



DESRON 30 News



Winter 2011

Vol. 1 No. 1

Directors' Winter Letter

By Dennis Holt & Dick Myers

We have survived another year and our shipmates have contributed generously to keep our finances healthy. The financial audit printed elsewhere gave a checkbook balance of \$5317. After reunion expenses we ended the reunion year at \$2364. Official paid membership as of the Tucson meeting was 170 people. As of the date of this newsletter, we have 181 paid members. I would like to share some statistics with you so you can understand where we stand. At present we have contact information for 748 shipmates (and family members). These contacts include Cotten: 458, Daly: 148 and Gatling: 142. We encourage e-mail use to distribute our information and the e-mail addresses include Cotten: 168, Daly: 86 and Gatling: 109. If you do the math, we will send out 385 hard copies of our newsletters, dues notices, rosters, etc in the future. Due to our Non-profit tax status, we are able to take advantage of bulk postage for mailings at about half of the standard rate.

The Gatling has purged their list which did have many inactive persons. The Cotten will improve their list after the next mailing which will include "Return to Sender" instructions on the envelope and allow us to remove the addresses which are no longer valid.

One important function which we have added is a website. It is at 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.

This website is also available to you. For our members, one nice feature will be to have the ability to continuously update their contact information. You will be able to input these changes for your own personal information using the website input. In order to maintain privacy, we have provided password protection in order to avoid having this 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 or gatling) and the password for all three ships is "8tincans". This password will be changed whenever necessary to protect the members' privacy.

As covered below in the report on the members meeting, 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 three ships will input information to the new publication. It will be called DESRON 30 News.

A Message from the Gatling

By Dennis Holt

The Desron 30 2011 annual reunion was held October 2-6, and a success in the Wild West, Tucson.

33 Attendees from the Cotten, Daly and the Gatling enjoyed great weather, western hospitality, camaraderie, seeing old friends and making new ones.

Paul Pryor's widow, Estella, and their daughter, Daine Irving, sent a copy of a book, *Letters Home*, they prepared and published of Paul's letters home when he was in the service. The book was for everyone to review before it was to be sent to the Gatling Museum.

Two crew members from the Gatling, John Pope and Robert Whalen, made generous donations enabling five lucky individuals a cash prize at certain events. Special thanks too for Ed Thornton treating the group to smoked salmon. Ed made his catch off his boat in the Seattle basin. A few of the attendees enjoyed touring the Saguaro National Park, Pima Air & Space Museum with a side trip to the largest military aircraft "Boneyard" in the world. Our memorial service was held at the museum. Also on the docket was a tour of the Steward Observatory Mirror Lab where deep space

mirrors are designed, manufactured and polished for some of the world's largest observatories.

The banquet, with entertainment, was enjoyed by everyone, and in particular one retired Chief Torpedo Man stole the show by wearing his uniform. This was none other than Javier Granados (33 years of service) who was a member of the U.S.S. Daly during his naval career.



Javier F. Granados TMC (Retired)

While our turnout was less than expected I'm hoping more members will attend the reunion in Dayton, OH. Fewer and fewer attendees result in higher costs. The board is encouraging other ships from DESRON 30 to join our organization enabling us to obtain competitive hotel rates for future events.

See you in Dayton.....

Tucson, AZ... What a blast!

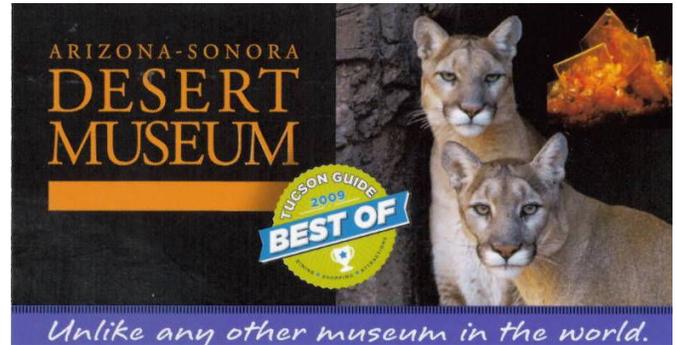
By Nancy Bielot

This year's reunion was held October 2nd-6th at the Desert Diamond Hotel Resort & Casino, which is located in Tucson, AZ. The host for the reunion was Dennis Holt (with help from his wife, Faith) from the U.S.S. Gatling.

