

June 2005-1

U.S.S. LOWNDES - APA 154

June Newsletter

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e mail: REDLABELBUDDHA@aol.com

Another reminder: Our reunion will be in Oakbrook, IL
September 15 thru 18, 2005

There are still a number of post cards that have not been returned.
Please send them back as we need to have an estimate of attendees.

Be sure to mention USS Lowndes Reunion when making reservations
to get the best rate.

See page Mar. 2005-8 for reservation sheet to be returned to hotel.

Hilton Garden Inn Oakbrook Terrace (630)941-1177

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The following have indicated their intentions to be in attendance at Oakbrook,IL

Max Cole	Don & Shirley Lorenzi	Dallas & Lorene Stratton
John & Lebby Dyer	Margaret McGrody (?)	Bill & Amelia Taylor
Pam & Mike Hennessey	Mike & Jerry Michalski	Jan & Perry Trober
Dick & Roseanne Jones	Leo & Margaret O'Brien	John Vernale
Bud & Jean Kautz	Arthur & Marjorie Rauseo	
David & Joanne Long	Earl & Frances Robertson	

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No set times yet but here is what has been set up for a tentative schedule of events:
When schedule is definite it will be made available in next newsletter.

THURSDAY	- Sept. 15	Meet & greet
FRIDAY (day)	- Sept. 16	Guided sightseeing tour, approx. 0900-1500
FRIDAY (night)		Drury Lane dinner theater, approx. 1800-2300
SATURDAY	- Sept. 17	Day visit Navy Pier & cruise on Lake Michigan 0930-1530
		Return to hotel for business meeting in hospitality room
SATURDAY		Group photo & banquet - cash bar
SUNDAY	- Sept. 18	So long - farewell 'til we meet again

Please have suggestions for the 2006 reunion & present them for
consideration at the business meeting in Oakbrook
Date & which city we will give the honor to host it.

June 2005-2

Jack R. Watkins

My Father, Paul Rogers R. Watkins, Chief Electrician Mate (T), SV-6, USNR Served on board the USS Lowndes and the USS Reumus (ARL-40) during the time period of about 10/30/1943 to December 1945. He never spoke a lot about his tour of duty, only that it was in the Pacific. He received the Asiatic-Pacific and Philippine Liberation medals. If anyone has any information about Paul, I know it would be a miracle if anyone remembered him, but stranger things have happened. I am completing a family tree and book and biography, so any information available will be greatly appreciated. Paul passed away in September 1967. His wife is 90 years old and is still mentally alert and living in Fruita, Colorado Where my Dad entered the service and returned upon his release from the service. My address: <jacklore1@wmconnect.com>

4468 Territorial Loop
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635
(520)439-9748

Checking the current roster list I find that Donald Lorenzi and Arthur Rauseo are the only Electrician mates listed. Have forwarded Jack's e mail to them with hopes they can provide him with some info. What say fellows?

John Vernale

Thanks for the article of my great nephew, Carl Pavano I was in Fort Myers, FL from December 20 and left March 31. Cold and snow does not agree with me. Not doing much, just relaxing. Sorry I didn't write sooner. Had a wonderful time in Branson, the girls did a great job, my thanks to the both of them. See you in Chicago.

Jan Trober

I plan to have the fantastic Chicago giveaway. Any and all gifts will be greatly appreciated. Big or small doesn't matter. I am working on Chicago/Illinois trivia to make some gifts.

Let's get behind Jan to help pull this off successfully.

Jeffrey Hess

Sorry for the slow response to your 17th reunion request, but Cindy and I will be unable to attend the reunion this year. About a week before we received your inquiry, our daughter picked September 17th for her wedding date. Se thought that would be before the reunion. To keep family peace, I figured going to the wedding would be the best choice. Cindy and I really enjoyed attending the reunion in Branson last year. We enjoyed meeting all of you and listening to the experiences in the Navy. Dad didn't talk very much about his time in the Navy while I was growing up. I am forwarding a CD of the pictures we took at last year's reunion. You may use any of the pictures you want. Thanks again for a good time in Branson. We hope the Chicago reunion is as successful and are looking forward to attending future reunions.

The CD that Jeff sent contains about 100 photos that I will insert into the current album for viewing. Jeff is the son of John and Marilyn Hess and I'm sure he made a wise decision. I assume that John and Marilyn will forego the Chicago reunion too. If not, I'm sure they will be in deep trouble.

