

Website:
www.usstoddard.org

Date:
July 15, 2007

USS STODDARD ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



USS STODDARD DD566
WWII * Korea * Vietnam

19th Reunion - Buffalo, NY—Niagara Falls - September 5th—9th - 2007



from president,
Joe Harpster...

19th USS STODDARD ALUMNI REUNION

September 5 - 7, 2007

Quality Hotel and Suites "at the Falls" - Niagara Falls, NY

Quality Hotel & Suites
"At the Falls"

Reservations:
1-877-282-1212

Our host hotel will be the Quality Hotel & Suites "At the Falls" - \$89 per night, plus tax, includes breakfast buffet.

September 5, Wednesday: Registration desk opens at 12:00 noon in the Hospitality Room. Evening welcome reception in the Hospitality Room; light snacks and refreshments will be served beginning at 18:00.

September 6, Thursday: Bus tour to the Canadian side of the Falls (\$36). Stroll along the park area by the Falls, view the Falls and surrounding areas from the Skylon Tower (775 ft high observation deck, providing panoramic views up to 80 miles around on a clear day), visit Floral Clock and Table Rock House, see the great whirlpool rapids and cable cars, take a scenic drive along the Niagara River, and enjoy the charming, picturesque and historic town of Niagara-on-the-Lake. We will serve a deluxe box lunch at Queenston County Park, in a reserved area with shelter. A passport is not required in 2007 to travel to Canada by car; but proof of US citizenship and photo ID are required (e.g., birth certificate or voter registration card and driver's license). Dig around now to make sure you meet this requirement and have your documents with you.

Thursday evening might lure you to the Seneca Niagara Casino down the street where you can try Lady Luck. Or you may choose to take in the sights and sounds of main street Niagara, or go for a walk in the park to see the beautifully illuminated Falls at night and hear the thundering waters - another spectacular experience not to be missed. In addition to the hotel's on-premise Legends Bar and Grill where there is great food as well as a pool table to enjoy a friendly game, there are lots of dining options nearby; and we will stuff your "welcome bag" with coupons for some extra savings! For those who just prefer to catch up with old friends and get acquainted with new-comers to the Reunion, we could organize a "pizza party" if there is enough interest. The hospitality room will be open for good camaraderie and fun. Several shipmates have written to tell us that they have memorabilia to share, and will display them in the hospitality room.

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from secretary,
carlene rauh ...

WELCOME ABOARD!

Deadlines for 2007 Reunion

Hotel Reservations: August 5th

Tour Registration: August 22nd

Social Security Retirement

Just a note for all those alumni either drawing their Social Security Benefits or getting ready to draw benefits. Under certain circumstances, special extra earnings for your military service from 1940 through 2001 can be credited to your record for Social Security or increase the amount of your Social Security benefit.

Note: Social Security cannot add these extra earnings to our record until you file for Social Security benefits.

The credit for extra earnings applies only to active duty military service earnings from 1940 through 2001.

Check with the Social Security Administration for details. Visit Social Security Administration website: <http://www.ssa.gov/retire2/military.htm>

2008 Reunion News

The 2008 reunion will be held in Seattle. The host hotel will be the Stardust Hotel (with restaurant on site) not far from Pike Place Market in downtown Seattle and near two shopping malls. Your hosts, John, Cricket, and John, will be at the reunion this year to fill in the details and field any suggestion you might have for them.

Suggestion

Also, it has been suggested the Stoddard Crew might want to consider 3, 4, or 7 day cruise for one or our reunions. Prices vary from under \$500 or up to \$700 per person, depending on the number of days. The price would include rooms, meals, and time at sea. What do you think? We would like to hear from you. Bring your comments and suggestions to the annual meeting.

Bacho	Richard J.		
Bicek	Milo		
Brennan	Robert R.		
Gumiliar	Howard	BT3	51-52
Hostetier	Randy	GM3	67-68
Hubacek	George		
Jorschumb	Elton	BT2	68-69
Slessor, Jr.	Herman W.	MM3	68-69
Sprengle	Donald G.	FTG3	1966

****DUES NOTICE****

Please check your mailing label to make certain your dues are paid for 2007. The date of your last dues payment is above your name. Make certain your dues date is 2007 so that you continue to receive the newsletters. Some have paid years in advance and that should also show on your label. Thanks!

Naval Trivia

"PORTHOLE"

King Henry VI of England ordered his shipbuilder, James Baker, to install heavy guns on his ships. Too heavy to be stable on the upper decks, Baker pierced the sides of his ships and used the French idea of mounting watertight doors over them to close the openings when the guns were not in use. This door was called a port. Later on, it was discovered that round holes distributed the strains of a ship's motion evenly around it, rather than making weak points at the joints and corners. Another tidbit of Naval trivia!



