



The Sumner Sentinel ©

November - December 2018
Volume V Number 6

Back to Branson - Déjà Vu for Some

Quite a few Sumner sailors may experience “déjà vu” when returning to Branson, Mo - scene of our 2005 reunion (and the editor’s first).

Our headquarters will be the Grand Plaza Hotel, in the heart of Branson just off the 76 strip with nine meeting rooms totaling 9,000 square feet (we won’t feel cramped this time).

It is located within walking distance to shows, attractions and outlet shopping and includes a complimentary hot breakfast buffet.

And, as president Frank would say “it’s never too early to make reservations” These can be cancelled 48 hours before arrival by calling toll-free at 800-850-6646.

The View Restaurant features a broad look of the beautiful Ozark Mountains and a new menu with 40 entrees from which to choose.



It’s not without cost however so it’s time to pony up and pay dues. A membership renewal form is on page 4 - it won’t hurt my feelings if you use it (even though it’s on the back of the editor’s desk).

**Reunion Association
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE . . .

Greetings Shipmates,

Hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving with your family and friends. It's always a good time to enjoy good food, fellowship, and to reflect on our many blessings. Now we get ready for the rest of the Holiday Season and the beginning of a New Year.



Frank DiBello

It has been a strange year for the weather this year. I have talked to people from all parts of the country that all say "strange or unusual weather this year.

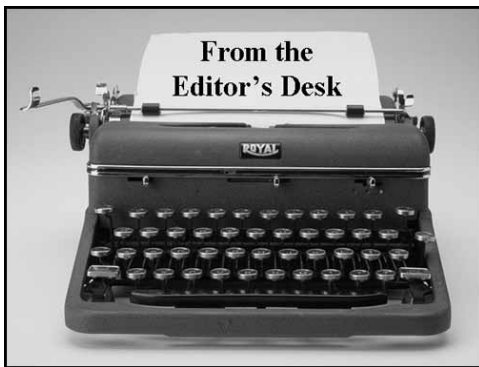
As I am sure you have heard, we had a severe earthquake in ALASKA! Our fellow shipmate Ron Jovanovich and wife Ricki were severely affected by the quake, not to mention having over 500 aftershocks.

They had to sleep in their recliners and run outside fearing another aftershock that might cause a collapse on them. Ron considered them lucky because they still have a roof that was not leaking and that power was restored so they had heat.

Everything in their house was thrown around and all the glass and breakables were broken, with broken glass everywhere. Even though they had structural damage, they are able to cautiously stay there. I asked if we could do anything for them, and they respectfully asked us to keep them in our prayers.

See President, Page 7





By Don Hayden TM3 (1961-62)

As far as I know I won't be quitting the Sentinel if my health allows.

I was doing fine until this past summer when I went in for gall bladder removal.

Everyone I talked to at the last reunion said it would be a "piece of cake."

I guess in my case it was a cake baked by "Murphy."

The surgery went pretty well

and I was released and went home.

The next morning I got up but apparently passed out and was unresponsive and to make a long story not quite so long, I was returned to the hospital via ambulance.

However I had to have emergency surgery and a tube inserted in my side and spent several days in ICU.

By that time my wife had just about had it and enlisted the aid of my sister who lives in Maine.

From the hospital I went to an outpatient facility and almost had to learn how to walk again.

It was a struggle.

I got a letter awhile back from one of our shipmates who lives in southern Mississippi who apparently has taken exception to a few of my columns.

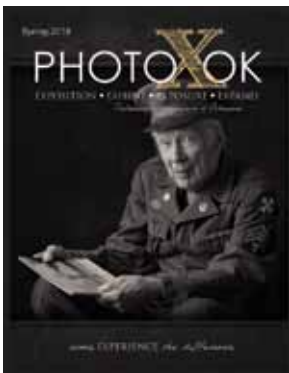
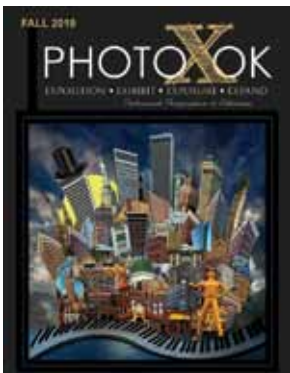
Seems he really didn't give a "rat's ass" about my health issues or other editing jobs I wrote about.

Well, since I took over this job, I have written about stuff on various subjects so I suggest that this shipmate needs to check some back issues.

