

Visit us on the web: www.uss-saratoga.com

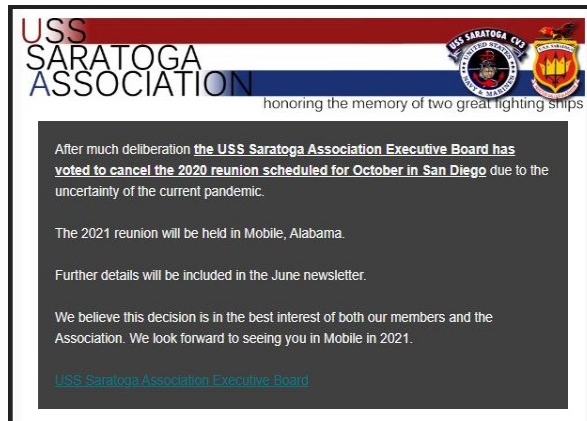
JUNE 2020

- Officers:**
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Executive Board
Brad Senter
Vice President
Bill Lack
Secretary
Ed McCready
Treasurer
Joe Champi
Historian
K.C. Boles
CV/CVA-60
Liaison
John Lipscomb
Parliamentarian
Mark Beecher
Master at Arms
Skip Burnham
Chaplain
Joseph Martin
Ships Store
Phil Rasnick

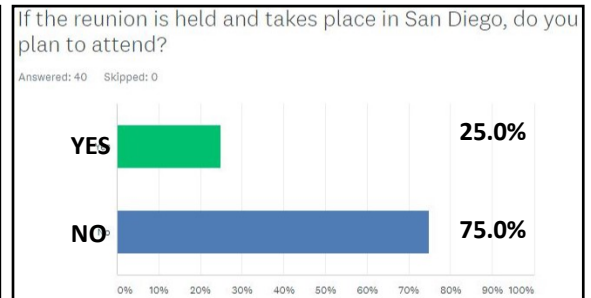
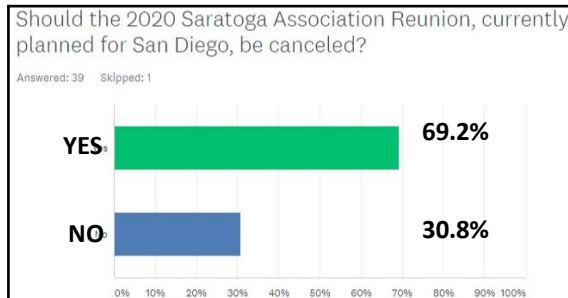
- Board Members**
K.C. Boles
Skip Burnham
Joe Champi
Bill Lack
John Lipscomb
Ed McCready
Brad Senter

- Emeritus**
Harvey Hirsch

On May 10, 2020 the following message was sent to everyone's email address that we have in the Association Master Roster. In the message we indicated more information was going to be provided. To that end we are providing the results of the recent survey that we emailed to everyone in April. We also published this announcement on the USS Saratoga Association Facebook group. If you are reading this for the first time it is because we have no other way to communicate with you other than paper mailings. In the event you would wish to add either your own or a family member's email address to our roster, we will be glad to provide you on-line communications as they occur.



The Executive Board began discussion almost immediately upon the onslaught of the COVID-19 Pandemic. We had many email communications and phone calls to discuss all the options that were feasible and carefully monitored the progress in hope that the path forward would be made clear. We decided to survey of membership in an effort to "take the pulse" and see which way the majority of our shipmates were leaning. We asked all respondents to answer a few questions and were hoping for a consensus. Over **230 members** responded. Here are the results:



With these 2 questions answered, the decision was made. We also asked about where the following year's reunion should be: either Mobile (as scheduled) or San Diego. The overwhelming majority of respondents indicated Mobile is the preferred venue. We will plan to return to San Diego in 2022. This decision was not made lightly. Captain Medina put in many hours working on the San Diego reunion. We are very grateful for the time he dedicated to this effort. We also wish to publicly acknowledge the vast amount of resources Military Reunion Planners put in to the 2020 event. That said, both Captain Medina and MRP fully understand and support our difficult decision.

This will be the first time in 69 years that we have not had a USS Saratoga Reunion.



Historian Needed

The Association is actively seeking a replacement historian to take over for KC Boles, who is stepping down after nearly 10 years as the Saratoga Association's Historian.

