

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



Visit us at: www.uss-saratoga.com

January 2019

Message from President Brad Senter

Dear shipmates, family members & friends,

Our 67th annual USS Saratoga reunion, in San Antonio, was a huge success. The tours were outstanding, especially the tour to the Nimitz museum in Fredericksburg, TX. The riverboat tours were great, I think all of the attendees managed to take this one. We also toured about 5 of the missions in and around San Antonio, which included the infamous Alamo. FYI, It was originally a church built after 1744 as part of a Spanish mission in San Antonio, Texas, and converted to a fort in the early 1800s. During the Texas Revolution against Mexican rule, it was besieged (February 23 to March 6, 1836) by the Mexican army of 4000, led by Santa Ana who killed all the members of the Texas garrison.

As most of you know, Charleston, SC is the site for the 2019 reunion. Shipmate Ed McCready will give the details about that. The membership who attended the San Antonio reunion voted to go to San Diego in 2020. Next year in Charleston we will vote in on 2021 reunion site. Anyone who wishes to bring a reunion to their hometown, this will be your chance.

Bi-annual election of officers was held in San Antonio. The administration basically stayed the same with the exception of the president and vice president's position. Bill Lack was elected to the VP position and I was elected to the president's position.

Our ship store is temporarily closed due to T.C. & Emma's health situation. As of right now it will remain closed until the Charleston reunion. We're actively looking for a suitable replacement for them. If you feel this is something you think you could do for your shipmates and association, contact any board member for more information. Fair winds & following seas...

Brad Senter CVA-60 1961-64

Officers

**President/
Executive Board**
Brad Senter

Vice President
Bill Lack

Secretary
Ed McCready

Treasurer
Joe Champi

Historian
K.C. Boles

**CV/CVA-60
Lialson**

John Lipscomb

Parliamentarian
Mark Beecher

Master at Arms
Skip Burnham

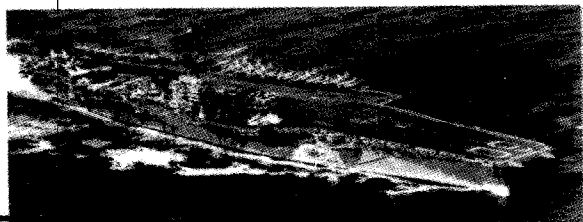
Chaplain
Joseph Martin

Board Members

K.C. Boles
Skip Burnham
Joe Champi
Bill Lack
John Lipscomb
Ed McCready
Brad Senter

Emeritus

Harvey Hirsch



USS SARATOGA ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Scholarship committee is very pleased to report that we had a very successful initial 2018 program. We presented 2, \$1,000.00 scholarships for academic achievement. We take this opportunity to announce and welcome Frank Salinas to our committee. Frank volunteered to join us at the reunion.

All information regarding the program will be found on our website, uss-saratoga.com. Open up the Scholarship link and you will find the application and all other pertaining information. Should you wish to make a tax-deductible donation to the scholarship fund, please make your check out to:

USS Saratoga Scholarship Reunion Association Fund

Please note: this is a separate operating account, dedicated to the Scholarship program. See Dues form for information.

Please mail your check to:
Ed McCready, Secretary, 447 Land 'Or Drive, Ruther Glen, VA 22546

Stephen Katz, Chairman

Chaplain's Corner

Rev. Dr. Lee Martin, '63-65'

Some years ago I and a friend were climbing up one of the high but manageable hills in West Virginia. When we reached the top of the hill we were greatly impressed by the beautiful blue haze that swept across the expanse of the hills we could see before us.

Very soon after reaching the top and getting that awesome view of the blue haze, I became aware of something else. It was the profound silence that greeted us. With the exception of a single honey bee buzzing and a soft, pleasant, almost inaudible breeze blowing through a nearby pine, it was the silence surrounding us that captured my attention.

All of the usual sounds and cadences of daily life and work seemed so far away from that moment that they quickly faded from my awareness.

The experience of encountering nature on that hill-top reminds me of a truth that is often overlooked in the busy fever of modern lives: God's first language He uses to communicate Himself to us is "silence".

