



DESRON 30 News

Reunion Association Newsletter



Summer 2012

Vol. 1 No. 2

Director's Summer Letter

By Dennis Holt & Dick Myers

As reported in the last newsletter, we voted to combine the newsletters for all ships. The Daly still plans to send a special "edition" to members since this is completely paid by one of their members. However, all four ships have input information to this new joint publication. This year (2011-2012) has been quite a year already. We were joined by the U.S.S. Dortch (DD670) crew and now have four ships in the fold.

Of course, the big news is about the reunion in September. It will be in Dayton, OH, from September 23rd to September 26th. Details and a sign-up form are attached. Be sure to make your own personal hotel reservations soon and send the sign-up sheet in to Dick Myers ASAP.

Here are the latest statistics. At present we have contact information for 1,246 shipmates (and family members). These contacts include: Cotten (541), Daly (188), Dortch (224) and Gatling (293). We encourage e-mail use to distribute our information, and the e-mail addresses we have include Cotten (169), Daly (98), Dortch (96) and Gatling (126). We need all members and family contacts to let us know if they have a workable e-mail address so that we can keep mailing costs and dues low.

If you do the math, we will send out 757 hard copies of our newsletters, dues notices, rosters, etc., in the future. Due to our non-profit tax status, we get bulk postage for mailings at about half of the standard rate. In addition, our program to snail mail with "Return to Sender" instructions on the envelope resulted in purging or updating of about 150 street addresses which were no longer valid.

Official paid membership for DESRON 30 as of this newsletter is 262. We hope to increase this number with the circulation of this new joint newsletter. Our policy is that widows do not pay. The By Laws (and federal regulations) require that we maintain a paid member list, and also that all official votes require paid membership to vote. If we can increase our paid membership, it will prevent an increase of the dues amount in the future.

Financial data is given in another section of this newsletter.

We agreed at the Tucson meeting that we would delay voting for 2013 location. Locations being considered include:

- Branson, MO
- Washington, D.C. area
- Oregon
- Baton Rouge, LA

At present we have received a few votes but voting is still encouraged. Please send your preference to Dick Myers: e-mail at ramunlim@yahoo.com or phone 404-373-0120, or mail at 428 Lockwood Terrace, Decatur, GA 30030.

The website has been updated with information on the Dortch and a "rewrite" of the group's history. The website URL (internet address) is www.desron30.org. The public can access a list of members for each ship and send us corrections or additions directly inside the website. If we receive any new contacts, we will check them out before we add them to the rosters. We have already received five new contacts this past year directly from the website input.

This website is also available to you. For our members, one nice feature is the ability to continuously update your contact information. You are able to input these changes for your own personal information using the website input. In order to maintain privacy, we have provided password protection to avoid having your private contact information available to the general public (insurance salesmen, etc.). Therefore, to see contact information on any ship personnel, you will have to enter a user name and password. The user name is the ship name (cotten, daly, dortch or gatling) and the password for all four ships is "8tincans". This password will be changed whenever necessary to protect the members' privacy.

Dayton – Events Around the Hotel

By Nancy Bielot & Dick Myers

Several tours of area sites are being offered to you during the reunion. To aid you in your

decision, here is some further information about those tours.

Wright Dunbar Historical District - Monday Morning Tour

This is a bus tour to the Wright Dunbar Historical District. We will be visiting the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park. For additional information, their website is:

<http://www.nps.gov/daav/index.htm>

The units include: The Wright Cycle Company Complex, consisting of The Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center and Aviation Trail Visitor Center and Museum, and The Wright Cycle Company. The Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center and Aviation Trail Visitor Center and Museum hosts an orientation movie, a restored Wright brothers' print shop, and exhibits operated by the National Park Service. The Wright Cycle Company is the fourth location of the Wright brothers' bicycle business, and the only one intact and at its original location. You'll see the bicycle technology the Wrights incorporated into the structure and mechanisms of their gliders and flyers.

A lunch stop (on your own) is scheduled for the Culp Cafeteria (at the park). This café has a variety of sandwiches and salads which can be purchased. You can view their menu at:

<http://www.daytonhistory.org/shop-eat/culp-s-cafe-menu.htm>

Carillon Park - Monday Afternoon Tour

Carillon Park is basically an outdoor museum of buildings and artifacts pertaining to the history of Dayton, OH. You will find an old log cabin, a one-room school house, a car dealership, train depot, gas station, Wright Brothers' bicycle shop, etc., and examples of transportation that once existed in Dayton. One large modern building houses several transportation vehicles such as an old trolley car, a street car, a city bus, a "standard" railroad passenger car, an elaborate passenger car that was used for first class passengers, and a caboose. The entire museum is filled with original artifacts from the early history of Dayton, including the Wright Brothers' airplane, and a huge display of bicycles in all shapes and sizes. Carillon Park is a great place to learn some history in a fun environment. For more information, go to:

<http://www.carillonpark.org/>

Monday Dinner

Monday evening dinner (as well as Tuesday evening dinner) is on your own. There are many downtown area restaurants to choose from, including Sidebar 410, Dublin Pub, SaiBai, Olive, Thai Nine, and more. These restaurants are within easy walking distance of our hotel.

