



The Sumner Sentinel ©

November - December 2016
Volume III Number 6

Time to Add to the Sumner Coffers

Due to changes in the structure of our organization shipmates need to be aware of whether or not they have renewed membership. Our membership year is based on a regular calendar year.

A membership renewal form (see page 5) will appear in this (the November-December issue) of this newsletter and note that you need to renew your membership in the USS Allen M. Sumner Reunion Association. This is for the new year - 2017.



There are a few members who have paid for several years such as our webmaster Fred Willshaw whose due are paid through 2020.

All members have the option to do the same.

If you cannot afford the \$15, send what you can (if anything) as we will not deny a shipmate membership because of a hardship.

And no one else needs to know.

Whatever you decide, we still need you to fill out the form and mail it so we will have pertinent information about you. The address of where to send it is at the bottom on the form.

It's also useful to make sure we have the proper E-mail address for you.

I would ask that each of you call the hotel and reserve your room as soon as possible

If for some reason you are unable to attend, you will have 48 hours before your arrival date to change or cancel with no additional charge to you.

This is very important this year because if we fill all the rooms that are now blocked, there will no charge for our Hospitality Room and Ball Room.

Also we are having special commemorative awards made for Vietnam Era shipmates who must be there to receive them. I need a head count far enough in advance to have these specially made.

Please help me make this happen. If you wait till the last minute you won't receive your award at the banquet.

We need some help from everyone, to help us get a good count of who is attending.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE . . .

Greetings Fellow Shipmates,

I hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving and everyone is still stuffed. I know some of the group had snow and cold temperatures, unlike some of us who are having a warm, muggy "Fall". Christmas will be here before we know it, so before the special day, please lend me your ears.



Frank DiBello

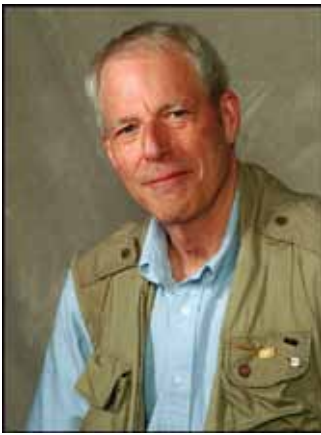
Our 50th Anniversary Reunion in Mayport, Florida is coming up soon! I know you are all planning to attend. However, we must plan ahead! If you haven't already made your reservations at the Hampton Inn & Suites located by the Jacksonville Airport, please call them ASAP. The phone number is 904-741-4001 and speak to Alfonzo Hernandez.

Even if you aren't sure that you will be able to make it, please just make reservations now. The Hotel will not charge you until you actually check in, and you can change or cancel your reservations up to 48 hours prior to your scheduled check-in.

If you plan to stay somewhere else, that's okay. Just please register with the Sumner Association. We can only know about the availability of our special rooms (Hospitality, Banquet and Going Away Breakfast rooms) by having a good count of attendees. We must fill 40 reserved rooms in order to obtain use of the special rooms and for all of the food and drinks we provide.

See President, Page 6





By Don Hayden TM3 (1961-62)

It never ceases to amaze me how some folks get their jollies at the expense of others. Case in point deals with my home telephone service.

After attending a meeting in Oklahoma City in early November it started raining and since daylight saving time has changed I knew I would be driving slower to get home.

So I called my wife on my cell phone and instead of either hearing her voice or that of our answering machine message, there was one about customer service at SummerMuscles.com not being available and to leave a message at the website for a call back.

I thought I had misdialed.

So I called the number again and got the same message and as soon as it quit, the phone went dead.

Unbeknownst to me, the wife had tried to answer the phone but there was no one (me) on the line.

So, I called her cell which she usually doesn't have on and spoke of the weird message I had received and to say I probably would be late.

When I got home, I had her call our home phone so she could hear the message.

I even Goggled the website in question only to learn it did not exist!

The next day (Monday) I called AT&T tech

support and spent about an hour trying to figure out what was going wrong. I even went the AT&T store and purchased a new telephone.

That didn't change the result so I took the phone back.

