



USS FLOYD B. PARKS

DD-884 ASSOCIATION

January 2022

Greetings from Frozen Northern Minnesota,

First the good news: The Tin Can Sailor's Association (TCSA) is moving forward with our 2022 reunion. As of this date, there are eighteen ship's Associations scheduled to attend, along with individual sailors not part of any particular group. They have a good preliminary selection of tours that will be available, and based on their pre-covid reunions, they will keep us entertained and busy. Those of us who served on several Destroyers may have a chance to meet up with some of those crew members. TCSA is catching up on the ground lost due to covid problems and their newsletter should be current with the next issue. The cost for a yearly membership is now \$35.00. Contact information is below.

The Floyd B. Parks will have its own separate hospitality room. We will also have group seating at dinners, the banquet and tours. Depending on the number of attendees, we may also want to consider our own small group tours. The Houston area and the Gulf have lots of possibilities for individual/small group fun. Once TCSA puts specific information on their website, **remember to request a reunion packet from Monica**. Contact the Hilton Houston North at (281) 875-2222 to make your reservation placing it under "Tin Can Sailors Reunion". We will also share any additional information as soon as it is available.

2021 was a tough year and 2022 is not starting any better. Dennis has provided the latest version of our ship's active member roster, and unfortunately, we are a rapidly shrinking group. Since the last newsletter, we have lost one of our oldest and one of the youngest members.

- † **Jim Highton**, 46-47, was a fixture at many reunions, and the TCSA published one of his letters shortly after his passing.
- † My first CO, **CAPT James McCulloch**, 71-72, passed last May.
- † **Tom Hartford**, 69-71, passed in December from Cancer.
- † **Maynard R. Gunn** BT3, 49-52
- † Most recently in January 2022, we were notified that **David Lewis**, 70-73, our Chaplain and ship's store operator met an untimely covid related death.

We will miss them all. Please keep their families in your thoughts and prayers.

To close on a more positive note, we have gained a few members that I hope to meet in Houston.

May you have fair winds and following seas.

Jim Smith

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In Memory of David Lewis

We loved David's love for our Lord. When we needed a Chaplain and Ships Store, David answered the call. You will be missed!

We share his closing statement with you one last time...



"May the Lord bless and keep you safe until we meet again"

TREASURER UPDATE:

Happy 2022 to all. At the end of December 2021, there was \$45,278 in our bank accounts. The members voted to use up to \$1,000 of those funds annually to support a hospitality room at the Tin Can Sailors Reunion. It cost a little more than \$350 to print and mail our newsletters and \$750 per year (currently) to maintain the Association's website. **Reminder: we are not collecting dues!**

Our "active" membership has dropped to 265. I sincerely appreciate individuals who let me know of people who have died - always sad to know but important to keep the records straight and update our Memorial on the website. Thank you.

Sec./Treasurer, Dennis Allion

OFFICERS

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