

Website:

www.ussstoddard.org

Date:

January 31, 2015



USS STODDARD ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

USS STODDARD DD566
WWII * Korea * Vietnam

27th Reunion-Albuquerque, New Mexico
September 2nd- September-5th - 2015



Hotel Albuquerque
800 Rio Grande Blvd.
Albuquerque, NM
87104

Phone: 505-843-6300
www.hotelabq.com

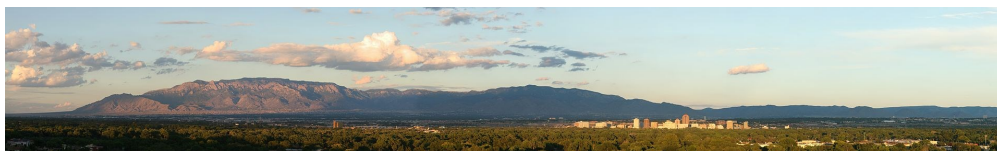
Rates \$99 + tax
Single or Double
Breakfast Included



Our Hosts:

Herby, Debbie,
Susan & Merci

WELCOME TO ALBUQUERQUE



The true Southwest awaits you in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Come immerse yourself in our rich culture and heritage, rooted in centuries of history. Soak in our blue skies and sun that shines 310 days a year-perfect for outdoor activities. Breathe in the high desert air scented with sage and piñon, and you'll understand why Albuquerque, NM is a destination like no other. Whether you want to shop for authentic Native American jewelry, try hot air ballooning, explore living history museums, enjoy Albuquerque events and festivals, sample local cuisines or hit the golf courses and spas, Albuquerque has you covered.

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Old Town Albuquerque Hotel Our Reunion Homeport



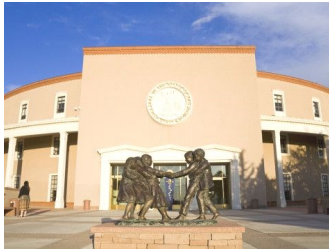
shopping and businesses, and many attractions are within walking distance. The neighborhood is safe and picturesque with a wonderful view of the Sandia Mountains!

In the heart of Old Town, the Hotel Albuquerque offers a unique location amidst historic charms, easily accessible from I-40 and within 15 minutes of Albuquerque International Sunport Airport. Nearby downtown landmarks, restaurants,



Wednesday September 2nd-

We begin the reunion with Registration at the Hotel Albuquerque.

Thursday September 3rd -

State Capital –Santa Fe

Visit Historic Santa Fe, the capital of the state of New Mexico. It is the fourth-largest city in the state and is the seat of Santa Fe County. Santa Fe is the oldest capital city in the United States and the oldest city in New Mexico. Thirteen years before the Pilgrims settled in Plymouth Colony, the Spanish had established a small settlement in Santa Fe, N.M. Santa Fe would soon become the seat of power for the Spanish Empire north of the Rio Grande and the oldest capital city in North America. Santa Fe is the site of both the oldest public building in America, the Palace of the Governors, and the nation's oldest community celebration, the Santa Fe Fiesta, established in 1712 to com-

memorate the Spanish conquest of New Mexico in summer 1692. Conquistador Don Pedro de Peralta and his men laid out the plan for Santa Fe at the base of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains on the site of the ancient Pueblo ruin of Kaupoge, or “place of shell beads near the water.” Santa Fe (meaning “holy faith” in Spanish) had a population of 69,204 in 2012. The city’s full name when founded was *La Villa Real de la Santa Fe de San Francisco de Asís* (“The Royal Town of the Holy Faith of St. Francis of Assisi”). The city of Santa Fe was originally occupied by a number of Pueblo Indian villages with founding dates between 1050 to 1150. One of the earliest known settlements in what today is downtown Santa Fe came sometime after 900. A Native American group built a cluster of homes that centered around the site of today’s Plaza and spread for half a mile to the south and west; the village was called Ogapoge. The Santa Fe River provided water to people living there.

There are many historic buildings, restaurants and museums within walking distance from the plaza.



Palace of Governors—Oldest Public Building in America



We will have our memorial service at the Santa Fe National Cemetery.