By that time it was too late to get a service tech out to the house so I set it up for the next day.

To further complicate matters we had scheduled a short trip to Arkansas for that day.

We decided to change the appointment to the Saturday after we got back.

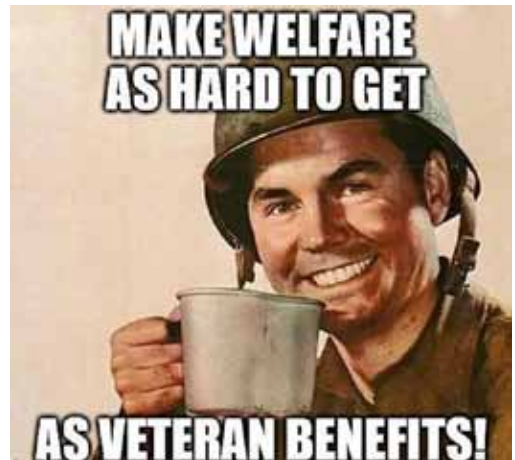
That morning the tech showed up and said he had tried to call to confirm the appointment, but, you guessed it, got the same recorded message.

Anyway the tech started going through a process of elimination by disconnected the modem to calling his own tech support.

Finally he and I learned that someone (probably some savvy teenager) had hacked into our account with the phone company.

So, the account was cleared of this superfluous information and we were - at last - good to go.

Sure hope it doesn't happen again or to anyone else.



USS ALLEN M. SUMNER SHIP STORE ORDER INVOICE

Qtn.	Description	Price
	Sumner Ball Cap (Blue w/gold embroidery) - Specify All Cloth or 1/2 Mesh)	\$15.00
	Scrambled Egg patches <u>for Officers only</u> /with hat purchase	Free
	White Golf Shirt Embroidered w/Ship Patch (Circle Size - S, M, L, XL) Add \$10 for 2XL/3XL	\$25.00
	White T-Shirt w/Ship on Front (Circle Size - S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL)	\$20.00
	All Sweatshirts Circle Size - S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL	\$25.00
	Sumner Ship's Patch (Specify Sui Generis or Woody Woodpecker)	\$ 5.00
	Sumner Hat/Lapel/Tie Tac Pin	\$ 6.00
	Sumner License Plate bracket/holder	\$ 5.00
	Homemade Reunion 2000 Video (CNO Visit) DVD or VHS Specify which	\$ 8.00
	Zippo Ziplite battery pack (Flashlight Replacement for Unused Lighter	\$ 2.50
	Sumner Commemorative Challenge Coin (Approximately 1½ inches in diameter)	\$10.00
	US Navy Tabletop Drink Coasters (6 for \$20.00)	\$ 5.00
	Handkerchief (US Navy or 692)	\$ 5.00
	Navy Pin for wives	\$ 5.00
	Sumner shaving/toilet kit bag	\$10.00
	US Navy rear window stickers (or Retired) Specify which	\$ 5.00
	US Navy Wallet	\$ 7.00
	MIA/POW money clip	\$ 6.00
	Petty Officer window sticker	\$ 1.00
	USS Cooper (Dive to)/Return to Ormoc Bay (Battle of) DVD (Runtime: 80 minutes)	\$ 8.00
Total Enclosed		

All Sumner Assn members may deduct 10% from order (before shipping charges are added unless is designated "No Discount." Please add the following shipping charges; Merchandise up to \$20 - Add \$3 \$21-\$50 - Add \$5 \$51 and Up - Add \$7. Checks made payable to Sumner Reunion Association.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 (A/C) _____ PH # _____ E-Mail _____

Send Orders To:
 Sumner Assn.
 301 Park Lane
 North Syracuse, NY 13212

President

Continued from Page 2

We already know how special this reunion is to our Association. Let's step up and take the time to make your reservations and register for the reunion so we can get into planning phase. If you haven't heard, there is so much to see and do in the area around the Hotel. Lots of history, shopping and natural beauty to see awaits us.

