



USS FLOYD B. PARKS DD-884 ASSOCIATION

June. 2017

Greetings on behalf of your Association Officers:

Eight months have already slipped by since our last reunion, and it is time to start planning for another great time this coming September. San Diego will be special for several reasons. It was our homeport, it is the 25th anniversary of our first reunion, and just because it is San Diego.

Based on the input from the last Men's Meeting, there will be fewer group activities this year to allow more free time while in the old homeport. The Hospitality Room will be available when group activities aren't scheduled. For the entire group, there will be a combined USS Midway tour and harbor cruise with box lunch Saturday, and the Banquet on Sunday evening. Friday there is an optional bus tour that includes all the famous spots in the area and lunch at the Bali Hai on Shelter Island.

In an effort to keep your costs down, instead of eating some very expensive chicken as a group at the hotel, both Friday and Saturday evenings are free time to dine on your own. Additionally, the Association is covering the cost of the Banquet meal for shipmates (*please make sure your annual dues are current*), spouses/significant others, and Honorary Member status surviving spouses.

Specific details are elsewhere in this newsletter. Please make the job easier for Pamela, Theresa, and Dennis by getting your information in early. Sooner is better.

"SEE YOU IN SAN DIEGO"

Wishing you fair winds and following seas,

Jim Smith

Our 25th Anniversary Reunion in San Diego September 14-18, 2017

Crowne Plaza San Diego, Mission Valley. Great location at 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. This is a no smoking hotel. We have also secured discounted parking rate of \$4.00 for local and overnight guests per day.

Reservations booking website: <https://aws.passkey.com/e/49061562>

Phone number: Call in hours 7am-11pm EST. 1-888-233-9527 ask for USS Floyd B Parks reunion 2017 rate. Reservations have a **48-hour cancellation policy**.

Deadline for reservations August 24, 2017. Our group rate is offered 3 days before and after the reunion based on hotel availability. (Block room are filling up fast don't wait).

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. Four (4) guests in a room, the rate would be \$138.00 and include breakfast for all 4 guests.

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

Get Ready For Another Great Time!

Due to many requests for an optional tour on Friday we have put together the bus tour below.

Friday, September 15th: Narrated City Bus Tour. This tour includes Mount Soledad Veteran's Memorial located in LaJolla 900 feet above sea level with a sweeping 360 degree view of San Diego and the ocean. We will travel through Coronado and by the famous Del Coronado hotel built in 1888. Shopping at Seaport Village and lunch will be at the classic Bali Hai restaurant located on Shelter Island, established in 1954. We will return to the hotel by 3:00pm.

We had mentioned in the February newsletter, dinner at the hotel on Friday night. However, due to high cost of the dinner, **Friday night will be on your own for dinner.**

Saturday, September 16th: USS Midway Tour is the most visited ship in the world. Everyone will receive a complimentary audio set, this allows you to visit your favorite exhibits. Also we will have a 2 hour narrated harbor excursion with a box lunch. The harbor excursion passes by dozens of points of interest including 5 military bases. We will return to the hotel by 3pm.

Saturday night will be on your own for dinner.

Sunday, September 17th: The men's meeting will start at 10:00am. Please attend for your Association updates. Following the men's meeting our worship service with our Chaplin; David Lewis is at 11:00am.

Sunday, September 17th: **Our 25th Anniversary Dinner**, this will be a special night to enjoy with friends, family and shipmates. *Memories to be made and shared.*

ACTIVITY FORM – SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Name (s): First	Last	Phone #	Email:
1.			
2.			
3.			
Arrival Date:	Departure Date:	Home Town:	
The Crowne Plaza Hotel – Mission Valley is about 10 to 15 minutes from Airport – NO HOTEL SHUTTLE service; use taxi, uber or other commercial transport			
Rank/Rating on PARKS:	Dates served on ship:		New Attendee? Yes or No

