



**U.S.S. Saratoga Association
447 Land 'Or Drive
Ruther Glen, VA 22546**



Visit us at; www.uss-saratoga.com

June 2017

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Message from President Sammy King

Greetings Sara Shipmates, our Ladies, and our Association Friends. Hope all fared well during the winter and are looking forward to a great spring and summer. It is June and with that comes our June Newsletter along with the information on our upcoming reunion this September (27 thru 30) in Saratoga Springs New York. Another great event has been put together by Bill Phelps and his committee. I would urge you to get your room reservations made quickly, along with your tours too. You may also go to www.reunionpro.com where you will find the Itinerary along with the Registration forms.

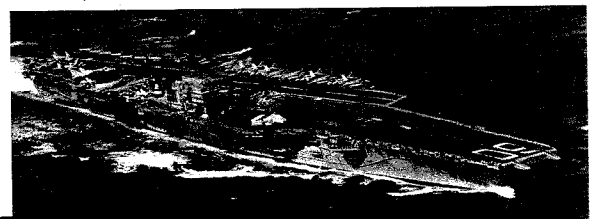
On the subject of our reunions I wish to apologize for our Branson Memory Book. One of our ladies described it very accurately when she said "It is not what we are use to" .. and I agree totally and have found what I think is the replacement that will provide us with what we have "been use to in the past". As you may or may not know Dunning Company whom we had used for years ceased providing the onsite Memory Book services so we have been searching for a comparable replacement for them. Hopefully we have found that company. But as with all "unknown companies" my fingers are crossed.

Our 2018 Reunion will be in San Antonio Texas, 9 October through 14 October our Hotel will be the Holiday Inn Riverwalk, which should provide us with the opportunity to fully enjoy downtown San Antonio and the beautiful Riverwalk.

Since our last "get together" your Association has been very busy and making a lot of progress. Our Membership Growth and Development Committee (lead by our Liaison Officer John Lipscomb) is busy developing a recruitment program for "reaching out to that 1994 decom crew" and to those shipmates that served during that era and earlier. The Committee is developing some very creative ideas for getting that done. You will be hearing more about their program and their ideas in the near future.

Your Board has also approved a proposal for the establishment of a Feasibility Study Committee for the establishment of a USS Saratoga Scholarship Program. It is in its very early stages but the intent is to start with two scholarships. One for a Grand/Great Grand Child of a CV3 member and one for a Child/Grandchild of a CVA/CV60 shipmate. As you can imagine there are a lot of details to be worked out in a program like this but that committee, headed up by Steve Katz(CVA60), Johnny Bolton(CV60) and Captain Steve Medina(CV3) are up to "full throttle" on this. We are hopeful that this can be done and it will and should complement the efforts of the Membership Growth and Development Program.

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In the "REMINDERS" segment. We can always use donated items for the silent auction (door prizes) and the Raffle. 2017 dues are due and if you are not sure of your status please refer back to the address label on this newsletter envelope and there you will find your current status. We are still looking for someone to take over the Ships Store duties, TC and Emma have expressed a wish to be able to step down by the 2018 reunion. You will note on the reunion registration form there is now a "registration fee" which is to be added to your total. Please keep our Secretary informed of any and all changes in your information, i.e. Address, email address, phone#, etc.

As I get ready to put this message down the line to the printer, we have received word today that ESCO, has been bought out and the new company will be restarting the scrapping effort on Saratoga immediately, so hopefully we will be "back in the mementos business" in the very near future. Here's hoping!!

Message from Secretary Ed McCready

With this June newsletter you will see the options for this year's upcoming reunion in Saratoga Springs. I personally have never been to the Saratoga Springs region of New York other than zipping by on the thruway at 70 mph. I am very excited to see a new venue in a new area and meet new shipmates. These reunions mean a lot to me. I am fortunate to know some shipmates I actually served with that usually attend, but some of my best friendships are with shipmates I never knew back in the day. In fact our Association represents such a wide span of generations, I enjoy hearing about exploits and experiences from all eras.

In my capacity as Secretary I receive a fair amount of letters and electronic communications. A recent envelope was received that contained the 2017 Dues card. But instead of a check extending his dues for another year, he wrote a note. It was written across both the front and back of the card and apparently written at a dark moment when he apparently felt very troubled. The gist was that he attended the reunion the last time we had it in Las Vegas and he didn't know anyone. So he can not see any point in remaining a member. Consequently he requested to be dropped from the roster. While I understand his experience I am saddened he failed to understand the very essence of our group. When we refer to the Spirit of Saratoga it is more than a catch phrase; it is the embodiment of camaraderie and friendship that can only come from understanding the history we all share. When we gather we share and we remember.

