



The Sumner Sentinel ©

March - April 2017
Volume IV Number 2

Monday will be busy; Tuesday not so much

In times past Monday was reserved for our memorial service and Tuesday would see the banquet.

Because some shipmates (Fred Willshaw in particular) had early morning flights on Tuesday, it was voted to have the banquet on Monday and the memorial service on Tuesday.



Joe Snowberger

But, as they say, the best laid plans . . . Because of the availability or lack thereof of a bus to the memorial service on Tuesday, plans had to be altered. So this time both events will be held on Monday beginning with the 10 a.m. memorial service at the Mayport Naval Base Chapel.

Don't oversleep - we're boarding the bus at 8:45 a.m.

Speaking at the memorial will be Lt. William F. Austin.

Speaking at the banquet will be Joe Snowberger CEO of the Jacksonville Historic Naval Ship As-

sociation (JHMSA) and the USS Adams Museum.

He will present a program at the annual banquet about efforts to transfer the USS Charles F. Adams, DDG-2 from the Philadelphia Navy Shipyard where it is on donation hold status to a slip on the St. John's River in downtown Jacksonville later this year.

There are many similarities between the Adams and the Sumner.

Both are first of the class, both were home

Those attending the memorial service are advised to wear comfortable shoes, as we are hopeful to be able to tour a ship.

Each person is required to have two (2) forms of identification - one being with a picture ID - a state drivers license is preferable. Also there no backpacks or bags larger than a woman's handbag are allowed.

No photography of ships , aircraft or security personnel is allowed. Photography is allowed on board the ships up to the discretion of the ship's commanding officer.

ported in Mayport and both took part in the Cuban Missile Crisis.

The ship was laid down by the Bath Iron Works

at Bath, Maine, on 16 June 1958 and launched on 8 September 1959.

Intended as a follow-on to the Forrest Sherman-class destroyers, the ship was originally designated as DD-952.

Outwardly similar to the Sherman-class, Charles

See Adams, Page 7

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE . . .

To My Fellow Shipmates,

In about three weeks we are going to have a great time enjoying each other's company and catching up on what's new since our last reunion. Please remember our shipmates who are unable to be with us. Let's remember them in our thoughts and prayers.



Frank DiBello

This is the 29th annual all hands reunion and our 50th anniversary of our deployment to Vietnam.

Don Hayden has arranged for a special speaker at the annual banquet, Joe Snowberger, retired U.S. Navy Chief Surface Warfare Officer, the CEO OF THE Jacksonville Historic Naval Ship Association (JHMSA) and the USS Adams Museum. Snowberger spent 24 years in the U.S.

Navy and retired as Lieutenant Commander in 2000.

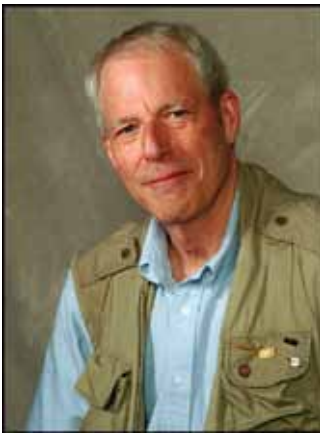
While enlisted, he graduated Summa Cum Laude from Troy University with a Bachelor's Degree in Management. He also earned his MBA from Webster University in St. Louis, Mo.

Special THANKS to Dave and Sue Robson for doing a great job and being our hosts this year!

I hope everyone enjoys the Reunion and all of the interesting and historical sites in St. Augustine, etc. Now let's get ready to have some fun!

Your President, Frank DiBello





By Don Hayden TM3 (1961-62)

USS Allen M. Sumner DD-692 at sea (probably during the Med cruise of 1962) Sentinel editor and torpedoman Don Hayden is on the torpedo deck with his coronet playing “Cherry Pink and Apple Blossom White.”

Now we are going to insert the line (like they do on TV) “Six months earlier.”

Fourth of July 1961, Hayden reports “aboard” Sumner which is in dry-dock at Charleston ship-yards then to barracks sharing space with three engine room types.

In addition to his seabag he is toting his coronet case.

One of the “snipes” asks “what’s in the case?”

Hayden replies “my coronet,” thinking he should have left it at home.

Sure enough - not the types to beat around the bush - they ask if they can hock it.

Wanting to fit in Hayden says yes after finding out it will only be in the hock shop for a week.

At that time in the Navy we were paid every other week.

Hmmmm.

Starting to come together now?

Not sure how many times it was hocked - probably every other week until we moved onto the ship.

Fast forward to Hayden on the torpedo deck. He only played the horn after 1600 hours and

only if the Sumner was steaming (making the sound dissipate aft.

Then came the fateful day when the ship was doing about 2 knots and he forgot and halfway through some song he was playing came the command “Hayden report to the bridge.”

The skipper - Cmdr William Flynn - asks Hayden if he can play taps.

