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# USS BASILONE 824



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December 2010

Greetings Shipmates and Associates Members,

Well another year has come and gone and another reunion also. I want to thank Greg Perkins for putting on another great reunion down in Sarasota. We had a good turnout with the usual attendees, some shipmates that hadn't been to a reunion in awhile, shipmates that dropped in for an evening or a day or two, and of course the newbies' (first time reunion attendees).

In the course of the year we found the following shipmates Jim Nordquist, Gary Steigerwald, Richard Weidmyer, Milton Simonds, William Lowans, Dick King, William Martineac, Victor Dyson, Thomas Pallozzi, James Berry, Harry Weidmyer, Jack Ruth, Dan Bequeaith, Andrew Hemberger, Glyn Randall, Leonard Lefemeine, Philip Palmatier, Wallace Kasten, Steven Zibelman, Art Caruso, Jim Reed, Sam Jackson, Robert Wahls, Patrick Shelmadine, Jack Croad, Mark Dedrick, Alex Morris, Joseph Chandler, and Jesse Haines.

We also lost the following shipmates this past year John Grant, Donald Muller, Marvin Thompson, Paul Vermac, Bobby Rackley, James Bolles, Warren Smith, Dennis Grady, Thomas Tobin, Scott Reinhard, Paul Cipriani, Robert Rowe, James Brown, Graham Marsh, Lawrence Actaboski, James Rohrick, George Quade, Alexander Rubay, Alan Haskins, Frederick Meyer, William Ryan, Martin Wardius, Ernest Stressel, Gordon Bailey, Harold Dickinson, Vincent Zane and Monty Boyd.

DUES IS DUE!! Dues are still \$20.00 for one year and a life membership is still \$100.00. Checks for dues should be sent to our treasurer Frank Crouse and made out to the USS Basilone Association. Frank's address is Frank Crouse 3103 Mt. Carmel Rd Upperco, MD 21155.

Audrey Yingling among other people have contributed various articles, pictures and Plans of the day to the ships' memorabilia / history this year.

The reunion events were as follows. On Saturday we had registration and the welcome dinner at Café Galante, which was interesting for a number of different reasons. Sunday we went to the Mote Marine Aquarium and dinner cruise in the evening from Marina Jack's. Monday we went to the Ringling Museum of Art. Several of our shipmates went to several of the other areas that were not part of the art tour and were highly pleased even though they had to pay extra as what they saw wasn't part of our tour. We also had the first part of the door prize drawings on Monday. Tuesday we went to Sarasota Jungle Gardens where we fed the flamingos and made the acquaintance of some reptiles and other animals. We also finished the door prize drawings for the reunion. Our memorial service was held on the beach across from the reunion hotel on Tuesday. Wednesday we went on the Myakka River State Park Air boat tour. On the way there we stopped at the newly opened Veterans Cemetery and presented them with

the wreath from our memorial service. Some pictures of this may be on the association website. [www.uss-basilone-dde-dd824.org](http://www.uss-basilone-dde-dd824.org). We had our business meeting and then the farewell dinner at Tommy Bahama's Restaurant. Thursday was head home day.

At the business meeting we approved the renewal of the domain name and website hosting company for another year. We also approved the following donations John Basilone Foundation \$500.00, Tin Can Sailors \$100.00, Navy Memorial \$100.00 and John Basilone Parade \$100.00. Mark Dedrick stepped forward to do some research on Lena Basilone for our project of getting her in the Navy Memorial Log. She is now listed but someone else beat us to sponsoring her. We also authorized getting a plaque to give to Vivian Drescher to honor her husband and our shipmate Fred Drescher. Without Fred's help in the very early years our association would probably not exist today. At least not in the form it has today. Fred also made the bell that the newbies ring to announce themselves at the reunions and which we use in many of our memorial services. We are also going to look at a couple of websites that have contacted some of our old reunion hosts and see what they have to offer as far as letting us post reunion notices and searching for shipmates. Finally, Jack Richie and his wife Kathi have stepped forward to be our hosts next year in Newport, Rhode Island. The dates for the reunion are September 7 -10, 2011. Jack will be mailing out more information on the reunion at a future date. Hope to see you there.

Your Shipmate,



Philip E. Poplaski

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