



USS FLOYD B. PARKS DD-884 ASSOCIATION

February 2019

Greetings from the land of car races on the frozen lakes.

Time is as usual slipping quickly by and we are less than eight months out from our 27th Reunion, to be held September 12-16, 2019 at the Boom Town Hotel and Casino in New Orleans.

At the Men's Meeting in Philly, we had some discussion regarding trying to hold the reunion near the USS Orleck, but unfortunately it is in pretty bad shape, so we have ruled out going there. Price is again an issue in a seller's market travel industry economy. Per the discussion and vote at the last Men's Meeting, your Association will be subsidizing reunion costs in the amount of \$10,000.00. Once we have activities planned, we will determine how best to allocate the money.

At the Philly reunion, I regretfully announced that Pamela and I would be stepping down from our respective positions as Reunion Coordinator and President after this reunion. When we took on the awesome responsibility of providing you with a quality reunion experience, we assumed that working on behalf of the Association would be our sole retirement project. Acquiring the *Popple Bar and Grill* changed that equation. Pamela and I (particularly Pamela) are working seven days a week building a successful small business.

There was some initial discussion at the last Men's Meeting about options for the Association moving forward, including the possibility of regional mini-reunions, and hiring a commercial reunion planner. In the short term for 2020, we need volunteers to take over the production of the *Memory Book and the Newsletter*, and to plan, coordinate, and staff the various reunion activities.

This is going to be a very important reunion to attend in terms of the future direction of Association Reunions. Decisions made at this year's meeting will determine that course. Our bylaws require that any substantive decisions be approved by votes of those present at the Men's Meeting, so if you want to have input, please plan on attending the reunion and joining the discussion.

May You and Yours Have Fair Winds and Following Seas!

Jim Smith
Association President

SHIPMATES SAVE THE DATE!!

SAN DIEGO MINI REUNION LUNCHEON

**SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2019
Imperial Beach FRA Branch 289
659 Silver Strand Blvd.
Imperial Beach, CA 91933-0097
Tel: 619 423-4289**

The Mini Reunion Luncheon is scheduled for Saturday, April 6, 2019 at 12 noon and will be held at the FRA in Imperial Beach, CA.

Once again, our menu will be comprised of their delicious beef pot roast with side dishes, salad and dessert. The cost for the lunch will be \$16 per person which will be collected at the event. A Door Prize ticket is given with each paid luncheon. If you have anything you would like to donate for a silent auction, please let me know beforehand to include with the door prizes given at the end of the event.

Please R.S.V.P. to Janet Romero by March 22, 2019 so I can have a head count for the luncheon. You can contact me directly at (626) 483-1263 or by email at jlromero311@verizon.net with your "yay" or "nay" for attendance. Please be sure to leave your full name, guest name(s) and/or the amount of people that will be joining you at the luncheon.

Mark your calendars and plan on attending this fun filled afternoon and catch up with friends near and far as you rehash the good old "sea days". Come early for an afternoon drink and social hour prior to the luncheon. I am looking forward to seeing all the familiar faces and to making new acquaintances.

Take care until then.

Janet Romero, Mini Reunion Coordinator

**Boomtown Casino and Hotel New Orleans on the Harvey Canal
September 12-16th, 2019**

After much search, Boomtown, New Orleans will be the site for our 2019 reunion. The details will be shared in the April Newsletter. At this time, we ask that you please ***DO NOT MAKE A ROOM RESERVATION***. We will need to share a special link for our group reservation!

The Hotel was built just 4 years ago, and it is a non-smoking property. The Casino is located at the back of the hotel on the Canal.

Rooms include a radio, air conditioning, and a seating area that features a TV with satellite channels. There are several onsite restaurants. Free parking is provided.

MANY MORE DETAILS TO COME!!



Greetings Shipmates,

Winter is upon us in my area. We have had lots of snow and -15 degrees with high winds. so if you are in the warm country enjoy. Not much news from me but I have a few names for the Taps list. Herman Carter our long time Chaplain has passed on. I loved that man to visit with. We were both country boys and always had lots of stories to share.

† Herb Hannan '45
† Herman Carter '50
† Craig Deegan '68-'69

In a few days Diana and I are leaving for Florida for a mini reunion with some Parks veterans. Sounds like plans for 2019 are coming together. Let's all try to be there for a good visit.

Please keep Vince and May Russo in our thoughts and prayers. Losing and rebuilding a home is a daunting task.

May the Lord keep you safe and warm this winter season.

David Lewis, MM3 '70-'73, Association Chaplain

(If you know of someone that is ill or has passed away, please email or call me so I can share with the Parks Family idawdle@nemr.net 660-216-0055)

Our sincere thank you to those who have paid their \$10 dues for 2019

There are many of you who have faithfully paid your dues and the some – thank you.

Make out and mail your \$10 check to USS FLOYD B PARKS ASSN – c/o Dennis Allion, 4 Los Encinos Drive, Del Rey Oaks, CA 93940

Financial Summary: Cash in bank: \$71,714, no debt. In 2018 the Association spent about \$7,000 more than it had income and that was directly related to the reunion which was subsidized as directed by the vote of members. The website continues to cost \$720 per year, newsletter printing and mailing cost us \$900, and we spent \$1,000 on Directors Insurance. Dues paid in were enough to cover administrative expenses.

As Jim states in his message, we will have some important decisions to make at the reunion in New Orleans, hope to see you there. I am committed to maintaining the accounting records until some final decisions are made.

Sincerely, ***Dennis Allion, Your Association Treasurer***

OFFICERS

President - Jim Smith, STG2 '72-'73	jwsmith@paulbunyan.net	218-224-3581
Vice President - John Hall, MM '70-'72	jmilanhall@gmail.com	469-556-6607
Sec. /Treasurer - Dennis Allion, ENS '72-'73	fbparksdd884.treas@gmail.com	831-915-0857
Master at Arms – Michael Shoen, MMFN '70-'72	mikelschoen@gmail.com	608-788-1589
Chaplain/Ships Store - David Lewis, MM3 '70-'73	idawdle@nemr.net	660-216-0055
Historian – Marie Sigmon, HON. MEM.	Marie.sigmon@yahoo.com	330-461-2534
Event Planner – Pamela Smith	ppog3_52@yahoo.com	612-290-4465
Newsletter – Theresa Allion	tjallion@sbcglobal.net	831-402-2764



**U.S.S. FLOYD B. PARKS
DD884 ASSOCIATION**

Dennis Allion
4 Los Encinos Drive
Del Rey Oaks, CA 93940

February 2019