Day	Date	Activity	(A) Cost	(B) # of People	Total (A) x (B)
Friday	September 15 th	Narrated city bus tour of San Diego, Harbor side lunch	\$80		
Saturday	September 16 th	USS MIDWAY Tour and 2hour narrated Harbor Excursion with box lunch	\$80		
Saturday Evening	September 16th	Your time to explore San Diego or hang out with Shipmates			
Sunday	September 17 th	Banquet Dinner Member/Spouse/Honorary Member or Member Significant Other Banquet Dinner – Non Member/Spouse or other Non-member guest	\$0		Roasted Tri-Tip
					Salmon
					Chicken
					Vegetarian
Sunday	September 17 th "Guests"	Banquet Dinner – Non Member/Spouse or other Non-member guest Total Dinners	\$50		Roasted Tri-Tip
					Salmon
					Chicken
					Vegetarian
			Total Cost		

Attach the activity form and your check made to **Floyd B. Parks Assn.** for the total activities you would like. **Mail activity form and check by August 15th to: Dennis Allion, 4 Los Encinos Dr. Del Rey Oaks, CA 93940**

Things to do in San Diego area!

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- ❖ **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.

2016 Raffle Guidelines

1. Please place a small note card describing your donation and your name. These will be attached to each of the items. If it is money or a gift card, please place them in an envelope with the above information. This will expedite the receiving process.
2. Due to many folks traveling by air, we ENCOURAGE SMALLER ITEMS...items that fit into a suitcase.

The RAFFLE will take place on Sunday Evening Only!

Nancy Hall is **looking for volunteers (guys are welcome to assist)** to help with the final sale of raffle tickets and running the gifts both Saturday and Sunday evening. Please contact Nancy Hall texasnana3@gmail.com or 469-556-6607.

Greetings Parks Crew,

Hope this note finds everyone in good health and happy with life. I am in full swing with spring planting. We have had good going so far. A bit of news for me. I have been invited to attend the USS INDIANAPOLIS Survivors reunion in Indianapolis late July and asked to help with Chaplain duties in any way I care to. What an honor to meet the few survivors left. This is the 72nd reunion for this group. Well enough about me.

More shipmates have sailed on since my last letter. Tom Flanagan 52-54, Joel Blount 1945, Bobbie Parris 52-57, Bertran Williams 50-51, Darrel Adair 59-62, James Krueger 70-73. Our loss is a sad one as always so prayers and thoughts are important. I want each one who reads this news letter to start making plans for San Diego. Our time is so short it seems so let's all try to make this 25th and more.

Please keep me informed of any needs I should help with. I am just a phone call away and love to visit with any one.

Keep the faith and we will all meet soon this year!

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)

TREASURERS MESSAGE - ANNUAL DUES ARE \$10 PER YEAR Payable to USS FLOYD B PARKS ASSN

Thanks to all those that have paid their 2016-2017 dues! If there is no sticker in this block with details of how much you are in arrears, you are paid up and we sincerely appreciate your commitment to the Association. Your dues have helped pay for the cost of newsletters (printing and mailing), not-for-profit tax filing and other administrative cost of maintaining the Association. I will provide full financial statements at the reunion.

Dennis Allion

Destroyer

*Author Unknown
Courtesy of Walt Urmann*

Over the green hills the bay lies, and after the
harbor the sea,
And a grim, gaunt, grey Destroyer is steaming
there swiftly and free.
With a roll that strains her stanchions and a
pitch that peels her paint
With a roaring red heat in her bowels that
would make the devil faint
She backs on the crest of the billows, she
washes her side in the trough
She ships twenty tons of ocean and then like a
dog shakes it off
Her seamen cling tight to the lifelines, her
black gang is gasping for air
From messcook to skipper they curse her, but
no rank outsider would dare

The smoke boils down on her taffrail, the white
foam unrolls in her wake
The hissing steam throubs in her boilers, for
she has a speed run to make
She lurches and trembles and staggers, alive
from antenna to keel
She reeks of burned oil and hot bearings and
rings with the pulsing of steel
Wild winds lay symphonies top-side—below
crash the drums of the sea
And far to the west of the sunset, green Isles
call to her and to me
She is brine-caked and battered and
crowded—they call her a salty old can
But those aboard grin when they curse her and
each one aboard is a man.

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

June, 2017

**USS Floyd B Parks “*25th Reunion*”
San Diego, California
September 14 -18, 2017**

