



# The Sumner Sentinel ©

May - June 2019  
Volume VI Number 3

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## Sister (Ships) Unite: Moale Joins Sumner

*EXTRA, EXTRA, Read about it . . .*

The crew members of the USS Moale, DD-693 will join those of the USS Allen M. Sumner, DD-692 on a trial basis for the 2020 reunion in Nashville, Tenn.

Officers in meetings of both ships agreed to see this happen. The Moale association originally had planned a reunion in Nashville for this year but agreed to hold it in Branson.

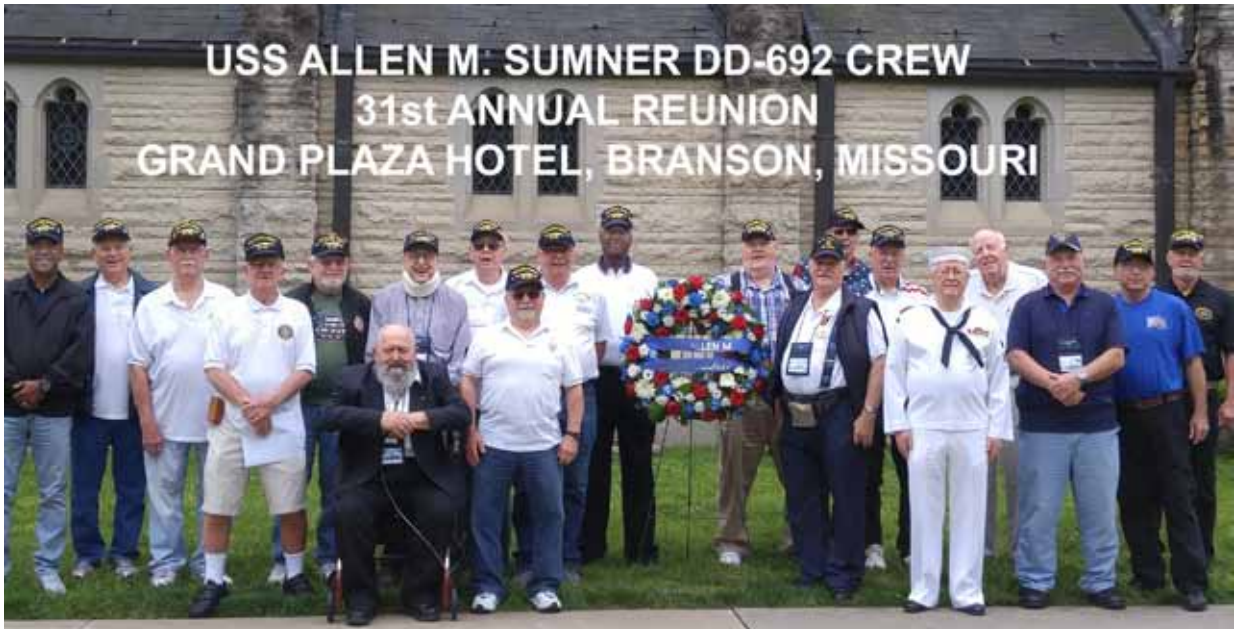
The move was made because of dwindling num-

bers of shipmates attending reunions and because the Sumner and Moale are “sister ships.”

The current plan is for both ships to participate in a banquet, hospitality areas and memorial services. Currently each will have separate business meetings.

As the months go by, officers from both associations will be searching for appropriate locations for the 2020 reunion.

**See Officers, Page 3**



**Photo by Becky Vaughn**

**Reunion Association  
Officers**

**President.**

Frank DiBello

[DIBELLOFP@AOL.COM](mailto:DIBELLOFP@AOL.COM)

**1st Vice President**

Pete Hart

[phart\\_va@hotmail.com](mailto:phart_va@hotmail.com)

**2nd Vice President**

Frank Embrey

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**(Still) Past President**

Bob Kelly

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**Secretary**

Scott Kopfstein

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**Treasurer**

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[the.chief@verizon.net](mailto:the.chief@verizon.net)

**Chaplain**

James Gorman

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**Master-At-Arms**

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- 2020 -

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Daniel Barrs

- 2021 -

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Joe Drabick

- 2022 -

[oldesalt692@gmail.com](mailto:oldesalt692@gmail.com)

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE . . .**

Greetings Sumner Family,

Connie and I are grateful for all your prayers, cards and calls. Your concern's means a lot to us.



