitted,

**William Melyan**  
Treasurer

**WWII  
POSTERS**





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



**President: Dave St. Clair**  
**email: david.stclair566@gmail.com**

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

**Treasurer: Bill Melyan**  
**email: keystonewillie@verizon.net**

**Storekeeper: Marlene Brant**  
**email: tmbrant@sbcglobal.net**

**Chaplain: Al Plapp**  
**email: aplapp@ims-1.com**

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

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



At the Albuquerque Reunion Carl & Arvilla donated a beautiful USS Stoddard Blanket. Some asked about purchasing one. The size of the blanket is 51x60 in.

The cost of the blanket is \$30 including shipping.

If you are interested contact:

Carl & Arvilla Jones  
 Phone: 616-527-4984



*al plapp,*

*chaplain...*

Wishing all a healthy 2016. Praying for Peace through out the world. Praying for wisdom and understanding by all leaders of all countries on this planet to achieve peace. Blessings to all.

*Al*

### *May They Rest In Peace*

Casey, Paul F.	SH2	51-55	9-19-2014
Dishman, Gary	SM3	60-61	5-28-2015
Duncan, Pat	QM2/1	44-45	7-13-2015
Korst, Leroy	RM3	54-56	8-5-2015
Morrell, Charles	SN	65-69	7-25-2015
Watson, Walter	SH3	65-67	10/9/2015



*dan & roxane withers,*

*webmasters...*

We now have **four** USS Stoddard Cruise Books on the Stoddard Web Site.  
 Cruise Books for:

**1963-1964 1965-1966 1966-1967 1968**

Go to: **[www.ussstoddard.org](http://www.ussstoddard.org)** web site click on the **"History"** heading which will take you to the "History" page. Under the **"Cruise Books Online"** click on the cruise book you would like. When you click it will download a .pdf file you can read or print out.

***If anyone has a Cruise Book we can scan and copy please let us know so that we can get them added to our web site for all your old ship-mates.***

**Contact:**

***Dan or John Rauh our emails are listed.***

*Dan & Roxane*

# USS STODDARD SHIP'S STORE-ORDER FORM

**TO:** Marlene Brant  
508 S. Maish Road  
Frankfort, IN 46041

Phone: 765-659-3605 Email: [tmbrant@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tmbrant@sbcglobal.net)

Item	Size	Price	Qty.	TOTAL
Golf Shirt – navy	M	\$23		
Golf Shirt – navy	L	\$23		
Golf Shirt – navy	XL	\$24		
Golf Shirt – navy	XXL	\$26		
Golf Shirt – navy	XXXL	\$27		
Golf Shirt – white	M	\$23		
Golf Shirt – white	L	\$23		
Golf Shirt – white	XL	\$24		
Golf Shirt – white	XXL	\$26		
Golf Shirt – white	XXXL	\$27		
Sweatshirt – navy	L	\$21		
Sweatshirt – navy	XL	\$21		
Sweatshirt – navy	XXL	\$23		
Sweatshirt – navy	XXXL	\$26		
Sweatshirt – cream	L	\$21		
Sweatshirt – cream	XL	\$21		
Sweatshirt – cream	XXL	\$23		
Sweatshirt – cream	XXXL	\$26		
Jacket – navy (LT.WT.)	XL	\$58		
Jacket – navy (LT.WT.)	XXXL	\$65		
Stoddard Ball Hat –navy		\$13		
Stoddard Ball Hat (mesh)-navy		\$13		
Stoddard Coffee Mug		\$ 6		
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>\$</b>
<b>(Below Items Shipping Included)</b>			<b>Shipping</b>	<b>\$ 8.00</b>
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		
HistoryChan.DVD(Stoddard In It)		\$25		
4" Stoddard Patch		\$5		
Stoddard Alumni Pin		\$5		
			<b>*TOTAL ORDER \$</b>	

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

**Ship to:** NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_



**USS Stoddard Alumni Association**

**4337 S Hwy 51**

**Perryville, MO 63775**