



DESRON 30 News

Reunion Association Newsletter



Spring 2017

Vol. 5 No. 1

Director's Letter

By Dick Myers

We are approaching the next reunion, and it looks really good – with an excellent location and hot breakfasts. We have lots of tour events – cruises, theater, museums, etc. Descriptions of the tour items are included in this newsletter, but Savannah is an exciting place just to spend free time in. I hope you take advantage of the hotel offer of same rate for 2 days before and after the reunion dates.

I have already contracted 2018 at the Holiday Inn in Wichita, KS, for \$94.00, and I am reviewing diverse items for us to do there. Phil Toconita agreed with me at the last meeting that you will be surprised at how great a place this is.

Dick

Director's Letter

By Dennis Holt

Where have the past 8 months gone? Goshen, NY, was settled in 1714 and had a great deal of history, which included the Revolutionary War, as does Savannah, GA, which was settled in 1733. Savannah has the distinction of enduring the Civil War as well. Today we can enjoy another level of history by visiting the antebellum mansions, beautiful live oaks and magnolia trees.

The Directors are looking forward to the reunion in Savannah in less than 4 months. It will definitely be an enjoyable experience for all.

Your Directors are also looking forward to returning attendees, as well as new members and those who haven't attended in recent years....

Dennis

Financial Report May 2017

By Dick Myers

Funds from the new membership fee are coming in, but our reduced membership numbers are cutting into our balance. For this year we should not have to change the rate. We need your dues.

As of the date of this newsletter, we have slightly more than \$3,500 in the bank, with a few advance payments already made to cover reunion expenses. A copy of the information sheet update and dues request is attached. By providing us with an e-mail address (yours or a relative's), it will help us to reduce the mailing costs by using e-mail instead.

In Memoriam

By Dennis Holt & Dick Myers

Since the last reunion, we are sad to inform you of the passing of the following:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE	RANK
USS Cotten			
Strong	Chester	Waymond	
Leighton	Paul	A.	
Marzola	Beverly		Wife of Tony
Bowman	Essie	M.	Wife of James
Bailey	Leon	C.	
Heath	Herbert	Abner	F3c
Leighton	Paul	A.	DK1
Maegli	Robert	F.	S1c
New	Herman	W.	
Nickerson	Stuart		
Niewola	Edward	Paul	EM2
Patterson	Edmund	F., Jr.	SGM3
Pearl	Vincent	J.	GM1
Rizzo	Nick		
Strong	Chester	D.	S1c

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE	RANK
USS Dortch			
Ferris	Philip		
Black	Robert	C.	
Loftus	John		
USS Gatling			
Belt	Richard	W.	CDR
Daniels	William	T.	MR3
Goldberg	Stanley		SN
Gruber	Francis	Ted	EMFN
McBroom	James	W.	WT2
Sabo	Robert	G.	FN
Vandergrift	Walter	B.	SK1
Boyd	Fred	L.	GMA2
Coper	Easton	R.	SN
Derning	John	J.	ENS
Gunderson	John	D.	COX
Mahony	Donald	J.	ET2
Noonen	Thomas	R.	GM
Shaak	Ray	R.	SN
Tesch	Walter	J.	S1/GM
Warren	Paul		COX
Wedlake	Harry	D.	RMN3
Orcutt	Willis	S.	WT1
IO Bay Accident (USS Gatling)			
Barton	Marion	L.	SN
Gesualdi	Anthony		MMFN
LaPoint	Gerald	W.	DK3
Towery	Johnny	B.	SA
Wright	George	E.	SA
Wright	Thomas	R.	BMG3

Our sympathy goes out to the families of all deceased members of the DESRON30 Reunion Association.

Tours in Savannah

By Nancy Bielot

Here is some information about the tours being offered this year at our reunion in Savannah.

The National Museum of the Mighty 8th Air Force Museum contains vintage aircraft and interactive displays. Exhibits include: "Prelude to WWII," "Mission Experience," "Combat Gallery," "Airman Down," "Lights Come On Again," and many more. We will have a docent-led tour, followed by lunch. For more info: <http://www.mightyeighth.org/>

While on board the Savannah Riverboat, we will learn about the history of Savannah – a historic waterfront city. The cruise will go down river to Old Fort Jackson, which we will be visiting on another tour. Don't forget to bring your camera to take some fantastic pictures of Savannah's riverfront and skyline. For additional info on the harbor cruise: <http://savannahriverboat.com/harbor/>.

The Georgia State Railroad Museum, which is located at the old Central of Georgia Railway Savannah Shops and the Terminal Facilities, takes you back to the heyday of traveling by train. This museum is a National Historic Landmark – you don't want to miss it! You will see displays with historic railcars and rolling stock on display. For more info: <http://www.chsgeorgia.org/GSRM>

The historic Savannah Theatre is promoted as the oldest theater in the United States. Shows are billed as, "2 hours of high energy music, dancing, and comedy." See <http://www.savannahtheatre.com/> for additional info.

Old Fort Jackson is Georgia's oldest standing brick fortification as well as a National Historic Landmark. This is a great opportunity to experience amazing views of Savannah's historic waterfront. More info can be found at: <http://www.chsgeorgia.org/OFJ>.

The Tybee Island Light Station and Tybee Museum is Georgia's oldest and tallest lighthouse. It's a colonial era lighthouse! Additional info can be found by visiting: <https://www.tybeelighthouse.org/>.

So, as you can see, there is a lot of history in Savannah, and we will only be touching on a small portion of it. Join us on these tours!

For additional information on these attractions, as well as other things to do while you're in the area, visit www.visitsavannah.com or their blog at www.SavannahSecrets.com.

