



The Sumner Sentinel ©

November - December 2019
Volume VI Number 6

Yippee - We've Got a Place to Stay!

A new era for shipmates of the USS Allen M. Sumner will begin next year as they join with sailors of the USS Moale in a joint reunion in Nashville, Tenn.

The event is to be held in the Best Western Plus Nashville downtown hotel May 3 to May 6, 2020 at a room rate of \$125.90 per night

The hotel is located at 2401 Brick Church Pike, Nashville, Tenn. 37207

Initially 40 rooms have been blocked and the same room rates will be applicable 3 days before the arrival of the group and 3 days after the departure of the group.

The Sumner will be allowed to get food and alcohol from outside.

The hotel shall only provide tables and chairs. Everything else will be provided by us.

The hotel shall provide the ice to us in the coolers that will be supplied by us.

The hotel includes event space, Complimentary Hot Breakfast Buffet, an Outdoor Pool, a Gym along with Free Wi-Fi, a Business Center, an Indoor Market as well as a Free Downtown Shuttle (2.5 miles).

Other sites include the Johnny Cash Museum - 3.8 miles and Music City Center - 4.1 miles.

Please contact the hotel at 1-615-226-4600 (800) 528-1234) and specify that you are a part of the USS Allen M Sumner/USS Moale Reunion

Group. Rates are reserved until April 25th, 2020.

The association registration is separate and distinct from your hotel registration.

Order form in next (January-February) issue.



**Reunion Association
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE . . .

Greetings to all

Hope everybody is doing well and getting ready for the holidays.



Frank DiBello

I visited shipmate Bobby Moore in the hospital in his home town of Bernice Louisiana .I thiught I could make the round trip drive in less than ten hours, but due to the bad weather it ended up being close to twelve hours. It was worth every minute of it to see that big smiling face of his.

He is having to have assistance to breath, but he is getting better every-day.Be sure to keep Bobby and his family in your prayers. His hospital

information is on the website, if anybody would like to send him a card . He can hardly talk due to his lack of breath,but if you call him on his cell phone, his son or daughter or Mary will help translate for you if they are there.

Also keep Dan Barrs and his wife Lynette in your prayers. Dan is getting over knee surgery and Lynette fell while trying to go upstairs.Their are home and are both getting better every day, we just don't heal as fast as we used to do !

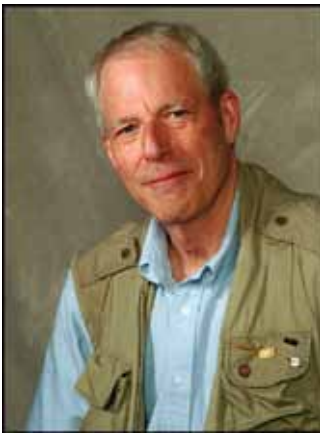
We need to keep all of our fellow shipmates and families in our prayers, as we don't seem to be getting any younger.

Looking forward to seeing everybody in Nashville.

Hope everybody has great holidays with family and friends. Keep warm and dry, and don't over do it with all the great holiday foods.

Fair Winds And Following Seas To All

Frank and Connie DiBello



By Don Hayden TM3 (1961-62)

I'll tell you what's hard. It's being a graduate of a university in the same conference playing a football team other than your own when that team happens to be Navy.

And to make matters worse, for years my wife and a nephew have had moderately expensive season tickets except for this year when we decided to get general admission (much cheaper) in part due to several crummy seasons.

Interesting enough our coach has never won against Navy in the four since he as hired.

The general admission seats are also where the visitors sit.

I decided to compromise for this game - wear my school colors and my Sumner hat.

On the first play of the game, Navy provided us with a gift - a fumble on their own, 20-yard line.

But alas, we couldn't take of it and our place kicker muffed a three-point attempt.

We were pretty much used to this as our team lost the previous week to Southern Methodist

University in three overtimes - each the result of a bad field goal attempt.

The rest of the game (our fans would call it a debacle) was pretty much a runaway for the Midshipmen.

There were two bright spots in the game - at halftime a rear admiral swore in 50 new recruits and I was sitting behind a lad wearing a ball cap denoting the plank owner of the USS Robert

K. Huntington (DD-781) - an Allen M. Sumner class destroyer.

I engaged him in conversation and the cap turned out to have belonged to his grandfather.