**Frank DiBello**

Thank all of y'all that stepped up in our absence in Branson !!! I hear we missed a good one.

I want to thank Bobby Moore for all his loyal years of being our Chaplin and for the great job he has blessed us with. Bravo Zulu !!!

I thank James Gorman for stepping up and taking over as our new Chaplin. Welcome!!! He will have some big shoes to fill, but I am confident that he can do it. Please help us welcoming him to his new position.

Be sure and take a moment to thank our "Greatest Generation" for their sacrifices during WWII.

I also would like to thank the USS Moale DD 693 crew for joining us at the reunion and setting a precedence, hopefully for many reunions to come.

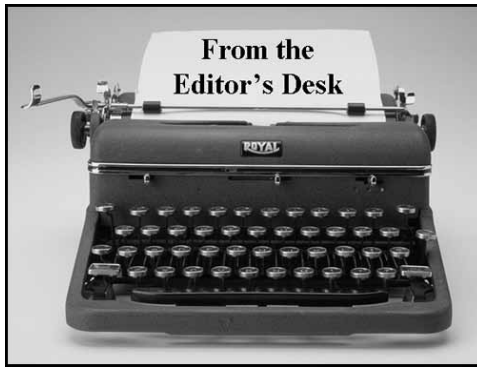
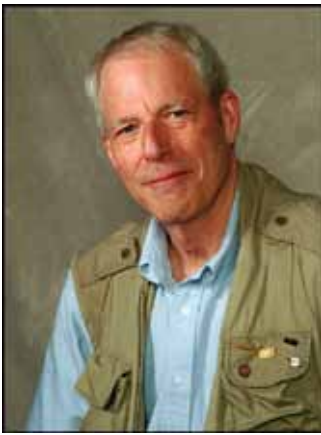
This is a win win for both of us to help our economics in the future.

Fair Winds and Following Seas to all

Your President

Frank DiBello





By Don Hayden TM3 (1961-62)

**I**t is probably a given that each generation feels the subsequent one “has it made” compared with “the old days.”

My recently departed Dad of 97 often told me about growing up in a small rural community without the benefit of electricity.

Still, he got to experience most of what I am experiencing because of his long life.

Compared with things at my disposal he had a really tough life.

Of course, I would make the same observation for those in the generation following mine.

He was a teenager when Charles Lindbergh made his Trans-Atlantic flight.

I was a teenager when the Russians put Sputnik into orbit.

Those in the next generation were teenagers when Neil Armstrong walked on the moon.

In Dad’s generation radio was a big deal,

In mine it was television.

In the next it was the Internet

His first camera was a Kodak Brownie with no focus control except distance.

Mine was a Yashica-D twin lens reflex roll film camera with no light meter

The next generation gets digital cameras that do everything.

Dad’s first telephone was a wall-mounted crank-

style.

Newsmen of his day really had it rough phoning in stories to the paper over crummy phone lines.

Things didn’t change much for my generation except the phone lines got better and the phones had dials.

The next generation didn’t even have to think about phone lines.

Dad did all of his writing by hand or on a really heavy typewriter.

I started with a typewriter, but graduated to a huge mainframe computer

When I talk about working for a newspaper, pounding away on my typewriter, some in the current generation would ask “What’s a typewriter?”

Back in the day (I’m growing to hate that expression) when I would be out of town covering a news event such as a murder trial or I had to phone in stories from notes I had taken in the courtroom.

I didn’t have the luxury of whipping out my story in advance and, more often than not, I had to make collect calls.

And, since the paper had more than one edition, I would have to update my story and hope I could remember what I said in the earlier version.

### **See Edit Desk, See Page 6**

In other news our officers have changed.

Pete Hart is new 1st vice president replacing Dave Robson

Frank Embrey is new 2nd vice president replacing Pete Hart

### **Officers, From Page 1**

James Gorman is new chaplain replacing Bobby Moore.

John Hruska will serve as a director with a term expiring in 2020 and Daniel Barrs in a term expiring in 2021. Joe Drabick has reenlisted to a term expiring in 2022. Frank DiBello remains as president.

