

Website:  
[www.ussstoddard.org](http://www.ussstoddard.org)

Date:  
April 20, 2011

# USS STODDARD ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



**USS STODDARD DD566**  
**WWII \* Korea \* Vietnam**

**23rd Reunion - San Antonio**  
**September 28th- October 1st- 2011**

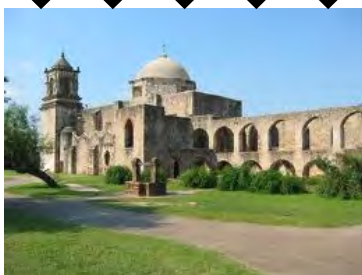


**The Alamo**

**Hosts:**

**John & Carlene**

**Rauh**



**Mission**

**San Jose**

## Host City—San Antonio, Texas

San Antonio is the seventh-largest city in the United States of America and the second-largest city within the state of Texas, with a population of 1.3 million. Located in the south-central part of Texas, the city serves as the seat of Bexar County. It was the fourth-fastest growing large city in the nation from 2000 to 2006 and the fifth-fastest-growing from 2007 to 2008. The San Antonio–New Braunfels metropolitan area has a population of over 2.1 million based on the 2010 U.S. Census, making it the 28th-largest metropolitan area in the U.S and third in Texas. The city was named for San Antonio de Padua, when a Spanish expedition stopped in the area in 1691. Famous for Spanish missions, the Alamo, the River Walk, the Tower of the Americas, the Alamo Bowl, and host to SeaWorld and Six Flags Fiesta Texas theme parks, the city is visited by approximately 26 million tourists per year according to the San Antonio Convention and Visitors Bureau. The city is home to the four-time NBA champion San Antonio Spurs and the annual San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo, one of the largest in the country. San Antonio has a strong military presence—it is home to Fort Sam Houston, Lackland Air Force Base, Randolph Air Force Base, and Brooks City-Base, with Camp Bullis and Camp Stanley outside the city. Kelly Air Force Base operated out of San Antonio until 2001, when the airfield was transferred over to Lackland AFB and the remaining portions of the base became Port San Antonio, an industrial/business park. San Antonio is home to five Fortune 500 companies and to the South Texas Medical Center, the only medical research and care provider in the South Texas region.



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**List of Events for the USS Stoddard 23rd Alumni Reunion**

**Wednesday Registration:** Hospitality Room—beginning at 1 PM.

**Wednesday 7:30 P. M:** We begin the reunion with a narrated 40 minute evening cruise by water barge of the beautiful San Antonio Riverwalk. The boat will pick us up at the front of the hotel.

**Thursday:** The bus will pick us up at the hotel. We will attend the IMAX presentation of “Price of Freedom” at the Rivercenter Mall.



After **IMAX**, we walk across the street to “**THE ALAMO.**”

December 1835, during Texas' war for independence from Mexico, a group of Texan volunteer soldiers occupied the Alamo, a former Franciscan mission, located near the present-day city of San Antonio. February 23, 1836, a Mexican force, numbering in the thousands and led by General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, began a siege of the fort. Though vastly outnumbered, the Alamo's 200 defenders, commanded by James Bowie and William Travis and including the famed frontiersman Davy Crockett, held out courageously for 13 days before the Mexican invaders finally over-



powered them. For Texans the Battle of the Alamo became an enduring symbol of their heroic resistance to oppression and their struggle for independence, which they won later that year.



Lunch will be on your own at the **Rivercenter Mall food court** located across the street. ↗

Following lunch, it's a short trip to the “**MISSION SAN JOSE**”- Founded in 1720 by Fray Antonio



**Mission San Jose**

Margil de Jesús. Mission San José became the largest Texas Mission. After early setbacks, 300 inhabitants were sustained by the vast fields and herds of livestock. A visitor in 1777 referred to the structure as the "Queen of the Missions." The church's carvings are among its most notable features and the famous "Rose Window" is considered one of the finest pieces of Spanish Colonial ornamentation in the country. Other features are the convento area and the stairway to the belfry and choir loft - each of the 25 risers was hand-hewn from a single live-oak log and constructed without nails or pegs. Also featured is a granary with flying buttresses, a gristmill, restored defensive walls and quarters.

