

U.S.S. LOWNDES - APA 154

April 2008 Newsletter

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BIG! BIG! Mistake in January issue of newsletter, had stated that the 20th Lowndes reunion in San Francisco Reunion as October 16, 17 & 18. **WRONG!**
Correct dates are **October 9, 10 & 11, 2008.**

When Making reservations be sure to mention the U.S.S Lowndes Reunion to get proper rate, \$99.00 + tax. Which will be in effect 3 days before and after our session.
1-800-227-4747 or 1-415-626-8000

See brochure for what the Whitcomb Hotel has to offer in available amenities
Stuart Hyde has been very busy setting up various activities for our group.

Please return enclosed stamped and addressed post card promptly.
We need an approximate number of attendees to arrange a successful reunion.

Don Lorenzi brought up a very valid point, don't show dates on the postcard. It would advertise the dates that your residence would be vacant and could possibly serve as an invitation to unsavory individuals.

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The following were in attendance at the St. Louis Reunion:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Shen & Mary Adams | Stuart & Allie Hyde | Dee Rodgers |
| Neil & Phyllis Atin | Bud & Jean Kautz | Roger & Lee Solley |
| Angie (White) Briney | David & Joanne Long | Jan & Perry Trober |
| David, Odess & Jeremy Brinkman | Don & Shirley Lorenzi | Bonnie White |
| John & Lebby Dyer | Leo & Margaret O'Brien | John Vernale & Mary Fuggeta |
| John & Marilyn Hess | Earl & Frances Robertson | Kerry, Sally & Matt Welker |

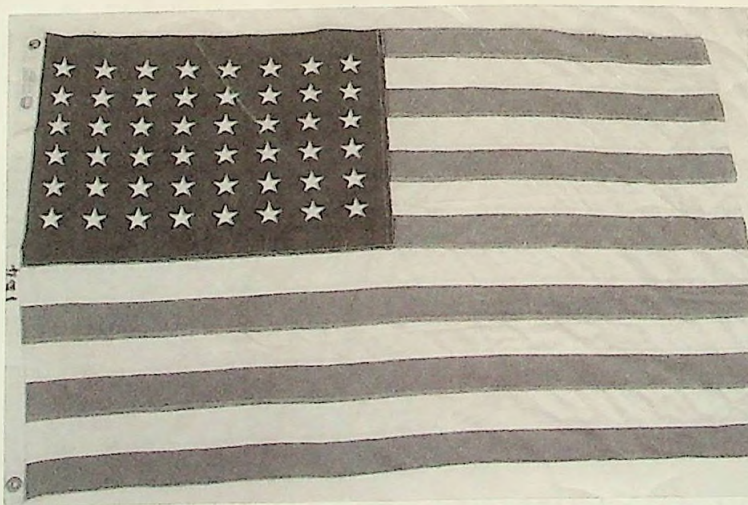
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Note: 154 on edge of flag

David Brinkman

I always had an eye out for Lowndes items on E Bay but missed this one about the flag. The seller claims this was a flag from the Lowndes during WWII. It sold for \$50. I would have paid a lot more than that. Well, I sent the winning bidder an e-mail and told him who I was and asked if he would consider selling it for a nice profit. Below is the description from the buyer:

"I wish I had asked more questions of the old gentleman this flag used to belong to. He seemed sad to see it sell and told me just before I took it up to the cashier that it was a very special flag. It came from the ship he served on in the late 1940's. I could see it was made very well and it's quite yellowed, much more than my photos show. The ship was the U.S.S. Lowndes. Other than the yellowing and a musty odor it's in very good condition without holes or fraying. Perhaps it was an inside flag or not used for a long period of time. It has the number 154 on the edge. The stars are embroidered and stripes and edges are sewn together as shown. In any case it's still a great looking flag."