# *This Just In - News At 11*

James M Gorman, Machinist Mate 3rd (66-68) of Evansville, Ind. has taken over the duties of chaplain from Chief Machinist Mate Bobby Moore (61-69) because of health issues



**James Gorman**

Moore who served the Sumner in many areas has asked to be relieved of duty in this role.

Gorman went to the USS Repose AH-16 where he finished his first enlistment. After a very diversified career in the Reserves, he went back on active duty from 1982-1992 as a NC9585/Recruiter ending his active duty with a total of 14 yrs.

He reverted to his present and parent rate at the



**Wreath Resting Place** - Soldier representing a Vietnam military man appears to be pointing at the USS Allen M. Sumner memorial wreath on the campus of the College of the Ozarks where our memorial service was held.

time of BM1 ending his Reserve career with a total of another 14 years that gave him a total of 28 years combined service.

His civilian life consisted of holding many different careers including eight years as an Evansville Policeman being on the SWAT for almost six of those years; clinical duty in the hospital to include RT, EMT, and Ortho Technician and GU Tech; and concluded his civilian careers as a hospital chaplain for thirteen years before retiring.

Asked to describe what he sees as the role of the ships Chaplain and this is his reply:

Speaking from my experience as a hospital chaplain, mine was to be that of a 'presence' as opposed to proselytizing.

In real life, combat or retired, I see the military chaplain's core identity somewhat the same; but it is also set by many different protocols, the Geneva Convention being one.

Chaplain training and leadership of all denominations should be that of knowledge of all other faiths; but, also respecting the faith of others.

And the role of the chaplain should be that of a peacemaker, not a warrior; a bridge builder, an ally and not an enemy. The chaplain's role should also be promoting the dignity of human life and the voice of every person, irrespective of rank, sex, creed, or any other difference. Nourishing a group is probably by far what I see as an integral part of everyday life, military or civilian.

## **Did You Know?**

*The basis of a digital camera*

*was invented in 1973. It was a charge-coupled device, with which it was possible to obtain an image size of 100x100 pixels.*



# 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 &amp; Above</u> /with hat purchase	Free
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	White T-Shirt w/Ship on Front (Circle Size - S, M, L, XL)	\$20.00
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	Sumner Hat/Lapel/Tie Tac Pin	\$ 6.00
	Sumner License Plate bracket/holder	\$ 5.00
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	Sumner Commemorative Challenge Coin (Approximately 1½ inches in diameter)	\$10.00
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	Sumner shaving/toilet kit bag	\$10.00
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	USS Cooper (Dive to)/Return to Ormoc Bay (Battle of) DVD (Runtime: 80 minutes)	\$ 8.00
	For additional items go to <a href="http://www.dd-692.com">www.dd-692.com</a> Click the "reunion" tab then the "Ship Store" line	
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**See Next Page for New Shipping Charges for Ship's Store Items**

**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.

**Sumner Sailor Goes to “Final Muster”**

Walter E. Asbell, ET 2nd Class Petty Officer, 87, who served aboard the USS Allen M. Sumner in 1954-55 was called to final muster on. May 16

He was born July 3, 1931.

Services were held May 18 at Moreland Funeral Home, Westerville, Ohio with interment in Northlawn Memory Gardens

Contributions may be made to Dementia Society of America.

**Edit Desk from Page 4**

And that was just the story part. The

photographs I took were another story.

If the event was ongoing – more than one day such as the aforementioned trial – I had to find a bus station and ship my film back to the newspaper.

Nowadays reporters, armed with laptops, can practically write and send stories while in the courtroom. And photographers can do the same.

Since I took on both roles that sure would have made my job easier. Now I could take a photograph and send it with my iPhone.

I suppose a future generation will only have to think about a story or photograph and send it by mental telepathy.

Science Fiction, here we come!

**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”

**Did You Know?**

*Before the mast:*

*Literally, the position of the crew whose living quarters on board were in the forecandle (the section of a ship forward of the foremast).*

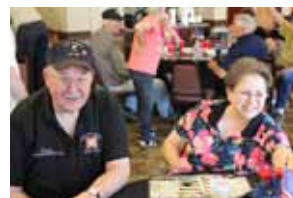
*The term is also used more generally to describe seamen as compared with officers, in phrases such as “he sailed before the mast.”*

# PHOTO GALLERY REUNION MEMORIES VOL I BRANSON, MISSOURI

By  
Pete  
Dromms



## *Candid Shots in the Hospitality Room*





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