**Friday September 4th -**

Acoma Pueblo is a Native American pueblo, the physical and spiritual homeland of the Acoma people, sits atop a sandstone mesa 370 feet above the desert floor. Three villages make up Acoma Pueblo: Sky City (Old Acoma), Acomita, and McCartys. The Acoma Pueblo tribe is a federally recognized tribal entity. The historical land of Acoma Pueblo totaled roughly 5 million acres; now only 10% of this land is in the hands of the community within the Acoma Indian Reservation. According to the 2010 United States Census, 4,989 people identified as Acoma. The Acoma have continuously occupied the area for more than 800 years, making it one of the oldest continuously inhabited communities in the United States. Acoma tribal traditions estimate that they have lived in the village for more than two thousand years.

**Saturday September 5th-**

Two hour tour of Old Town it is comprised of many antique shops, jewelry shops and awesome restaurants. At 3 PM we will have our annual meeting and at 6 PM we will have the raffle and banquet.



Highlights of the Branson Reunion 2014



THANKS TO OUR HOSTS

Al & Kathy

FOR A MEMORABLE

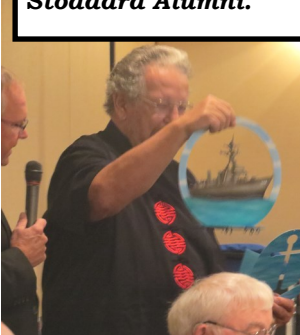
27th REUNION



Thank you Chris for another generous donation to the Stoddard Alumni.



Thanks to John Gerten for his great pictures of the Stoddard Reunion.



| Name | | Rate | Years | Guest |
|------------|------------|--------|-------|--|
| Altherr | Clem | MM2 | 52-56 | Eric & Debbie, daughter & son-in-law |
| Anaya | Herby | MM2 | 64-67 | Debbie |
| Babcock | Bill | FP1 | 51-54 | Dan & daughter, Joann |
| Balzer | Glen | ET3 | 64-66 | Doris |
| Bates | Doug | MM3 | 62-64 | Sharilyn |
| Benitez | Martin | SK2 | 65-67 | Delia |
| Bergeron | Rod | MM3 | 63-66 | Linda |
| Berlin | Cecil | SN | 52-54 | Marilyn Lee |
| Bilderback | Billy | GMG3 | 66-69 | Diane |
| Brant | Marlene | | | Chris ,daughter |
| Butler | James J. | MM3 | 61-64 | Verda |
| Butler | Robert | BT3 | 67-69 | Pat |
| Clay | Joseph E. | IC3 | 56-58 | Jennie |
| Coneway | Clint | LTJG | 66-69 | Greta |
| Davis | Tom | MM3/C | 43-46 | |
| Duncan | Pat | QM 1/C | 44-45 | Penny and daughter, Jan |
| *Feltrope | Cliff | BT3 | 66-69 | Peggy * First Time Attendee |
| Fix | Robert | SN | 66-67 | Sharon & daughter, Breanna |
| Frye | Ralph | SK2 | 51-52 | Jeanna |
| Futch | Ronald | MM3 | 65-66 | Donna |
| Gerten | John | TM3 | 66-67 | |
| Halicks | John | | | Pat |
| Hawkins | Loid | SN | 54-56 | Sandra & daughter, Catherine |
| Heath | Victor | RD3 | 61-62 | Bonnie |
| Holley | Wesley | EMP3 | 52-53 | Lois |
| Hummel | Don | EMFN | 51-52 | Shirley |
| Hurst | Chris | | | Nancy & Cheri, daughters |
| Jones | Carl | MRFN | 64-68 | Arvilla |
| Laible | John | LT | 66-69 | Cricket |
| *Lewis | Bill | SN | 50-52 | Chris, Julie & Jacob * First Time Attendee |
| Lupo | James | SMSN | 57-57 | Penny |
| Mercier | Edward G. | BM3 | 65-68 | |
| Owens | Dane | MM3 | 68-69 | Gail |
| Ping | Delbert J. | SGT/AF | 63-72 | Sharon S. |
| Plapp | Al | MME3 | 65-66 | Kathy |
| Rauh | John | SK3 | 67-68 | Carlene |
| Romack | Steven | | | Renee |
| Sanborn | Jack | GMG3 | 65-68 | |
| Stone | Garry | BT3 | 62-66 | Marilyn |
| Stone | Garry Jr. | | | Paula |
| Tristan | Diego | SF2 | 64-69 | Vicky, Castulo & Mary Lee |
| Williams | Barbara | | | |
| Withers | Dan | ETN3 | 65-66 | Roxane |
| Wooden | Robert A | BM3 | 51-54 | Stella |

2014 — Branson Reunion Attendees

*carlene rauh,**secretary...*

USS Stoddard 26th Annual Meeting Branson, Missouri—September 27, 2014

President, Al Plapp opened the meeting.

