

As I sit here in February after the four snow storm in less than 2 weeks. I would like to thank god that the shoulder surgery went well, I had a reverse shoulder replacement for the left shoulder. Sorry that you have not received more email newsletters from me. Would like to take this time to address the group about new members. A lot of you have shipmate friends who you are in contact with in other social media. Who are not members of the association and need to get them to join at least as shipmates if not full members. My goal is to get as many new members to join us as possible over the next year plus before the next reunion when I step down as secretary. On facebook alone we have a least about 10 shipmates who are not even on our crew list. I have sent out applications by email and never heard back one way or the other. The other thing I need to do is get our records up to date with such information as addresses/phone numbers. Over the last couple of years I have not requested up dates to your records, we need to get this done. So even if you thought you sent your updates to me, please do so again or if you have moved or changed your phone number over the last 2 years and forgot to send me your update, please get it to me as soon as you can.

From the President's Desk

I would like to start off with greetings and happy new year to members of the board and Edwards Association, a lot of things have occurred since the last news letter, the passing of two shipmates. RM3 Dewayne Gardener 1963-1966 and Senior Chief Miller as reported to me by V.P George Pavlovich. I would also like to report of a gift from Mrs. Mary Claybourn of the decommissioning flag that was on the Edwards given to her by husband PNC Charles L Claybourn 1980-1982, he was the last chief on board before the ship was decommissioned. Chief Claybourn passed away January 2016. The flag will be presented at each and every reunion starting with 2020. Robert, I would like for you to include this info in the February news letter, also I would like to thank Mrs Claybourn of the behalf the Edwards Association for her gift to us.

Regards
Mike

Secretary Desk

We have new members, please welcome Harry James Qmsa; (74) Mike Brogan Et1 I (66-69); Kevin Conroy Sn (69-70); Doug Zitek Sn (80-82) I have their information for anyone who wishes to contact them.

This was mention many years ago, but do you know that the Edwards was a movie stars. That right you sailed on a ship that was in 2 movies. A little know movie known as Final Countdown. The ship was shown in the first 2 minutes at the start of the movie when the main character was in a car driving down a pier to the carrier the destroyer it drove past moored to the the pier was the Edwards. The second movie was war and remembrance starring Robert Mitchum.

We have had five members update their information this month, thank you to those four. If you have moved this past year or changed your phone number please contact me to update your information. This is important that we have current information on file.

Treasurer Table

November 07, 2018 - December 07, 2018

Beginning Balance	\$11,367.13
Income	44.00
Expenses	0.00
Ending Balance	\$11,411.13

December 07, 2018 - January 07, 2019

Beginning Balance	\$11,411.13
Income	0.00
Expenses	250.68
Ending Balance	\$11,160.45

January 07, 2019 - February 07, 2019

Beginning Balance	\$11,160.45
Income	0.00
Expenses	0.00
Ending Balance	\$11,160.45

Jim Kress

Jim Kelly Reunion Coordinator

Shipmates,

The following lays-out the planned schedule for our 2020 San Diego reunion. We have reserved a block of rooms at the Holiday Inn Bayside, which is at the intersection of Harbor and Nimitz Drives between what used to be the Naval Training Center and the ASW School (then and now). Plan on arriving Wednesday, April 29 staying until Monday, May 4. The room rate for the block would be \$145 single, \$153 double per night for Wednesday through Saturday nights. A continental breakfast in the hotel restaurant is included (If you want a full breakfast, \$8 will be deducted from your check.). The same rate will also apply for three days before and after for those coming early or staying late. We have an initial block of 35 rooms at this rate, but if they fill early, we should be able to get more. (I hosted a reunion of another destroyer at this location on a similar weekend, and we got the reduced rate for 70 rooms.) The hotel will be available for reservations about mid-May 2019. I'll notify our newsletter editor when the rooms are available and ask that he send out an email to everyone announcing the availability. The hotel offers a complimentary shuttle to/from both Lindbergh Field and the cruise ship piers for registered guests. Besides a terrific location, the hotel offers a putting green, shuffle board, pool, Jacuzzi, loaner bicycles, free Wi-Fi, fitness center, and table tennis. For those driving in, parking (normally \$15 per night) is

complimentary. For more hotel information, see: <http://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/san-diego/sanby/hoteldetail>. Our hospitality room is noteworthy in that it is on the fifth floor with expansive views of the harbor through multiple sliding glass doors leading to small balconies. Most of the guest rooms have similar balconies. Don't let the five floors discourage you, there are two elevators proximate to the room. We offer a different tour each day. The cost of the tours is \$89 per person. The hospitality room is at no extra charge if we have 35 or more rooms filled. We will be able to bring in our own snacks and drinks and the hotel will provide tables, chairs, ice chests, ice, and water. The hotel restaurant offers a 10% discount to all patrons 65 and older. Complimentary shuttle can be arranged, in advance, to local shopping and Balboa Park/Zoo, using a sign-up sheet.