[MMCM\(SS\) Greg Peterman USN Retired](#)

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September 7, Friday: Some of you may have experienced the grandeur of Niagara Falls, so we are offering a choice:

Option 1: Niagara State Park Pass to see the US side of the Falls (\$36). We will organize groups to sight see together. A park trolley stop is two blocks from our hotel; hop on and ride, get off at a stop to sight see; get back on and continue your exploration. Don't miss the boat ride to the bottom of the Falls on the Maid of the Mist and feel the powerful sprays. Explore Cave of the Winds at the base of the Bridal Veil Falls, walk the wooden decks and stairs, experience the pounding waters just a few feet away. Ride to other scenic points, such as Goat Island, Three Sister Islands, Luna Island, Prospect Point, stroll around and take in nature's majesty. Ride up to the Observation Tower and look all around. Spend time at the Discovery Center, Aquarium, and Adventure Theater. The natural and local history of the Niagara Gorge and Falls is fascinating. This year a brand new I-format film will debut at the Theater; it will put you "in the Falls" while in your seat – so hang on! Admission to all of these park attractions, including park trolley ride, are included in the price of your Park Pass tour. A picnic lunch is arranged at the hotel, so you can take in all the magnificence at your own pace, and stop back for a little R&R in the hospitality room before getting back on the trolley. If you plan to arrive early, this Park Pass is good for admission to the attractions any day. With so many exciting places to visit, you may want to get your Park Pass mailed to you if you arrive before Sept. 5, or as soon as you arrive so as to get an early start sight seeing.

Option 2: For those who have recently visited the area, or prefer a more dry and relaxing day, sign up for the Lockport Locks tour, where you will enjoy a two hour boat ride through turn of the century locks and see sites along the Grand Old Erie Canal (\$50). This canal connects the Hudson River & the Atlantic Ocean at sea level with the Niagara River and the Great Lakes at 570 ft above sea level. This 363 mile engineering feat was dug by hand between 1817 and 1825! WOW! The locks you will pass through feature the 50 ft elevation of the Niagara Escarpment, the same rock formation that forms the great Niagara Falls. Ride under the unique upside-down railroad bridge and lift bridges, view scenery that reflect what it was like a century ago. A bountiful hot buffet lunch is served at the Canalside Emporium, an elegant renovated warehouse with a canal town atmosphere. You will also visit a winery, sample the local flavors, and perhaps choose to bring home a few bottles of vintage wine. Fall is a beautiful time in western New York, and this tour will surely leave lasting memories.

There will be a casual buffet Friday night, "A Taste of Buffalo": Buffalo hot wings (of course!), beef on Kimblewick (a Buffalo specialty), pulled pork and more, plus a fantastic assortment of desserts. After you eat your fill, a local group will entertain us with "Lest We Forget – In Honor of Our Veterans" – a show with music, comedy and more that we will surely remember!

September 8, Saturday: We will visit the Naval and Military Park where the USS Sullivans (DD-537) is docked, along with the USS Little Rock (CL-92, later CLG-4) – the only guided missile cruiser that is a museum ship in the US. We will have our Memorial Service there. The Sullivans, a Fletcher Class ship like our beloved Stoddard, is named for the five Sullivan brothers who lost their lives in Battles of the Solomon Islands when their ships were sunk. We are working on special arrangements to permit entry into many areas of the ship – maybe you will find your bunk site (as I did mine!) or your own hide-away spot from long ago. Buffalo is known for its unique architecture, and our guide will take us through down town Buffalo to see the city sights and give us a little history of the area. We will stop for lunch at the Old Country Buffet, then visit the Herschell Carousel Factory Museum where we can ride on the 1916 carousel, see hand carved characters, as well as join a docent-guided tour. This tour is priced at \$42.

Returning to our host hotel after this tour, we will hold our annual business meeting, then feast at the banquet in the ballroom, with music and dancing for your enjoyment. Dinner entrée will feature a choice of Chicken Marsala or Almond Encrusted Baked White Fish. If you have music and/or songs that you would like to have played during the banquet, send your request and we will do our best to arrange it. If you are celebrating an anniversary, a birthday, or some other special moment at the Reunion, why not let us help to make it extra special with a favorite tune, and let us share your joy?

Your shipmate and friend,

Joe Harpster

September 9, Sunday: Time for goodbyes until the next Reunion in Seattle – your hosts will be John Gerten and John & Cricket Laible.