Hayden (his chest swelling and not realizing why the captain

is asking) replies “Sure, that’s one of the easiest tunes to play. You don’t even need valves (like the coronet has).”

“Okay, Hayden, when it’s time for lights out tonight, I want you on the bridge to play taps.”

And so it went - probably waking up half the ship and making Hayden persona no grata for those folks.

But probably it was the only time in the history of the ship that taps was played live!

Do You Want to Continue Receiving the Sentinel

Note to shipmates, wives and widows, especially those with an “L” designation on their address label:

We know that the “L” means Life member and usually is associated with widows of Sumner shipmates.

What we don’t know is if you really want to keep receiving the ship newsletter - the Sumner Sentinel.

If you don’t want to keep receiving it and you don’t have an e-mail address, please contact the editor with a post card or other stationery (return address on the back page).

Thanks, The Editor

USS ALLEN M. SUMNER- 29th Annual Reunion
REGISTRATION FORM

Jacksonville, FL 07-10 May, 2017 (Sunday-Wednesday)

*Print names as they are to appear on Nametags!

Name _____ Never had one? _____

Spouse or guest _____ Never had one? _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone (____) _____

E-mail _____

Served on Sumner from _____ to _____

Rate or Rank on Sumner _____

No. Of people attending reunion. _____ x \$140= _____
2017 (or more) Dues (specify year(s)) _____ + \$15@ _____

Total _____

I plan on attending the Farewell Breakfast.....Yes _____ No _____
(We need a head count for financial purposes)

Checks made out to: USS A. M. Sumner Association

Mail to: 301 Park Ln.

North Syracuse, NY 13212-2143

Questions?? Call Frank DiBello @ 281-332-1157

* Food allergies or special dietary REQUIREMENTS?

List here _____

Sunbathe on 22 miles of wide, uncrowded beaches 20 miles from Hampton Inn Hotel

Gorgeous white sand beaches await you just minutes from downtown Jacksonville. With plenty of beachfront and walking-distance accommodations, the beaches are a quick and easy escape from the everyday.

Jacksonville boasts three beach areas: Jacksonville Beach, Neptune Beach, and Atlantic Beach, plus the historic fishing village of Mayport to the north.

Along the 22-miles paradise, Jacksonville offers a range of activities including water sports, relaxation, nightlife, and family fun. During the Summer months jump aboard Jax Beach's convenient Beaches Trolley to explore all the beach neighborhoods and attractions for just \$1.50 fare.

Farthest north, the quaint, historic village of Mayport is home to casino boats and seafood restaurants, offering their freshest catch. Dine on freshly-caught seafood, including the local specialty - Mayport shrimp.

Then head over to Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park, providing what many consider to be Jacksonville's favorite biking and hiking trails. The park also of-

fers camping and spectacular views of the Atlantic Ocean and surrounding wilderness.

South of Mayport are the communities of Atlantic Beach and Neptune Beach. The intersection of Atlantic Beach and Neptune Beach is a hot spot called the Beaches Town Center.

It's a perfect spot where you can enjoy casual and upscale dining, diverse shopping options, and a very happening nightlife scene.

Rounding things out is Jacksonville Beach. Get a tan, catch a wave on a boogie board, or have a picnic on the beach.

At night, grab a blanket and head to the Sea Walk Pavilion on Jacksonville Beach for movies and music.

Spring and Summer events include music festivals, the Moonlight Movies Series and Summer Jazz concert series. Cap off the day with a pint from one of Jax Beach's local breweries or a beachy cocktail from any number of amazing craft cocktail bars in the area. Nightlife is also hot in Jacksonville Beach, with oceanfront clubs and intimate pubs.

A Pair of Shopping Malls Are Close to Hotel

Located just 2 miles south of our headquarters hotel is the River City Marketplace with 68 stores to choose from.

And best of all - it's open 24 hours.

About 5 miles south is the Jacksonville Regional Shopping Center.

At the risk of sounding chauvinistic, for the guys there is a Dick's Sporting Good store about 2½ miles east of the hotel.

Other shopping experiences include the Regency Square Mall is an enclosed shopping mall.

It opened about the same time as the Sumner was headed out to Vietnam.

The St. Johns Town Center is an upscale super-regional open-air mall in southeast Jacksonville, Florida. It opened its doors on March 18, 2005 with over 100 stores, many of which were new to the Jacksonville market at the time. It now features 175 stores.

The Jacksonville Landing (65 stores) is a festival marketplace in Downtown Jacksonville. It is located along the Jacksonville Riverwalk

And Then There's Stuff to Do in St. Augustine

Probably one of the best ways to see St. Augustine is with the "Hop-On Hop-Off Trolley Tour."

Explore the best of St. Augustine on this one-hour narrated, hop-on hop-off Old Town trolley tour. Visit more than 100 points of interest among the top attractions in America's oldest city, founded in 1565 by Pedro Menendez de Aviles.