48 Star - 24-1/2" x 37"

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Loreta Freitas

Joe had a rough summer and spent a few days in the hospital but is feeling better now after the doctor changed his medications. Had all the symptoms of a heart attack, but the heart doctor could not find any complications of the heart. Any way, whatever it was it knocked him down for awhile. I think he was not feeling as good as he should have been. It was probably from his diabetes. His computer is back and he has taken it to the shop twice and still not working like it should. Will probably get a new one. As for me I am still moving but a little slower with aches. How was the reunion last year? I was sorry that we did not make it., but it is getting harder for us to travel. Joe will let you know via e mail when he gets it working again.

"The reunion went along just fine. Missed you both."

Don Lorenzi

To my friends who enjoy an occasional glass of beer or wine...and those who don't:

As Ben Franklin said: In wine there is wisdom, in beer there is freedom, and in water there is bacteria. In a number of carefully controlled trials, scientists have demonstrated that if we drink 1 liter of water each day, at the end of the year we would have absorbed more than 1 kilo of Escherichia coli, (E. coli) – bacteria found in feces. In other words, we are consuming 1 kilo of poop. However, we do not run that risk when drinking wine or beer (or tequila or other liquor) because alcohol has to go through a purification process of boiling, filtering and/or fermenting.

Remember Water = Poop Wine & beer = Health.

"We appreciate words of wisdom from Don, something to think about."

Stuart advises to reserve rooms as early as possible because Fleet Week event occurs at the same time as our reunion and hotels may be fully booked.

Lorene Stratton

It's that time of the year to pay our dues so we can continue to receiving the Lowndes newsletters coming our way. We enjoy hearing old friends remarks and what they are up to. We spent two weeks at our son's last year. Trust all is well with everybody.

John Lackey

63 years ago, February 19, 1945 my crew and I got our boat (No. 21) loaded with Marine troops and then to the beach at Iwo Jima. When we got back to the ship they loaded our boat with mine torpedoes. That night we were called in to the beach by the Marines. They informed the torpedoes were the wrong size. We got off the beach then were hit with something and it knocked a hole in the bottom of the boat. The water was coming in fast. We were close to another boat and watched our boat go down. Thank God there was another boat close by. My crew consisted of Deck hand, Rosenbaum, signalman, Escamilli and Motor Mac, Caldwell. I moved from California to Kansas.

Note his new address & phone No:
613 Arnold Drive,
Lyons, KS 67554
(620)708-2434

Alan Dahms

Enclosed is my check to help out a bit, even though no one seems to know my father, George Maynard (Doc) Dahms who was an ensign aboard the Lowndes. I think the efforts of the Reunion Group are marvelous. Please remove my Mother from the "Ladies list", she is deceased.

"Can any Lowndes crewmen furnish Alan with any information regarding his Father? I'm sure he would appreciate any sent to him."

There will be a bus tour through San Francisco & boat trip around the bay. Cost \$50.00 per person.

April 2008-3

Stuart Hyde

In early March I attended the annual commemoration of the Iwo Jima battle at the Marines Memorial Club in San Francisco. About 150 attended, of whom about 50 of us had been at the battle. I was the only Naval person there, and was treated royally!!!! Maybe we have to soften up our attitude toward the sea going bellhops!

Yeah, Stuart I did witness an incident or two when on the beach at Iwo. At times my opinion has wavered too.

Thomas D. Godby

I have been suffering from Macular Degeneration for about 4 years now. Taking a lot of eye vitamins. I woke up one morning and was blind in the left eye. A hastened trip to Las Vegas for an operation, seems to be working. Eye was real blurred, but is getting better each day. On the equator initiation the guy with the cigar is the Royal Baby. He was a Chief Warrant Officer. I'm sure glad that was pumpkin on his belly and not what it was supposed to be. He grabbed my head and rolled my face in it. Chief Love was the Royal Barber. I wish he had worked those hand clippers faster. My hair was pulled out from the front to the back in a reverse Mohawk. Believe me, the electric chair worked. It had copper rivets in it. After being dumped into the tank, full of garbage and fuel oil you were supposed to holler, "I'm a Shellback. QM Chasteen dunked my head so many times I thought I was going to drown. It was good fun and I wouldn't have missed it for anything.

