

On Board

August 2019



2019 Reunion SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

September 11 - 14 2019

*We are almost there 19 days
until we are in Savannah.*

It looks like we have about 40 people registered to attend.

It would be nice if we had more attending. I remember when we would have almost 100 shipmates and family attend the reunions. It is hard to get better than this, beautiful and historic city, great tours and one day now for all us to do our own thing.

It's not too late to get permission to go ashore in Savannah!

Enclosed is a sign-up form. Just call John and let him know.

Website Update

Wix added some more customization which now provide us more information if someone requests access to the members area on the site. The standard format they had only provide us with an email with no name. The customized format has allowed us to add their name so it is easier for us to see if they are a paid member in the association.

Wix just released a recurring annual payment option that I will be reviewing at the members meeting in Savannah to see if we want to activate it on our site.

We have heard from some shipmates who requested they be added to the ship's roster. So you can check the list to see if you know any of them.

REMEMBER!

You can now upload your pictures to the website. You can mail them, email them to me or you can upload them to the website. All you have to do is go to Contact Us and click on "[ADD YOUR PICTURES](#)" or go to on the below link.

<https://www.usstutuila.org/picture>

This newsletter we have the Shipmates Corner are thanks to Jerry Reiser and John Walsh who wrote and sent in information. We welcome all communications from our shipmates and are looking forward for more in the future. KEEP 'EM COMING.

Membership

We need new members to keep it going too. After losing some members and adding a few we are currently at 184 active members supporting the membership. So, if you know of any shipmates. please ask them to join and support our Association.

If you haven't paid your dues, please send them in to Rick or pay online.

Taps

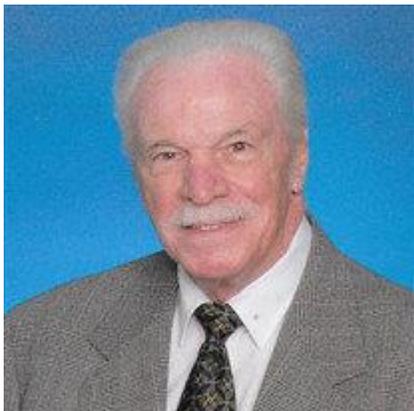
I am sorry to say that we were notified that Marion Breeding died in 2018.

His son wrote the following to us. Thank you so much for sending Dad's Honorary membership card and information about the reunion.



"Very sadly, both of my parents died over a year ago, Mom two days after Dad. He was almost 99 when he went. Both of my parents really enjoyed attending the reunions in the past. I hope you and others continue to enjoy them for a very long time.

still miss them both and think about them dozens of times each day. I appreciate that others still think of them as well.



Arthur Murray, 71 died due to complications while battling cancer on July 17, 2019

Ship Mates Corner

Jerry Reiser wrote...

Thank you for the alert regarding my USS Tutuila dues. Shirley will get a check out to you sometime today, so please keep me on the roster. It has been a very rough year for me, this past year, due to my heart problems. If you recall, I had open heart surgery 5 years ago and then 3 years ago an aborted stent procedure that failed and caused a stroke while on the operating table. I lost my ability to read but somehow still manage to write. I just can't read what I write sometime, around last Christmas, my heart slipped back into atrial fibrillation and on the first of March, I went into total congestive heart and (something I don't remember) failure. Shirley was an EMT so she noticed the symptoms, called 911 and I was placed in intensive care with 1 hour to live. Thanks to my medical team, they pulled me through, but I spent the entire month of March in the hospital and rehab center. I finally convinced them to send me home with home nursing care. It took until mid-June before I was able to move around a bit. Shirley has somehow managed to take over several chores that I used to do, so she has had a lot of things to manage along with taking wonderful care of me. At any rate, the dues payment just fell through the cracks but will be corrected today. At this moment in time, I am thankful that I do not feel "sick" just very low in energy. I bought myself a Cub Cadet tractor, with a fuel injected engine, to haul myself around the neighborhood and yard just to get out of the house and around my 1 1/2-acre yard. I sure miss the reunions and getting together with my ship mates. I am now 88 and probably one of the few plank owners left. (As plank owner I believe he is referring to the recommissioning in the 1950's) I do have an interesting story to tell. About

3 years ago, I was sitting in the waiting room of our hospital, wearing my USS Tutuila cap, when a man came up to me and introduced himself to me. His name was Larry McKay and he was a US Marine. After several minutes of conversation, it turned out that he went to the Electronics Technician School, at Great Lakes, the same time that I was there. The Navy and Marines went to the same school for phase 1 in the first year of school. That, in itself, was very interesting but then I learned that Larry owned most of the land around my land, so we were neighbors in a very rural area. Then, to add to the story, our church is just one mile from our home and Larry also owns the land next to the church and his father donated the land for our church cemetery. During my poor health time in life, our pastor came over with the cemetery plot so we could select our grave site. It turned out that the section next to our plot has been set aside for the McKay family (including Larry) so, when the time comes, I will be buried next to a class mate, and US Marine, that I trained with in 1951 - 1952. I was a Michigan native when I was in the Navy and Larry is several generation North Carolina men. The world is a lot smaller than you may think. Please give my Love and Blessings to my ship mates and their family. We will be there in spirit. All the best...

Jerry and Shirley Reiser



John Walsh wrote...

I have attached a copy the Thanksgiving Day menu from the U. S. S. Tutuila 1944. I find it interesting and amazing on how much effort was made to try and make things as normal as possible for the servicemen. When you see how extensive the menu was, the logistics to get everything there fresh was commendable. Refrigeration was nowhere as good then as it is now.

I have also attached the, "Muster Roll of the Crew" for the month ended, May 31, 1944.

John Walsh

The Lighter Side



This was sent in from Jimmy Connolly.

Getting carded isn't all it's cracked up to be.

To View copy the below link into your web browser.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nP6T7u91AsA>

VA News



VA MISSION Act: Answers to the top 5 questions about urgent care

To read more copy the below link into your web browser

https://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/61258/va-announces-final-community-care-regulations-mission-act/?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=VAntage?

Urgent care is one of the new benefits offered as part of the VA MISSION Act that gives Veterans greater choice in their health care. The benefit is offered in addition to the opportunity to receive care from a VA provider, as VA also offers same-day services.

Stay Happy and Healthy Take these five steps

Happiness and health are more closely related than you might think. A healthy lifestyle can increase happiness, while a positive mindset can help you avoid unhealthy ways. You don't have to run marathons; there are steps you can take to age well. Here are five simple things you can do to feel better.



To read more copy the below link into your web browser

<https://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/62632/mission-act-urgent-care/>

Naval News



Bataan amphibious group completes first SWATT

The US Navy amphibious ready group (ARG) assembled around amphibious assault ship USS Bataan (LHD 5) has completed its first Surface Warfare Advanced Tactical Training (SWATT) exercise.

To read more copy the below link into your web browser

<https://navaltoday.com/2019/08/13/bataan-amphibious-group-completes-first-swatt/>

Ship's Store

Well the ship's store is open for business. Check out what is coming soon.

For those coming to the reunion we are trying to have samples there for purchase.

You can order online at our website or contact Rick Rolfe directly 480-659-2747.



Well That's it for Now....

Please remember to send me stories or anything you would like to see in the next newsletter and also for the website.

Thanks to all who contributed to this newsletter it is greatly appreciated.

Guy Veni

Quote: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law." Galatians 5:22-23

