



USS FLOYD B. PARKS

DD-884 ASSOCIATION

September 2021

Greetings Shipmates,

I wish we were getting ready to head out to a Parks reunion, but of course it's not in the cards this year. Here in Minnesota it's time to start putting the boats away, getting the docks and boat lifts out of the lake, and thinking about preparing for the upcoming winter cold and snow.

On a positive note, we finally have some preliminary information to share on our next reunion with the Tin Can Sailors' Association (TCSA). After two years of Covid cancellations, the TCSA has contracted with the Hilton North Houston Hotel for 2022. The dates are Sunday, 25 September to Thursday, 29 September, which matches up with our normal historical reunion time frame. The room rate is \$119.00 with free airport shuttle, free parking, and complimentary breakfast for two per room.

If you have joined the TCSA, you already have this information from their latest quarterly newsletter. It is still subject to change, but the plans include visiting Galveston to see the Ships Museum including the USS Texas BB-35, Space Center Houston, the San Jacinto Battleground, and the Houston Aquarium. There is also a wide range of things to do for individuals and small groups including the beaches and some awesome charter fishing opportunities. We will have our own hospitality room, and group seating on tours and at formal dining events. I am looking forward to a men's meeting and our own church services (on an altered schedule) like we all enjoyed at previous reunions.

As a reminder, based on a vote at the New Orleans reunion, membership in the Parks Association is free. We are financially stable thanks to Robby and Bill's stewardship, and the Association will always be indebted to them. Additionally, TCSA membership is only \$20.00 per year. With that you get a quarterly newspaper filled with historical information about Tin Cans and Tin Can Sailors (our Jim Highton has been a contributor), and information about mini-reunions and the National Reunion.

Between Covid, drought, fires, and hurricanes, many of our members have had a tough year. Keep them all in your thoughts and prayers.

May you have fair winds and following seas,

Jim Smith

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Chaplains Corner & Ships Store

Greetings:

Summer has slipped by us faster than ever it seems. Another canceled year for our reunion is a great disappointment for all. We must not give up hope.

I received word that Captain Donovan's wife Mary passed. I did love to visit with her when we could get together in Florida. I have only one name for the taps list, Adam Wosick "45". He was just a few months shy of being a Plank Owner on the Parks!

If I am missing names, please let me know and please keep our shipmates with needs in your prayers. Please keep me informed of anything that needs special attention from us.

I have a few items in the ships store if anyone needs a cap or shirt. Please contact me at the number below.

May the Lord bless and keep you safe until we meet again.

David Lewis, MM3 '70-'73, Association Chaplain and Ships Store

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

TREASURER UPDATE:

Remember that we are no longer collecting dues for the Association. As of September 1, 2021, we have \$45,680 in our treasury. At the New Orleans reunion, it was moved and approved that we authorize up to \$500 each for no more than two mini reunions each year -one in Florida and one in San Diego. We also approved to pay \$1,000 toward a hospitality room at Tin Can Sailors reunions for PARKS exclusive use.

Sincerely,
Dennis Allion

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