



The Sumner Sentinel ©

May - June 2015
Volume II Number 3

Annapolis Done - Cleveland Up Next

Practically on the heels of the 27th Annual Reunion in Annapolis, Md., President Frank DiBello and shipmate Scotty Kopfstein (Reunion 28 coordinator) had to scramble to secure a hotel for next year's get together in Cleveland, Ohio.

Normally this duty doesn't come about until November or December.

The reason being (wouldn't you know - we didn't two years ago) the Republican National Convention is scheduled there in July and folks were booking early for pre-gatherings.

The hotel is the Cleveland Airport Marriott. More information will be presented as it is forthcoming.

Our Annapolis reunion was huge in several ways: the biggest event being our business meeting where changes to our constitution and bylaws were made.

With the announced retirement of Chief Joe Gall as secretary/treasurer, that office was split into two positions.

Elected secretary was Don Hayden (TM3 - 1961-62) of Tulsa, Okla. and elected treasurer was Pete Drooms (FTG2 - 1966-67) of North Syracuse, N.Y.

Other items voted on and changed include holding the annual banquet on the second night

See Changes, Page 6



Photo by Don Hayden

**Reunion Association
Officers**

President.

Frank DiBello
DIBELLOFP@AOL.COM

1st Vice President

Dave Robson
robson29@bellsouth.net

2nd Vice President

George Aichele
G1943@AOL.COM

Past President

Bob Kelly
B692@AOL.COM

Secretary

Don Hayden
editor@dd-692.com

Treasurer

Pete Dromms
the.chief@verizon.net

Chaplain

Bobby Moore
bobbymoo71222@gmail.com

Master-At-Arms

H. Kelly Brown III
KELLYB@HAL-PC.ORG

Alternate Master-At-Arms

Pete Dromms
the.chief@verizon.net

Directors/Terms Expire

Terry Conaway
- 2016 -

tkoaway@hotmail.com

John Barry
- 2017 -

barry4373@sbcglobal.net

H. Kelly Brown III
- 2018 -

KELLYB@HAL-PC.ORG

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE . . .

I want to thank everyone for making our 2015 Annapolis Reunion a great success. Once again that great "Sumner Spirit" came through. Thanks to everyone that stepped up and made it wonderful.



Frank DiBello

Although this one had some "Rough Seas, we sailed through it okay.

Please forgive me if I forget to mention your name. Thank you Connie, for all your hard work and details you took on to make this reunion turn out so successful and for keeping me on the right tract.

I especially want to thank Fred Willshaw for keeping me straight and making sure that everything went as planned. Thanks to Karen Harderer and Mary Moore for handling the registration. Thank you Rita Hart and Gail Dromms for

handling the auction and Ship's Store.

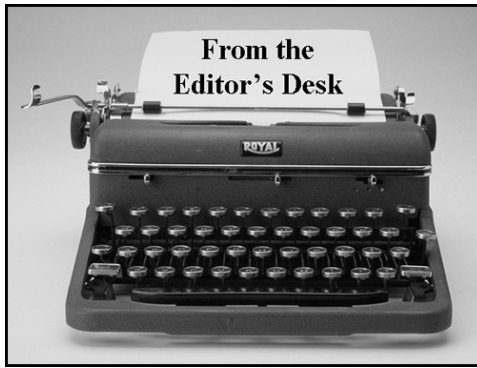
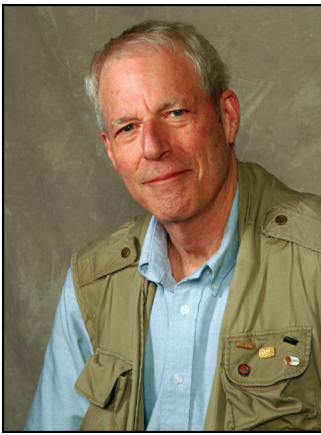
Thanks to Connie, Dale Surber, Dave Robson, Bernie and Vickie Armstrong, Jim and Elaine Armstrong, and Scotty and Linda Kopfs-tein for keeping the Hospitality Room running smoothly.

I especially want to thank Pete and Gail Dromms.

For the third year in a row, they went out of their way to go to Chief Joe Gall's house, a five hour drive round trip, and pick up es-sentials for the reunion. They were always there to help when there was a need for anything to be done; "Dromms Trucking - Serving the Fleet"!

See President, Page 6





By Don Hayden TM3 (1961-62)

Well now that the smoke has cleared away from the Annapolis reunion wherein I was elected to the office of secretary (what did I get myself into?) I can concentrate on getting this newsletter out.

With the retirement of reunion association founder Joe Gall, this newsletter - The Sumner Sentinel - becomes the official publication for association members.

It also will continue to be posted in the Sumner website under the "Reunion" tab.

You might check out the constitution and by-laws information as there were wholesale changes made.

I welcome ideas from shipmates about stories to run. Let me know (my e-mail is on the last page).

I will be sending out member questionnaires in the future in hopes to reacquaint shipmates with each other. Information from these questionnaires will be woven into stories under the heading of Member Spotlight.