If you should find yourself wound up with hypertension or run down with exhaustion, or some other troubling mood, perhaps finding a quiet place apart from the "noise" of life, will give you a chance to slow down and calm down. In that reflective space, perhaps you could allow God to gently sweep over you and give you comfort in that moment of silence.

Lest we forget...

The Spirit of Saratoga - born in war and christened in victory

"I served at sea from the very beginning. As the first Saratoga, a ship-rigged, 18-gun sloop of war in the Revolution I exacted a terrible toll from the British merchant ships attempting to re-supply the enemy.

"Still I fought for my country's freedom. In the War of 1812, on the cold waters of Lake Champlain, I lived again as a 26-gun corvette. My symbol - the fighting gamecock - was created during a furious cannon battle with the larger, more heavily armed British Man-O-War HMS Confiance. A young American sailor's pet fighting rooster was accidentally set free as a cannonball ripped through my decks. The angry bird flew to the railing, crowing fiercely at the enemy ship as if defying superior firepower. Heartened by the display, we fought on to seize a critical moment in the battle, Saratoga outmaneuvered her enemy and carried the day.

"I continued to fight for freedom hunting down slave ships off the coast of Africa shortly before the Civil War. In my third life as a first-class sloop of 20 guns, I freed nearly 1000 Africans from one salver alone in 1860.

"As the 20th Century dawned, I lived my fourth life as an armored cruiser, the flagship of Asiatic Station, United States. Then in my fifth life as the aircraft carrier CV3, I waded into World War II swinging hard. My sailors fought in the Battle of the Solomon's and in the bitter fight for Iwo Jima. As part of Task Force 58, I struck at the heart of Imperial Japan in the first carrier air strike on Tokyo.

"In my later sixth life as the Super Carrier CVA/CV60, I was commissioned in 1956 as a guardian of peace. One of the last "Cold Warriors" I and my sister ships were instrumental in the 1950's and 1960's with conflicts in the Middle East and later bringing about the collapse of the Communist tyranny in eastern Europe. My fight for freedom continued in the 1970's during Vietnam flying over 800 combat missions into North Vietnam from the Tonkin Gulf and in the 1990's during Operation Desert Storm as my sailors launched over 2,000 devastating air strikes against the forces of Saddam Hussein.

"Now as I look back on my final voyage as the peacekeeper of war-torn former Yugoslavia in support of our nation, and my decommissioning, I wonder about my next lives. Where will the call to duty carry me? Will I return to sea? Perhaps in a future century my destination will be the stars!

One thing is for sure - wherever the Star-Spangled Banner waves, wherever duty takes a US Navy sailor, there you will find me - the Spirit of Saratoga."

USS SARATOGA DUES NOTICE & DONATION FORM

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

Your Name: _____ Spouse Name: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____
 Years on Board: _____ to _____ Div/Squad: _____ Plankowner: _____
 Email: _____ Phone: _____
 Enclosed: \$ _____ **DUES FOR 2019** Make Check or Money Order payable to USS Saratoga Association
 Enclosed: \$ _____ **Donation FOR 2019** (Donations are tax deductible) Apply to 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

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Message from the Secretary

We mark time from reunion to reunion and have done so for over 65 years. With each new year we start fresh, we have another chance - we have a new beginning.

At the reunion in San Antonio, we voted new leadership which we all hope will result in harmonious cooperation and sustained success. We all wish Brad great success as he resumes his role as President and we all welcome Bill Lack to the leadership team.

Give a hand salute to Chip Hayes for filling the role of president for the past 18 months and to TC Chastain for his unending commitment to the Ships Store for over 8 years. As you may know, TC had to step down for health reasons. Thus, our store is temporarily dormant.

With this January newsletter please note the Dues Renewal Notice. Please take a minute to write out a check to the Association if you are an annual dues paying member. If you are a Life Member no dues are needed but we always will accept donations to either the general fund or the scholarship fund. Please be sure to indicate your preference on any donation you wish to make.

In October of this year we will gather in Charleston South Carolina. The days involved will be **Thursday Oct 10th through Monday Oct 14th**. We will have one tour on Friday, one on Saturday and the **business meeting, ladies' luncheon and banquet will be on Sunday**. Departures are on Monday the 14th. We know it's different. Much more to follow.