Visit popular sites like the Old Jail, Potter's Wax Museum, the Fountain of Youth National Archaeological Park, Castillo de San Marcos, Flagler College, Ripley's Believe It or Not and more.

The Old Town Trolley pass (\$25) is good for admission to the Florida Heritage Museum. Also, hop on the free Beach Bus, with hourly service to St. Augustine Beach, Downtown St. Augustine and Anastasia Island and such

attractions as the Alligator Farm, Lighthouse and Museum and numerous sightseeing cruises

A sightseeing tour of St. Augustine has never been easier — or more fun — than this hop-on hop-off tour of the city.

Buy tickets at Booth Location: Old Town, 167 San Marco Ave. or order online at <http://www.trolleytours.com/st.augustine>.

Trolleys depart every 15-20 minutes between 8:30am and 4:30pm. and free parking is available at the Old Jail Complex at 167 San Marco Avenue.

22 stops listed by points of interest

1. The Old Jail, St. Augustine History Museum, Oldest Museum Experience, Gator Bob's Trading Post

2. Old Town Trolley Welcome Center US1
3. Visitors Information Center on Castillo Drive
4. Old Drug Store, Tolomato Cemetery
5. City Gates, Spanish Quarter, Oldest Wooden School House, St. George Street, Ripley's Believe It or Not

6. Spanish Quarter, Castillo de San Marcos, Pirate and Treasure Museum (Fees: Adults: \$13.99, Children 5-12: \$6.99, Children 4 and under: Free)

7. Bay View at the Monterey, Carriage Rides

8. Hypolita and St. George Street (historic walking mall)

9. Flagler Memorial, Presbyterian Church, Ancient City Baptist Church, Grace United Methodist Church

10. San Sebastian Winery

11. Whetstone's Chocolate Factory

12. Villa Zorayda Museum

13. Lightner Museum, Flagler College, Dow Museum of Historic Homes

14. Plaza de la Constitucion, Government House, Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine

15. Potter's Wax Museum, Spanish Military Hospital, Beach Bus Stop*

16. Oldest House, Fernando-Lambias House

17. Castillo de San Marcos

18. Ripley's Believe It or Not

19. Old Town Trolley Welcome Center, Ghost and Gravestones, Uptown San Marco

20. Mission of Nombre de Dios, Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche

21. The Old Senator

22. Fountain of Youth



Event Itinerary

Sunday (May 7) 2 p.m. Hospitality Suite opens, Registration, Bar opens, Silent Auction begins

Monday (May 8) Mayport Naval Base Chapel 10 a.m. Memorial Service - Board bus 8:45 a.m. return to hotel 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

What to wear

Be patriotic and casual (no high heels)

5:30 p.m. - Bar opens

6:30 p.m. - Annual Banquet, Speaker Dinner at 6:45/7:00 p.m.

Awards at 7:30 p.m.

Music by DJ 8 until 11 p.m. What to wear - Men Dress Blues or "office casual"*

Yes! Both memorial service and banquet are held on Monday this time.

Tuesday (May 9) 9 a.m.

Annual Business Meeting

Open rest of the day for sightseeing.

Wednesday May 10 - Farewell Breakfast

* **Office casual dress** typically includes slacks or khakis, dress shirt or blouse, open-collar or polo shirt, optional tie or seasonal sport coat, a dress or skirt at knee-length or below, a tailored blazer, knit shirt or sweater, and loafers or dress shoes that cover all or most of the foot.

Adams

Continued from Page 1

F. Adams was the first U.S. Navy ship designed from the keel up to launch anti-aircraft missiles.

To reflect the increased capabilities of the ship and to distinguish her from previous destroyer designs, Charles F. Adams was re-designated DDG-2 prior to the ship's launching.

Following commissioning, Charles F. Adams took part in recovery operations for Walter M. Schirra's Mercury 8 mission.

In October 2010, the Jacksonville City Council supported efforts to bring the ship to that city as a museum. The preservation effort will include towing the ship to Jacksonville, repair and restoration of the vessel and a pier to moor it.

On 27 August 2014 the Jacksonville City Council approved a lease of city-owned riverfront property to the Jacksonville Historic Naval Ship Association and authorized the Downtown Investment Authority to manage the project.

The groups are hoping to have the ship moored downtown on the St. Johns River this year.

Snowberger spent 24 years in the U.S. Navy and retired as Lieutenant Commander in 2000.

While enlisted, he graduated summa cum laude from Troy University with a bachelor's degree in management. He also earned his MBA from Webster University in St. Louis, Mo.

Snowberger has a record of success in both the private and public sector. He served as director of operations for Downtown Vision, Inc., campus director and community relations coordinator for Columbia College and program manager and executive producer at PRC Digital Media.

He most recently served as community consultant and economic liaison for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

He is also very involved in the community. He is the co-founder of the First Coast Veterans Transition Network and serves on the board of the Florida League of Defense Contractors and the First Coast Chapter of Women in Defense.

He serves on the military issues council of the Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce and has been involved with numerous community organizations .



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