



## **USS Piedmont AD-17**

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## **USS Piedmont Newsletter July 15 2025**

**I hope that everyone has reviewed our earlier newsletter and have decided to join us in Portland OR. 10-15 September 2025 for a fun filled reunion that has a little bit for everyone. Highlights (naming just a few) are visiting the Spruce Goose and viewing the recovery of the Mount St. Helens eruptions of 1980. Mother Nature is awesome and this is just one example the proves my point.**

**So here are the tours we will offer and I am sure you will enjoy all of them**

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. We will 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 [www.evergreenmuseum.org](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 [yamhill-valley museum](http://yamhill-valley-museum.com). 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/maxt](http://www.trimet.org/maxt) to help your exploring of Portland on your own, 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.

Our hotel is the Holiday Inn Portland Airport to make reservation call 503-256-5000 and ask for USS Dixie/USS Piedmont rate of \$79.00 (with tax \$91.64) which includes breakfast for 2. I recommend you make your reservations early to ensure you receive desired room type and avoid disappointment Keeping in mind that the hotel has a NLT 8/27/2025 reservation cutoff date. Also these rates are good 3 days prior and 3 days after (if available)

## **Deaths of Shipmates**

### **Schleifer, William SF 57-59 Passed 17 January 2025 Age 85**

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 hook up 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.

To join the association, fill out the form on the website: <http://usspiedmont.org/how-to-join-us/>.

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 as to share memories, sharing family history, and learning what is 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

# A DEA agent stopped by my farm yesterday.

“I need to inspect your farm for illegally grown drugs”, he said.

“By all means officer, just don’t go in that field over there”, I replied.

The DEA officer exploded, saying “Do you know who the I am?! I have the authority of the federal government with me!”, he shouted before pulling a badge out of his back pocket, “Do you see this badge?! This badge means I can do what I want and I’ll go wherever the Hell I want, have I made myself clear?!”

I nodded politely, apologized, and went about my chores. A short while later, I hear loud screams, looked up and saw the DEA agent running for his life being chased by my angry rodeo bull. With each step, the bull was gaining ground and he seemed sure to be gored before he reached safety. The officer looked terrified and continued to run for his life.

I threw down my tools, immediately ran to the edge of the fence and shouted at the top of my lungs,

“Your badge, show him your badge!”

A famous Admiral and an equally famous General were fishing together when a sudden storm hit. When it died down both renowned warriors were struggling helplessly in the water.

The Admiral floundered his way back to the boat and pulled himself painfully in. Then he fished out the General, using an oar.

Catching his breath, he puffed: “Please don’t say a word about this to anyone. If the Navy found out I can’t swim I’d be disgraced.”

“Don’t worry,” the general said. “Your secret is safe. I’d hate to have my men find out I can’t walk on water.”

## 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 to made NLT 08-27-2025