**USS Stoddard Memorial Service**

The final stop of the day will be the Vietnam Memorial Park for our annual USS Stoddard Memorial Service.

All USS Stoddard Alumni known to have passed since our last reunion will be remembered.

**MAY THEY REST IN PEACE**



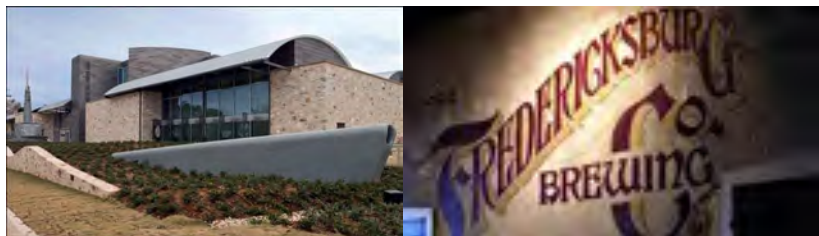
**Vietnam Memorial—San Antonio**

**Thursday evening: Texas B-Q Buffet** at the El Tropicano Hotel featuring smoked brisket, dry rub pork loin, and barbecue chicken. The Mariachi's will provide entertainment.



**Friday:** The bus will pick us up at the hotel for our trip to historic Fredericksburg, TX to visit the **Museum of the Pacific War and the Nimitz Museum.**

The will have a German lunch buffet at the **Fredericksburg Brewing Company**, located near the Museums.



Clint Coneway  
 LTJG 1966-1969  
 Points to Stoddard  
 Plaque at Pacific War  
 Museum  
 June 1998  
 →



**Saturday:** Free day to explore San Antonio. Public transportation is available at the hotel. The Trolley will pick you up across the street from the hotel and the water taxi will pick up in front of the hotel on the river. The cost of the Trolley is \$4.00 per day. The water taxi is \$5.00 one way, or \$10.00 for a day pass. Trolley and Water Taxi run from 9:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M.



We will have visitor packets available at registration.

**Saturday 4:00 PM:** The annual alumni meeting will be held in the Hospitality Room.

**Saturday 6:30 PM:** Banquet and Raffle—We will begin the evening with cocktails (cash bar) and hors d'oeuvres with dinner served at 7:30 PM.



**Remember to bring your items for the raffle.**

As in the past, please remember that many in our group will be flying to San Antonio and will be limited to items they can take home.



**El Tropicano Riverwalk Hotel**

**110 Lexington Avenue—San Antonio, TX 78201**

[www.eltropicanohotel.com](http://www.eltropicanohotel.com)

The El Tropicano Riverwalk Hotel rate will be \$104.00 per day for single or double occupancy.

This rate will be honored two days before and two days after the reunion.

Cancellations must be 72 hours prior to arrival.

The hotel will hold the USS Stoddard room block at the \$104 rate until **August 28th, 2011.**

Reservations require a credit card guarantee or advance deposit.

**Complimentary Agreement:**

Free parking—Free WI-FI- Free Hospitality Room

Two full American breakfast per double occupancy—only 2 per day

One full American breakfast per single occupancy—only 1 per day

**RESERVATIONS: 1-877-214-9768**

**Use Group Code: USG**



## San Antonio Airport Shuttle



Shuttles depart from the SA Airport from 7:00 AM to 1:30 AM daily.

Shuttles depart from downtown hotels beginning at 4:00 AM every 15 minutes.

Reservation required from hotel to airport. Shuttle tickets are sold at baggage claim area at Terminal #1 and Terminal #2.