Todd Gatewood

There is an interesting e mail that has been going around the internet for a while. I really admire all the service men and women that have served and protected our country. Here is a link which will detail which part of that e mail is myth and which part is fact. The same website, <http://www.snopes.com/> is helpful in finding out what is what, when it comes to the net. There is also some fascinating reading there. Here is the link to the specific, topic of the unknown soldier. One thing I found interesting and confusing is why the Vietnam Veterans tomb still remains empty? Does anyone have any further info regarding why remains have not been replaced? Here is the link:

<http://www.snopes.com/military/unknown.asp>

Reuben Johnson – cont'd

I returned to Seattle with grand thoughts of state-side duty with our crew. Not to be out done, the Navy needed two men to complete the compliment of a new ship. Another crewman and I were chosen for this duty. It was good bye state-side at this point, nut by the grace of God, hello state-side after VJ day. I had only heard of amphibious assault action and my training was day to day from the day the Lowndes was commissioned. I didn't know anyone on the crew I was working with. I was a CM3c and made the repairs on the side of some of the boats. Good men working as brothers to get a bad job done. After all the goings and comings, taking wounded to Guam and going after replacement boats below the equator it was quite a feeling to head back to the States. Who would have thought we would be in San Francisco on VJ Day which was a very wild for sure. Service men were restricted to their bases and ships. At this time my length of service and points qualified me for discharge. Sent to Great Lakes Naval Station for processing and left my Navy career at the end of September 1945

Wally Richards

Hi to all of you: Sorry I haven't been responding to anyone since April or before. Just got home Monday evening, May 23rd from Omaha Methodist Hospital. Spent the best part of 5 weeks there and had three operations to relieve pressure on my brain. Was rushed down twice by ambulance. No more got home and had to go back. Had 4 mini-strokes since the weekend of April 17th. I guess two of them were before that time. But don't ask me as I was pretty much out of the loop. Hopefully will be able to make our annual reunion, but nothing definite at this time. Have a ways to go to re-gain my strength and control of y legs and body. Left side very weak but am able to walk with a walker.

Guess that was the reason not being able to get in touch with Wally. Have him in our thoughts to recover and be himself again. Hope to see him and Jackie in Oakbrook this September. Good luck fella!

CONGRATULATION ARE IN ORDER

BIRTHDAYS		ANNIVERSARIES	
J. Hess	5/19	Bornhorsts	5/9
F. DuBois	6/3	Pappenhausens	5/22
B. Warnburg	6/4	Hess'	6/5
A. Rauseo	6/10	Hydes	6/18
J. Freitas	7/21	Johnsons	6/21
T. Baker	7/21	Dyers	6/24
J. Born	7/23	Borns	7/1
T. Godby	8/3	Brubakers	7/?
L. Nedeau	8/3	Longs	7/12
B. Taylor	8/7	Feists	8/?
S. Hyde	8/8	Linebacks	8/22
P. Lineback	8/17	Erlandsons	8/31
B. Tracz	8/22		
E. King	8/26		

A bit of trivia**Clark Martin**

Officers in the "Old Navy" (before WWII) joined the Wardroom Mess and paid for their meals. They were not entitled to meals from the General Mess and usually had to buy into the Wardroom if membership had value. The Wardroom purchased from "the beach" as well as from the Supply Officer and had a separate menu and facilities (galley and stewards) to prepare foods. That has been so long ago that I can not remember how and when the changes came about officially. The separation remained but there was a gradual change in the duties of the Wardroom Mess Officer (usually a junior officer who had little time or desire to propose a menu and buy provisions and collect funds). Perhaps I should ask a twenty-first century Supply Officer how the Wardroom Mess exists now to get up to date. Bud, you too are history.

This a reply to my question to Clark. I had just finished reading a book, "Condition Red" where this subject of Officer's mess came up and Clark being an officer in the Navy I wanted to get it direct from a reliable source.

While on the subject of food, it is a known fact that hot dogs and hot-dog buns are sold in different quantities, but that is going to change two companies have agreed to sell buns and hot dogs in the same numbers. Sure this will delight outdoor cookers.

June 2005-4

Bill Taylor

Sending a news article from the Indianapolis Star concerning the Indianapolis Athletic Club where the Umbargers hosted our reunion a few years ago. I received this article from some friends who remembered that we had enjoyed the reunion there. There are a few historical facts regarding the club. To me, the article is a reminder of the many good and entertaining reunions we have experienced.

Some of the well known celebrities and individuals who have taken advantage of the Club and visited in past years:

First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, Ozzie and Harriet Nelson, Presidents Harry S. Truman and Lyndon B. Johnson, Benny Goodman – King of Swing and Archduke Otto von Hapsburg with a family reunion. Also to mention importantly and most noteworthy the USS Lowndes reunion in 2002.

Thanks Bill, always on the look out for items of interest for the newsletters.

Darby Hinton

Sorry you haven't heard from me for a while. I don't really have any stories about my Dad except how Mom told me that he had been up late on a Saturday night and instead of waking up his fellow sailors crawling up to his upper bunk, he grabbed a newspaper and was reading the Sunday funnies in the head when his ship was attacked at Pearl Harbor. His ship was the one mostly saved because the Arizona was tied up next to it and protected from the torpedo bombs. Still, he lost a lot of friends that day. Mom told me his life and the appreciation for it started anew after that experience. Since I was only one when he died I don't have any other stories. The picture of him crossing the Equator is one of the few I have. I'm really thankful for that one that was sent to me. I went through the same ceremony when I went to school on 'Semester at Sea'. It's great knowing my Dad did the same thing. I

appreciate what is being done for his shipmates and understand the cost of doing it. Once again, I will always appreciate the picture and the story that his shipmates shared about him.