If you haven't an EDWARDS nametag, we can have one made for you. They are approximately 3-in wide by 2-in high and have the ship's name and the attendee's name engraved on the front as well as the years onboard. For guests, it is obviously just the ship and guest names. The nametags have magnetic backs, so there are no holes poked in clothing. The cost is about \$9.00 each. I have a name tag for another destroyer from this vendor that they did for me 20 years ago, and it still looks brand new.

Our proposed schedule of events is:

Wednesday, April 29

1200 – 2200 Check into the hotel and then the hospitality room to receive your packets.

Thursday, April 30

0800 – 2200 Hospitality Room open.

0930 – 1430 City tour via full size motor coach. The tour will include Coronado, via Coronado Bridge, Balboa Park, the Gaslamp District with its renovated late 1800s buildings, plus a stop at Seaport Village with an opportunity to browse for an hour and shop and/or enjoy the scenic view of the harbor. Back on the bus, we'll proceed to the famous Bali Hai Restaurant on Shelter Island, for lunch. The view is scenic and will bring back memories of the Ready Eddie steaming past this very restaurant, established in 1953. It was renovated a few years ago, and offers one of San Diego's best restaurant views. After lunch we will proceed a short distance to Cabrillo National Monument, for a view of San Diego and the Pacific Ocean from 610 feet above sea level, seeing a similar view to that of those who watched us enter and depart San Diego Harbor.

Friday, May 1

0800 – 2200 Hospitality Room open.

0930 – 1430 La Jolla Tour, including Mount Soledad Veteran's Memorial with Memorial Service, lunch, and the former NTC via full size motor coach. We will first visit Mount Soledad, a one of a kind Veteran's Memorial, located 900

feet above sea level with a 360 degree view. We will hold our Memorial Service there. There will be time to view this site up close and take pictures. We will then travel to the Stephen Birch Aquarium, one of the best aquariums on the West Coast. Lunch will be at Tom Ham's Lighthouse located on Harbor Island, which island many of us watched being built as the harbor channel was dredged during 1967 and 1968. After lunch, the bus will drive through the former NTC where many shipmates went through Boot Camp, with a photo op stop at USS RECRUIT, which has recently undergone a significant exterior refurbishment.

Saturday, May 2

0800 – 1730 Hospitality Room open.

0930 – 1515 USS MIDWAY CV-41 and Two-Hour Narrated Harbor Excursion. The MIDWAY is handicap accessible, with elevators and park benches. Each visitor receives a complimentary headset that provides information about all of the exhibits on the ship. The tickets are pre-ordered, so there are no lines, everyone boards together. At noon, we again board the motor coach and proceed to the harbor excursion for a two-hour narrated tour. While enjoying the harbor tour, we'll also enjoy box lunches. The excursion passes by five military installations (Naval Mine and Anti-Submarine Warfare Command, Submarine Base (Ballast Point), North Island Naval Air Station, Coronado Amphibious Base, and 32nd Street Naval Station).

1600 – 1700 Annual Business Meeting in Hospitality Room

1800 – 2300 Annual Banquet. There will be three menu choices. Dinner includes salad, rolls and butter, desert, and Kona coffee, brewed decaf coffee, or hot tea. A full cash bar will also be available. Cost of the banquet is \$53 per person.

Sunday, May 3

0800 – 1900 Hospitality Room open.

0900-1700 Tour of Southern California's Wine Country and Wine Tastings. This will be another motor coach tour proceeding initially to Old Town Temecula where we will have two hours to visit many one of a kind shops and grab a bit to eat. After re-boarding the bus, we will proceed to the nearby vineyard area, where we will visit three of the many local wineries. We will have a complimentary wine tasting at each winery and an opportunity to purchase any wines that particularly please our palates. After the last winery, we will proceed back to San Diego. The time each way is 90 -120 minutes, depending upon traffic. Most of our travel will be against the commuter flow. The minimum number for this tour is 35.

Monday, May 4

0800 – 1100 Check-out and head for home or the next adventure.

Questions: jimkelly@earthlink.net

Things are on track, almost as outlined in the last newsletter. The only change is the winery tour will be on Wednesday, April 29th, rather than Sunday, May 3rd, so folks should plan on arriving on Tuesday, the 28th and leaving on Sunday, the 3rd. The tour guy changed the date on me, and I apparently did not forward the info to Bob and others. I have addressed your other concerns next to their listing.

Ship's Store

I am sending this email also to let you know that I will be talking to rob about updating the ship store. will not have the pins anymore and adding a couple of new items with pictures. hopefully the ship store might be completed by the end of the month as soon as I find out from rob. will keep you informed. take care of yourself and hope your surgery goes ok for you. todd

Comments Received

thank you very much. thanks for the hat. I remember my experience on the Richard S. Edwards fondly. Even though the ship was in Vietnam, anchored in Da nang harbor, firing the guns, and ferrying marines up and down the coast, I remember those days as being a good experience. I was a only a 19 year old kid, and it helped me grow up. we had a great crew, everybody worked together. I didn't want to be there then, but I'm very glad today that I was. New member Kevin Conroy



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