The Duties of the Association's Historian are as follows:

1. The Historian has sole custody of the Association's memorabilia
2. The Historian makes every attempt to store the memorabilia in a climate controlled environment
3. The Historian arranges to have the memorabilia shipped to and from the annual reunion.
4. The Historian sets up and tears down the display at the reunion.
5. The Historian provides security for the memorabilia at and during the reunion.

The Historian is a member of the USS Saratoga Association's Executive Board

The Association needs to have someone step up and take over this position. Our reunions would not be the same without the Saratoga memorabilia and Artifacts being on display for the attendees.

For more information and/or to express interest, please contact President Brad Senter (SuperSara@prodigy.net)

A New Ship Named Saratoga

The Association is continuing with our effort to convince the Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) to commission another ship with the name "Saratoga". We need all hands to get involved if we're going to make this happen.

We are asking all members of the Association (along with their family members, friends, etc.) to send letters to SECNAV with this request. To make this process as easy as possible, we have added a link on the Association website where you can download a form letter to either sign and send or to use as a guide if you would prefer to write your own letter.

The form letter can be found at <http://www.USS-Saratoga.com/NewSaratoga> and on page 4 of this newsletter

At the bottom, click on the link to "Download SECNAV letter"

If you have questions, please contact Bill Lack and (williamelack@gmail.com)

Chaplain's Corner

"In Times like These"

Since the arrival and spreading of the Corona virus in the U.S. and around the globe, the lives of most everyone have been adversely affected in some way. For nearly everyone, the usual patterns of daily life and work have been dramatically altered and numerous efforts to control the spread of the virus have taken on global dimensions. Restrictions imposed on travel, public places, and the imposing of cautionary requirements for social and business related activities are now commonplace. In times like these, it is well to remember some fitting words from the Christian Scriptures.

In the Letter of James we read:

"Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing." (Ja. 1:1-4, ESV).

James encourages the early Christians to see the undesirable circumstances of their lives as a means to strengthen individual faith. Although it is natural to try and avoid uncomfortable or undesirable situations, James beckons Christians to do the opposite by embracing with courage and fortitude their life situations and to do so with an eye toward increasing integrity of faith and Christian living.

Many today are experiencing increased worry and perplexity about life in general. The customary word that describes a common mood many people experience on a daily basis is "anxiety". This troubling emotion exists everywhere in our culture. This disturbing emotion is frequently the result of "what if" thinking. "What if" this or that would happen often lies at the doorstep of anxiety. In fact, "what if" thinking is the royal road to the emotion of anxiety. Imagine for instance that you are seated on an airplane with a destination to a sunny, tropical getaway. You are thinking to yourself that in a few hours you will be meeting up with several friends to share memories and enjoy a sunset dinner cruise. Most likely you would be feeling somewhat upbeat and excited about getting to your destination. Any nervous anticipation or reservations about the airplane trip would be moderated by your positive thoughts about the goals for your destination. Now, seated next to you is a traveler who is thinking to him or herself, "What if" while flying we have a flame out and the engines stop running!?... "What if" the pilot has a heart attack and dies!? "What if" the landing gear collapses on landing. The plane could careen, flip and explode, killing us all!?

I would say that the passenger having those thoughts is a nervous wreck, and if she/he continues re-hearing those fearful thoughts, might experience an “anxiety attack”.

The main difference between your emotional state and the other passenger’s is what you are thinking to yourselves. Both of you have an identical flying situation. However, your outlook is peppered with positive thoughts, while your fellow passenger is mentally worked up into an anxious frenzy. The emotions you both are experiencing have a lot more to do with the thoughts you each have about the situation than the situation itself. So, how can one better cope with anxiety situations? The Lord Jesus has some good advice about it.

As Jesus was concluding a teaching to his disciples about developing Kingdom living in the day to day world, He said:

“Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat nor about your body, what you will put on. For life is more than food and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest?Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you. (Luke 12: 22-27, 31 ESV).

Among the many ideas that can be expressed in regard to these verses, one that may be helpful in times like these is to remember that ultimately a person’s spiritual disposition toward God and Jesus, can greatly influence how one will respond to the circumstances of daily living. While the tangible things of this world are helpful to us, they are not the ultimate source of our spiritual, emotional or mental wellbeing. The creator has hard-wired us to have a relationship with Him. Our hearts, a metaphor for the seat of our thoughts, emotions, and will, are deeply restless until we put our ultimate trust and security in God in Christ. Whatever one values the most in life will have profound influence upon one’s spiritual convictions and daily choices. The Lord Jesus states it simply and with Divine authority: Seek first the Kingdom of God. Become as one whose disposition is rich in Christ and His Truth. Such conviction will put a great many life contexts in perspective and enable the Christian disciple to manage the emotional upheavals of times like these with spiritual fortitude.