"Tom, there was no way you were going to have missed it, you had no choice."

Lavada Boyer

Hello to everyone. Everything is great with me, still playing a lot of golf. Wish I could be with the bunch. Miss all a lot. My daughter and I are thinking of visiting the bunch this

year in San Francisco. I have missed all the bunch in the past. I know we do have to make our own reservations.

"Golf? You sure know how to hurt a guy."

Frances Robertson

This has been our year of doctors Earl had the cataracts removed from both eyes. Because he has macular degeneration his recovery is a bit slower. Neither of us do much driving after dark, so our social life seems to be trips to Walmart, grocery shopping and dining out at places close to home. I too have had my share of doctors and hospitals. Early this year I had double pneumonia and they pumped enough water from my lungs to float a battleship. I took a stress and a catheter test (failed the stress one, than was admitted to the hospital for more tests. Through it all it was found out my heart was in bad shape. Talked to my doctor, the cardiologist and the heart surgeon who operated on Earl several years ago and chose, even at my age, open heart surgery. With lots of prayers, God's will and the doctors skill I came through it all. I'm back to doing the cooking and Earl has retired from the kitchen. He definitely is not a gourmet cook.

"Jan has kept us informed throughout Frances' ordeal and says she is fine now. Jan also sent me a copy of a telegram wired to Earl's parents shortly after Pearl Harbor. Because of a motorcycle accident Earl was in the hospital and not aboard the USS Oklahoma. He was listed as MIA and it took a few years to set the records straight."

CLASS OF SERVICE	WESTERN UNION	SYMBOLS
1-4-10-15-20-25-30-35-40-45-50-55-60-65-70-75-80-85-90-95-100-105-110-115-120-125-130-135-140-145-150-155-160-165-170-175-180-185-190-195-200-205-210-215-220-225-230-235-240-245-250-255-260-265-270-275-280-285-290-295-300-305-310-315-320-325-330-335-340-345-350-355-360-365-370-375-380-385-390-395-400-405-410-415-420-425-430-435-440-445-450-455-460-465-470-475-480-485-490-495-500-505-510-515-520-525-530-535-540-545-550-555-560-565-570-575-580-585-590-595-600-605-610-615-620-625-630-635-640-645-650-655-660-665-670-675-680-685-690-695-700-705-710-715-720-725-730-735-740-745-750-755-760-765-770-775-780-785-790-795-800-805-810-815-820-825-830-835-840-845-850-855-860-865-870-875-880-885-890-895-900-905-910-915-920-925-930-935-940-945-950-955-960-965-970-975-980-985-990-995-1000	WASHINGTON DC 1150PM DEC 20 1941	C. B. & Q. R. R.
HOWARD ELSAORTH ROBERTSON 8 MARTIN ST ABINGDON ILL	THE NAVY DEPARTMENT DEEPLY REGRETS TO INFORM YOU THAT YOUR SON EARL CLIVER ROBERTSON FIREMAN FIRST CLASS U S NAVY IS MISSING FOLLOWING ACTION IN THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTY AND IN THE SERVICE OF HIS COUNTRY THE GOVERNMENT APPRECIATES YOUR GREAT ANXIETY AND WILL FURNISH YOU FURTHER INFORMATION PROMPTLY WHEN RECEIVED. TO PREVENT POSSIBLE AID TO OUR ENIMIES BEST DO NOT DIVULGE THE NAME OF HIS SHIP OR STATION	REAR ADMIRAL RANDALL JACOBS CHIEF OF THE BUREAU OF NAVIGATION