Regardless of rank rate or era, we all served aboard the Saratoga. Some in World War II, some in the Cuban Missile Crises, some in Vietnam, some in Desert Storm and Shield. And others that served in peacetime but their service was service none the less. We went to sea aboard a **US Naval Aircraft Carrier for the United States of America**. Very few of us flew planes, but we all did our jobs and we all felt pride. Some shipmates never returned and our hearts break for the sacrifice they made. For those of us that did return safely, we carry memories and experiences that are uniquely our own. Our reunions give voice to these memories and for a few short days we are all young men once again. See you in Saratoga Springs!

Message from Membership Growth and Development, John Lipscomb



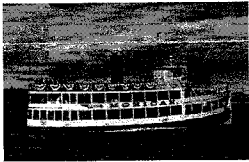




Shipmates, After 66 years of existence our association membership numbers are declining. We need more new members to make the commitment to keep the USS Saratoga Association alive and well for the next generation.

For a limited time new members will receive a USS Saratoga challenge coin.
The membership application is found on the Association webpage (www.uss-saratoga.com).
Please pass this along to friends and Veterans groups (VFW, American Legion, etc.)
Sincerely,
John Lipscomb, Membership Growth and Development Committee

USS SARATOGA ASSOCIATION

Saratoga Springs Reunion

September 27-October 1, 2017

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
 <p>Check in at THE HOLIDAY INN SARATOGA \$149.00 per room per night plus tax</p>  <p>EARLY BIRD ACTIVITY 9:15 a.m. Depart for Baseball Hall of Fame at Cooperstown and Lunch at Otesaga Resort Hotel \$84.00 per person</p> <p>Hospitality Room Open</p>	 <p>10:45 a.m. Depart for LAKE GEORGE STEAMBOAT LUNCH CRUISE \$63.00 per person</p> <p>Return by 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>Evening Free</p> <p>Hospitality Room Open</p>	 <p>10:00 a.m. Depart for SARATOGA NATIONAL CEMETERY and</p>  <p>SARATOGA NATIONAL PARK with Box Lunch Provided \$42.00 per person</p> <p>Return by 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>Evening Free</p> <p>Hospitality Room Open</p>	<p>9:00 a.m. BUSINESS MEETING</p>  <p>12:00 Noon LADIES LUNCHEON \$25.00 per person</p> <p>Hospitality room open until 2:00 p.m.</p> <p>4:00 p.m. PHOTOS</p> <p>6:00 p.m. CASH BAR</p>  <p>6:30 p.m. FINAL EVENING BANQUET \$40.00 per person</p>	<p>Depart</p>

USS Saratoga Association Saratoga Springs Reunion September 27-October 1, 2017

Name (on name badge) _____
 Years on Board (e.g. '74-76) _____ Div./Squadron _____
 Spouse/Guest _____ Guest _____
 Guest _____ Guest _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Telephone _____ Cell _____
 Email _____
 Wheelchair Access? Yes No First Time Attendee Yes No
 Dietary Restrictions? _____

HOST HOTEL: THE HOLIDAY INN SARATOGA
232 Broadway, Rt. 9, Saratoga Springs, New York

Call for room reservations and mention you are with the USS Saratoga Association Reunion. The room rate is \$149.00 per room per night plus tax. This rate is available 3 days prior and 3 days after the reunion based on availability. Rooms not reserved by Sept. 1, 2017 will be dropped from the group block.

REUNION ACTIVITY PACKAGE:

"Early Bird" Cooperstown Fee _____ # of attendees x \$84.00 pp = \$ _____
 Lake George Lunch Cruise _____ # of attendees x \$63.00 pp = \$ _____
 Cemetery, Park Tour & Lunch _____ # of attendees x \$42.00 pp = \$ _____
 Box Lunch Choice: _____ Turkey _____ Ham & Swiss _____ Mediterranean Veggie
 Ladies Luncheon _____ # of attendees x \$25.00 pp = \$ _____
 Deli Buffet
 Banquet Dinner _____ # of attendees x \$40.00 pp = \$ _____
 _____ Chicken Cordon Bleu _____ Top Sirloin of Beef _____ Broiled Scrod with Lemon Butter
 Registration Fee (Required) # of attendees x \$10.00 pp = \$ _____

TOTAL DUE: \$ _____

A 50% deposit is requested by July 27, 2017 with final payment due August 27, 2017 on the activity package. No refunds can be given on activity package after September 13, 2017.

MAIL REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECK PAYABLE TO:
GATHERINGS PLUS
3000 Green Mountain Drive Ste. 107-204, Branson, Missouri 65616
417-338-4048

Reunion Website: www.ReunionPro.com, click on "reunions" link, type in USS Saratoga, enter, click on your logo to get to the reunion website