The hospitality room opened at noon on October 2nd for registration and early bird arrivals.

On October 3rd 24 people boarded a bus for a tour to the ASDM (Arizona Sonora Desert Museum – www.desertmuseum.org). What an amazing place! This was a self-guided tour through the museum property. The ASDM is a world-renowned zoo, natural museum history museum, and botanical garden, all rolled into one. There are more than 3,000 animal species and 1,200 kinds of plants in display, as well as two miles of outdoor

paths over 21 acres of beautiful desert. The ASDM houses everything from lizards, snakes, and scorpions, to mountain lions, black bears, prairie dogs, and owls. There is a special display for hummingbirds as well as butterflies, plus a walk-in aviary.



We departed the ASDM and drove through the Saguaro National Park (www.saguaro.national-park.com) on our way back to the hotel. An interesting fact is that the saguaro cactus grows extremely slowly. For instance, after 15 years, the saguaro may be a foot tall. Once it reaches 50 years, the saguaro may be 7' tall. It takes about 75 years for a saguaro to sprout its first branches, or arms.

That evening 24 people boarded a bus for an evening dinner at Guillermo's Double L Mexican Restaurant, a well known establishment in the Barrio area of Tucson. Everyone who did attend was pleased since they could order from the menu. Unfortunately, there was no Mariachi music.

On October 4th 28 people hopped on a bus for a 5-hour tour of the Pima Air & Space Museum (www.pimaair.org). This is one of the largest air and space museums in the world – what a collection of planes and helicopters, including some Presidential airplanes! The Pima Air & Space Museum had five hangers, as well as the 390th Memorial Museum (Boeing B-17G "Flying Fortress") and the Space Gallery (X-15A Mockup and OQ-3 Radioplane). A tram tour was available, and covered all of the outside aircraft exhibits at the Museum (i.e., attack aircraft, bombers, cargo planes, commercial aircraft, drones, fighter aircraft, and many more!).



Included in this tour was a separate tour to the Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Group (AMARG) at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base. It was quite a sight to see so many different aircraft in one space. A docent boarded the bus and told us about many of the aircraft we saw at the base.

That evening 20 people boarded a bus to go to the La Encantada Shopping & Restaurant Plaza (www.laencantadashoppingcenter.com) for a taste of shopping in an upscale shopping and restaurant plaza. Some of the group enjoyed a restaurant named North, while others enjoyed a restaurant named Fireside.

On October 5th the books of the reunion were audited (see “*Treasurer’s Report*” on page 3), and a joint business meeting was held (see “*2011 Business Meeting Minutes*” on page 4).

Following the business meeting, a bus with 25 people went to the Steward Observatory Mirror Lab (www.mirrorlab.as.arizona.edu) for a tour. (The Mirror Lab is located under the University of Arizona football stadium.) The Mirror Lab makes huge mirrors for extremely large telescopes. This was truly a unique opportunity to see how the largest telescope mirrors are being produced. They are currently producing mirrors for the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope (LSST), the Giant Magellan Telescope (GMT), and the San Pedro Mártir Telescope.

That evening was our annual dinner-dance, held at the hotel. Our entertainment was provided by Joe Bourne from Tucson. He sang 50s/60s music in the style of Johnny Mathis.

Our reunion officially ended on October 6th, with many fond memories of Tucson, and folks looking forward to our reunion next year in Dayton, OH. Join us, won’t you?

2011 Reunion Attendees

By Dennis Holt

The following members attended the 2011 reunion held at the Desert Diamond Hotel & Casino in Tucson, AZ.