April 2008-4

Shen Adams

Yes I would appreciate being on the USS Lowndes newsletter mailing list. I am the son of G. S. Adams Jr. Lt. jg. Informally known as Bud Adams. Mary and I loved sharing your reunion in St. Louis and want to be with all in California. We are looking forward to the date, time and place so we can make plans. I hope David Brinkman can run down the coxswain on Dad's landing craft that was called Porgy or Porky! I am working on replicating a map of the ship's voyage in the South Pacific that Dad has had all of these years. It came from the ward room and I am trying to preserve it on a CD that can be shared with anyone that might want it. Being with all was such a special treat for me and if anyone ever needs to contact me for anything please feel free to do so. Enclosed please find my check for 2008 annual dues for the USS Lowndes – APA 154 Reunion Group. Consider the excess as my discretionary contribution to all the men that served on the Lowndes. They brought my father, G. S. "Bud" Adams Jr. home alive, but especially to his lifelong friend Stuart Hyde whom I had the pleasure of meeting for the first time in St. Louis. My sincere thanks to all of the men that served their country on the Lowndes.

Ed. McKellar

I am now in a Retirement Center. I fell in May and broke my hip so this is my home now. Nice hearing about everybody through the newsletters.

Bill Taylor

After effects of shingles are still doing a number on me. My doctor says it will take some time. My pain is gone but soreness and stinging are bad in the morning hours. I hope all of us will be able to go to the San Francisco reunion. It will be good to see everyone.

Robin Hardy Kerr

Thank you for e-mailing me as I would like to remain in your files. I was so pleased to

receive the USS Lowndes newsletter. I did get very "teary-eyed" while reading it. I am so appreciative that you are keeping the memories of those heroic men alive. Thanks to the advice in the newsletter I was able to secure my father's military records. My father, Savile Crossley Hardy, served on board the USS Lowndes and was at Iwo Jima. Following his graduation from the University of Virginia in 1941, he served in the Navy from 07/28/41 until 12/18/45 and attained the rank of Lt. Commander. Prior to the Lowndes he served on the USS Preserver, USS Tekesta, USS Nauset and the USS Falcon. He died 10 years ago and I, recently, became interested in his service. The web site is wonderful! I was actually able to see a log entry he made with his very distinctive signature. I wish I had talked to him more about it while he was alive but he, like many people, was reticent to discuss his service. Let me know of any reunions as I my husband, and my brother would like to attend. I would so appreciate hearing from anyone who recalls him. The best e-mail at which to reach me is robinhkerr@cox.net

"We have added your e-mail address to our list and this newsletter informs you of the dates and location of our next reunion."

As a space filler I have a little story to relate. This was brought to mind by Renee Michalski's tale regarding her Dad's 1917 Maxwell. This past fall son Bill, grandson Will and I drove up to Wautoma, WI to visit a former USS Reid shipmate of mine who has a antique car restoration facility. After a tour of the operation we were asked if we would like to take a ride in a 1916 Cadillac touring car. All three of us didn't hesitate for one minute and said, "Definitely". What an experience we had tooling down the highway at 50+ miles per hour. This car, as old as it was had a V8 engine, cruise control and a fat man's steering wheel (It swiveled to make it easier for guys like me to enter the driver's seat. The old adage, "Nothing new under the sun" surely applied in this instance.

Your editor, Bud

Jackie Richards

We have had a good year health wise except for two incidents this spring involving Wally. He had his 3rd episode of memory loss called Transient Global Amnesia. He was helping build another cabinet for the museum and was down on his knees too long therefore bringing this temporary episode on. These last a few hours then clears up. Also this ring he stumbled over a curb and fell causing a hamstring injury but with rest heals itself. Now if I can keep him off his knees, watch out for curbs maybe we can avoid these problems.

Walt Umbarger

I have put off writing this for a long time. Our health has not been the greatest the past year. We enjoy the Lowndes newsletters so much. We are sorry we have not been able to attend the past yearly meetings but as I said health problems have taken over our lives the past year or so. Jackie has had two operations on the same hip the past year. She is just now beginning to use the walker on her own. She has been in a wheelchair for almost a year. We have moved into an assisted facility last November. We like it here but we have to say it will never be actually home to us. I don't remember the last time I have paid any dues to the Lowndes group so I am enclosing a check to cover what I owe. Love and miss all the folks.

