



USS Saratoga Association



Honoring the Memory of two great fighting ships.

Visit us on the web: WWW.USS-SARATOGA.COM

June 2021

OFFICERS:

President

Executive Board

Brad Senter

Vice President

Bill Lack

Secretary

Ed McCready

Treasurer

Skip Burnham

Historian

Gene Cottingham

CV/CVA-60 Liaison

John Lipscomb

CV-3 Liaison

Steve Medina

Parliamentarian

Mark Beecher

Master at Arms

Frank Salinas

Co-Chaplins

Steve Bird

Joseph Martin

Ships Store

Terry Greer

Scholarship Chair

Steven Katz

Board Members

Mark Beecher

Skip Burnham

Bill Lack

John Lipscomb

Ed McCready

Frank Salinas

Brad Senter

Newsletter Editor

Jerry Church

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Shipmates & friends

The year 2020 will be a year that will go down in the history books. Covid-19 has caused so many more problems than just the illness that goes with it.

Businesses, employment and much more has suffered. 2021 has started out good, the vaccine is now being administered and hopefully be the end of 2021 covid-19 will be history.

This year's reunion should prove to be one of the best, some great tours are lined up. The membership will vote in Mobile, to decide where we're going in 2022 and 2023.

Also 2022 will be our election year, so if you're itching to get a piece of the action, contact any board member and we'll work to get you on board.

As most of you already know, we have launched our new site a couple of months ago and we have gone e-commerce.

That basically means you can now pay dues, make donations, buy from the ship store plus few other things.

Since going live, we've pick up many new members, donations to the association and scholarship fund have increased as well. We are no longer a small operation, we're now big business and going e-commerce was great move. Kudos to Bill lack for seeing it through.

I have been in the president's position since the San Antonio reunion in 1995, with the exception of 2 years.

My current plans are to step down in 2022 and pass the baton to my replacement.

It has been a lot of fun, but there were some trying times, not many, but a few. It's really been an honor and a pleasure to serve the Association as the president. Anyway, looking forward to seeing everyone in Mobile.

Have fun but be safe.

Brad Senter CVA-60 1961-64



MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

Shipmates, with this June 2021 newsletter, you may notice the insert explaining that the 2021 dues are now due.

Please remember if you are a LIFE MEMBER or have already paid your dues for 2021, you do not need to pay again.

Please look at the mailing address on the envelope this newsletter came in. There is a notation on the envelope. If it says "Life Member" you do not need to pay. If it says "Dues paid 2021" that means you paid your dues already for 2021 and do not have to pay again.

If it says any other year: such as 2018 or 2019 or 2020 (or older) you need to send in dues. Our Bylaws specify dues must be current to remain on the mailing list.

We cease sending mailings and directories once dues have elapsed 3 years. If you are unsure of your status or question the envelope notation, please send me an email or reach out to me and I will be happy to help.



**REUNION 2021 - Mobile, Alabama
Holiday Inn Downtown Historic District**

WHERE: **Holiday Inn Downtown – 301 Government St, Mobile, AL 36602**
 WHEN: *Wednesday, Oct 20, 2021 through Sunday, Oct 24, 2021*
 ROOM RATE: **\$121.00 per day**
 BREAKFAST **\$ 7.00 Per person for the buffet.**

Hotel Reservations: Call the hotel directly for your room: **(251) 694-0100** ask for the USS Saratoga Reunion special rate.

There is a link on the Association website to register for the reunion.

This must be done if you wish to attend any activities, special events, dinners, bus tours, etc. All reunion registrations will once again be handled by Military Reunion Planners. Please see the Reunion link on our website: www.uss-saratoga.com. Also, all the details are in this newsletter if you do not wish to use the computer.

USS SARATOGA DUES NOTICE & DONATION FORM

Mail form to : USS Saratoga Association, 447 Land Or Drive, Ruther Glen, VA 22546

Your Name:		Spouse/Relative Name:	
Address:	City:	ST:	Zip:
Years on Board:	Div/Squad:	Plankowner:	
Email:		Phone:	

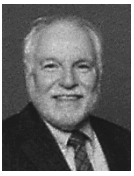
Enclosed: \$ _____ DUES **2021** Make Check or Money Order payable to USS Saratoga Association
 Enclosed: \$ _____ DONATION **2021** (Tax deductible) GENERAL FUND (May be combined with Dues amount)
 Enclosed: \$ _____ DONATION **2021** (Tax deductible) SCHOLARSHIP FUND (Write separate check please. Make check or money order payable to USS Saratoga Scholarship Fund)

