



USS FLOYD B. PARKS DD-884 ASSOCIATION

February, 2017

MESSAGE FROM THE ASSOCIATION'S PRESIDENT

After watching the weather reports from around the country, it has already been a challenging 2017 for many of our USS Floyd B. Parks family. Here in the Minnesota North, it has been from -35' to +45' in a span of seven days. We are eagerly looking forward to a week of sun and sea in San Diego next September, even if it is a long way off.

Pamela and Theresa have found us another great Crowne Plaza Hotel. It is located in Mission Valley minutes from the airport and downtown, and has recently been refurbished. It has great space for our hospitality room and banquet room, and we will be able to operate our own bar.

At the Men's meeting in Colorado, it was decided we would have one group tour day and let everyone have additional time for individual/small group activities to re-explore our old homeport. San Diego has changed a lot since the ship was decommissioned. RTC/NTC is gone, and the South of Market red-light district that some of us may remember is now a prime recreation destination.

As we approach the 25th Reunion, we should be thankful for the hard work and long hours put in by Robby, Bill, Sue, and the others that got us to this milestone. San Diego will be an opportunity to celebrate the present and to honor the memory of the crew members and their families who are no longer with us.

Wishing you and yours fair winds and following seas.

Jim Smith
Association President

SHIPMATES SAVE THE DATE!!

MINI REUNION LUNCHEON
SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2017
Imperial Beach FRA Branch 289
659 Silver Strand Blvd.
Imperial Beach, CA 91933-0097
Tel: 619 423-4289

The FRA (and Cheryl) will once again serve up their delicious beef pot roast with side dishes and salad along with dessert. The cost for the lunch will be \$15 per person which will be collected at the door. Door Prize ticket given with each paid luncheon ticket. I am hopeful that Cheryl will be there as she mentioned to me that she is retiring in April, she's been the FRA Host/Cook for some time now and it will be sad to see her go, but it would be nice to see her and wish her well.

We hope you can make it, so mark your calendars and plan on attending this fun filled afternoon so you can catch up with friends near and far and to rehash the good old "sea days". Come early for an afternoon drink and social hour prior to the luncheon.

Please R.S.V.P. to Janet Romero as soon as possible so she can get a head-count for the lunches to be served. You can call Janet at (626) 483-1263 and leave word with a "yay" or a "nay" and/or email her at jlromero311@verizon.net. Please be sure to leave your full name, guest name(s) and/or the amount of people that will be joining you at the luncheon. I am so looking forward to seeing as many of you that can make it to the luncheon, and will miss those who cannot. See you soon!

Janet Romero, Mini Reunion Coordinator

**USS Floyd B Parks 2017 Reunion
San Diego, California
September 14 -18, 2017**

We are pleased to announce our stay will be at the Crowne Plaza San Diego, Mission Valley. Superb location, relax in a tropical paradise while listening to the outdoor waterfall or dip your toes in the outdoor heated pool. **Crown Plaza 2270 Hotel Circle North San Diego, CA 92108**

www.cp-sandiego.com Amenities include Wireless Internet, on site restaurant & lounge, heated outdoor pool, room safe, coffee maker, handicap accessible rooms. This is a no smoking hotel. We have secured discounted parking rate of \$4.00 for local and overnight guests per day.

MAKING RESERVATIONS: A dedicated website is now available for your attendees to book their hotel rooms online. Reservations can be made starting February 1, 2017.

BOOKING WEBSITE: <https://aws.passkey.com/e/49061562>

PHONE NUMBER: Please ask for the "USS Floyd B. Parks (DD-884) Reunion 2017" rate when calling. Call in hours are from 7am to 11pm, EST. 1-888-233-9527 **CUTOFF:** The last day to make reservations will be August 24, 2017. All individual reservations have a 48-hour cancellation policy.

This hotel fills up fast and is very popular.

Reservations must be accompanied by a first night room deposit or guaranteed with a major credit card. The cancellation policy is 48 hours prior to arrival. *The group rate will be offered 3 days pre and post of the reunion based on hotel availability.*

King and Queen Room rates are \$122.00 plus tax. Included is a hot breakfast buffet for up to 2 guests per room. If there are three (3) guests in a room, the rate would be \$130.00 and would include breakfast for all three guests. For four (4) guests in a room, the rate would be \$138.00 and include breakfast for all 4 guests.