Secretary, Carlene Rauh read the minutes of the 25th Annual Meeting at Herndon, VA. Upon motion made by John Rauh, seconded by Glen Blazer, the minutes were approved.

Carlene Rauh submitted the treasurer's report. Beginning balance was \$19,749.09, with income of \$28,340.12, for a total of \$48,089.21. Expenses to date of \$24,863.61, with an ending balance as of September 3, 2014, of \$23,225.60, with outstanding reunion bills. The 2014 annual accounting will be published in the January 2015 Newsletter. Upon motion made by Don Hummel, seconded by Clem Alther, the treasurer's report was approved.

Al Plapp explained that the registration fees include all the miscellaneous fees for the reunion such as tips for vendors, charges involved with the memorial service, and other clerical expenses.

The annual dues were discussed, and it was the consensus of the membership to leave the dues at the current rate of \$10.00 per year.

The following slate of officers was unanimously elected for 2015 upon motion of John Rauh, seconded by Ed Mercier:

President, Art Anaya
Secretary, Carlene Rauh
Treasurer, Bill Melyan
Chaplin, Al Plapp
Storekeeper, Marlene Brant
Webmasters, Dan and Roxane Withers
Email coordinator, Bob Hoag

Art Anaya reported on plan for the 2015 reunion in Albuquerque, NM. The hotel will be the Hotel Albuquerque – room rate with breakfast will be \$99 based on double occupancy - and there will be a hospitality room and bar room in the hotel. He plans a trip to Santa Fe and a trip to the casinos for those interested. The dates of the reunion will be September 2nd – 5th.

Dan Withers reported on the work with Combatant Crafts of America.

Al Plapp spoke on his work the veterans.

Diego Tristan reported on his volunteer efforts with veterans.

Jack Sandborn encourages shipmates to volunteer with efforts of the Tin Can Sailors in their areas.

Al Plapp introduced Barbara Williams attending the reunion in honor of her father, Albert M. Catlin, who served aboard the submarine fleets from 1942-1967.

Dan requested anyone with photos to send them to him for the website.

The following annual donations from the USS Stoddard Alumni were discussed:

Upon motion of Dan Withers, seconded by Diego Tristian, the sum of \$250 was approved for Soldier's Heart.

Upon motion of Don Hummel, seconded by Tom Davis, the sum of \$250 was approved for Tin Can Sailors.

Upon motion of Glen Balzer, seconded by Al Plapp, the sum of \$250 was approved for Combatant Crafts of America.

Upon motion John Rauh, seconded by Bob Fix, the sum of \$250 was approved for The College of the Ozarks Patriotic Education Program.

Annual dues of Historic Ships, Inc. was approved: \$100.00

Upon motion made of Martin Benitez, seconded by Glen Balzer, the meeting adjourned to the 27th Annual Meeting in Albuquerque, NM 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Carlene Rauh, Secretary

*bill melyan,**treasurer...*

USS Stoddard Alumni Association Financial Statement January 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014

Beginning Balance 1-1-2014 **\$19,749.09**

INCOME – 2014

| | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Membership Dues | \$ 2,000.00 | |
| Donations/Bar/Raffle | \$ 2,610.00 | |
| Ship's Store | \$ 1,325.00 | |
| Reunion Registration | <u>\$26,036.12</u> | |
| Total Income | \$31,971.12 | <u>+\$31,971.12</u> |
| | | \$51,720.21 |

