



The Sumner Sentinel ©

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Sister Ship Idea With the Moale Falls Short

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

The Cononavirus had other ideas.

Officers in meetings of both ships agreed to see this happen. The Moale association originally had planned a reunion in Nashville for 2019 but agreed to hold it in Branson as Sumner shipmates had voted to go the Nashville in 2020.

The move was made because of dwindling numbers of shipmates attending reunions and because the Sumner and Moale are “sister ships.”

If the idea had come to fruition both ships would participate in a banquet, hospitality areas and memorial service.

Each would have separate business meetings.

That said, there is reason to believe the idea could still happen - just not next year.

Even though “Stay At Home” mandates have been relaxed there will only be e-mail versions of the newsletters because of the editor’s compromised immune system.

There are some fun things to do in the Galveston area.

High on the list could be a trip to Pelican Island and the nautical display of the USS Stewart DDE (238) and the USS Cavalla (SS-244).

Our President - Frank DiBello - is working to incorporate the display into our memorial service.

According to the Historic Naval Ships Association, the Stewart (an Edsal Class Destroyer Escort) was launched Nov. 22, 1942 at: Brown Shipbuilding Company, Houston, Texas and Commissioned: on May 31, 1943.



She was armed with Three 3 inch/50 caliber guns, two quad 40mm guns, ten twin 20mm guns, hedgehogs, K-guns and depth charges. USS Stewart began her service operating out of Miami as a

See Sister, Back Page

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE . . .

Greetings to everyone

I hope everybody is doing well during these uncharted waters that we are having to sail through. Hopefully we will come through this time in our lives and continue on being stronger from our experience .



Frank DiBello

I know that there are some of you that still want to go to Nashville, however our constitution states in ARTICLE VI

“Meetings”

Section 1

Reunions of CREW members will be held annually in the first week of May and a business meeting will be held at such time, by majority vote of those present the location of the reunion two (2) years hence will occur.”

(While in Branson we voted to go the Nashville and then Houston-Galveston. Then the Covid-19 took Nashville out of the equation.)

Therefore we are still going to have our reunion in the Houston-Galveston area as voted in during the Branson reunion meeting, for our May 2nd through May 5th, 2021 reunion.

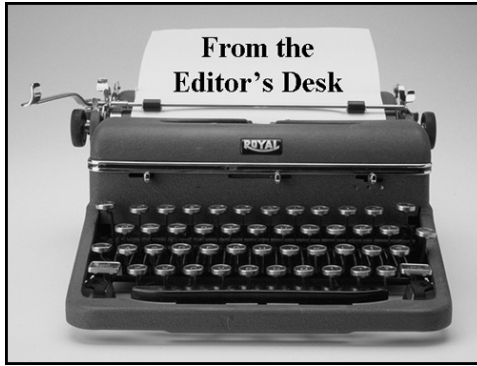
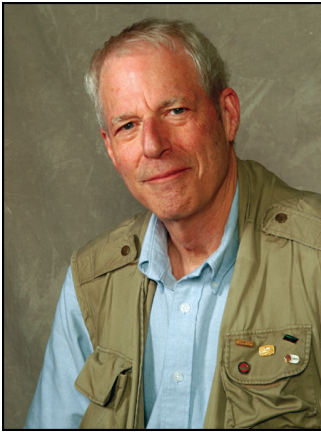
I am sorry to hear that our USS Moale shipmates have elected not to join us in Texas. They have decided to set their course to Nashville for next year.

I have already been in contact with providers for our venue in 2021, following our usual standards for our reunions. I am addressing this as soon as I can so that we can secure the best accommodations and the best functions for the best reunion.

Stay Safe. Looking forward to seeing y'all in 2021!

Fair winds and following seas to all.

Frank DiBello



By Don Hayden TM3 (1961-62)

I was leaving for the last time and being told that someday I would I would remember only the good times.

Yeah right.

Well 56 years later he was right.

It actually might have been in 2005 when I attended my first Sumner reunion and witnessed the memorial wreath being passed through the ranks

and what that stood for.

Over the Memorial Day weekend I visited a display of more than 400 pairs of boots representing fallen Oklahoma soldier.

It was a display put on by Joshua Starks, VFW Post 577 commander a veteran of Afghanistan units.

Starks said he hopes to blanket the park with 13,000 boots and crocheted poppies in honor

The older I get, the more patriotic I get. Or maybe it just seems that way.

I recall in 1964 that I couldn't wait get off the ship (it was the USS Yellowstone AD-27) at the time.

I had served on the Sumner from July 1961 to December 1962.

I remember saluting a chief



petty officer (from my division) on the quarterdeck as

of soldiers who have died since statehood (1907).

Josh personally aided the editor to view the display to keep him from falling when he suffered a loss of blood pressure.



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Sister, From Front Page

“school ship” training student officers.

She escorted President Roosevelt in the presidential yacht down the Potomac River to rendezvous with USS Iowa in the Chesapeake bay for his mission to Casablanca and Tehran. In 1944, she commenced North Atlantic convoy operations, making 30 crossings with occasional enemy submarine and aircraft encounters. Heavy seas and icing conditions were frequent.

Stewart moved to the Pacific theater in mid 1945, and conducted training exercises out of Pearl Harbor until the end of the war. She was decommissioned in late 1945.

In 1974, Stewart was formally donated to Sea-wolf Park. She is the second ship named for Rear Admiral Charles Stewart who commanded another ship in the historic naval fleet, USS Constitution, from 1813 to 1815.



On June 4 the editor fell and fractured his hip. He spent 10 days in the hospital and another 14 in a rehabilitation facility.

Until either he can walk better or the Covid-19 madness is over (whichever comes first) this will be the extent of newsletters.