We have some special gifts for you this year, but I need to know who is attending! If you need help of any kind, please contact Dave Robson. If finances are a problem, don't let that keep you away. Call Dave. Through our "Help A Shipmate" Fund, Director Dave Robson will make

sure that everyone that needs help will get it. No one, including myself will have knowledge of anyone being helped.

Again I ask that you call your close buddies from the Sumner and encourage them to make their reservations now. We need your cooperation; we have to know how many of you plan to attend so we can arrange bus transportation, buy food and drinks, etc. Without an accurate count, we might not have enough for everyone or we might overspend needlessly.

Finally, Connie and I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas, Season's Greetings and Happy New Year! Frank

Mayport Naval Station - How Things Have Changed

Naval Station Mayport is a major United States Navy base in Jacksonville, Fla. It contains a protected harbor that can accommodate aircraft carrier-size vessels.

Since its commissioning in December 1942, NS Mayport has grown to become the third-largest naval surface fleet concentration area in the United States.

Naval Station Mayport is also home to the Navy's United States Fourth Fleet, reactivated in 2008 after being deactivated in 1950.

When we served it was home to the Sixth Fleet which is now home ported in Naples, Italy

The base has historically served as the homeport to various conventionally powered aircraft carriers of the Atlantic Fleet, including Shangri-La (1960 - 1971), Franklin D. Roosevelt (1956 - 1977), Forrestal (1977 - 1993), Saratoga (1957 - 1994), and, most recently, John F. Kennedy (1995 - 2007).

With the decommissioning of all conventionally powered aircraft carriers by the U.S. Navy, no car-

riers are presently assigned to Mayport. However, both houses of Congress have passed legislation authorizing about \$75 million for dredging and upgrades at NAVSTA Mayport to accommodate a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier.

Among destroyer who call Mayport home are: the USS The Sullivans (DDG-68),

USS Roosevelt (DDG-80), USS Lassen (DDG-82) and USS Farragut (DDG-99).

Following the Second World War, the NAAS was decommissioned and placed in a caretaker status. The United States Coast Guard took over the base and operated a small "Boot Camp" there for several years, but they vacated Mayport in late 1947 due to budget cuts.

Mayport was reactivated again in June, 1948 as a Naval Outlying Landing Field under the cognizance of the Commanding Officer, Naval Air Station Jacksonville.



Do You Want to Continue Receiving the Sentinel

Note to shipmates, wives and widows, especially those with an “L” designation on their address label:

We know that the “L” means Life member and usually is associated with widows of Sumner shipmates.

What we don’t know is if you really want to keep receiving the ship newsletter - the Sumner Sentinel.

For those and others with a different designation

on the address label if you do not want to keep receiving it and you have an e-mail address, please use it to contact the editor (address on the top of the back page).

If you don’t want to keep receiving it and you don’t have an e-mail address, please contact the editor with a post card or other stationery (return address on the back page).

Thanks, The Editor

REUNION ASSISTANCE FUND

Are YOU a former Sumner shipmate ?

Have YOU ever wanted to go to one of our Annual Reunions ?

For those shipmates who are in need of financial assistance, the Association has created a Special Committee to help YOU out. The funds available come from donations of the Sumner crew in the hope YOU will join us.

The Fund is managed in strict confidentiality and no one other than the Committee will ever know of these transactions.

If interested and to find out more about the Fund, please contact one of the following Committee Members:

Dave Robson dave@dd-692.com
(904) 287-7854

Dale Surber mortdd692@gmail.com
(727) 480-3646

Jose Garcia jose@dd-692.com
(305) 431-3027

To donate to the Fund and assist your shipmates, make your contributions (any amount is greatly appreciated) by check and send to:

USS AM Sumner Reunion Association
301 Park Ln.

North Syracuse, NY 13212-2143

Mark the check and/or envelope “for the Reunion Assistance Fund”

Did You Know?

“Do You Hear What I Hear: Noel

Regney wrote this song as a call to peace during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

The original context has long been forgotten and is now a staple of holiday celebrations.





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If you are going to change your e-mail address, or no longer wish to receive the newsletter, let the editor know.



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