ANNUAL DUES ARE \$25.00

Life Membership Section:

Age	Fee		Age	Fee		Age	Fee	
Up to 49	\$ 350.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	50-55	\$ 300.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	56-60	\$250.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
61-65	\$ 200.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	66-70	\$ 150.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	71-75	\$100.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
76-80	\$ 50.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	81 and up	\$ 15.00	<input type="checkbox"/>			

OPTIONAL: Spouses only have a 1-time Lifetime Membership Fee: \$25.00 ea.
Children and relatives can join as Honorary Members with standard annual dues



Chaplain's

Rev. Dr. Lee Martin



Corner:

Capt. Steve Bird CHC



Dear Shipmates,

It was previously announced that after having served for 6 years as one of the Association Chaplains, I am choosing to step aside from my position at the conclusion of the forthcoming reunion in Mobile, AL.

I would like to do so in order to change the pace of my activities within and outside the Association and in order that another clergy in the ship's company may come forward and have the enjoyable opportunity of serving the Association in the capacity of Co-Chaplain along with **Chaplain Stephen Bird, Capt., CHC, USN, (Ret.)**.

We are extremely fortunate to have acquired Chaplain Bird for the chaplaincy services of the Association. His extensive pastoral experience as a Navy Chaplain provides a wonderful asset to the chaplaincy role in our organization.

I am looking forward to a long and pleasant relationship with Chaplain Steve and the future co-chaplain as they provide pastoral services to our shipmates and their families. Of course, should either of our chaplains get into a "pinch" in the performance of their duties, I will be happy, if able, to respond to their need.

In conclusion, I was asked to provide a message for the newsletter which I am honored to oblige. So, here we go:

SOMEONE WHO CARES

Imagine this fictional scene from centuries ago: A man traveling by foot for several hours through the lush countryside notices in the distance columns of black smoke bellowing into the sky. Drawing closer, he sees a huge castle that is spewing smoke and flames everywhere. His gaze is transfixed upon the spectacle before him. He wonders to himself, "Does anyone care about this terrible and devastating situation?" Unnoticed, a man approaches him and standing beside him says, "I am the owner of that castle."

Over the decades of our own lives, we have witnessed many kinds of flames and smoke: Cities and neighborhoods set afire, wars, personal tragedies, flames of injustice, Covid 19, national catastrophes on land, sea, and air, and like burning Sulphur the flames of wide-spread evil of diverse kinds. And we wonder, "Does anyone care?" His soul aching, the prophet Malachi asked, "Where is the God of justice?" (Mal. 2:17).

Does anyone care? The short answer is yes. The resurrection of Jesus from the tomb affirms this. His rising from the grave validates what the Prophets of the Jewish peoples said about Him. It validates all that He did and said about Himself during His sojourn on earth.

Although modern day political and social engineers may embark on a journey to create a just society according to their vision of it, the only justice that has any lasting and universal success is rooted in the Divine principles expressed through the love of God in Jesus Christ.

Jesus is our role model for how to live in the midst of the diverse flames and smoke of life. With the breath of His Spirit, He can bring inner strength to bear the burdens of daily life and work.

His transformative power creates within us a new sense of who we are in relationship with others and Himself. His transformative Spirit indwelling us helps to establish a just, loving, healed, relationship with God and the human community.

Yes, Someone cares. Someone cares about you and me and everyone else. That Someone is Jesus.

No matter what destructive flames may have erupted and scorched the pathways of our lives yesterday or what flames and billowing smoke may be swirling about our landscape of life today, the Lord Jesus Christ really does care about us, our personal situations, and wants the best for us despite injurious flames and smoke (Romans 8: 35, 38 and 39; John 11:25; John 3:16).

He is waiting. He has not forgotten you and never will. Do not tarry. He's already standing next to you despite the fire and smoke of times past and present. He is standing beside you because He really cares about you. Take a moment, become still. Invite Him in. Turn your burden over to Him. (Matthew 11: 28, 29, and 30). May His graces and mercies which are without number be lavished upon you and your journey ahead. AMEN.

Terry Greer Ships Storekeeper



Shall handle all merchandise orders between reunions.
Shall be responsible for ordering necessary merchandise for sale by the Association.
Shall transport and sell merchandise at the Annual Reunion.

For a complete inventory see Saratoga Association web site @ www.uss-saratoga.com

Let me introduce myself. My name is Terry Greer.

