

Happy New Year to you and your family from all of Us. May your life be bright and full and your family safe. God Bless you, thank you for your service. For those who are attending the reunion please read Coordinator portion of the letter

As of 12/05/15

Active member with email 570 Please welcome Terry Cuthbertson (BT3,76), Stanley Bentley (79-82;Ftg2), Chester Cole (67-69;GmG3). I have their information for anyone who wishes to contact them.

Active member no email 43

Non members (found by other media) 120

Decease 144. Added Joseph Longbrake (FTG1,70-73) to the memorial page see note below

From The President's Desk

I am pleased to inform you all that the registration form, for the 2016 reunion in Branson is complete. You will find the form on the website by just clicking on reunions and then on "up coming events." It should come up for you. You can fill it, preview it, print it out, write a check, and mail everything to me. My address is on the form.

Please note that activities planned for Thursday and Friday at the reunion are "all inclusive," meaning that the cost for each of these two days, includes the cost of tour, meals, where indicated and transportation. One price for all day.

Saturday will be open to do as you wish, except for the banquet dinner and seating for that will begin at 1730 hours.

If you would like to do other things, I would suggest you contact Sarah Green-Hord at Ozarks Kirkwood Tour and Travel. She is their military specialist and can help you with any other attractions you may want to visit. She can be reached at 417-335-4668 or by e-mail at sarah@ozarkskirkwood.com.

Thanks going out to Don and Connie Kruger for being the first reunion registration to come in followed two days later by Ron and Ann Abel. We really hope the registrations start to come in on a regular basis now that summer is almost over.

In putting together the registration form, I added the cost of the Saturday night banquet, when in fact that cost is already included in the registration cost. We will reimburse for the over charge.

George Pavlovich contacted me about transportation from the airport to the hotel. Apparently the airport is located Springfield and is some distance away from Branson. Depending upon traffic the trip could take between 40 minutes to an hour to reach the hotel. The cost is about \$45.00 per person and \$5.00 for each additional person. The company George talked with is Branson Loop and they suggested that people who will be flying in, call and provide them with their arrival dates and times so that they may be there to make the pickup. Also if enough people use his company, he might be able to lower the cost. The phone number for this company is 417-320-6035.

Those who fly will not be arriving on the same day, at the same time so it is not possible to book transportation just for our group. Many years ago I accompanied my wife to New Orleans for a conference. We flew into an airport outside of New Orleans. I do not remember what the city was. Anyway, the transportation situation was the same as Branson will be. In New Orleans, we were able to jump on a shuttle along with other people who were going into New Orleans and that saved us a bunch of money. The total cost of the shuttle was divided equally. It worked out for everyone. However, there is no guarantee this can happen for you, but it's worth a shot. It's not like you will be the only person going from the airport to Branson. The more people in the shuttle, the less the cost per person. There is no need for anyone to pay \$45.00 per person while someone else pays just \$5.00. Fill the shuttle up and divide the cost equally.

I also contacted the Radisson Hotel and learned there are more transportation companies. They are: Grayline 800-542-6768, 1st. Class Shuttle Service 417-239-4492, and Fisk Limo 417- 862-8522.

It would not surprise me one bit, if one or all of these companies just might have a shuttle waiting at the airport, looking for passengers. That was our experience in New Orleans many years ago.

JJ

From your Reunion Coordinator

***** Deadline for reunion registration extended to APRIL 1, 2016!**

The reunion committee has been working on your Reunion for June, 2016 in Branson. And are looking forward to seeing you there, and everyone having a good time.

> The good news is the extension of the registration deadline by the USS Richard S Edwards board. We hope this will give you time to make arrangements to attend and celebrate the 20th year since the reunion began in Branson.

> The people in Branson are easy to work with, as they really like to take care of the veteran's.

> We have had one "glitch", the "Six" show changed their schedule and will not be having a show that night, so we have changed the show to the Baldknobbers for nearly the same price(a few cents). See the blurb at end of letter. Everything else is as planned there will be more info on the venues in the next newsletter. Have a great HOLIDAY SEASON!!!!

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> "The Baldknobber's, Branson's first show started in 1959. The show is brand new every year, always featuring a variety of soul-stirring gospel, country favorites, and side-splitting comedy.

> Today the 2ND & 3RD Generations carry on the family tradition of delivering everything from today's #1 hit's , great country music, and lots of hilarious side-splitting comedy. Both longtime Baldknobbers' fans and new fans alike love the Baldknobbers All-New show each year and appreciate the Baldknobbers' family traditions that have made this show popular from generation to generation. Don't miss the show that started it all!!

Web Site change

We want your thoughts on this as were you would like to see these items and what you would like to see worked on first, This is your web site and we do not want to hear later that maybe this should have gone here, why was this added, or why was still done at all? See comments in red for status and or question, bull

- **Awards Page** - has not been started yet. Based on an email thread from 2013, you were going to send materials for me to use. However, the only items I received were a USB drive with Newsletters, and a few printed newsletters. I acknowledged that I did not receive any awards content, but did not follow up with you on it, and thus was quickly forgotten
- **2012 Reunion Group Photo** - scanned the photo into the computer, but have not created an image map to associate faces to names. Primarily a lack of free time. However, a lack of reunion photos to post from members indirectly lowered the priority of the task.

Sent Rob, last years email newsletters to be added to newsletter list.

- **List of Commanding Officers** - Last I knew, you were still compiling data for this list. I have not heard anything about it, or where to post it on the website. **Bob has the list in one of the newsletters, need help with the finding their pictures**
- **Admiral Edwards** - I have attached a photo and bio to this email. Is this the content you want posted on the website? **yes, where do you want it placed?**
- **Bon Hon Refueling** - I have attached a photo of the Bon Hon Refueling in 1959. **Where would you like the photo posted?**

- **Turley & Capt. Deal** - I have attached a photo of Jack Turley that was submitted. Where would you like the photo, **Please hold on to it until we decide about commanding officers list and then add it next to his bull name**

CHINFO_DD950 - I have attached a PDF document that details the sinking of the ship. **Do you want this posted on the Ship Info page yes,**

Last year email newsletters Sent Rob copies of last years newsletters to be added to newsletter page.

Secretary Desk

As you can see have 121 nonmembers by such media as face book, hull number, and so proud we serve navy websites. If you know someone on these sites or in contact with shipmates who are not members please ask them to join us. Sent out 5 letters this month to nonmembers. Received 2 email correction and one nonmember application for membership this last month.

Treasures Report

Beginning Balance \$ 6,178.51
Income 1,693.00
Expenses 0.00
Ending Balance \$ 7,871.51

Jim Kress

Ship's Store

Received an email today claiming to be our ship's store out of Texas, please do not be fooled by it. This is not our ship's store and has nothing to do with us or the Edwards. Please contact a board member if you need help in using our ship's store.

Membership

If you are having trouble accessing the membership page on the Ship's home page @ WWW.DD950.com please contact me or a member of the executive board for help

Missing shipmates

Below is a list of names of shipmates who's letters were returned. If you are in contact with any of them please contact them to get their new address/phone/and email address'

Tom Glasgow **decease?**

Robert Smith **decease?**

Antonio Martinez

Gary Marshall

Notes from Last Month Newsletter

Contacting Joseph Longbrake about a bad email address was told by his wife that he had past away.

Received an email from Bob Marlett to remove his name from the active membership list