Cost from SA Airport to El Tropicano is: One Way \$18 and \$32 round trip per person. There is a coupon on line for \$2 off one way or round trip. [www.saairportshuttle.com](http://www.saairportshuttle.com)

### Trolley—Street Car Service

\$4.00—Day Pass good for unlimited rides on all regular bus and streetcar service. Picks up at hotel.



**Rio River Taxi Ticket Prices**  
Tickets are available on Rio Taxi Boat

Downtown Reach (Up to El Tropicano Hotel)  
Rio Taxi Yellow One-Way \$5.00  
Rio Taxi Yellow 24-Hour Day Pass \$10.00  
Rio Taxi Yellow Three Day Pass \$25.00  
Museum Reach (North of El Tropicano Hotel)  
Rio Taxi Red 24-Hour Pass \$10.00  
Rio Taxi Red Three Day Pass \$25.00  
Comb.Red/Yellow 24-Hour Pass \$15.00

**La Villita – The Little Village**—It was once the first settlement in San Antonio and was built to house soldiers stationed at the Alamo. Today, this little village is full of great little shops featuring handmade pieces of art from local artists and artisans. Everything from paintings to hand-blown glass awaits your purchase. Within the walls of La Villita, you'll also find The Little Church of La Villita and The Arneson River Theater.

## Saturday Liberty Call in San Antonio

(Places to see—things to do)

**El Mercado – The Market** - the largest Mexican market place outside of Mexico. Here you will have a delightful experience of bargain hunting and unique shops.

**San Fernando Cathedral** - founded in March 1731, the cathedral is the oldest standing church in Texas.

**San Antonio Museum of Art** - housed in a 19th century brewery building on the river walk. SAMA showcases Asian, Greek, Roman, Latin Merician art and folk art as well as contemporary works and more in a handsomely re-purposed setting.

**Witte Museum** - promotes lifelong learning through innovative exhibitions, programs and collections in natural history, science and South Texas heritage.

**Institute of Texan Cultures** - telling the stories of Texans.

**Pearl Brewery – aka “Pearl”** - in 2001, after more than a century of making beer, Pearl ceased its brewery operations and re-purposed the buildings into a 22 acre complex for shopping, dining, and learning. This is the place to find authentic Mexican molcajets along with paella pans, hand-embroidered dish towels and even mesquite rolling pins from northern Mexico. Chef Andrew Weissman’s restaurants Sogno and The Sandbar offer intimate dining spots for creative Italian fare and seafood. Nearby is CIA’s graduate Johnny Hernandez’s “La Gloria Ice House” introducing diners to savory dishes found in street stands of Mexico’s cities.

**The Buckhorn Saloon & Museum-** The Buckhorn Museum features wildlife from all over the world; including fish, birds, and animal oddities. Our exhibit halls are comprised of over 520 species of wildlife, many of which are record holders. The Buckhorn is home to a world record whitetail deer, the famous ‘78 Point Buck’. This impressive rack was sold to the saloon owner himself, Albert Friedrich, for a mere \$100 dollars back in 1890. Other amazing specimens include a record 1,056 pound black marlin and a 10,000 year old pre-historic Irish Elk skull and antlers.

**San Antonio Rose Live-**This exciting two-hour live show features the best of traditional country, western, swing and gospel music that will touch your heart. It’s the music you’ll never forget—the songs that made you fall in love with country music. Featuring the San Antonio Rose Live Band comprised of 9 world class musicians from Nashville, Branson, Austin and San Antonio.