Transportation: The 2 options are either Super Shuttle at the current rate of \$12 per person, each way or a Taxi which is between \$20-25 each way. The Crowne Plaza offers a complimentary shuttle to Old Town and the Fashion Valley Mall at scheduled times.

Friday, September 15th - Dinner will be at the hotel.

Saturday, September 16th - This year to give everyone more time to revisit memories we are having only 2 tour options on Saturday September 16th, Details are still being worked out, cost and actual agenda will be coming in the May newsletter.

Sunday, September 17th - 25th Anniversary Dinner - Be there for a wonderful time with friends and family!

Things to do in San Diego area!

- ❖ **Balboa Park 3 miles from hotel.** www.balboapark.org
- ❖ **Sea World 3 miles from hotel.** www.seaworldparks.com
- ❖ **Beaches 3 miles from hotel.**
- ❖ **Embarcadero Boardwalk.** Located adjacent to Downtown San Diego along the Big Bay, it's a testament to the regions colorful maritime history complete with historic ships, museums and harbor tours, as well as a working fishing harbor, restaurants and shops.
- ❖ **Gaslamp Quarter.** Stroll through the 16 ½ block historic Gaslamp quarter in downtown San Diego. View the renovated turn of the century Victorian architecture, home to boutiques, art galleries and shops.

**More information in May newsletter along with the activity form.
Hope to see everyone in San Diego.**

Ahoy Shipmates,

At this time, Diana and I are enjoying a mild winter in North Missouri. We are leaving for Florida soon to meet with a few shipmates and enjoy some time in the sun. I think Oscar has a dinner date set with Captain Donovan and several of us will get together with him while in Florida. It is always such fun to keep in touch and have time together between reunions.

As always, more sad news about our lost shipmates. Since our November Newsletter, Robert Bender '45-'46 (Plank Owner), Bobbie Parris '52-'54, Harold Fergeson '50-'54 and Tom Flanagan '52-'54 have passed away. We also just learned that Phyllis Winstead (Henry) recently passed away.

Please keep those of need in your prayers and if the super bowl teams are not ok, I will pray that you will understand those of us that are celebrating. A certain shipmate from Pittsburg needs our help after the hometown lost.

Keep the faith and enjoy each day.

David Lewis, MM3 '70-'73

Association Chaplain

(If you know of someone that is ill or has passed away, please email or call me so I can share with the Parks Family idawdle@nemr.net 660-216-0055)

Dues Update

Welcome aboard Nolan Mitchell, MM2, 55-56!

There are 259 active (have paid dues through at least 2015) members in the Association. One hundred ninety-five have paid dues through 2016 and 79 are current through 2017-as of January 30, 2017; sincere thanks to you who are current. **Your \$10 annual dues are needed to pay the Association administrative cost.** Please remit your dues by check payable to USS FLOYD B PARKS ASSN, INC and mail to USS FLOYD B PARKS ASSN c/o Dennis Allion, 4 Los Encinos Drive, Del Rey Oaks, CA 93940.

If you are no longer able or interested in being a member please contact me by mail, email or phone (see "Officers" list below for email and phone number).

Sincerely, *Dennis Allion, Your Association Treasurer*

OFFICERS

President - Jim Smith, STG2 '72-'73	jwsmith@paulbunyan.net	218-224-3581
Vice President - John Hall, MM '70-'72	jmilanhall@gmail.com	469-556-6607
Sec. /Treasurer - Dennis Allion, ENS '72-'73	fbparksdd884.treas@gmail.com	831-915-0857
Master at Arms – Michael Shoen, MMFN '70-'72	mikelschoen@gmail.com	608-788-1589
Chaplain/Ships Store - David Lewis, MM3 '70-'73	idawdle@nemr.net	660-216-0055
Historian – Marie Sigmon, HON. MEM.	Marie.sigmon@yahoo.com	330-461-2534
Event Planner – Pamela Smith	ppog3_52@yahoo.com	612-290-4465
Newsletter – Theresa Allion	tjallion@sbcglobal.net	831-402-2764

**U.S.S. FLOYD B. PARKS
DD884 ASSOCIATION**

Dennis Allion
4 Los Encinos Drive
Del Rey Oaks, CA 93940

February, 2017

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