USS STODDARD DD566
 WWII * Korea * Vietnam



from chaplain,
 byron goodwin...
TAPS

The memorial service for all members of the Stoddard Alumni who have passed since our last reunion will be held aboard the [USS The Sullivans \(DD-537\)](#) docked in Buffalo, NY.

May They Rest In Peace

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Angien	Charles	FTG2	1-Feb-06
Belcher	Rodger D.	BT2	
Bergeron	Alfred J.	EM2	9-Feb-06
Bielawski	Stanley B.		2-Jan-81
Chenault	Harold L.	ET3	15-Aug-06
Dean, Jr.	Billy	EN3	27-Jun-06
Detiefsen	James L.	BT2	1-Oct-06
Fraber III	John William		25-Mar-05
Gardiner	Russell		5-Oct-04
Garvin	George T.	MM3	21-May-05
Guarino	Arthur J.	BT3	
Guite,	Duanne D.	EN3	19-Oct-04
Hibberd	Boyd V	SN	8-Jan-00
Hutchison	William	SO1	11-Jan-06
Lee	Gary	BT3	25-Jun-07
Mainar	Samuel D.	FN	1-Dec-89
McNeill, Jr.	Jame F	HM1	1-Mar-05
Moon	David Lewis	ETSN	1-Jan-99
Ringler	Arnold	LTJG	12-May-07
Schuett	Bill	SOG3	7-Jun-07
Steinhaus	Wendell	SIC	6/16/1905
Wingertter	Wendalin J.	TE3	2001

SHIPS'S STORE

Because of the limited space in this newsletter, you will find the Ship's Store Order Form in one of your last newsletters or on the website: www.usstoddard.org

Through out the year we are notified of the death of members of the Stoddard Crew. If we are notified in the year of death, a sympathy-remembrance card is sent to the family from the Alumni Association. However, as in many cases, we do not know of their death until several years later. Those deceased members are listed in the current newsletter and with the deceased alumni members in the directory. Each year at the annual reunion Stoddard Memorial Service we remember those deceased members listed since our last memorial service.

19th USS STODDARD ALUMNI REUNION

September 5-9, 2007

Quality Hotel and Suites "At the Falls"

Please register as early as possible so we can better plan for all the events. Deadline - August 22nd.

Make your hotel/lodging reservation directly with the host hotel (1-877-282-1212) ask for USS Stoddard Alumni Reunion Room Rate of \$89.00 per night (plus tax), single or double occupancy. This room rate will be honored two days before and two days after Reunion for anyone who would like to stay for an extended visit. Hot American breakfast buffet is included in the room rate (gratuity extra). Please inquire directly with the hotel if you are considering triple, quad or suite rate.

Name: _____ Lady's Name: _____

Stoddard Service Years & Rating: _____ Tin Can Sailor member? Yes No

Guest Attending with me: _____

Street Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Business Phone: _____

Fax: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Registration Fee * Includes registration pack w/memento _____ X \$ 60.00= \$ _____
Wednesday-Welcome reception, Friday picnic dinner and Saturday Banquet

Thursday, 9/6: Canadian Falls & Niagara-on-the-Lakes tour w/box lunch _____ X \$ 36.00 = \$ _____
Thursday dinner on your own (Discount coupons in registration pack)

Friday, 9/7: Option 1 - US Niagara State Park pass w/sandwich lunch _____ X \$ 36.00 = \$ _____

Option 2 - Lockport Locks cruise & tour w/buffet lunch _____ X \$ 50.00 = \$ _____
Friday night "Taste of Buffalo" picnic dinner & entertainment (included in Registration Fee)

Saturday, 9/8 : City of Buffalo, Military and Naval Museum, & Carousel _____ X \$ 42.00 = \$ _____
Saturday Night Banquet (included in Registration Fee)

Note: * If you will not be joining the group for all of the Registration "events", they are separately priced at:

Wednesday Reception \$12.00

Friday Picnic & Dinner \$25.00

Saturday Banquet \$35.00

All tours include minicoach transportation, guide, admission to scheduled sites, lunch, and gratuity

TOTAL = _____

Important Note : A passport is not required to cross the border by automobile/bus in 2007. However, you must have proof of US citizenship, such as birth certificate (original or a certified copy with the raised seal) and a photo ID, such as a driver's license. A voter registration card along with a US driver's license is also satisfactory.

Make checks payable to:

USS Stoddard Alumni Association

Mail to: Joseph W. Harpster, c/o Intek, Inc.

751 Intek Way

Westerville, OH 43082

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Fax: 614-895-0319

Email: marilynharpster@yahoo.com

If you need any special needs, driving directions, or flight information please contact us.



USS Stoddard Alumni Association

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