I told him his grandfather's ship was in my ship's class and he then noticed my hat and made the connection.

The Huntington was one of the ships which escorted battleship Missouri into Tokyo Bay to receive the official Japanese surrender. She then returned to San Diego carrying 100 marines home.

There were other similarities between the Sumner and Huntington: In the spring of 1946 she returned to the Marshalls as a unit of JTF 1 during Operation "Crossroads" the first atomic bomb test at Bikini.

In July she witnessed the air burst from a considerable distance and the more spectacular underwater blast from the comparatively close range of 10 miles.



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 "20, 21 or greater or L, etc. after your name on the newsletter mailing label does not reflect the upcoming **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 _____	
Make Checks Payable to USS A.M. Sumner Association Send to: USS A.M. Sumner Association, 301 Park Ln., North Syracuse, NY 13212-2143	

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	\$ 3.50
	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

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.

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 2016 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”

Did You Know?

The first postage stamps issues by the Post Office went on sale on July 1, 1847. The 5-cent stamp had a picture of Benjamin Franklin and the 10-cent stamp bore the likeness of George Washington

The Brownie camera, introduced by Kodak in 1900, was named after popular cartoon characters of the time. The tie-in was intended to help get children interested in photography.

Veterans Day Services Held for Plank Owner

A funeral service was held on Veterans Day at Tuscaloosa Memorial Park and Chapel for Clarence McKinley Clements, 95, of Midfield, Ala. who died on Nov. 6, 2019 at Veterans Hospital, Birmingham. A military burial followed the chapel service.

Clarence was born Sept. 30, 1924 in Henry County, Ala. He spent his younger years living in Tuscaloosa, before moving to his current home in Midfield.

Clarence was a proud World War II Navy veteran who served on the USS Allen M. Sumner. He escorted the USS Missouri to the signing of the Peace Treaty, served in major battles in the liberation of the Philippines, and was awarded a Presidential Citation for his service.

At a recent ship reunion, he was recognized as a "plank owner" of the USS Allen M. Sumner meaning he was on the ship when it was being built.



Clarence M. Clements

In 2009 Clarence attended an Honor Flight to Washington, D.C.

Clarence worked for Buffalo Rock Bottling Company in Tuscaloosa before he moved to Midfield and worked as a heavy equipment operator. Later he worked for Jack Cole trucking company where he retired.

He was a master mason of the Pleasant Grove Masonic Lodge, No. 909.

He read his "Birmingham News" every afternoon until Judge Judy came on TV. He stayed up too late watching old Westerns. He was determined to remain independent, was a generous man, a big fan of Alabama football, and he loved listening to old Gospel music.

He is survived by his grandchildren Jeffrey Kyle Grayson (Jennifer), Shaun Chadwick Grayson "Chad", Jason McKinley Clements (Theresa) and Jennifer Raye Clements. Clarence is also survived by eight great grandchildren, many nieces and nephews, and caring next door neighbors.

The family suggests memorials to made to favorite charities in lieu of flowers.

Some Stuff to do in Nashville

HONKY TONK HIGHWAY

Let's talk about a thing called Honky Tonk Highway. Music City's honky tonks line both sides of Broadway and pump live music into the streets all day, every day.

There's no cover charge but the tip jar gets passed around for those wanting to appreciate the musicians that make Nashville Music City. The music starts at 10am with the party lasting until 3 in the morning.

Free Music Venues: AJ's Good Time Bar, Bootleggers Inn, Crazy Town, Dierks Bentley's Whiskey Row, Honky Tonk Central, Jason Al-

dean's Rooftop Kitchen + Bar, Luke's 32 Bridge Food + Drink, Ole Red Nashville, Redneck Riviera Bar & BBQ, Rippy's Smokin' Bar & Grill, Robert's Western World, Tootsie's Orchid Lounge, and Whiskey Bent Saloon.

LOWER BROADWAY

Towards the lower side of Broadway are unique Nashville joints playing the music and keeping the party going with excellent drink specials. The venues in this area have some of the best music one can find for less than a penny.

Lots more in the next issue!



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