← (Liberty Call Continued)

## Fletcher Class Destroyer Facts and History

Designed in 1939, as a result of dissatisfaction with the earlier destroyer leader types, the *Fletcher* class were a class of destroyers built by the United States during World War II. The *Fletcher* class (named for Admiral Frank F. Fletcher) was the largest class of destroyer ordered, and was also one of the most successful and popular with the destroyer men themselves. Compared to earlier classes built for the Navy, they carried a significant increase in anti-aircraft (AA) weapons and other weaponry, which caused displacements to rise. Their flush deck construction added structural strength, although it did make them rather cramped. Throughout the course of World War II, the number of AA weapons increased resulting in five twin-40 mm Bofors plus seven 20 mm weapons by 1945. Fifty-one were further modified beginning in 1945, replacing the forward torpedo tubes and midships 40 mm twin Bofors with quad mounts for a total of 14 barrels, and the seven 20 mm singles with six 20 mm twins. Three (*Pringle*, *Stevens*, *Halford*) were built (six planned) with aircraft catapults, resulting in the deletion of one 5-inch mount and the after set of torpedo tubes. This alteration was not a success in service and was not repeated. The three destroyers were later converted to the normal *Fletcher*-class configuration. Nineteen were lost during World War II; six more were damaged and not repaired. Postwar, the remainder were decommissioned and put into reserve.

With the outbreak of the Korean War many were returned to active duty. During this time 39 were refitted, reducing their overall main armament and the number of torpedo tubes. A new ahead-throwing weapon called Weapon Alpha was installed in many of the ships. Others carried trainable hedgehogs.

Some went on to serve during the Korean War and into the Vietnam War. The United States Navy commissioned 175 *Fletcher*-class destroyers between 1942 and 1944, more than any other destroyer class, and the "Fletcher" design was generally regarded as highly successful. The *Fletcher* class had a design speed of 38 knots, armed with five 5" guns in single mounts and carrying 10 21" torpedo in twin quintuple centerline mounts. The *Allen M. Sumner*- and *Gearing* classes were *Fletcher* derivatives.

The long-range *Fletcher*-class ships would participate in battles in every aspect that could be asked of a destroyer, from ASW and AAW to surface actions. They could cover the vast distances required by fleet actions in the Pacific. In fact, they served during World War II, almost exclusively in the Pacific Theater of Operations. In a massive effort, the *Fletcher*-class ships were built by shipyards across the United States and, after World War II ended, many were sold to the very countries they had fought against: Italy, Germany, and Japan, as well as other navies, where they would go on to have even longer, distinguished careers. Three have been preserved as museum ships in the US, and one in Greece.

The following countries have operated Fletcher-Class Destroyers:

*United States Navy* (175)  
*Argentine Navy* (5)  
*Brazilian Navy* (7)  
*Chilean Navy* (2)  
*Colombian Navy* (1)  
*Greek Navy* (6)  
*Italian Navy* (3)  
*Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force* (2)  
*Mexican Navy* (2)  
*Peruvian Navy* (2)  
*Republic of South Korea Navy* (3)  
*Spanish Navy* (5)  
*Republic of China Navy* (4)  
*Turkish Navy* (4)  
*West German Navy* (6)



**Fletcher-Class—USS Stoddard DD-566**

Fletcher Class were Built: March 3, 1941 to February 22, 1945

In Commission: June 4, 1942 to 1971 (USN), until 2001 (Mexico)

USS Stoddard –Last Fletcher Class Stricken From US Naval Ship Register (June 1, 1975)

Fletcher Class Built: 175

(Continued on Page 6)

(Continued from Page 5)

Fletcher’s Preserved as Museums: *USS Cassin Young* (DD-793) in Boston, Massachusetts  
*USS The Sullivans* (DD-537) in Buffalo, New York  
*USS Kidd* (DD-661) in Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
*HNS Velos* (D-16) in Greece

Fletcher Class lost while in service: 19 and 6 were not repaired

Displacement: 2,050 tons (Standard) and 2,500 tons (Full Load)

Length: 376.5 feet    Beam: 39.5 feet    Draft: 12.5 feet

Propulsion: 4=Babcock & Wilcox oil fired boilers  
 2=General Electric geared steam turbines  
 2=screws =60,000shp