Be well and enjoy every moment of your day.

Ed McCready, Secretary

Message From the Liaison Officer

Shipmates, 2018 has been a busy and fulfilling year for me.

After years of negotiations with the ship breakers, we've finally obtained steel from the Ship and had it made into tokens. We now have items for sale in our ship's store on the website www.uss-saratoga.com. The ships store is down at the present time but we are looking for someone to take it over and hope to have it open soon.

We were able to save the Nameplate from the stern of the ship and had it refurbished; it will be placed on display in Mayport Naval Base and will be unveiled with a ceremony this spring or early summer (there will be an announcement when we have an exact date). I'm very excited to be able to display this important museum piece for all to see.



The Membership Growth and Development Committee continue to see fruits of our labor with new members joining our Association. We are continuing with our membership drive. New Association members receive many benefits: a Saratoga Directory, the Association Bylaws, information about past reunions, history of the Saratoga, and a directory of members. Also, for a limited-time only, new members receive a free official USS SARATOGA challenge coin. For more information, please visit our USS SARATOGA webpage at www.uss-saratoga.com and download a membership application.

Please help by passing this info on to all your friends and shipmates that should, but may not be members of the Association.

John Lipscomb

USS SARATOGA 2019 REUNION

Charleston, SC ~ October 10-14, 2019

Welcome to Charleston

Rated one of America's top five most popular cities, Charleston is America's most beautifully preserved architectural and historic treasure, with a rich 300-year history. Described as a "living museum", the city boasts beautiful homes, tree lined cobblestone streets, and many formal gardens. The USS Saratoga Reunion will provide many opportunities to experience all this historic city has to offer. Reunion tours may include an historic Charleston city tour, a harbor cruise, the maritime museum at *Patriots Point* and a cruise to historic *Fort Sumter*, where the Civil War began. Don't miss this chance to visit the most popular tourist city in the country.



Hotel Information

The reunion is officially scheduled from Thursday, October 10 through Monday, October 14. You will be staying at the AAA Four Diamond boutique style hotel *Crowne Plaza Charleston*, located at 4831 Tanger Outlet Blvd., North Charleston, SC 29418. The hotel is conveniently located across from the huge, *Tanger Outlet Mall* and near several restaurants. The hotel rate is **\$130** plus tax per night and **includes a hot breakfast buffet**. For those of you who choose to arrive early or stay after the reunion ends, the same room rate will be available for three days prior and three days after, based on availability. To reserve your room please call the Crowne Plaza Charleston directly at **843-744-4422**. (Mon-Fri from 9-4) When calling the hotel, please make sure you tell them



you are attending the USS Saratoga Reunion, **Group Code: SAR**. It is always best to make your reservation directly with the hotel and not a central hotel-chain call center. MRP has negotiated numerous amenities for you that the call centers may not be aware of. Note: only those booking under the reunion group code are eligible for amenities like free breakfast, reduced parking, internet, etc. Booking through another channel like Expedia disqualifies you from these amenities.

We anticipate a sell out at the Crowne Plaza so book early. We have arranged overflow rooms at the same rate at the *Fairfield Inn & Suites* next door. If you prefer to stay at the Fairfield call the hotel at 843-300-3100. The Fairfield also offers a more limited free breakfast.

Hotel check-in is 4:00 p.m. Please do not expect to get into your room before then. You may cancel your hotel room up to 48 hours prior to arrival without penalty. The hotel does require a deposit or credit card number to guarantee your room reservation. Please note, the hotel reservation cut-off date is **September 10, 2019**, thereafter, reservations will be taken on a space-available basis only.

Airport Transportation & Parking

If you are flying to the reunion, the Crowne Plaza Hotel offers complimentary shuttle service from the Charleston Airport (CHS). Upon arrival at the airport, call using the free courtesy phone in the baggage claim area. For those of you driving the hotel offers plenty of free parking. Call the hotel for driving directions.

Travel safely and we will

See you in Charleston!



Excellence in Military Reunion Planning