Also, this year's reunion will be held at the Hampton Inn on 20 Johnston Street in Savannah, GA. For more info on the hotel: <http://hamptoninn3.hilton.com/en/hotels/georgia/hampton-inn-and-suites-savannah-midtown-SAVMDHX/index.html>

2017 DUES REQUEST

AND MEMBER INFORMATION UPDATE

Make checks payable to:
DESRON30 ASSOCIATION INC.

Please mail the completed Dues Request and payment to:
Richard Myers
220 North Decatur Lane - Decatur, GA 30033-5947

**IF YOU ARE A WIDOW, OR YOU HAVE ALREADY SUBMITTED YOUR 2017 DUES,
PLEASE DISREGARD THIS REQUEST.**

PLEASE RETURN FORM WITH ANY CHANGES TO THE ROSTER.



PLEASE CHECK HERE FOR ANY
CHANGES TO THE ROSTER AND
SHOW CHANGES BELOW

\$20.00

Name _____ Spouse _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ Cell/Alternate Phone _____ E-mail _____

SHIP SERVED ON AND DATES (Check one)

USS Caperton (DD-650) ____ USS Cotten (DD-669) ____ USS Daly (DD-519) ____

USS Dortch (DD-670) ____ USS Gatling (DD-671) ____

Dates Served Aboard Ship _____

Rank/Rate Aboard Ship (Optional) _____

If you are unable or unwilling to receive the DESRON30 mailings via e-mail, please check here.

Or – sign onto website at <http://desron30.org> and request

If you no longer wish to receive the DESRON30 postal mailings, please check here.

FEEL FREE TO MAKE ANY COMMENTS BELOW OR ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET

Remarks –

DESRON 30 REUNION

USS COTTEN (DD-669) / USS DALY (DD-519) / USS DORTCH (DD-670)
& USS GATLING (DD-671)

September 11th – 13th Savannah, GA

Schedule of Events

SUNDAY - September 10th

Hospitality room opens at noon for registration and early birds. The rate will be \$119.00 plus tax, which includes free parking and a free hot breakfast. Group rate is good two days before and after the reunion dates. Make your reservation before 8/10/2017 directly with the Hampton Inn (20 Johnston Street, Savannah, GA) by calling: 912-721-3700.

MONDAY - September 11th

Tour #1 - Mighty 8th / Riverboat Tour

8:00 am Board group on bus and depart for the Mighty 8th Airforce Museum
8:30 am Begin 2 hour docent led tour, followed by lunch
11:30 am End of tour & lunch - group to board bus
12:00 pm Begin boarding for cruise
1:00 pm Harbor cruise on the Savannah Riverboat
2:30 pm End of tour
3:00 pm Group to be returned to Hampton Inn

TUESDAY - September 12th

Tour #2 - Historic Tour / Railroad Museum / Savannah Theater

9:00 am Board group on bus & depart for historic district for a 90 minute overview tour, stopping for characters
11:00 am Approximate end of tour, location Downtown Savannah
TBD Group will have lunch on your own
1:00 pm Group to be transported to the GA State RR Museum
1:30 pm One hour guided tour of GA State RR Museum
2:30 pm End of tour - return group to hotel

7:15 pm Board bus for transport to Savannah Theatre
8:00 pm Live Savannah Theatre performance
10:00 pm Transport group back to hotel after show

WEDNESDAY - September 13th

Tour #3 - Old Fort Jackson / Tybee Island / Savannah Beach

9:30 am Board group on bus and depart for Tybee Island, Beach, & Old Fort Jackson
10:00 am One hour guided tour of Old Fort Jackson
11:30 am Tybee Lighthouse Museum Tour
12:30 pm End of tour, return to hotel for business meeting

6:00 pm Cash Bar @ Hilton Garden Inn
7:00 pm Evening Dinner Dance - Entertainment provided by DJ George Grady -
Featuring all of your old time favorites! Don't forget your dancing shoes!!

THURSDAY September 14th

Check out is 11 am - This concludes the reunion. Safe travels and GOD Bless!

The Banquet Dinner will be in buffet form and consist of:

Mixed Green Salad, Caesar Salad, Beef Pot Roast, Chicken Marsala, Salmon with Cajun Bearnise, Au Gratin Potatoes, Macaroni & Cheese, Green Beans, Seasonal Cobbler, plus Coffee/Tea.

PLEASE PRINT Your:

Last Name _____ First _____ MI _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Tel # (_____) _____ - _____

E-mail address _____ Cell # (_____) _____ - _____

Please PRINT name(s) as you wish on your name tag(s):

Shipmate First _____ Last _____

Spouse First _____ Last _____

Guest #1 First _____ Last _____

Guest #2 First _____ Last _____

Please indicate any dietary restrictions below. Also provide an emergency contact telephone number.

Registration fee \$60 per person includes Hospitality Room, Wednesday Banquet, band, name tags, etc.

Registration fee _____ Number of person(s) _____ x \$60 = _____

Monday - Mighty 8th/Riverboat Tour _____ Number of person(s) _____ x \$64 = _____

Tuesday - Historic Tour / Railroad Museum / Theater _____

Number of person(s) _____ x \$68 = _____

Wednesday - Fort Jackson / Tybee Island / Savannah Beach _____

Number of person(s) _____ x \$43 = _____

TOTAL _____

Please fill in this Registration / Tours form and return your check or money order **payable** to:
DesRon 30

Mail form and check or money order to:

Richard Myers
220 North Decatur Lane
Decatur, GA 30033-5947

Please register and submit this form and payment to be received before **Tuesday August 1, 2017**

If you have questions, feel free to contact me at (404) 508-3308 / or e-mail ramunlim@yahoo.com - (Please use e-mail subject line -- 2017 DesRon 30 Reunion)