



## **USS FLOYD B. PARKS DD-884 ASSOCIATION**

**“The Fightin Floyd B”**

**November, 2015**

### **MESSAGE FROM THE ASSOCIATION’S PRESIDENT**

On behalf of the Association Officers, I want to extend a heartfelt thanks to all of the Minneapolis Reunion attendees. The hotel gave us excellent support, things went smoothly, and by all reports, as they say up North, a good time was had by all. As usual, there are a lot of good pictures posted on the website. For those of you, who couldn’t make it, please join us in Colorado Springs for 2016.

As I have said in previous Newsletters, we are trying to maintain the basic format for the reunions that we inherited from Robbie, Bill and Sue. If it’s not broke, don’t fix it. On the other hand, due to our own changing demographics (a polite way of saying we’re not getting any younger), an improving economy resulting in hotels not hurting so much for business, and the results of the surveys you helpfully provided at the reunion, there will continue to be some changes. If you like what we do, or if you don’t like what we do, please tell us. *It’s your Association.*

You’re Reunion Planner and I went to Colorado Springs in October and did site visits at two hotels that met our basic reunion criteria as well having a productive meeting with the Convention and Visitors Bureau. One of the hotels is head and shoulders over the other, but since we won’t have specifics until all the details are hammered out and the contract is signed...stay tuned for details in the next newsletter. Suffice it to say we will have the most impressive hospitality room in recent memory, excellent food, on-site nature trails, plenty of parking, and magnificent views.

For those not driving, there is a regional airport at Colorado Springs, with the Denver airport about an hour and a half North with rental cars or shuttle service, and Amtrak connections at Pueblo, about an hour south. The Colorado Springs area has a multitude of options for our tours and for individual outings. As we did in Minneapolis, we will endeavor to schedule group activity options appropriate for our differing physical abilities.

Here in the North woods the view out the front window has changed from lounge chairs and patio furniture to docks and boat lifts removed from the lake until next spring. Hordes of blaze orange clad outsiders are crowding the bars, and the main topic in the coffee shops is when the ice will be thick enough to drive on.

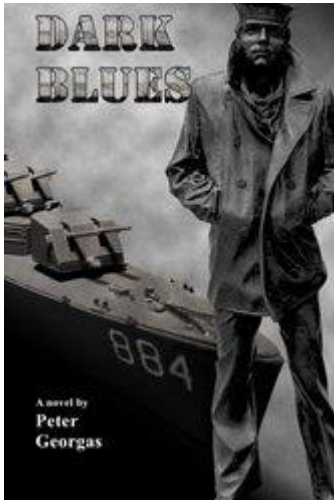
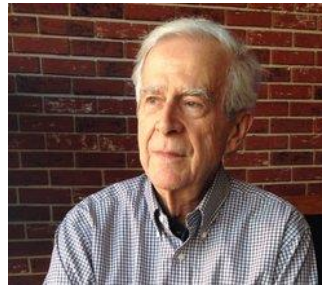
On that note, may you have fair winds and following seas, and for some of us, at least six inches of good clear ice.

**Jim Smith**, Association President

## AUTHOR IN OUR MIDST

*"Dark Blues"*

Peter Georgas- '52-'54



Peter Georgas grew up in Waseca, a small town in southern Minnesota where his father owned the Crystal Café and Candy Kitchen. He earned a BA in Journalism from the University of Minnesota. After graduating, **he went on active duty for two years as an enlisted man aboard a destroyer, the USS Floyd B. Parks.** His experiences during the Korean War served as inspiration for his first published book. Following a decade in advertising, he joined the staff of Walker Art Center in Minneapolis as the museum's first full time publicist. Later, along with his family, he moved to Austria, where he was Director of the Salzburg Seminar. He and his wife, Margaret, now live in the Linden Hills neighborhood of Minneapolis. We are so glad they joined us at this year's reunion.

## ASSOCIATION DUES

### From the Treasurer

At the men's' meeting during the reunion in Minneapolis it was voted on and decided to reduce annual dues from the previous \$15 to \$10 per member of the Association. A sincere thank you to those members who did pay, especially those who made contributions beyond their dues.

**The dues for 2016 are \$10; please write your check or money order payable to "FLOYD B PARKS ASSN" and mail it to FLOYD B PARKS ASSN, c/o Dennis Allion, 4 Los Encinos Drive, Del Rey Oaks, CA 93940.**

The Association is in good financial condition thanks to the efforts and management of the previous officers - thank you Robbie and Bill. Dues pay for ongoing costs of administering the Association, including composing, printing and mailing newsletters and other routine office functions related to administration of the Association. We have no employees so work is all done by volunteers. A full accounting of the association's finances will be presented at the next reunion.

I will be sending out reminders to those members who did not pay their 2015 dues.

**From the Chaplains Corner**  
**David Lewis,**  
**PARKS Assoc. Chaplain**

Another year is about to close and what a year it has been. As we met at the reunion this year, I had the sad duty to perform... reading the names of so many who will never again bless us with their warm smiles and great sea tales of past. All in attendance this year were blessed with a wonderful reunion and a great time. I am so proud of all that stepped up to the plate and made this a grand time. My thoughts and prayers to those who for whatever reason could not attend this year's reunion. I know that time is against us as we all grow older, but try to make plans for 2016 in Colorado. I missed so many of you this time that were unable to make the trip. You were missed but *not forgotten*.

Please keep me informed of any problems or loss of a shipmate. I want to thank all who supported my efforts to be your Chaplin.

May God bless and keep you safe through the next year.

**David Lewis, MM3 '70-'73**

*(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 [jdawdle@nemr.net](mailto:jdawdle@nemr.net), 660-216-0055)*

### TIN CAN TRIVIA

**Question: What two ships are named for the same person yet have the ship name spelled differently and why?**

**Answer:** USS Charles Ausburn and USS Charles Ausburne were both named for Electrician First Class Charles Lawrence Ausburne. He died while serving as radioman in the Army transport ANTILLES and staying at his post to the last. He was awarded the Navy Cross posthumously. His relatives were contacted about the naming of the first ship, DD-294 and they spelled the name Ausburn. A letter signed by Charles Ausburne showing that he spelled his name with the final "e" was discovered after the first ship was commissioned so the second ship, DD-570, was spelled as he spelled it.

### OFFICERS

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## HAPPY HOLIDAY GREETINGS

*Wishing our Friends and Family a Joyous Holiday filled with Peace, Love, and Prosperity.*

*Best Wishes for a Healthy New Year!  
From Your Officers*

*Together, let us continue to pray for  
peace in our world.*



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

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**NOVEMBER 2015**