LAST NAME	FIRST
Ahles	Tim (Cotten)
Ahles	Joyce (Cotten)
Bielot	John (Cotten)
Bielot	Nancy (Cotten)
Bowman	Essie (Cotten)
Lewis	Wanda (Cotten)
Williams	Linda (Cotten)
Granados	Javier (Daly)

Holt	Dennis (Host-Gatling)
Holt	Faith (Host-Gatling)
King	Betty (Cotten)
Marzola	Anthony (Cotten)
Marzola	Beverly (Cotten)
Moen	Don (Gatling)
Myers	Dick (Cotten)
Myers	Betty (Cotten)
Olund	John (Gatling)
Olung	Anne (Gatling)
Redman	Eugene (Cotten)
Redman	Deborah (Cotten)
Sbarro	Joe (Cotten)
Sbarro	Trudy (Cotten)
Smithson	Bob (Gatling)
Smithson	Georgene (Gatling)
Sugg	Bobby (Gatling)
Sugg	Heather (Gatling)
Thornton	Ed (Cotten)
Urato	John (Cotten)
Urato	Angelo (Cotten)
Wanamaker	Mike (Daly)
Zuban	George (Daly)
Winkler	Casper (Gatling)
Winkler	Marlene (Gatling)

Treasurer’s Report

By Dick Myers

An Audit Committee (and most of the other reunion attendees) met on Wednesday, October 5th, to review the DESRON 30 financial report. The audit committee had no objections to the report, and it was also approved at the membership meeting which followed the audit.

Results since the last reunion are:

Income from Dues & Contributions:	\$2,960.00
Expenses:	
• Georgia Secretary of State	\$125.00
• Website setup/monitoring	\$300.00
• Newsletter expenses	<u>\$2,693.14</u>
Total	\$3,118.14
Pre-Paid Expenses:	
• Dayton Reunion Deposit	\$ 100.00
Checkbook Balance (Before Reunion Expenses)	\$ 5,337.34

Deceased Members Honored

By Dennis Holt & Dick Myers

The following deceased members of the reunion association were honored at a ceremony at the Pima Air & Space Museum.

U.S.S. Cotten

Adshire D. Herman, Jr. – Rank & Date Unknown
John M. Brady – TE3 – 12/23/2010
Eugene Cline – S1c – 4/16/2011
Thomas P. Genard, GMM2 – 6/16/1905
Thomas R. Hardy, Sr. – MM2 – 3/01/2010
Sigmund E. Herzstein, Jr. – LTJG – 10/01/2008
Donald H. Lovell – S2c – 2/07/2011
Paul Marcucci – GM – 3/26/2011
Harry (N) Melvin – FC1c – 5/26/2010
George Mullen – SN 1/c – 5/08/2010
Samuel P. Natoli – Bkr3c – 5/31/2011
Philip A. Oertli – S1c – 9/01/2010
Robert Rech – RM2 – 7/01/1905
Stanley L. Smith – SN – 5/17/2011
Herbert Allen Wrage – S2c – 11/23/2010

U.S.S. Gatling

Kenneth C. Cripe – SDM2 – 2006
Elden Coning – RMD2 – 2010
Daniel Dillon – GMM1 – 2002
Peter Julius DuBaldo – F1 – 2011
Carl Fuller – LTJG – 2007
Albert C. Garlington – ET3 – 2011
Gordon J Irons – BM2 – 2010
Arthur E. LaValley – N/A – 1963
Elven R Sholar – CS3 – 2009
Charles H. Stark – LTJG – 2011
Fredrick R. Wielenbeck, Jr. – N/A – 2009

Guantanamo Bay, Cuba – 10/01/1951

M. Barton – SN
A. Gesauldi – MMFN
G. La Pointe – DK3
J. Towery – SA
G. Wright – SA
T. Wright – BMG3

2011 Business Meeting Minutes

By Dick Myers

**DESRON 30 Reunion Association
Annual Meeting Minutes
October 5, 2011 – Desert Diamond Hotel &
Casino, Tucson, AZ**

The meeting was called to order.

All present said the Pledge of Allegiance led by Javier Granados of the Daly.

