



USS Piedmont AD-17

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USS Piedmont Newsletter July 2024

We are fast approaching our reunion in Washington D.C. some folks have made their reservations and submitted reunion registration and made payment others are still thinking should I or shouldn't I and the answer is of course you should so make your hotel reservations and fill out your registration form and join us in Washington D.C. for some fun and renewing friendships and of course making new ones. As always if you have questions or concerns give me a call 757-729-0972. The deadline to register is 31 August 2024.

Our reunion plans in Washington DC are complete and I think we have put together something everyone can enjoy; this year it will be a bit different because Washington has so much to see and do and it offers excellent transportation options you will not even need a car to see almost anything. So the dates are 18-23 September 2024 and our host hotel is the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport with a daily rate of \$139.00 (157.07 with tax) which includes breakfast for two. To make reservations call 800-445-8667 and ask for USS Dixie/USS Piedmont rate. Remember rate is good for 3 days prior and 3 days after for those who want to arrive early or stay later. I suggest you make reservations early to ensure availability. This will be a joint reunion with the USS Dixie AD-14.

Tours

18 September, if flying into Dulles call hotel for free shuttle pickup at 703-478-2900 then join us in the hospitality room, it opens at 1500 for snacks and refreshments but most importantly catch up on old friendships and making new ones. Now for our tours.

19 September we start with visiting Mount Vernon home and final resting place of our first president, George Washington. For more information visit tickets@mountvernon.org. Next we will enjoy lunch at the Mount Vernon Inn, afterwards we will visit The Lincoln Memorial, The Koran War Memorial and the Vietnam Wall Memorial all within easy walking from bus drop off point. Afterwards we

will visit the World War II Memorial and then return to our hotel for some quality hospitality room fun time.

20 September We start off visiting the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial and then on to the Navy Memorial (www.navymemorial.org) we will have lunch at Hill Country BBQ a short walking distance from the Navy Memorial and then onto the White House, The Capital, and The Supreme Court for Photo ops. We will close the day visiting The Holocaust Memorial (ushmm.org), and then return to the Hotel for fun and socializing.

September 21 as mentioned earlier Washington has excellent transportation system enjoy touring of Washington DC on your own some suggestions would be Arlington National Cemetery, Air and Space Museum and it's annex very close to hotel, shuttle can take you there if schedule permits, Visit the Capital Building, for information on tours. (visitthecapitol.gov), or maybe purchase tickets for hop on and hop off bus, Dozens of museums and sights are at your finger tips.

September 22 Business Meeting, selection of new officers and selection of 2025 reunion location on the West Coast, (Portland OR or Reno NV or San Diego CA are in the running) and raffle of free hotel nights. Afterwards tours on your own. Our Final Banquet at Hotel is at 1730 (5:30pm for you civilians).

September 23 Reunion complete see you next year.

Deaths to report since last Newsletter

Bagley, Elwin SF1 44-46 Plankowner passed 2014

Bulat, John Steele ET 61-66 Passed January 09 2024

Chesnick, Marge (Wife of Jack Chesnick) Age 88 Passed October 27 2023

Chesnick, Jack ET 49-53 (Husband of Marge Chesnick) Age 92 Passed January 25 2024

Farese, Elio (AL) PF2 45-49 Age 93 Passed August 05 2021

For the good of the Association

All honorably discharged veterans can shop tax free at shopmyexchange.com

I need a shipmate to come forward and assume Directors duties this job is not very time consuming but is important to the association, I use these positions as advisors and sounding board for ideas and changes in procedures and policy. So please step forward and help us make our association better.

I have mentioned this before but I feel must say it again please keep us updated on changes to any contact information such a phone, address, or email, it seems every time I send out a email I get kick backs from invalid emails when this happens I try calling telephone number listed and if this does not work them I will mail letter to address if no reply I have no choice but remove from roster. So please do your part so we can do ours.

I have mentioned in previous newsletters that maybe it would benefit members to have children or grandchildren accompany you to the reunion just to assist you as well to share memories, sharing family history, and learning what it was like during your military career making more family moments lasting a lifetime, which are priceless, in the past everyone both old and young have had a great time.

We are always looking for shipmates to join our association, so if you are a former crewmember and have not joined or attended a reunion I encourage you to reach out and join our group. I am sure you will enjoy your attendance and will make many new friends and might even hookup with a old shipmate from long ago, bring the wife or girlfriend and explore Washington with new friends and have lots of stories to share with family and friends.

Don't forget to bring a raffle item this helps to reduce our cost of the hospitality room expenses.

Leaving you with a smile

The old Navy Chief finally retired and got that chicken ranch he always wanted. He took with him his life-long pet parrot.

First morning at 0430, the parrot squawked loudly and said, "Reveille, Reveille. Up all hands. Heave out and trice up. The smoking lamp is lighted, now Reveille."

The old chief told the parrot, "We are no longer in the Navy. Go back to sleep."

The next morning, the parrot did the same thing. Chief told the parrot, "If you keep this up, I'll put you out in the chicken pen."

Again the parrot did it, and true to his word, the Chief put the parrot in the chicken pen. About 0630 the next morning, the Chief was awakened by one heck of a ruckus in the chicken pen. He went out to see what was the matter. The parrot had about 40 white chickens at attention in formation, and on the ground laid 3 bruised and beaten brown chickens. The parrot was saying, "By God, when I say fall out in dress whites, I don't mean Khakis!"

Having passed the enlistment physical, Jon was asked by the doctor;

"Why do you want to join the Navy, son?"

"My father said it'd be a good idea, sir."

"Oh? And what does your father do?"

"He's in the Army, sir."

Registration Form USS Dixie/USS Piedmont 18-23 September 2024

Name _____ Guest _____

Address _____

Years served onboard Piedmont _____ Rate/Rank _____

Contact number _____ Emergency Contact _____

2024 Dues \$15.00 _____

Past dues not paid (if not sure call Mike) \$15.00 X _____

Tour #1 Mount Vernon with Lunch \$ 110.00 X _____

Tour #2 Navy Memorial with Lunch \$ 110.00 X _____

Final Banquet (Buffet) Menu listed below \$ 66.00 X _____

Total _____

Mail check Payable to USS Piedmont Reunion Association to Michael Morast 150 Brown St. Tecumseh MI. 49286 his Telephone is 517-673-7157

For any questions or concerns call Mike or Willie my number is 757-729-0972

Hotel is Hilton Washington Dulles Airport 13869 Park Center Road Herndon Virginia 20171

Daily rate of \$139.00 (\$157.07 with tax) with free breakfast for 2 To make reservations call 800-445-8667 if flying into Dulles call free hotel shuttle at 703-478-2900

Don't forget bring your raffle item

(Buffet items are Salad, assorted rolls, Roast Pork, Baked Tilapia, Beef Tips, Roasted Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables, Assorted desserts, Coffee, Ice Tea) A cash bar will also be available

Please register early to ensure we have ample buses reserved full refunds will be honored until 15 September 2024.