Grace and Peace, Rev. Lee Martin, Ph.D Chaplain

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	2020	Make Check or Money Order payable to USS Saratoga Association		
Enclosed: \$ _____	DONATION	2020	(Tax deductible)	GENERAL FUND (May be combined with Dues amount)	
Enclosed: \$ _____	DONATION	2020	(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	<input type="checkbox"/>	Age	Fee	<input type="checkbox"/>
Up to 49	\$ 350.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	50-55	\$ 300.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
61-65	\$ 200.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	66-70	\$ 150.00	<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 <i>Lifetime</i> Membership Fee: \$25.00 ea. <input type="checkbox"/> Children and relatives can join as <i>Honorary Members</i> with standard annual dues <input type="checkbox"/>					

Secretary's Message

If you have not paid your 2020 dues yet, please do so at your earliest convenience. As a reminder, next Spring we will publish our new 2021/2022 Membership Directory. This directory will be sent to all Life Members, Honorary Members and Annual Dues paying members who are in good status. "In good status" means you are current with you dues payment. If you are not current, or are unsure if you've paid for 2020, please send me an email: (emc0853@yahoo.com) and I will be happy to research your membership to make sure you don't miss the directory. Note: as has been mentioned in the past, once you become a Life Member that indicates you are a member for the rest of your life. Nothing can change that and no one can take it away. E. McCready

SECNAV SAMPLE LETTER

The letter below is a guide for writing your own letter to the Secretary of the Navy. Please do not send this actual piece of paper. This is intended to show you the address, format and suggested wording.

Office of the Secretary of the Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, DC 20350

Dear Mister Secretary:

I wish to formally and respectfully request that the Secretary of the Navy name a future United States Ship, SARATOGA.

There have been six warships designated SARATOGA, beginning with an 18-gun sloop in 1780 through the CV-3, a WWII era carrier (sunk at Bikini Atoll - July 1946), to the most recent version, the CVA-60/CV-60 (decommissioned August 1994). All six United States Navy Ships named SARATOGA served our nation with pride and distinction.

I believe that there are facets of the last two versions of the SARATOGA (CV-3 and CV-60) that would make a good framework for a future version of the SARATOGA.

- Having an "organic" Marine element, as the aircraft carriers had a Marine Corp element aboard.
- Have a Navy/Marine Corp Aviation element, in keeping with the aviation tradition.
- And, in continuing to honor the famous Revolutionary War battle, it should be a combatant ship.

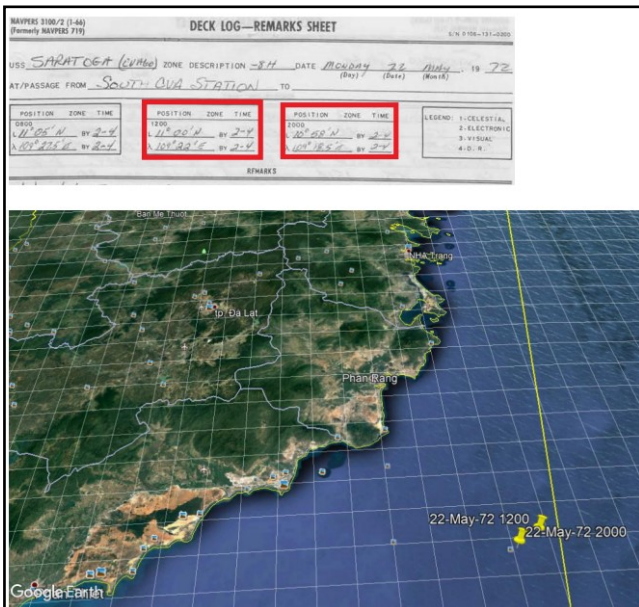
With that said, I believe that an amphibious platform, possibly one of the Navy's new America-class LHA Replacement platforms, would be well-suited to carry on the name SARATOGA.

I hope that you will consider returning this proud name to active duty in the US Navy fleet.

Respectfully yours,

The image to the left was taken directly from the Association's website. It is perfectly ok if you wish to use the wording verbatim, just retype it on your computer or write it out by hand.