My wife, Emma and I live in St. Augustine, Fla. I served on the USS Saratoga from August 1974 through December 1975. I went on one MED cruise 1974-1975 as a SKSR working in the Supply Department as ship's company. I learned a lot on that MED cruise some good, some bad, but didn't we all at that age. It helped me grow as a sailor in the Navy.

My career in the Navy went on for 13 ½ years whereupon I was medically retired in 1987. I then continued serving the Navy as a Federal Employee working as a Supply Systems Analyst until 2015 when I retired with 40 years of combined service.

I still wanted to support our Navy, so I threw my hat in the ring to help the USS Saratoga Association with the ship's store. I accepted the responsibility for managing the Ship's Store in January 2021 during the epidemic.

The ship's store has gone through some changes when e-commerce was brought on board. There was a learning curve at the beginning and we are still working out some bugs in the system. I would like to take the time to say thanks for your understanding as we grow the ship's store for the long haul.

I would like to bring to your attention the LAST of the USS Saratoga pieces of metal. In stock we have currently 30 with 46 more being procured. They would make a great piece to lay on a desk or mantel. Don't miss out- when they are gone that is it. Photo below is example of what is carried in the ship's store. Please look at the web page www.uss-saratoga.com. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at: #904-599-5796.

Hopefully, I will see you at the reunion in OCT, at Mobile, Alabama.



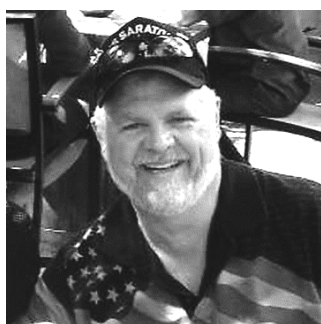
SARATOGA ASSOCIATION OFFICERS



President:

Brad Senter

CVA-60 1961-1964



Vice President:

Bill Lack

CV-60 1977-1980



Secretary:

Ed McCready

CVA/CV-60 1972-1975



Treasurer:

Skip Burnham

CVA-60 1967-1971



Historian:

Gene Cottingham

CV-60 1986-1992



CVA/CV-60 Liaison

John Lipscomb

CVA-60 1966-1968



Parliamentarian:

Mark Beecher

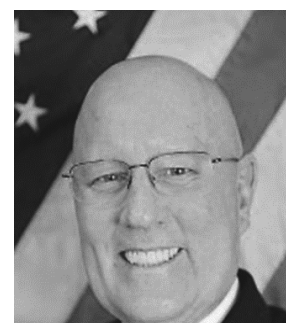
CVA/CV-60 1970-1974



Master at Arms:

Frank Salinas

CV-60 1992-1994



Chaplin:

Steve Bird

CV-60 1983-1985

USS SARATOGA REUNION:

The first reunion started by CV-3 shipmates was held in November 1952 in Long Beach California.

The CVA/CV 60 organization joined the CV-3 organization combining the two ships into one Association.

Additional Working Members:

Fran Gower-Silent Auction

Nancy Hill-Silent Auction



Ships Storekeeper:

Terry Greer

CV-60 1974-1975



CV-3 Liaison

Steve Medina

USS SARATOGA 2021 REUNION EVENTS

Mobile, AL | October 20-24, 2021

EARLY BIRD: FAMOUS BELLINGRATH GARDENS: Wed., Oct 20 (Noon-4:00pm)

We just had an offer to tour Mobile's number one attraction for those inclined to come in early. And, this one is not just for the ladies. It should be a spectacular time to visit Bellingrath Gardens with the fall flowers in full bloom. They say nowhere in the world is floral beauty more concentrated than in these *internationally famous* gardens. This "Garden Spot of the South" is a floral wonderland. Optional tour includes a guided tour of the 15-room, 10,500 square-foot home built in 1935. Lunch is available at the Garden Café.

