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USS BASILONE

824



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December 2012

Greetings Shipmates and Associate Members,

Well we're going to try Gettysburg, Pa. again. Caroline Crouse is doing well after her heart attack, which forced the sudden change to Syracuse this year. Caroline (notice I'm not mentioning Frank) has chosen the following dates for the reunion September 24-28, 2013. You can expect Caroline to send out some mailings after the New Year and you can expect postings on the association website www.uss-basilone-dde-dd-82.org

This reunion was one of our smaller ones. But we knew that it probably would be that way as people made plans for a fall reunion and the change of dates messed everything up. We had 27 shipmates and 50 total people at the reunion. We had a nice mix of first timers, regulars and shipmates that hadn't been to a reunion in awhile. The reunion started Tuesday with check in and the opening of the hospitality room and ship's store. Wednesday we went to the Boxing Hall of Fame, had a small side trip to Sylvan Beach and Oneida Lake. We then had lunch at Graziano's and then proceeded to the Erie Canal Museum.

On Thursday we went the Sampson Naval/AFB Museum, on Seneca Lake, where we had our memorial service and toured the museum. Paul Dabulewicz's sister was the first member of a deceased shipmate's family to attend a memorial service to honor her brother and our other deceased shipmates. We then proceeded to Belhurst Castle for lunch and the first of three wine tastings. From there we went on to Glenora and Fulkerson wineries for more wine tasting and buying of course. We then returned to the hotel for the business meeting, which will be discussed shortly.

On Friday we spent the day at the Baseball Hall of Fame. We returned to the hotel for our farewell dinner, dancing and door prizes.

Saturday we departed for home.

The Business meeting was held after returning from the wine tasting. We received reports from the treasurer, historian, ships store and website. The treasurer reported that we are still in good health money wise. The historian and ships store reported no significant finds or new items for sale. The website reported that there was going to be an increase in the cost of keeping our domain name. So when the company that provides the domain name gave him a chance to secure the domain name for the same price for 9 years he took it. So we don't have to pay for the domain name again until 2021. Caroline Crouse made her presentation for the 2013 reunion in Gettysburg and it was accepted. I mentioned that there was a possibility that 2014 might be in the northwest, Washington. Hopefully, more information will be forthcoming at Gettysburg.

The usual donations were approved by the membership to John Basilone Foundation \$500.00, Tin Can Sailor \$100.00, the Navy Memorial \$100.00, and the John Basilone Parade \$100.00. The final item discussed was raising the dues. The new dues starting in 2014 will be as follows yearly membership goes to \$25.00. Life memberships in 2014 will go up to \$125.00. On that note DUES IS DUE. Send your yearly dues \$20.00 or life membership \$100.00 to our treasurer Frank Crouse. His address is Frank Crouse 3103 Mt. Carmel Road Upperco, MD 21155. At the end of the business meeting Rich Papesca proposed that the association should have a Challenge coin, which he would design and get made for the next reunion. The design will be the ships patches. They should be available for sale at the Gettysburg reunion.

We lost the following shipmates this year, Ray Clayton, Albert Lindt, John Johnson, Gerald W Farquhar, Paul Dabulewicz, Robert A. Owens, William Simone, John A Curtin, Ralph Springer, Thomas McNary and Robert Clevenger.

We have also found the following shipmates Ken Anderson, Don Wellman, Joseph Rizzuto, James Jeffery, Robert Musgrave, Darwin Danner, John McAdoo, Fred Stenzel, Steve Green, Steve Kemple, Walter McCloud, Lawrence Miranda, Jim Neschik, David A Craft, Edwin Baldwin Robert Simmons, Richard Murphy, Frank Gatto and David Kruske.

Well that's all for this newsletter. I hope to see you at the next reunion.

Your Shipmate,



Phil

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This is to inform you that the site for the 2012 reunion has been changed to Syracuse, New York. The reason for this is that Caroline Crouse (Frank's wife) has had a heart attack she is recovering from. She still wants to do Gettysburg but in 2013 if all goes well with her recovery. The reunion for 2012 will take place in August. However, the exact dates are still to be decided upon. As of now I have one tour definitely in mind and that is the Baseball Hall of Fame. As more information on hotels and RV campgrounds becomes available I will post it on the website WWW.uss-basilone-dde-dd824.org. I hope to have a reunion reservation form out to every one by the end of April or the middle of May.

Phil