

USS SALISBURY SOUND

ASSOCIATION



www.salisburysound.org FEBRUARY, 2017 NEWSLETTER email: brubru@comcast.net

President's Corner

For our 2017 Reunion in Albuquerque, NM, we have contracted with the highly-rated MCM Elegante Hotel (4 out of 5-star Expedia rating), conveniently located 4 miles from Old Town Albuquerque and 8 miles from the airport.

We were able to negotiate a room rate of \$82.00 plus tax, which includes a complimentary hot breakfast buffet with made-to-order omelets. Also included are free self-parking, free airport shuttle and free wi-fi in all rooms. We were able to get the guaranteed rate for three days prior and three days post reunion.

We have put together a slate of attractions that will have something for everyone. The tours have been designed to maximize our sight-seeing opportunities while minimizing the amount of walking required. All are priced on an à la carte basis, so you can participate in as many or as few as you like. See the enclosed Itinerary for complete tour details.

After check-in on Thursday, September 7, the Hospitality Room will open at noon. We will assemble at 5:30 p.m. for the Welcome Aboard Pizza Reception, compliments of the Association.

On Friday, September 8, we will depart from the hotel at 9:00 a.m. to see the oldest civic celebration in the United States, the fabled La Fiesta de Santa Fe, a celebration commemorating the peaceful re-conquest of the capital by General Don Diego de Vargas in 1692. The tour includes transportation, guide and lunch. Return to the Hotel by 4:00 p.m.

On Saturday, September 9, we will have the day free for sightseeing. We will depart at 5:00 p.m. for "Sunset on the Sandias" and dinner. Return to the Hotel by 10:00 p.m.

Both these tours are not to be missed.

On Sunday, September 10, we will hold our Memorial Service at 10:00 a.m., followed by the Business Meeting at 10:30 a.m., concurrent with the complimentary Ladies Tea and Gift Exchange. (please bring a gift valued at \$20.00 for the exchange.) The afternoon is free until the 6:00 p.m. Cocktail Hour, followed by the Final Evening Dinner and Dance at 7:00 p.m.

See you in Albuquerque, NM!

Maurice Medland
President



TAPS

Our sincere condolences go out to the families and friends of our departed shipmates.

Charles Carter (65-7) 10/6/91
Bob Fowler, DDS (51-3) (D)
Bob Loepker (49-52) (M) C20 8/15/14
Gerald Hadley (54-6) (F) R 11/18/16
YNC Bob Harris (53-4) (FAW-1) C140

Membership

Currently we have 626 people on our roster for which we have addresses, consisting of 89 Charter Members, 165 Regular Members, 17 Widows, 6 from other tenders and 349 nonmembers. Our numbers are gradually decreasing as can be expected because of our age.

If you have contact information on a shipmate that is not on the roster please give the information to Marian Bruce. He in turn will extend an invitation to join our association.

Missing Shipmate

We have lost track (returned mail) of the following shipmate. If you are in contact with him please inform Marian Bruce and he will put him back on the roster.

David L. Harding (52-5) (OI) C206 Aurora CO



Dues

As a reminder, our dues are \$20 per year for regular members and \$15 for charter members. If you fall behind for five years you will be moved to a non-member status. You are encouraged to keep your dues up to date to fund our newsletter and other expenses that are incurred.

Please send your dues to Secretary Marian Bruce and not Treasurer Barry Henry. We do this so we have a check and balance when handling money. Please make the check out to Salisbury Sound Association, not Marian Bruce.

The last date that you paid dues is listed on the fourth line of the address on the

envelope of this newsletter. For those who receive this by email you will receive an email dues reminder.



Sally Baseball Caps

Sally Polo shirts have been discontinued but sales continue to be brisk for Sally Baseball Caps. Caps are \$22 plus \$6 for shipping and handling. These beautiful caps feature a state-of-the-art embroidered image of the ship that is incredibly detailed. Don't miss out. Order yours before the current supply is exhausted. Make check out to USS Salisbury Sound Association and mail to:

Barry Henry, Treasurer
3298 Province Circle
Mundelein, IL 60060

Ladies Tea Now Complimentary!

For years, the Association provided the Ladies Tea at no cost. In 2010 at the reunion in Las Vegas, the Association bought and paid for the Ladies Tea as usual and estimated that 50 ladies would be present. A

much smaller number actually showed up, leaving money on the table that we didn't have to lose. Our financial position was very weak at the time and we knew we couldn't afford a repeat of that. So, beginning with

the 2011 Reunion in Branson, we had no choice but to begin charging \$15 for the Tea. Also at that time, we took steps to strengthen our financial position through a modest increase in dues (the first ever, necessary to help pay for the increased cost of postage, etc.), charging a registration fee of \$15 (now \$20, necessary to help pay for the DJ and Hospitality Room), and the sale of marble plaques, baseball caps and polo

shirts. That effort has been successful and effective with the 2015 reunion in Washington, DC, we were once again in a position to provide the Ladies Tea on a complimentary basis. We will continue this policy for as long as we are able. All that will be necessary is for the ladies to check a box on the Registration Form indicating that they will attend. So, Ladies, enjoy!

We're Number One!