Donald Lorenzi

Yes, I remember Chief Watkins, nice guy, however he had an efficient crew and there was little for him to do, he did not get involved with our day to day work assignments. If it wasn't broke he was not about to fix it. However, I do recall him getting a workout on one night during the invasion of Iwo Jima. The anchor got stuck in the down position due to a problem with the control panel and we could not debark that night with the rest of the ships. This was such a serious event that word had it-it was not to be trusted to lower ranking personnel. I'm sure he got direct orders from the Captain. The one thing I do thank the chief for is that when he got transferred (war was over) the 1cEM made chief and I was promoted to 1/c. Sorry I can not report, time has erased many memories. If anything comes to mind I will certainly get back to Jack.

This is Donald's response to Jack Watkins' question regarding his Dad, Chief EM Paul R. Watkins.

Thomas Baker

Use the enclosed check for necessary cost of supplies. If I owe any more, please advise.

Margaret McGrody

Appreciate receiving the Lowndes newsletters. I'm still uncertain about attending this year's reunion, but want to contribute something towards postage, etc.

Be kind to your children because they will be the ones to choose your nursing home.

June 2005-5

Web Matches for: The USS LOWNDES

USN Ships—USS Lowndes – APA 154- This page features all our views of USS Lowndes. ...

Photo # NH 98739: USS Lowndes in San Francisco Bay in late 1945 or early...<http://www.history.navy.mil/photos/sh-usn/usnsh-l/apa154.htm>

Photo # NH 83477 picture data-... Photo #: NH 83477 USS Lowndes (APA-154) Photographed circa 1944-1945. Courtesy of DM McPherson, 1975. US Naval Historical Center Photograph. ...<http://www.history.navy.mil/photos/images/h83000/h83477c.htm>
(More results from www.history.navy.mil)

USS Lowndes WWII Haskell Class Attack Transport Ship Model –Master Model Builder offers outstanding investment and museum quality ship models like this USS Lowndes WWII Attack Transport completely hand made in the...
<http://thatravenmagic.com/lowndes.html>

WWII Attack Transport -... Model Builder offers outstanding investment and museum quality ship models like this USS Lowndes WWII Attack Transport completely hand made in the USA. <http://thatravenmagic.com/lowndesmore.html>

USS Lowndes - LPA 154 - Official Community Site of USS Lowndes - LPA 154...Related USS Lowndes - LPA 154 HomePages:. USS Lowndes APA-154. View All | Create a homepage...
<http://www.military.com/HomePage/UnitCreatedPage/0,11003,200322,00.html>

Military Unit Finder - USS Collingsworth - LPA 146. USS Lowndes - LPA 154. USS Napa - LPA 157. USS Gallatin - LPA 169. USS Hyde - LPA 173. USS Kershaw - LPA 176...
<http://www.military.com/HomePage/UnitPage/Search/1,13507,B%7CND1B4,00.html?strCurrentNamePath=Navy+%3E+Surface+Vessels+%3E+Amphibious+Warfare+Vessels+-+Various>

USS Lowndes - APA -154 - Members of the USS Lowndes Reunion are all veterans of this WWII ship that saw service at Iwo Jima and Okinawa.
<http://www.ussslowndes.net/>

Amphibious Attack Transport APA/LPA-154 Lowndes -... Launched, 18 July 1944; Acquired by the Navy from the Maritime Commission and Commissioned USS Lowndes (APA-154), 14 September 1944; Decommissioned in...
<http://www.navalsource.org/archives/10/03154.htm>

Landing Ship Medium LSM-202 -... Bill Brinkley and the USS LSM/LSMR Association. LSM-202, 69K, LSM-202 at Iwo Jima, 19 February 1945...The LCVP at right from Lowndes (APA-154)...
<http://www.navalsource.org/archives/10/14202.htm>

USS - by Leil Lowndes - USS. Dating Book Review. AUTHOR; Leil Lowndes ISBN: 1891434071...USS - Book Review, by Leil Lowndes. About the Author Leil Lowndes is an ...
<http://www.bookfinder.us/review9/1891434071.html>

= Open in a new browser window = Image =Audio = Video

Day is done	God is nigh	Gleaning bright	For our days,	This we know,
Gone the sun	Fading light	From afar,	Neath the sun,	God is nigh.
From the lakes	Dims the sight	Drawing nigh,	Neath the stars,	
From the hills	And a star	Falls the night.	Neath the sky,	
All is well, safely rest.	Gems the sky.	Thanks and praise,	As we go,	

TAPS

Robert **DUNBAR**

Wm. F. **GACKSTETTER**

Ed. **HINTON**

James **PIERCE**

Ernest **SCOTT**

Paul R. **WATKINS**