Wright Patterson Air & Space Museum - Tuesday Tour

This is a bus tour to the Wright Patterson Air & Space Museum. It will be a long day (6 hour tour), but it's truly worth it! Hundreds of military reunions visit the museum every year. The National Museum of the United States Air Force galleries present military aviation history. There are more than 360 aerospace vehicles and missiles on display as well as thousands of historical items and powerful sensory exhibits that bring history to life. These items and exhibits connect the Wright Brothers' legacy with today's stealth and precision technology. For further details, go to:

<http://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/>

Other things to do in the Dayton area

America's Packard Museum is the world's only restored Packard Dealership operating as a museum, and only full-time museum dedicated exclusively to the Packard Motor Car Company, its products and philosophies. The car dealership has several original early automobiles from 100 years ago. The dealership actually feels like you have gone back in time and are shopping for a new car. There are offices that contain an early NCR cash register, old typewriter, dictaphone machine, adding machine, etc.



Dayton Art Museum (Open Sunday or Wednesday)

Art museums are usually a wonderful place to visit and spend the good part of a day and the Dayton Art Institute is no exception. Note: the museum is closed Mondays and Tuesdays.

They have a nice permanent collection that includes a wide variety of art ranging from Ancient Egyptian to Modern. Frequently they showcase a traveling collection as well for an extra fee. Their website is <http://www.daytonartinstitute.org/> for information on suggested admission and other questions.

Evening Entertainment during the Week

The Victoria Theater (<http://www.victoriatheatre.com/>) and Schuster Performing Arts Center (<http://www.schustercenter.org/>) are the two predominant venues in Dayton for Broadway plays, concerts, and other seasonal shows. They are an easy walk (about three blocks) from the Crowne Plaza hotel, where our reunion is being held. Check their websites for shows, ticket prices, and availability.

As you can see, there is quite a bit to do in Dayton. We look forward to your joining us at this year's reunion and enjoying some of the sites/entertainment that the area has to offer.

Treasurer's Report

By Dick Myers

As of this date, we have a balance of \$2,829.36. This is after paying a deposit on reunion expenses of \$850. We hope that we will get good reunion attendance so that we will not suffer losses due to amounts guaranteed for hotel and tour companies.

Sunshine Corner

By Jean Killian

If you know of any DESRON 30 member/spouse who is ill or recuperating, please contact Jean Killian and we'll get a card out to them.

In Memoriam

By Dick Myers, Edward Olson & Dennis Holt

As of June 22, 2012, we have received the following information on shipmates who are deceased. Our deepest sympathies are extended to the families of our deceased members.

LAST NAME	FIRST	MIDDLE	RANK
U.S.S. COTTEN			
Barrett	Roger	Wayne	
Caswell	Robert	W.	GM2
Conwell	Hugh	J., Jr.	
Fenlon	John	P.	LTJG
Gartelman	Edward		
Hard	Robert	A.	EMC
Leonard	Ralph	W., Jr.	S1c
Neuzil	Norman	V.	QMQ1
Orr	Edmond	Lee	
Perry	Henry	Grady	BT3
Rice	Mauri		
Rodgers	Thomas	J.	

LAST NAME	FIRST	MIDDLE	RANK
Samarelli	James	N.	
Tam	Robert	Dr.	
Veres	Charles	Sigmund	S2c
Watson	Leo	(Hugh L.)	MMFA
U.S.S. DORTCH			
Anns	George		RM3
Cifaratta	John		EM2
Conn	John		ME3
Cupp	Martha*		
Harbin	Hugh		GM2
Michels	Joe		EM3
Osieja	Edward		S1
Robbins	Charles		LT(jg)
U.S.S. GATLING			
Allen	James		
Brosseau	Paul		
Carson	James	C.	
Christiansen	Chris		
Einaison	Norman		
Ensom	Robert		
Gorsusch	Jack		
Holowatch	Marian	M.	
Holtz	Robert		
Hylas	Michael	P.	
Kosticak	Michael	J.	
Landry	George	W.	
McDermott	John		
Robbin	Joseph	A.	
Roper	Fred	O.	
St. John	John	L.	
Nila	Saylor**		
Schacht	Donald	R.	
Turnbull	William	V.	

*Wife of Dick Cupp, W2

**Widow of CDR Philip Saylor

E-mail Address Updates

By Dennis Holt

We have been informed of the following updated e-mail addresses:

- Harry Drogitis my2boys@3rivers.net
- Dennis Holt desron30holt@yahoo.com
- Robert W Johnson robjo424@hotmail.com
- Jack Keep jkeepsr@centurylink.net