Our web site at www.salisburysound.org has been hugely successful with over 100,000 "hits" since we went live. That level of activity, along with other factors, has been recognized by Google's very sophisticated algorithm for determining web site rankings. As a result, we are now ranked the number one web site when a search for "USS Salisbury Sound" is done on Google. Check it out, if you haven't already. As the official web site of the USS Salisbury Sound Association, it is the single largest collection of Salisbury Sound information and memorabilia available anywhere. Enjoy!

VA Healthcare Eligibility Proposed changes

The VA has proposed removing the net worth reporting requirement for veterans seeking VA healthcare.

In a proposal scheduled to be filed in the Federal Register, the VA seeks to make permanent its temporary practice of not requiring a veteran to submit a net-worth statement when they apply for healthcare. The VA will also no longer require annual net-worth statements from veterans who are currently enrolled in its healthcare programs.

In 2013, the VA stopped requiring annual net-worth financial statements from veterans who were receiving healthcare and only required a net-worth financial statement as part of an original application for VA healthcare. In March of this year, the VA announced it would stop requiring net-worth financial statements from new enrollees as well, citing wording in the law that says VA can "use its discretion when requiring financial statements of a veteran's net worth".

The VA now seeks to remove any wording in the law related to its collection of net-worth data to prevent any confusion and make it permanently easier for veterans to receive free healthcare.

The VA estimates that removing the net-worth reporting requirement will move 53,000 veterans to a higher priority group this year. Over five years, the VA expects that 135,000 veterans who previously were ineligible for healthcare would be able to enroll in the VA health care system because of this change.

Depending on public comments received by the VA, the change was scheduled to become effective December 19, 2015.

USS SALISBURY SOUND (AV-13)

Itinerary

Albuquerque, New Mexico Reunion

September 7-11, 2017

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
<p>Check in at</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MCM ELEGANTE HOTEL \$82.00 per room per night plus tax</p> <p>12:00 p.m.</p> <p>Hospitality Room Open</p> <p>4:00 p.m.</p> <p>BOARD MEETING</p> <p>5:30 p.m.</p> <p>“WELCOME ABOARD” PIZZA RECEPTION (Compliments of the Association)</p>	<p>Breakfast</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:00 a.m.</p> <p>La FIESTAS de SANTA FE! and LUNCH “Enjoy a celebration commemorating the peaceful re- conquest of the capital by General Don Diego de Vargas in 1692. Arts and crafts booths, entertainment and food booths that line the historic Santa Fe Plaza.</p> <p>You will tour the Loretto Chapel Museum to see the Miraculous Staircase.</p> <p>Tour includes transportation, guide and lunch.</p> <p>Return to the hotel by 4:00 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$105.00 per person</p>	<p>Breakfast</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5:00 p.m.</p> <p>SUNSET ON THE SANDIAS and DINNER “A driving tour through the north valley showcases the beautiful neighborhoods of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque on the way to Sandia Mountain with its nearly 5,000’ vertical rise. A ride on the Sandia Peak Aerial Tramway is a wonderful experience.</p> <p>Tour includes transportation, guide, tram ticket and dinner.</p> <p>Return to the hotel by 10:00 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$105.00 per person</p>	<p>Breakfast</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:00 a.m.</p> <p>MEMORIAL SERVICE 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>BUSINESS MEETING and 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>LADIES TEA & GIFT EXCHANGE (Compliments of the Association) Afternoon Free</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6:00 p.m.</p> <p>HAPPY HOUR 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>DINNER/ DANCE \$53.00 per person</p>	<p>Breakfast</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Depart</p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin: auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">Times are subject to change. Please check upon arrival for final times.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pricing based on a minimum of 35 people for each tour.</p>

USS SALISBURY SOUND (AV-13)
Registration Form
Albuquerque, New Mexico Reunion
September 7-11, 2017

NAME _____
GUEST/SPOUSE _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL _____
YEARS ABOARD (e.g. 55-57) _____
DIVISION (e.g. V2) _____
Any Dietary Restrictions? _____
Wheelchair required? _____

HOST HOTEL: MCM ELEGANTE HOTEL
2020 Menaul NE, Albuquerque, NM 87107

Call 505-884-2511 for room reservations and mention you are with the USS Salisbury Sound Reunion. The room rate is \$82.00 per room per night plus tax including full hot breakfast buffet. Room rate is available 3 days prior and 3 days after the reunion based on availability. Rooms not reserved by August 8, 2017 will be dropped from the group block. The hotel will accept reservations after August 8, 2017 on a space available and rate available basis only.

Thursday Welcome Aboard Pizza Reception (complimentary) _____ # of attendees
Friday Tour and Lunch _____ # of attendees x \$105.00 pp = \$ _____
Saturday Tour and Dinner _____ # of attendees x \$105.00 pp = \$ _____
Sunday Ladies Tea and Gift Exchange (complimentary) _____ # of attendees
Sunday, Dinner _____ # of attendees x \$53.00 pp = \$ _____
_____ Marinated Flank Steak _____ Chicken Scaloppini _____ Baby Shrimp Alfredo
Registration Fee: _____ # of attendees x \$20.00 pp = _____
TOTAL DUE: \$ _____

A 50% deposit is required by JULY 7 with final payment due AUGUST 7. No refunds on activity package after AUGUST 15, 2017

MAIL REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECK TO:

GATHERINGS PLUS
3000 Green Mountain Drive Ste. 107-204, Branson, Missouri 65616
417-338-4048
www.ReunionPro.com