Speed: 36.5 knots    Range 5,500 miles at 15 knots

Ship’s Complement 329 officers and enlisted men



**Fletcher-Class USS Kidd DD-661  
 Preserved in Baton Rouge, LA**

Original Fletcher Class Armament:

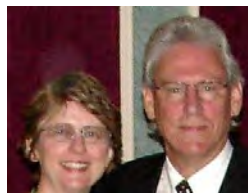


**K-Gun**

- 5 x single 5”/38 caliber guns guided by Mark 37 Gun Fire Control System with Mk25 fire control radar linked by Mark 1A Fire Control Computer stabilized by a Mk6 8,500 rpm gyro.
- 6-10 x 40 mm Bofors AA guns (early ships carried 4 x 1.1”/75 caliber guns)
- 7-10 x 20 mm Oerlikon cannons
- 10 x 21 inch torpedo tubes (2x5)
- 6 x K-guns
- 2 x depth charge racks



*tommy brant,  
 chaplain...*



*dan & roxane withers,  
 webmasters...*

*May They Rest In Peace*

*In celebration of their life and in thanksgiving for their service to our country.*

<b>Carpender, John N.</b>	1952	LTJG	08/19/2007
<b>Gilbert, Donald</b>	58-59	ENFN	11/06/2010
<b>Hawman, George</b>	1945		10/15/2005
<b>Karnitz, Melvin</b>			07/29/2010



Stoddard History Project on Stoddard Website

This is a project designed to capture as much history from shipmates as we can. The first step was completed by Neal Pearson (ET1 1967-1968). You can now see the first pass at the **WWII timeline of events** on the website. Neal went through the Stoddard website and browsed other places on the web, and organized the events by date. We know there are some more pieces of history locked up in the brains of our shipmates and we hope to fill in the blanks on this sheet. This will expand up through the other service years and provide a complete collection of audio/video comments about each action. Please check out the timeline on the website and email any additions that you have.

*USS STODDARD DD566  
WWII \* Korea \* Vietnam*



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**Treasurer: Bill Melyan**  
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**Storekeeper: Tommy Brant**  
email: [tmbrant@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tmbrant@sbcglobal.net)

**Chaplain: Tommy Brant**  
email: [tmbrant@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tmbrant@sbcglobal.net)

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**Newsletter Editor: Carlene Rauh**  
email: [cjrauh@ldd.net](mailto:cjrauh@ldd.net)

**Supplement to 2009 Stoddard Directory**

**(January, 2011– April, 2011)**

**(New Email, Phone, and Address Changes)**

- Carlstrom, Verl**– Email [verl.carlstrom@jtheisen.com](mailto:verl.carlstrom@jtheisen.com)
- Cheyney, Jerre** – Address- P. O. Box 181  
Brule, NE 69127
- Sena, Jacobo**-Address- 435 S. Mesa Hills Dr.  
Apt.239  
El Paso, TX 79912-5452
- Karnitz, Melvin** – Deceased- 7/29/2010
- Hawman, George**-Deceased- 10/15/2005
- Watters, Argus**-Address 4758 Convert Rd.  
Onondaga, MI 49264-9783
- Gilbert, Donald**-Address- 3806 N FM 93  
Donna, TX 78537-5087
- Schweiker, Robert** – Address- 22 Breezy Point Place  
The Woodlands, TX 77381
- Gunderson, John**- Phone# 619-540-6904
- Dandrow, Robert** – Email- [rdandrow@fullervillage.net](mailto:rdandrow@fullervillage.net)
- Haenze, Leroy** –Email [lchaenze@gmail.com](mailto:lchaenze@gmail.com)
- Licese, Patrick**–Email [patandmaryl@comcast.net](mailto:patandmaryl@comcast.net)  
Phone# 210-424-0110
- Riggs, Rick** – Email [rlriggs62@gmail.com](mailto:rlriggs62@gmail.com)
- Knight, Harlin** – Email [harlin34@yahoo.com](mailto:harlin34@yahoo.com)
- Butler, Robert**- Phone# 336-595-4657
- Gress, Roger**– Email [rsgress@live.com](mailto:rsgress@live.com)
- Duncan, Pat**- Email [w5rhu@yahoo.com](mailto:w5rhu@yahoo.com)
- Colo, Nicholas**-Phone# 619-463-9120
- Dias, William** – Email [bandjdias@yahoo.com](mailto:bandjdias@yahoo.com)
- Eubanks, Dean**- Phone# 910-381-7598
- Fontanier, Charles** –Email [w.fontanier@aol.com](mailto:w.fontanier@aol.com)
- O’Neil, Stephen**- Phone# 301-657-8476
- Gilbert, Donald**- Deceased 11/6/2010
- Carter, Franklin** –Phone# 352-350-7182
- Wilson, Mike** –Phone# 951-295-0640  
Email [audmike@verizon.net](mailto:audmike@verizon.net)
- Carpender, John N.** –Deceased 08/19/2007