"Note Walt & Jackie's new address on this page. Sure hope the upcoming year is more upbeat for all."

Mildred Binney

I still live in my 118 year old house, tho it has lots of parts that bare very worn, but it is my home and I'm blessed that I can enjoy each day here. We did some major remodeling in early 1007 and I now have a nice guest bedroom for visitors. I am a bit slower, but I can still care for my house companion, "Cash" the house cat. He acquired a new inside female friend "Missy", so

have conversations with my 2 cats, There are 5 outside cats that always get a daily hot meal. My main daily job continues to be making rugs out of any scraps. So far I have made over 100 with many more to make.

Ann Brewster

Thanks for putting Dad's (James Ross) obit in the newsletter. We appreciate it very much. Mom is still trying to figure out how you knew. We (Mom, myself & my daughter are considering coming to the 2008 reunion. My brother, Charles Ross and wife, Iris of Germany may also come. Dad was always talking about the things that you have done for the reunion, etc. so I would like to say Thank You.

"This issue of the newsletter will give Ann the information requested. Welcome to the fold. Memory recalls that Jim Ross gave Charles his Lowndes cap and Charles wore it on every one of his missions during the first Gulf War."

Carleton Measels

My wife has an uncle who served on the USS Lowndes-APA 154 during WWII. If I remember correctly he said 1944 to 1946. He does pretty good for a man of his age (87 years old) except he is very hard of hearing. His name is Dolphie Harold Ricks.

"D. H. Join the club, even with (aid) it's increasingly difficult to understand words. Ricks boarded the ship Sept. 15, 1944."

"More from David Brinkman, just discovered the guy who bought the flag may have been on the CVAA-41, USS Midway. Made this guy a good offer, \$200.00, 4 times what he paid for it and he just blew it off with a 'not for sale'. Evidently he has a special interest in the Lowndes. Anyone have knowledge of the Midway, please let David or me, (Bud) know."

TAPS

Thomas Otto Lewis



October 17, 1926 - January 27, 2008

Thomas was born in Curtis, Arkansas. He enlisted in the Navy and boarded the Lowndes September 16, 1944 and served until July 7, 1945. While serving aboard the ship he was a member of the Beach Party and took part in the invasion of Iwo Jima and Okinawa. No further information regarding his tenure aboard the Lowndes. As a civilian he was a retired conductor for the Union Pacific Railroad where he was employed for over fifty years. He is survived by his wife, Elnora of over 61 years. One son, one daughter, four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. He enjoyed nothing better than spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Marjorie M. Rauseo



January 30, 1931 - February 15, 2008

Born in East Boston, Massachusetts. She was a member of St. Mary's Church and a member of the Democratic Town Committee and served on the Board of Registrar in Georgetown, MA. An active member of the USS Lowndes Reunion Group and will be missed by all. At our Boston reunion in 1993 while attending the stage play, "Forever Plaid" Marjorie was called up on the stage and participated in part with the play's actors. Receiving a round of applause from the audience and Lowndes reunion members. She is survived by her husband, Arthur J. Rauseo of Georgetown, one son, one daughter, four granddaughters

April 2008-7

U.S.S. LOWNDES (APA154)
PLAN OF THE DAY FOR SUNDAY, 1 APRIL 1945

Duty Medical Officer:	Lt (jg) Dunbar	Duty SK:	McManus, SK2c
Duty PhM:	Nerison, PhM1c	Duty MAA:	Schaffer, MoMM3c
Duty Yeoman:	Chilcote, Y1c		