It's important to remember this is just a guide for you to use. Your letter can be any length you like but try to keep it brief and easy to read. Please be respectful.



Attention: Crewmembers from the 1972 Vietnam Cruise:

On the Association's website (www.uss-saratoga.com) you will find a new section that shows the evidence needed if you have a pending disability claim in with the Veteran's Administration for presumptive exposure related to toxic defoliant (Agent Orange). This is a multi-page file that can be saved to your computer or printed. This proves the dates the USS Saratoga operated within the zone required by the VA for approval. If you have been denied in the past (ever far into the past) have your Veteran Service Officer submit a Supplemental Claim based on your original filing date. This information was developed by the Blue Water Navy organization and is now in the public domain. This image to the right was reduced from a color image on line and is difficult to read, It is presented to show a sample of what is in the document.

SARATOGA SHIP'S STORE ITEMS

[Check Website for more items and information... WWW.USS-SARATOGA.COM](http://WWW.USS-SARATOGA.COM)

ITEM NUMBER	SALE ITEMS	PRICE
81	License Plate Frame	\$2.00
82	Motorcycle License Plate	\$2.00
190	Shot Glass	\$1.00
215	10" X 14" Metal Plaque USS Saratoga Awards & Medals	\$5.00
83	License Plate with Awards & Medals	\$5.00
90	Mouse Pads USS Saratoga	\$5.00
116	US Flag 2"x3"	\$1.00
117	US Flag 2"x3" (waving)	\$1.00
100	Coffee Mugs	\$3.00
154	Button-Up Dress Shirts – White	\$10.00
156	Freedom Polo Shirt	\$25.00
157	Freedom T-Shirt	\$20.00
159	Marine Detachment T-Shirt Red	\$20.00
160	Lady's Freedom Polo Shirt	\$25.00
161	Marine Detachment Freedom Polo Red	\$25.00
174	Blue Denim Button Up Shirts Long & Short Sleeve	\$25.00
176	Khaki Button Up Shirt Long & Short Sleeve	\$10.00
70	5-Function Cambridge Knife (black, blue or red)	\$3.00
29	USS Saratoga Association Cap (limited availability)	\$10.00

USS SARATOGA STEEL (When they're gone, they're gone!)

1001	1 ¼" Steel Embedded in 5" Diameter Lucite – Shiny Clean	\$74.00
1002	2" Diameter "Coin" ¼" thick, lazer etched	\$22.00
1003	3"x5" Engraved Bulkhead (limited # available, rough)	\$32.00
1004	½" x 3" Steel Conduit (no engraving) Rough	\$5.00

OTHER

10	Cruise Books – Various Years (call for availability)	\$100.00
271	12"X18" Garden Flag – Ship's Crest "Veteran"	\$16.00
272	Garden Flag Stand	\$10.00
273	US Flag with Ship's Crest "Veteran"	\$39.00
214	Saratoga Ship's Crest Decal	\$6.00
217	Zippo Lighter Side 1: US Navy; Side 2: Ship's Crest	\$26.95
269	CVA-60 Silver or Gold Belt Buckle	\$25.00
26	CVA-60 Cap Solid or Mesh – Special Price	\$15.00
24	CVA-60 Cap Solid or Mesh – Special Price	\$15.00
30	2" Challenge Coin	\$10.00
33	1 ½" Challenge Coin	\$10.00
110	PATCH – 6 th Fleet	\$8.00
112	PATCH – Ship's Crest	\$10.00
113	PATCH – CVA/CV-60 Gone But Not Forgotten 5"	\$8.00
114	PATCH – Original Reproduction CVA-60 Ship's Patch 5"	\$10.00

REDUCED SHIPPING RATES APPLY



**USS Saratoga Association
Ship's Store
Phil Rasnick
8602 Dunaire Drive
Knoxville, TN 37923
Tel: (865) 253-7324**



Date: _____

Please Print Legibly

phil@pmlprograms.com
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
"USS SARATOGA ASSOCIATION"

SHIPPING INFORMATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

YOUR TIME ON THE SARA

Came Aboard: _____ Departed: _____ Division: _____

Item #	Quantity	Size	Item/Options (CV3/CV60/CVA-60)	Color	Price
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Subtotal	
Credit Card Orders Add 4%	
Shipping	

1

Contact Ship's Store for Reduced Shipping Prices



VETERAN

12" x 18" Garden Flag



6