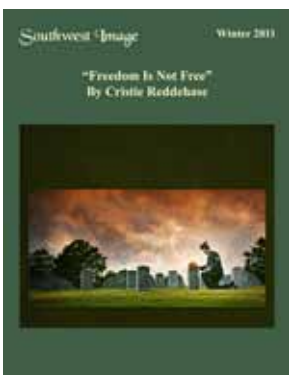
Without being a real jerk, it's pretty much my column, but folks are welcome to send articles to use.

Wow!

It's been quite a ride doing editing for various publications but as of Nov. 1 I have quit all of them except the Sumner Sentinel.



Above & below are two of my favorite covers



Membership Renewal Form

Due to changes in the structure of our organization shipmates need to be aware of whether or not they have renewed membership. Our membership year is based on a regular calendar year. If the year '18, 19 or greater or L, etc. after your name on the newsletter mailing label does not reflect the **Reunion** year, you need to renew your membership.

This form will appear in the November-December and January-February issues of this newsletter and note that you need to renew your membership in the USS Allen M. Sumner Reunion Association. If you cannot afford the \$15, send what you can (if anything) as we will not deny a shipmate membership because of a hardship. And no one else needs to know.

If you are a member in good standing, you should have a permanent plastic membership card.

This was issued to you when you became a member. If you do not have one, contact Pete Dromms, Reunion Association Treasurer at 301 Park Ln., North Syracuse, NY 13212-2143

Name _____ Spouse _____	
Address _____	
City _____	State _____ Zip _____ - _____
(A/C) _____	Primary Phone _____ Other Phone _____ Fax _____
E-Mail Address _____	
Years on Sumner - From _____ To _____	
Rate/Rank on Sumner _____	
Retired from Navy (Yes/No) _____	
Retired Rate or Rank _____	
Other info you wish to share _____	
<p>Make Checks Payable to USS A.M. Sumner Association Send to: USS A.M. Sumner Association, 301 Park Ln., North Syracuse, NY 13212-2143</p>	

USS ALLEN M. SUMNER SHIP STORE ORDER INVOICE

Qtn.	Description	Price
	Sumner Ball Cap (Blue w/gold embroidery) - Specify All Cloth or 1/2 Mesh)	\$15.00
	Scrambled Egg patches <u>for Officers only Commanger & Above</u> /with hat purchase	Free
	White Golf Shirt Embroidered w/Ship Patch (Circle Size - S, M, L, XL) Add \$10 for 2XL/3XL	\$25.00
	White T-Shirt w/Ship on Front (Circle Size - S, M, L, XL)	\$20.00
	All Sweatshirts (Circle Size - S, M, L, XL)	\$25.00
	Sumner Ship's Patch (Specify Sui Generis or Woody Woodpecker)	\$ 5.00
	Sumner Hat/Lapel/Tie Tac Pin	\$ 6.00
	Sumner License Plate bracket/holder	\$ 5.00
	Homemade Reunion 2000 Video (CNO Visit) DVD or VHS Specify which	\$ 8.00
	Zippo Ziplite battery pack (Flashlight Replacement for Unused Lighter	\$ 2.50
	Sumner Commemorative Challenge Coin (Approximately 1½ inches in diameter)	\$10.00
	US Navy Tabletop Drink Coasters (6 for \$20.00)	\$ 5.00
	Handkerchief (US Navy or 692)	\$ 5.00
	Navy Pin for wives	\$ 5.00
	Sumner shaving/toilet kit bag	\$10.00
	US Navy rear window stickers (or Retired) Specify which	\$ 5.00
	MIA/POW money clip	\$ 6.00
	Petty Officer window sticker	\$ 1.00
	USS Cooper (Dive to)/Return to Ormoc Bay (Battle of) DVD (Runtime: 80 minutes)	\$ 8.00
	For additional items go to www.dd-692.com Click the "reunion" tab then the "Ship Store" line	
Total Enclosed		

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 (A/C) _____ PH # _____ E-Mail _____

Send Orders To:
 Sumner Assn.
 301 Park Lane
 North Syracuse, NY 13212

See Next Page for New Shipping Charges for Ship's Store Items

Receiving Hard Copies of the Sumner Sentinel

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

Hard copies of the Sumner Sentinel are only mailed to those with an “L” designation on their address label (unless they have an E-Mail address) or to those members whose dues are current and who have no E-Mail address.

All other members will receive issues electronically.

Alternatively, anyone may view/print issues by going online to www.dd-692.com and clicking on the “Reunion” tab.

This helps save the association’s printing costs.

Each year (in the November-December and January-February issues), hard copies will be mailed to anyone with a last known paid year of 2014 reminding them that dues are due (except those who have renewal dates for several future years).

If you don’t want to keep receiving it, let the editor, whose address is on the back page, know.