0320 Call PPO' and DH's
0330 Reveille. Call all hands. Trice up bunks.
0345-0515 Breakfast.
Davit boat crews, davit winch crews, and Demonstration debarking troops will eat at the head of the chow line.
0430-0515 Breakfast will be served to officers in the wardroom.
0515 General quarters (morning alert).
0600 Approximate time for setting condition 1-able.
0630 Approximate time for arrival in the transport area.
Demonstration troops will be embarked and davit boats will be lowered away as ordered.
0815 Sick call for ship's company.
0900 Sick call for troops.
1115 Mess gear.
1130 Chow. Troops will eat immediately after ship's company.
1300 Turn to— continue ship's work.
1400 Wardroom will be reserved for marine officers for briefing period.
1600 Evening sick call for troops.
1615 Mess gear.
1630 Supper. Troops will eat immediately after ship's company.
1730 Supper for officers in the wardroom.
15 minutes prior to Sunset: Darken ship.
Sunset General quarters (evening alert).
1900 Evening sick call for ship's company.
1930 Eight o'clock reports to the Executive Officer.
2125 Tattoo.
2130 Taps.

Memorandums:

1. Besides regular watch standers, all hands on deck will keep alert and vigilant at all times for any suspicious objects in the water, day or night, such as floating boxes or floating mines.
2. The enemy have approximately 500 20-foot motor-torpedo boats in this area and may be expected to approach the ship at any time of day or night at either high speeds, or possibly stealthily at night under power of muffled oars. ANY MAN NOTING ANYTHING WHATEVER OF A USPICIOUS NATURE IN THE WATER SURROUNDING THE SHIP WILL REPORT SAME TO THE BRIDGE AT ONCE.
3. All hands must be prepared to expect a possible attack by air-craft, by surface craft, or by submarine, suddenly, without warning. All hands will wear their life belts or have them within handy reach at all times.
3. While we are in this objective area, NOTHING WHATEVER will be thrown overboard from this ship at any time, day or night.
4. DO NOT REMOVE BATTLE LANTERNS FROM THEIR BRACKETS. Those lanterns are located in important places for use in emergency only. They May well prove to be the means for saving your life.
5. Blue hats and dungaree trousers and shirts will be worn at all times on weather decks. Mutilated or sleeveless shirts will not be allowed.
6. CONSERVE FRESH WATER .
7. Any man wishing to strike for Quartermaster, please report to the ship's office.

HARRISON GARDNER, Executive Officer.

April 2008 -8

Stuart Hyde (Host)

Tentative Schedule

The reunion will get off to a running start on Thursday, October 9 at 4:P.M. In the Hotel Whitcomb Hospitality Suite. The suite is on the 7th floor of the hotel, with a sweeping view of San Francisco.

No formal activities are planned for Thursday evening, but that would be an excellent time to seek out some of San Francisco's excellent Restaurants. A list of several top-notch restaurants will be available at the reception.

Friday morning, a sightseeing tour of San Francisco will pick up and Drop off at the hotel, and take us to many famous sites, including the Golden Gate Bridge, Chinatown (largest outside of China itself), Palace of Fine Arts (from the 1915 Panama- Pacific Exposition), Nob Hill, Grace Cathedral, Lombard Street (crookedest street in the world), Golden Gate Park, and many Other famous landmarks.

Friday evening is not yet scheduled. As soon as information about Theater events for October become available, you will receive the Information so you can make your reservations through the hotel.

Saturday morning will leave you free to explore anywhere in the Bay Area That interests you, including a boat trip to, and a tour of, Alcatraz a half day tour across the Golden Gate Bridge to Muir Woods (giant Redwood Trees); a ferry ride to Sausalito; the famous San Francisco City Hall; Museums, including DeYoung in Golden Gate Park, and the Asian Art Museum, just a two block walk from the hotel.

Those who remember The Top of the Mark may want to pay it a return visit For old times sake.

Saturday evening features the annual banquet, with photos of our group Scheduled for 5:00 in the Hospitality Suite, and dinner at 7:00. At the Banquet we will be serenaded by the Blue Stars of the USS Hornet. The Singing Blues Stars is a group of ladies who specialize in performing Songs from the 40's and 50's to entertain a variety of Veterans' groups. The common bond of the members is that they have sons, daughters or Other family members that are currently serving or are veterans of the U.S. Military. Most of them have "kids" that served recently in Afghanistan and/or Iraq.

**The Hospitality Room will be open at
scheduled hours throughout the Reunion.**