**\*\*DUES NOTICE\*\***

**Please check your mailing label to make certain your dues date is correct. The year of your last dues payment is above your name.**

**2010**

**John Doe  
123 Main Street  
Anywhere, USA 99999**

**Let us know if it’s not correct**



*from secretary,*

*carlene rauh ...*

Please note that the deadline for hotel reservations and reunion registration fees is **August 28, 2011.**

Also, we now have 8x10 black and white photos of the USS Stoddard available at the ship’s store.

If you have any problems making your hotel reservations, or other questions regarding the reunion, please give me a call. (573) 547-8523.



# Ship's Store



## USS STODDARD SHIP'S STORE-ORDER FORM

**TO:** Tommy Brant  
 508 S. Maish Road  
 Frankfort, IN 46041

**Email:** [tmbrant@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tmbrant@sbcglobal.net)  
**Phone:** 765-659-3605

Item	Size	Price	Qty.	TOTAL
Golf Shirt - navy	M	\$23		
Golf Shirt - navy	L	\$23		
Golf Shirt - navy	XL	\$24		
Golf Shirt - navy	XXL	\$26		
Golf Shirt - navy	XXXL	\$27		
Golf Shirt - white	M	\$23		
Golf Shirt - white	L	\$23		
Golf Shirt - white	XL	\$24		
Golf Shirt - white	XXL	\$26		
Golf Shirt - white	XXXL	\$27		
Sweatshirt - navy	M	\$21		
Sweatshirt - navy	L	\$21		
Sweatshirt - navy	XL	\$21		
Sweatshirt - navy	XXL	\$22		
Sweatshirt - navy	XXXL	\$25		
Sweatshirt - cream	M	\$21		
Sweatshirt - cream	L	\$21		
Sweatshirt - cream	XXL	\$22		
Sweatshirt - cream	XXXL	\$25		
Jacket - navy (LT. WT.)	M	\$48		
Jacket - navy (LT. WT.)	L	\$54		
Jacket - navy (LT. WT.)	XXL	\$50		
Jacket - navy (H. Wt.)	L	\$62		
Jacket - navy (H. Wt.)	XL	\$62		
Jacket - navy (H. WT.)	XXXL	\$70		
Stoddard Ball Hat -navy		\$13		
Stoddard Coffee Mug		\$ 6		
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>\$</b>		<b>\$</b>
<b>Shipping</b>		<b>\$</b>		<b>7.00</b>
Stoddard Pic. 8 X 10 (Side View)		\$ 6		
Stoddard Pic. 8 X 10 (Rear View)		\$ 6		
4" Stoddard Patch		\$ 5		
(shipping included patch & pics)				
<b>*TOTAL ORDER \$</b>				

**\*Checks payable to: USS Stoddard Alumni Association**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 STREET \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**USS Stoddard Alumni Association**  
 4337 S Hwy 51  
 Perryville, MO 63775