Just like other organizations to which I belong, Sumner reunions tend to be cliquish with shipmates associating with those with whom they served.

At this past reunion, I made it a goal to talk to someone I didn't know.

I sometimes get tired of telling and listening to the same old sea stories.

However, at this reunion, there seemed to be a transition from sea stories to medical histories.

I thought I had a lot of medical issue, but boy did I get trumped!

Digressing a bit, I have to relate a new experience which occurred when I was enroute to Annapolis.

My flight included a two-hour layover in Houston so I thought I'd grab a bite.

When I had finished and asked the waiter for my tab, he replied that it "was paid for by that gentleman over there" indicating a fellow two booths away.

When I went over and thanked him, he said "it's the least I could do."

I've had people thank me for my service, but never someone who paid for a meal.

Guess I should wear my Sumner hat more often.

Some Memorial Day Discounts for Veterans

Shoney's

Located throughout the southeastern part of the U.S., Shoney's is offering a free all-American burger to active-duty and military veterans on Memorial Day. Proof of honorable military service is required. Dine-in only. Offer valid at participating restaurants only.

Lowe's

On Memorial Day, Lowe's 10 percent military discount is given to those serving in the armed services, immediate family and all veterans. To qualify, you must have a valid military ID card, Veteran Identification Card or other proof of service.

See Discounts, Page 6

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. It will (for the moment) be an honor system. Our membership year is based on a regular calendar year.

This form will appear in the November-December issue of this newsletter and note that you need to renew your membership in the USS Allen M. Sumner Reunion Association.

For now, we will assume you have paid your 2015 dues.

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 Drooms, 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

Reading the Names of those who died in the Kamikazi Attack



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

Terry Conaway TERRY@DD-692.com
(909) 647-3741

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

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"

Changes

Continued from Page 1

(usually Monday), holding the memorial service on the third day (usually Tuesday) and moving the business meeting to 0900 on the day of the banquet.

Another change voted in was that the Reunion Assistance Fund Committee shall be in control of all “comp” room(s) at our Reunion Hotel. Should the use of any of these room(s) not be required the “comp” room(s) will go to the Reunion Local Area Coordinator or to whom he may direct this right.

More than 70 shipmates, wives, significant others and guests attended the Annapolis reunion.

President

Continued from Page 2

Pete made numerous trips in Anapolis taking Dale, Dave, Connie and myself to get supplies, food and “Booze runs”.

Thanks to everyone who purchased tickets for the Shipmate Assistance Fund drawing. All proceeds of the 50-50 drawing go to the Shipmate Assistance Fund. Thanks for everyone who participated in the live and silent auctions.

Thank You, Don Hayden for all your skilled photography work that you do for the Association each year and the newsletter - The Sumner Sentinel.

Thanks to all the ladies who read the names of our fallen sailors at the Memorial Service and for Jim Frederickson for ringing the bell.

Last, but not least, a special thanks to our wonderful speakers, Capt. Glenn Gottchalk, Dr. William B. Cogar, Executive Director, Historic Naval Ships, and CDR Howard Sipple USN (Ret.) for sharing his knowledge of the Academy and giving a great tour of the grounds.

Once again I just want to thank each and every one of you.

If I neglected to recognize anyone, please forgive me. You ALL did a great job!

See you in Cleveland next year!

Discounts

Continued from Page 3

Home Depot

All veterans and active duty military qualify for a 10 percent discount from Thursday, May 21, 2015 through Monday, May 25, 2015, at Home Depot. Anyone requesting the Memorial Day veterans discount is asked to present a DOD-issued military ID, a Veteran ID Card, veteran’s driver’s license (in applicable states) or a DD214 that states they were honorably discharged.

Blue Star Museums

Blue Star Museums is a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense and more than 2,000 museums across America to offer free admission to the nation’s active-duty military personnel and their families, including National Guard and Reserve, Veterans, from Memorial Day, May 25, 2015 through Labor Day, September 7, 2015. Military ID and Veteran ID required.

Amazon.com

Free “Veterans Day Honor” MP3 album download

Bob Evans Restaurants

All you can eat pancakes on Veterans Day. Must have valid Veteran ID Card.

Texas Road House

10% military discount.

TGI Fridays

20% off food purchases. No other offer/disc. Must have valid Veteran ID.

PHOTO GALLERY REUNION MEMORIES I ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND



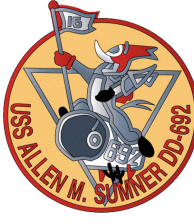


Newsletter Office
3026 S. Cincinnati Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74114
(918) 743-2924
Editor.....Don Hayden
E-Mail: editor@dd-692.com

www.dd-692.com
Webmaster
Fred Willshaw
Fred@dd-692-com



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



Sumner Sentinel
3026 S. Cincinnati Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74114

When we get all the records, including mailing lists, address labels will go here. Could be awhile. If you know someone who doesn't have an e-mail address, contact the editor.

The organization can save a lot of money (for reunion stuff) if the majority of newsletters go out by electronic means.