



## USS Piedmont AD-17

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## USS Piedmont Newsletter April 15 2025

Well, we are in the New Year and hope that everyone enjoyed their Thanksgiving & Christmas holidays and 2025 is treating you well. We have posted the dates for our annual Reunion they are 10-15 September 2025, which will give us 3 days of tours and a day to explore on your own. The Holiday Inn Portland Airport will be our hosting hotel with a daily rate of \$79.00 plus 16% occupancy tax which equals to \$91.64 daily which includes breakfast for two, and free parking. This is a daily rate that we have not seen in a very long time, it is good for 3 days prior and 3 days after provided rooms are available so make your reservations early to ensure you get rooms that meet your needs. To make reservations call 503-256-5000 and ask for USS Piedmont/USS Dixie rate, all reservations must be made **NLT 08-27-2025** you will use the same number to call for free hotel shuttle once you arrive at Portland airport. My suggestion would be make hotel reservations early to ensure you get to room type you desire, you can always cancel if necessary if plans change. Lastly, plan on bringing a small gift for our raffle table this goes to lesson our expenses of the hospitality room.

### **Shipmates lost since our last newsletter: None to report**

We have Hats (\$25.00) and Polo Shirts (\$25.00) available at reunion or can be mailed for additional \$8.00

After checking in on 10 September our hospitality room will be open at 1500 and we will have light snacks and drinks available. Afterwards we will review our schedule for 3 days of tours and of course enjoy catching up with our friends and shipmates. Then enjoy some good food that we will provide so you can relax and get ready for an enjoyable and relaxing reunion.

11 September enjoy breakfast and then load up on our bus and off we go to Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum <http://www.evergreenmuseum.org/> where you will have an opportunity to tour the famous Spruce Goose or SR-71 Blackbird spy plane and many more exhibits that tell the story of aviation then lunch and then on to Yamhill Heritage Museum <https://yamhillcountyhistory.org/yamhill-valley-heritage-center/> afterwards we will return to the hotel and enjoy dinner on your own and an enjoyable evening in the hospitality room.

12 September enjoy breakfast and again load up on our bus to tour OMSI (Oregon Museum of Science and Industry) [www.oms.edu](http://www.oms.edu) and afterwards enjoy lunch before we board our bus to tour the Grotto Gardens [www.thegrotto.org](http://www.thegrotto.org) then back to hotel and enjoy dinner on your own and another enjoyable evening in our hospitality room.

13 September enjoy breakfast and again load up on our bus to tour Mount St. Helens [www.fs.usda.gov](http://www.fs.usda.gov) we will have the Opportunity to look at the devastation of mother nature and the recovery of the area of the eruption and the stories of what happened. We will have lunch at American Legion Longview Washington. We will return to the hotel for dinner on your own and another night of hospitality room entertainment.

14 September enjoy breakfast and join us for our annual business meeting, we will elect our officers to serve in 2026 and select the location of our next reunion, in the running are Mobile Al and New Orleans La. At the end we will choose the (2) lucky folks who purchased raffle tickets for a free hotel night After the business meeting you will have the remainder of the day to tour on your own, Portland has an excellent light rail system (MAX) Max Light Rail [www.trimet.org/](http://www.trimet.org/) to help your exploring of Portland on your own touring in the evening we will have our final banquet saying so long until next year.

15 September reunion complete unless you choose to use the option of arriving 3 days early or Staying 3 days after the reunion to have personal time or explore independently.

Some suggestions for you to consider for your own tours of Portland

Portland Underground Shanghai Tunnel tour

Portland 2 hour lunch cruise

Voodoo doughnuts, go early it is typically busy

Portland pink Trolley Hop On Hop Off

I have mentioned this before but I feel it must be said again, please keep us updated on changes to your contact information such as phone, email or address it seems every time I send out emails or mail I get kick back from invalid email or address. When this happens I will call number listed or mail to address if no response is received then I have no choice but to remove from roster so please do your part so we can do our part.

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 former shipmate from long ago, bring your wife or significant other and explore Portland Or. You will have lots of stories to share with family and friends.

As I have mentioned in other Newsletters that it might be helpful and 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 and of course making memories to share with family and friends I am sure everyone will leave enjoying a great reunion and having many precious memories

### Leaving you with a smile

A group of Chiefs and a group of Naval Officers take a train to a conference. Each Naval Officer holds a ticket. But the entire group of Chiefs has bought only one ticket for a single passenger. The Naval Officers are just shaking their heads and are secretly pleased that the arrogant Chiefs will finally get what they deserve. Suddenly one of the Chiefs calls out: The conductor is coming. At once, all the Chiefs jump up and squeeze into one of the toilets. The conductor checks the tickets of the Naval Officers. When he notices that the toilet is occupied he knocks on the door and says: Ticket, please! One of the Chiefs slides the single ticket under the doors and the conductor continues merrily on his round. For the return trip the Naval Officers decide to use the same trick. They buy only one ticket for the entire group but they are baffled as they realize that the Chiefs didn't buy any tickets at all. After a while one of the Chiefs announces again: The conductor is coming! Immediately all the Naval Officers race to a toilet and lock themselves in. All the Chiefs leisurely walk to the other toilet. Before the last Chief enters the toilet, he knocks on the toilet occupied by the Naval Officers and says: Ticket, please!

And the moral of the story.

Naval Officers like to use the methods of the Chiefs, but they don't really understand them.

### **A man sits down at a bar next to a pirate and starts asking him about his past injuries.**

The first thing the man notices is the pirate's peg leg. "How did you get that wooden leg," he asks.

The pirate responds, "Oh, a cannonball took my leg off in a fight with a naval frigate."

"Wow!" the man replies. "So how did you get that hook?" pointing to the pirate's arm.

The pirate replies, "One of my crew chopped it off during a mutiny I had to quell."

Even more amazed, the man asks, "And what about your eye patch?"

The pirate shrugs. "First day with the hook."

Registration Form USS Piedmont/USS Dixie reunion 10-15 September 2025

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Years served onboard Piedmont \_\_\_\_\_ Rank/Rate \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_

2025 Dues \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_

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

Tour #1 Evergreen Museum with Lunch \$92.00 \_\_\_\_\_ X \$92.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Tour #2 QMSI with Lunch \$95.00 \_\_\_\_\_ X \$95.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Tour #3 Mt. Saint Helens with Lunch \$85.00 \_\_\_\_\_ X 85.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Final Banquet: \$75.00 \_\_\_\_ X \$75.00 \_\_\_\_\_

3 Entrees

Roasted Chicken Breast Cash Bar near Banquet area Total \_\_\_\_\_

Seared Sliced Beef with Au Jus

Atlantic Salmon with Lemon Herb

Roast cut Potatoes

Chef's Choice Seasonal Vegetables

Chef's Selection of Desert

Coffee, Iced Tea, & Water **If you have any food allergies please note on registration form**

Mail; check Payable to USS Piedmont Reunion Association to Michael Morast 150 Brown St. Tecumseh MI. 49286 His Telephone is #517-673-7157. For Questions or concerns call Mike or Willie my number is 757-729-0972. Hotel address is Holiday Inn Portland Airport 8439 ne Columbus Court Portland OR. 97220 #503-256-5000 Remember reservations must be made NLT 08-27-2025