EXPENSES – 2014

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Newsletter Costs/New Directory | \$ 1,809.06 | |
| Administrative expenses | | |
| (Supplies, postage, etc.) | \$ 206.27 | |
| Ship's Store – Merchandise | \$ 488.51 | |
| Ship's Store – Postage | \$ 204.71 | |
| 2014 Reunion expenses | \$23,143.14 | |
| Bank Fees | \$ 31.42 | |
| 2014 Reunion Refunds | \$ 760.00 | |
| Donations | \$ 1,000.00 | |
| Annual Dues: His.Naval Ships | <u>\$ 100.00</u> | |
| Total Expenses: | \$ 27,743.11 | <u>- \$27,743.11</u> |

Ending Balance as of: 12/31/14 **\$23,977.10**

Respectfully submitted,

William Melyan, Treasurer



USS Stoddard—Ulithi—May 22, 1945

The reef runs roughly twenty miles north and south by ten miles across enclosing a vast anchorage with an average depth of 80 to 100 feet - the only suitable anchorage within 800 miles. Three dozen little islands rise slightly above the sea, the largest only half a square mile in area.

The U.S. Navy arrived in September 1944 and found resident about 400 natives, and three Japanese soldiers. The natives on the four largest islands were moved to smaller Fassarai, and every inch of these four was quickly put to use. Asor had room for a headquarters: port director, radio station, evaporator (rain is the only freshwater supply), tents, small boat pier, cemetery. Sorlen was set up as a shop for maintaining and repairing the 105 LCVPs and 45 LCMs that became beasts of all work in the absence of small boats. Mogmog was assigned to recreation. The big island, Falalop, was just wide enough for a 3500-foot airstrip for handling the R4Ds (Douglas DC-3s) and R5C Commandos, which would presently fly in from Guam 1269 passengers, 4565 sacks of mail and 262,251 pounds of air freight a week. This took care of a few services - but where were they going to put the naval base?

Enter "the secret weapon," as Admiral Nimitz called Service Squadron Ten. Commodore Worrall R. Carter survived Pearl Harbor to devise the miraculous mobile service force that made it possible for the Navy to move toward Japan in great jumps instead of taking the slow and costly alternative of capturing a whole series of islands on which to build a string of land bases.

Within a month of the occupation of Ulithi, a whole floating base was in operation. Six thousand ship fitters, artificers, welders, carpenters, and electricians arrived aboard repair ships, destroyer tenders, floating dry docks. USS AJAX had an air-conditioned optical shop, a supply of base metals from which she could make any alloy to form any part needed. Many refrigerator and supply ships belonged to three-ship teams: the ship at Ulithi had cleaned out and relieved sister ship No. 2 which was on the way back to a rear base for more supplies while No. 3 was on the way out to relieve No. 1. Over half the ships were not self-propelled but were towed in. They then served as warehouses for a whole system of transports which unloaded stores on them for distribution. This kind of chain went all the way back to the United States. The paper and magazines showed England sinking under the stockpile of troops and material collected for the invasion of Normandy.

The Okinawa landings were not so well documented but they involved more men, ships, and supplies—including 600,000 gallons of fuel oil, 1500 freight cars of ammunition, and enough food to provide every person in Vermont and Wyoming with three meals a day for fifteen days. The smaller ships needed a multitude of services, the ice cream barge made 500 gallons a shift, and the USS ABATAN, which looked like a big tanker, really distilled fresh water and baked bread and pies. Fleet oilers sortied from Ulithi to refuel the combat ships a short distance from the strike areas. They added men, mail, and medical supplies, and began to take orders for spare parts.

When Leyte Gulf was secured, the floating base moved on, and Ulithi which had had a temporary population the size of Dallas and had been the master of half the world for seven months, shrank to little more than a tanker depot. Once again, it became a quiet, lonely atoll.

Don Rhinehart—USS Stoddard S1(FCO) 1945
picked up the Stoddard in Ulithi in May 1945—Stoddard departed the Ulithi Atoll May 29, 1945 to take up station off Okinawa.

Ulithi Atoll

By George Spangler

In March 1945, 15 battleships, 29 carriers, 23 cruisers, 106 destroyers, and a train of oilers and supply ships sailed from "a Pacific base." What was this base? The mightiest force of naval Power ever assembled must have required a tremendous supporting establishment. Ulithi, the biggest and most active naval base in the world was indeed tremendous but it was unknown. Few civilians had heard of it at all. By the time security released the name, the remarkable base of Ulithi was a ghost. The war had moved on to the Japanese homeland, and the press was not printing ancient history about Ulithi.

