

USS HENRY W. TUCKER DD/R-875

<http://www.geocities.com/Pentagon/7401>

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Ahoy Tuckermen:

We are less than a month away from the reunion. Can you believe it?!!! We expect in excess of 100 shipmates, along with their wives (and some children/friends) to attend.

We regret to say that the USS Alabama trip is SOLD OUT. We have two buses with capacity of 104. We have 115 people signed up and will have to rent a van for the overflow. We will make a list of people who sign up from here on, so that if there are any cancellations we can fill the slots in the order we receive them.

Chuck Ruth, who works at Ingalls Shipbuilding, has offered to arrange for a tour of the facility. Some ships will be nearing completion. The tour will be on Friday, November 3 in the morning. **If you're interested please contact Chuck directly: phone, 601-947-7629; e-mail, RuthCMJr@Ingalls.com**

Those of you who have e-mail have received a flier from Betty Grochowski (wife of Frank), who has offered to host a "Stamp Camp" for women who are interested. The Stamp Camp will be held on Friday morning. This will be during the golf outing. I'm sure the non-golfers among us can find something to do while the women are being creative. **If you are interested, please contact Betty directly: phone, 812-446-8034; e-mail, Dunoon@juno.com.**

****STAMP CAMP****

Ladies ... While the guys are busy telling "sea stories" and "lies", pass the time not only having fun, but learning something new at a Rubber Stamp/Crafts Workshop.

This "Mini Stamp Camp" will consist of 4 to 5 projects that will be completed during the workshop time. A variety of projects will include basic and specialty items, such as cards, gift enclosures, scrapbook/memory pages, and more ... You will learn embossing, chinks, and water color pencils, in addition to the ink pads and markers.

There is a \$10 fee to cover all supplies needed to complete the projects. Each person who attends will receive a packet at the start of the workshop that will contain all the supplies as well as instructions for all projects.

Hope you will come and see what rubber stamping is all about. You will be amazed at the exciting techniques that will be taught. This is for beginners and experienced stampers both. Don't miss the fun !!

PS There will be drawings for door prizes too !!!

FUN FUN FUN FUN FUN FUN FUN FUN

We'll need one of the golfers to coordinate carpooling and making sure everyone makes the departure time and tee time. If anyone is interested, please let me know. Otherwise, we'll "volunteer" someone once we get to Biloxi.

Below is a tentative agenda for the business meeting Friday afternoon. There will be a lot to discuss so the meeting might be a bit long, but we feel it is necessary. Wives (and "significant others") are invited to the meeting and invited to actively participate. We need to decide how to proceed. If we don't have some sort of organization, this might end up being the first and last reunion. I don't think anyone wants that to happen.

- Call meeting to order.
- Discussion about whether to form an association.
 - Should we charge dues? How much?

- Election of officers (important whether or not we form an association).
 - President (host of next reunion?)
 - Vice President (is one necessary?)
 - Secretary (responsible for keeping minutes)
 - Treasurer (responsible for handling funds/making financial reports)
 - Historian (to keep historical papers for the ship)
- Discussion of future reunions.
 - How often? Every two years?
 - Possible locations:
 - East Coast:
 - Boston, Washington, DC, Virginia Beach, Charleston, Savannah, Florida
 - West Coast:
 - San Diego, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle
 - Other suggestions are welcome, including midwest.
 - We need a volunteer to host the next reunion (near his home) and should start a list of people who would be willing to host future reunions.
 - Be thinking about whether you might be interested and speak up at the meeting.
 - Likely hosts could be guys who served in the 50's. Most are retired, but still young enough to take on the task. It's not really difficult!
- Raffle (for seed money for future reunions) to follow meeting.
 - Each person can purchase ONE ticket at \$5.
 - All are encouraged to bring an item for the raffle.
 - Can be home made or purchased
 - Should not be expensive
 - There will be two "grand prizes" awarded after the main raffle is over.
 - All tickets will go back into the basket for the drawing of the grand prizes.

We have received copies of cruise books from 1956-57, 1958, 1959 and 1971, as well as a "Cruise Log" from 1953 and more are coming in. We've also received other lists of names, one from 1962. We will bring the cruise books with us for everyone to see. If you have cruise books or lists from other years (particularly the 1960's), we would appreciate having photocopies of them. We have entered all the names into the database and have about 2,500 names now. We only have addresses for about 360. We hope to fill in a lot of the blanks at the reunion. We'll have plenty of paper and pencils handy so people can write down addresses, etc. of friends who are on the list.

We will also have photos, copies of POD's, holiday menus, and lots of other memorabilia that people have been sending us. We'll have them in a binder for everyone to see. Please feel free to bring your HWT memorabilia with you. We are planning to put together some information on Henry Warren Tucker, the young sailor for whom the ship was named.

There will be a photographer at the dinner Saturday night to take photos. She will arrive at 5:30 to set up and will take a group photo of the shipmates and individual (couples, small groups) beginning at 6:00 for those who'd like them. You will have to order and pay for your photos on Saturday. I would imagine that you'd be able to order additional photos in the future as well.

Pat has set up an "auxiliary" website to Terry Williams' main site. Terry has added a link from his site to it, and there is a link on the auxiliary site to the main site as well. It is "under construction" but the Memorial List is up. In addition there will be a Crew Muster List and, eventually newsletters and reunion photos.

Jim Poole called to say that he will be flying to Mobile and will arrive at 6:00 p.m. Nov. 2. If anyone else is flying to Mobile at that time and would like to share expenses of a limo to Biloxi, please call him at: 970-472-5061.

We wish you all a safe trip to Biloxi and look forward to seeing you there. We'll surely miss those of you who won't be there and hope you will be able to attend future reunions. The next newsletter will contain memories of the reunion and maybe a photo or two.

Fair winds and smooth sailing,
 Bill Siler, BTC USNR Ret
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