GROUP WELCOME DINNER AT THE HOTEL: Wed., Oct 20 (6:00p)

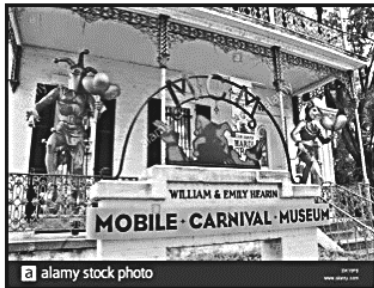
This was a big hit last year and *sold-out!* Get your order in ASAP, kick-off the reunion in style with your friends and catch up on all the scuttlebutt during this very casual buffet meal. There will be special recognition for all our first-time attendees during this event. You need to eat anyway, so *c'mon y'all!*

USS ALABAMA & VIETNAM MEMORIAL PARK: Thur., Oct 21 (10a-4p)

We will spend the day at Battleship Memorial Park exploring the Battleship USS Alabama, USS Drum, and the Vietnam and Korean War Memorial Pavilion featuring many tanks, artillery, patrol boats and spy planes. You will get to see the newly donated 5-ton Vietnam Gun Truck. The *USS Alabama* saw action in the Atlantic for a year before joining the Pacific Fleet in mid-1943. There she fought at such key locations as Leyte, the Gilbert Islands and Okinawa. After the signing of the war-ending surrender documents in September 1945, USS Alabama, or the "Mighty A," as she was known, led the American Fleet into Tokyo Bay. You will have time to explore *Battleship Memorial Park* at your own pace. Lunch will be provided in the Pavilion.



TOUR AND DINNER AT THE MOBILE CARNIVAL MUSEUM: Thur., Oct 21 (630p-830p)

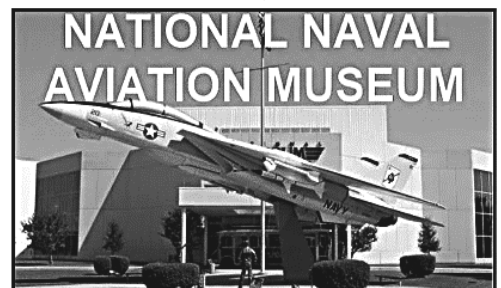


The Mobile Carnival (aka Mardi Gras) Museum is a history museum that chronicles over 300 years of Carnival and Mardi Gras in Mobile. The museum features displays that tell the story of how the local celebration evolved from its early days to the modern tradition it has become. The Queen's Gallery houses gowns, trains, and jewels worn by the queens of Carnival. Also, on display is the attire of a 1920's flapper queen, as well as costumes of several jesters of well-known parading societies. Collections include original Mardi Gras art and posters by various area artists, doubloons, tableau designs, and ball invitations. The mansion's

former carriage house contains interactive exhibits, including one that allows visitors to "ride" and throw doubloons from a Carnival float. Price includes admission, tour, dinner, rental, catering, taxes and service charges. A minimum of 100 guests is required for this tour to operate.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NAVAL AVIATION AT NAS PENSACOLA: Fri., Oct. 22 (930p-5p)

One of the largest aviation museums in the world with more than 170 vintage aircraft, this 300,000 square foot wonder chronicles more than nine decades of naval aviation. This is a guided tour of the museum and the historic flight line outside the museum. You may also opt to see a spectacular *IMAX* film on the famous *Blue Angels*, which are headquartered here (Note: IMAX is optional and not included in price – pay on your own if interested) Lunch will be on your own at the historic Cubi Bar Café at the museum.



**** GOVERNMENT ISSUED PHOTO IDENTIFICATION IS REQUIRED TO VISIT.**

OPTION: MURDER ON THE BATTLESHIP—LIVE MYSTERY THEATER

Friday, October 22 (8:00pm)



Join your friends at the hotel, for a hilarious live theater performance of "Murder on the Battleship - the Last Show of the USO." The show bill states: "It was a real shock for everyone involved, to say the least, to see who showed up for this last extravaganza show of the USO. Anytime you get SO many famous celebrities together with only one judge, some Hollywood skeletons will surely jump out of the closet! It's not surprising that someone winds up dead!" USO "Guests" include Elvis, Sonny & Cher, The Lennon Sisters, Tina Turner, Sammy Davis, Jr. and many more. Come help solve the crime!

RELIGIOUS SERVICE: Saturday, October 23 (8:00am in the hotel)

BUSINESS MEETING: Saturday, October 23 (9:00am in the hotel)

LADIES LUNCHEON: Saturday, October 23 (Noon-2:00pm in the hotel)

FAREWELL BANQUET

Saturday, October 23 (5:30-10:00pm)

Join your friends for cocktails followed by dinner at the hotel. Add your entrée on the reservation form.