Ulithi is 360 miles southwest of Guam, 850 miles east of the Philippines, 1300 miles South of Tokyo. It is a typical volcanic atoll with coral, white sand, and palm trees.



USS STODDARD DD566
*WWII * Korea * Vietnam*



President: Herby Anaya
email: jonav@bajabb.com

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

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

The Westpac'er

I belong to a fraternity of men who sailed the seas of the Western Pacific and Asia. Many of us called Yokosuka or Sasebo home. We arose in the aftermath of World War Two drawing upon the legends and traditions of the Asiatic Fleet and the Asiatic Squadron before it. We hold the memories of the Black Ships and the battle of Manila Bay to be sacred. We imagine ourselves to be Modern Day Sand Pebbles and Jake Holman is our hero. We saw the conflicts of the Korean and Vietnam Wars and were there at the tip of the sword ready to deal with whatever came along. When sudden events required it, we responded while the stateside forces took time to prepare. We took to our duties with dedication and commitment priding ourselves on our performance. When the opportunity availed itself, we applied ourselves to enjoying our liberty in ports of call with equal gusto. Pusan, Keelung, Kaoshung, Hong Kong, Olongapo, Pattaya, Singapore were our familiar haunts. Our exploits ashore were legendary and the stuff of epic sea stories to this day. We were sailors but our preferred title is WESTPAC'er.

© John M. Andresen 2014



USS Stoddard DD-566

al plapp,

chaplain...



The Holiday season has past and we hope that you had a joyous meaningful time with family and friends. We hope the meaning of the season is with you everyday.

We wish to thank all who attended the Branson reunion for making it a fun time. We hope you all enjoyed the event. We look forward to seeing you all in Albuquerque for another great time.

Blessings,

Al Plapp

Stoddard '65-66'

May They Rest In Peace

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|------|-----------|
| Beery, John | 1954-1956 | MRFN | 9/7/2013 |
| Merrill, Richard B. | 1955-1958 | | 1/28/2014 |
| Olsen, James R. | 1963-1964 | LTJG | 8/28/2014 |
| O'Neil, Stephen | 1963-1965 | LT | 1/7/2015 |
| Siemer, Donald | 1951-1954 | MM | 6/13/2013 |

****DUES NOTICE****

Please check your mailing label to make certain your dues date is correct. The year of your last dues payment is above your name. Dues envelopes are enclosed for 2015 dues.

2014 ←
John Doe
123 Main Street
Anywhere, USA

If the dues date on your mailing label is 2013, we do not mail the April newsletter. It is available on our website at www.ussstoddard.org.

Supplement to Alumni Directory 2013

(Please make the changes to your 2013 Directory)

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Bauereis, Gary | New address 10684 Mcguire Ave. Klamath Falls, OR 97603 |
| Beery, John | Deceased 9/7/2013 |
| Cunningham, Ralph | New Address & Phone 1269 E Guinevere Ct. #34 Springfield, MO 65804 Phone 417-881-1796 |
| Merrill, Richard B. | Deceased 1/28/2014 (Add Shipmate Richard Merrill to 2013 Directory) |
| Olsen, James R. | Deceased 8/28/2014 (Add Shipmate James Olsen to 2013 Directory) |
| O'Neil, Stephen | Deceased 1/7/2015 |
| Siemer, Donald | Deceased 6/13/2013 |

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

| 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 | | |
| Jacket - navy (H.Wt.) | XL | \$66 | | |
| Stoddard Ball Hat -navy | | \$13 | | |
| Stoddard Ball Hat (mesh)-navy | | \$13 | | |
| Stoddard Coffee Mug | | \$ 6 | | |
| Subtotal | | | \$ | |

| (Below Items Shipping Included) | | Shipping | \$ |
|--|--|----------|----|
| Stoddard Pic. 8 X 10 (Side View) | | \$6 | |
| Stoddard Pic. 8 X 10 (Rear View) | | \$6 | |
| Stoddard Pic. 11X17 (Color) | | \$8 | |
| Stoddard Sinking DVD | | \$8 | |
| HistoryChan.DVD(Stoddard In It) | | \$25 | |
| 4" Stoddard Patch | | \$5 | |
| Stoddard Alumni Pin | | \$5 | |
| *TOTAL ORDER \$ | | | |

***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