Thanks, The Editor

REUNION ASSISTANCE FUND

Are YOU a former Sumner shipmate ?

Have YOU ever wanted to go to one of our Annual Reunions ?

For those shipmates who are in need of financial assistance, the Association has created a Special Committee to help YOU out. The funds available come from donations of the Sumner crew in the hope YOU will join us.

The Fund is managed in strict confidentiality and no one other than the Committee will ever know of these transactions.

If interested and to find out more about the Fund, please contact one of the following Committee Members:

Dave Robson DAVE@DD-692.com
(904) 287-7854

Jose Garcia JOSE@DD-692.com
(305) 431-3027

Dale Surber DALE@DD-692.com
(727) 480-3646

To donate to the Fund and assist your shipmates, make your contributions (any amount is greatly appreciated) by check and send to:

USS AM Sumner Reunion Association
301 Park Ln.

North Syracuse, NY 13212-2143

Mark the check and/or envelope “for the Reunion Assistance Fund”

George Arthur Tonna
81 of Deerfield Beach,
Fla. - a member of the
FT gang on the USS
Allen M. Sumner 1963-
64 - died Nov. 27. He
is survived by his wife
Vivian, his son James
and daughter Christina
Merlino, four grand-
daughters and brothers
Charles and Edward.



New shipping charges associated with ship’s store purchases

Up to \$10.....	\$ 4.00
\$10.01 to \$25.00.....	\$ 7.00
\$25.01 to \$50.00.....	\$ 8.00
\$50.01 to \$75.00.....	\$10.00
\$75.01 to \$100.00.....	\$12.00
\$100.01 to \$200.00.....	\$14.00
\$200.01 to \$300.00.....	\$16.00
\$300.00 and over	\$20.00

Checks made payable to Sumner Reunion Association.

Editor

Continued from Page 1

They can be reached by phone at 907-696-1652. If anyone wants

to make any contributions to help them, please send your contributions to Pete Dromms at 301 Park Lane, North Syracuse, New York 13212-2143. Please NOTE on your contribution that it is for the Jovanovich's and Pete will forward your contributions to Ron and Ricki.

Even though they have been through this disaster, when I spoke to them, they still are planning to see all of us in Branson!

ANCHORAGE, Alaska -- A powerful earthquake rocked buildings and shattered roads Friday (Dec. 1) morning in Anchorage, sending people running into the streets. The U.S. Geological Survey said the first and more powerful quake was centered about 8 miles north of Anchorage, Alaska's largest city, with a population of about 300,000.

People ran from their offices or took cover under desks. A large section of road near the Anchorage airport collapsed, marooning a car on a narrow island of pavement surrounded by deep chasms in the concrete.

Several cars crashed at a major intersection in Wasilla, north of Anchorage, during the shaking. Anchorage Police Chief Justin Doll said he had been told that parts of the Glenn Highway, a scenic route that runs northeast out of the city past farms, mountains and glaciers, had "completely disappeared."

White House Issues Disaster Declaration

Gov. Bill Walker said in a press conference Friday that there is structural damage to the city that will take a while to assess, but he praised the city's response, calling it a "10."

Looking forward to seeing everyone in Branson for a great Reunion. I have been told if you fly in, the closest airport is in Springfield, Mo. then there is a shuttle for hire to Branson or rent a car at the airport. We should be getting out the registration forms early next year.

Don't forget to check out the Wonders of Wildlife National Museum and Aquarium in Springfield. It has 350,000 sq. feet and more than 1.5 miles of trails and exhibits. More information available at 888-222-6060

Fair Winds and Following Seas, Frank DiBello

There are still about 40,000 without electricity, Walker said.

Walker said that while he was in a helicopter surveying the damage, he received three calls from President Trump and another after he landed. Walker said there was a "tremendous outpouring from the White House." The White House has issued a declaration of disaster, Walker said.

The Trans-Alaska pipeline has been closed as a precautionary measure, Walker said, and it's unclear when it will open again.

Alaska Earthquakes Fast Facts

(Information on the earthquakes that hit Alaska)

- 7.0 earthquake struck at 8:29 local time
- 5.7 aftershock struck 6 minutes later at 8:35
- Tsunami warning was issued and then lifted a short time later.
- Anchorage police chief said he was unaware of reports of deaths or serious injuries.
- So far there have been at least 70 'aftershocks,' all of them magnitude 2.5 or larger
- Around 48,000 power outages have been reported.
- Numerous aftershocks have hit the area.
- One quake was felt 350 miles away in Fairbanks.



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If you are going to change your address (e-mail or physical), or no longer wish to receive the newsletter, let the editor and webmaster know.



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