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TOUR CANCELLATION INSURANCE

Protect yourself from unforeseen expenses caused by illness, injury or other causes that may impact your travel plans. Tour Cancellation Insurance allows you to receive a refund of tour and banquet expenses. Please note there is a \$10 per person processing fee plus any credit card fees imposed by the processing company. Cancellation Insurance expires at 11:59 pm the day **before** the reunion begins. No refunds are given the day of the reunion (beginning at midnight), **even** if you purchased cancellation insurance. Should you need to cancel your reservations please contact our office immediately by calling 817-251-3551, Monday through Friday between 9:00am-4:00pm CST or email us at info@MilitaryReunionPlanners.com. If you did not purchase cancellation insurance, please note all tour, and banquet monies become non-refundable 6 weeks prior to the reunion.

ALL RESERVATIONS ARE DUE BY SEPTEMBER 8, 2021. Late reservations will be accepted on a space available basis with a non-refundable \$15 per person late fee. There is a \$15 surcharge for orders taken over the phone. Please make a copy of your order prior to mailing. Note tour times are subject to change. Should you need additional information call our offices Monday through Friday CST at 817-251-3551 or email us at info@MilitaryReunionPlanners.com. Requests for refunds must be made in writing and postmarked no later than the reservation due date No refunds will be made after this date unless you have purchased *Tour Cancellation Insurance*. Cancellation Insurance expires at 11:59 pm the day **before** the reunion start date. Please note there is a refund processing fee of \$10 per person plus 3.5% fee charged by credit card processing company. Your cancelled check is your receipt as well as proof of purchase. For written confirmation of your reservation please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your cancellation request. A \$25 return check fee applies. MRP will not be held liable for failure of vendors to provide contracted services or any injuries/accidents that may occur during the reunion.

USS SARATOGA REUNION RESERVATION FORM

Click here to make your reservations online or mail completed form with a check payable to:
MRP, Box 1588, Colleyville, TX 76034

DATE	TIME	EVENT	COST	QTY	TOTAL
		Reunion Registration Fee (per person ~ non-refundable)	\$15 pp		
Wed 10/20	Noon-1600	Early Bird Excursion: Famous Bellingrath Gardens	\$45 pp		
Wed 10/20	1800	Group Welcome Dinner at the Hotel	\$36 pp		
Thu 10/21	1000-1600	USS Alabama & Vietnam Memorial Park (incl. Lunch)	\$59 pp		
Thu 10/21	1830-2030	Tour & Dinner at the Mobile Carnival Museum	\$50 pp		
Fri 10/22	0930-1700	National Naval Air Museum at NAS Pensacola	\$36 pp		
Fri 10/22	2000-2130	<i>Murder on the Battleship!</i> Live, Mystery Theater	\$29 pp		
Sat 10/23	Noon-1400	Ladies Luncheon	\$26 pp		
Sat 10/23	1800	Farewell Banquet Dinner – make selection below			
		Baked Fish w/Shrimp Cream Sauce	\$47 pp		
		Prime Rib	\$52 pp		
		Non-refundable Late Reservation Fee (If registering after September 8, 2021)	\$15 pp		
		Tour Cancellation Insurance: Protect your \$\$ (Fee is non-refundable)	\$20 pp		
TOTAL					

>>> PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

NAME (As you want it to appear on badge): _____

SPOUSE: _____ GUEST: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____

PRIMARY PHONE: _____ EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT: _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____

LIST ANY SPECIAL NEEDS: WHEELCHAIR LIFT, DIETARY, ETC.: _____

YEARS SERVED ON-BOARD SARA: 19__ to 19__ DIVISION/SQUADRON (ex. M Division): _____

DO YOU NEED A WHEELCHAIR LIFT TO BOARD A TOUR BUS: _____

IS THIS YOUR FIRST SARA REUNION: YES ___ NO ___

RESERVATIONS ARE DUE BY SEPTEMBER 8, 2021

- Reservation money is non-refundable after due date unless Tour Cancellation insurance is purchased above.
- There is a \$10 per person refund processing fee. Requests must be made in writing prior to the cut-off date.
- Insurance holders are eligible for a refund less processing fee until Midnight before the 1st day of the reunion.
- Insurance ends once the reunion begins – notification in writing must be received prior to start of reunion.
- Late reservations are accepted on a space available basis with a non-refundable \$15 per person late fee.
- Watch for an email confirmation of your order and online roster update as your proof of payment.
- Changes not possible online including cancellations. Email/Mail notice for cancellations required.

Call or email MRP if you need to add, cancel or modify your reservation at 817-251-3551 or email info@MilitaryReunionPlanners.com. MRP agents are available weekdays from 9-4 CST. Voice Mail is 24/7
You must leave a voice message to receive a call back. Thank you for using Military Reunion Planners, LLC