Dennis Holt asked the Treasurer to rise and read the Audit Committee report. Dick Myers asked those in attendance if they accepted the Audit Committee Report, since everyone was present for that meeting which immediately preceded this meeting. A motion was made and seconded. Dennis Holt then asked if there were any questions.

Dick Myers then discussed the fact that Hal Boyer was working with someone to host and develop the U.S.S. Daly web site, and their hosting provider wanted to drop them unless they changed the system they were using. Hal contacted Dick Myers and the U.S.S. Daly website has now been included on the DESRON30 website.

Dennis Holt indicated that the U.S.S. Gatling web site is being run and maintained by Gene Woodward's son-in-law, who runs it as a complimentary service to the Gatling so it will continue. There is a link on the DESRON30 web site to the Cotten, Daly and Gatling web sites.

Dennis Holt then began discussion regarding the newsletter. Bob Smithson was gracious to put something together for the U.S.S. Gatling newsletter. Max Selby was going to do it but something happened. Someone is needed as a contact person for U.S.S. Daly information. We need people to provide input for the Daly and Gatling portion of the newsletter.

A motion was made to accept that we're going to combine newsletters and websites all as one. It was seconded and the motion passed. The newsletter going forward will be a combined newsletter for all three ships. The newsletter will be called the "DESRON 30 News" and will be distributed twice a year (late Spring/early Summer and late Fall/early Winter). Dick Myers asked John Bielot (who has edited the Cotten newsletter) to edit the combined DESRON 30 News.

We then discussed possible reunion meeting sites for 2013. Several members had suggestions. Tim Ahles stated that Minneapolis/St. Paul should be delayed for a year as more information is needed. Bob Smithson spoke about Eugene, OR (see included brochure .pdf file). This would probably need to be in June, July or August as it's in a cooler climate. All major airlines fly in there. The hotel is a new Hilton downtown. They will honor the rate of \$89/night for 2013.

Dick Myers said he has proposals from:

- Dulles, VA - \$89/night and they credit the organization \$5/night of that.
- Kalamazoo, MI – Discussed last meeting.
- New Orleans, LA - Holiday Inn.
- Branson, MO - They finished their own airport last year. AirTran (changing to Southwest) and Frontier are the airlines.
- South Dakota – Mt. Rushmore area.
- Baton Rouge, LA.

It was decided not to vote for a site at this meeting due to the small group here. We will publish these sites and ask for feedback. Please send your preference to Dick Myers - Phone: 404-373-0120, Email: ramunlim@yahoo.com or Postal at: 428 Lockwood Terrace, Decatur, GA 30030.

Next year in Dayton, OH, the hotel is \$87/night. They offer free shuttle service and free valet parking. The hotel is downtown.

Then a discussion took place regarding the rules now that the DESRON 30 is a non-profit organization. Non-dues paying attendees are not allowed to vote. If the individual pays their \$10 dues, then they can. Only dues paying members can vote. By being non-profit, in some states that exempts the organization from paying sales tax. Last year the organization saved \$250 in sales tax at San Antonio. This year there is no sales tax because the hotel is on the Indian reservation. Next year in Dayton, OH, Dick Myers already has the state form that needs to be filled out and returned, which will exempt the group from paying sales tax.

The organization has to file a report with the Secretary of State of GA and pay a fee to be a corporation and file a report with the IRS.

Dick provided Dennis with a list of other ships groups that would fit into the DESRON 30 group, and Dennis reached out to contact them. He received responses from two of them. Don Myers from the U.S.S. Bronson indicated they wanted to remain independent at this time. The U.S.S. Dashiell is going to have a vote at their next meeting.

Nominations of directors: A motion was made to keep the same slate of directors. The motion was seconded. Reminder - only active members can vote. The vote passed unanimously.

There was one announcement - if you are going on the tour this morning, you must have closed toe shoes and a photo ID.

A motion was made to end the meeting. The motion was seconded.

Stop the Presses!

By Dick Myers

Shortly after our meeting in Tucson, Ed Olson, the President of the U.S.S. Dortch (DD670) said that his group would start meeting with us in Dayton. This will be a permanent change, and they will be integrated with the other ships.

