

USS Benjamin Stoddert (DDG-22) & USS Jupiter (AVS-8) Association



The **SITREP**

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Next Port, Honolulu, Hawaii

Tuesday, September 9th through
Sunday, September 14th. Hotel: Ala Moana
Hotel, 410 Atkinson Drive, Honolulu, HI 96814 (in
case you want to send them a post card to let them
know you are coming).

No joke—now is the time to make your hotel
reservations. Please, if there is any chance you are
going, make your reservations NOW! They will ask
for a credit card to hold but no charges will be placed
on your card until you arrive. You can cancel 72 hours
before with no penalty. The more reservations we
have, the more leverage we have to give you the
reunion of a lifetime. Here is the phone number:

808 955-4811



Standard room rate \$179.00 + taxes per
night. This room rate is available 3 days before and 3
days after our reunion dates. Make sure to tell

operator that you are with the Stoddert/Jupiter reunion
group to get that rate.

According to the hotel's website you will feel at
home in the islands within the elegantly appointed
Honolulu accommodations. Each guestroom at **Ala
Moana Hotel** has been stunningly restyled to
anticipate every expectation of even the most
discriminating traveler. Conveniently located near
downtown Honolulu, this hotel exposes you to all the
natural beauty of Hawaii. Choose a striking view of the
mountains, or witness a breathtaking sunset over the
crystal blue ocean.

Experience comfort in an island-inspired setting
within the newly designed Honolulu hotel
accommodations. Each of the revitalized guestrooms
and suites are elegantly appointed with innovative
amenities to anticipate your every need. Stay
connected with complimentary high-speed Internet
service. Relax, while watching your flat-screen
television. Admire the breathtaking view from your
private balcony. Lounge on custom-designed
furniture. Delight in all the accoutrements of your
deluxe Honolulu Hawaii accommodations, including:

- Newly restyled guestrooms and suites
- Flat-screen TV's
- Most rooms equipped with balcony
- Complimentary high-speed Internet access in
guest rooms
- Air conditioning
- Alarm clock/radio with CD player

- Bathtub with shower
- Blackout drapes
- Custom-designed furniture
- Card key access to guestroom
- Daily maid service
- Direct dial telephone with dataport and voice mail
- Hair dryer
- In-room safe
- Iron and board
- Microwave oven



Hotel fitness Center and swimming pool



Arriving Earlier? Leaving Later? What to do?

Because the room rates are extended to three days before and three days after the reunion, many of us will be arriving early or leaving late, giving us opportunities to do things other than ride a tour bus. Following are some ideas that come to mind.

SHOPPING

It turns out that Hawaii is not only paradise for sun worshipers, but for shoppers as well. For reunion folk, the most obvious shopping choice will be the Ala Moana Shopping Center, which is adjacent to our hotel. According to Wikipedia, "**Ala Moana Center**, commonly known simply as **Ala Moana**, is the largest shopping mall in Hawaii. It is also the fifteenth largest shopping mall in the United States, and the largest open-air shopping center in the world." Not bad for a former swamp that was reclaimed with excess coral from dredging operations nearby.

While the some of the mall's original tenants, like Woolworths and Sears (both of which I frequented when stationed there) are now gone (Sears lasting until June 2013), the mall has grown steadily over its more than a half-century lifetime and now has anchor stores like Nordstrom, Neiman Marcus, and Macy's, as well as over 300 other stores, restaurants and services spread out over four floors and 2,100,000 square feet. Bloomingdale's is renovating the area previously occupied by Sears and is expected to open in 2015, so you'll have to plan a return trip if they are your thing.

Waikiki streets are lined with shops, boutiques and street vendors selling everything Hawaiian, as do



DFS Galleria and the Royal Hawaiian Center (above) shopping centers. Outside of Waikiki, shopping venues include Ward Centers and Kahala Mall in Honolulu, Pearlridge Center and the Waikole Premium Outlets in Central Oahu, and Windward Mall on the Windward Coast.

Are you looking for some shopping that is a bit out of the ordinary? Try the Aloha Flea Market. Their website, <http://www.alohastadiumswapmeet.net/> says this about it: "Just 20 minutes away from Waikiki, discover unique treasures at Hawaii's largest open air flea market where the locals shop for the best deals in town.

"Open three days a week, we offer endless rows of over 400 local merchants offering the best value on imported merchandise, hand-made items, eclectic art pieces, popular local snacks, and other made in Hawaii products. This is sure to be your one stop destination to find that special gift or souvenir for everyone on your list."

The Market Place hours are: Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday, 8 AM to 3 PM, and the Swap Meet hours are Wednesday & Saturday, 8 AM to 3 PM, and Sunday, 6:30 AM to 3 PM. Admission is \$1 per buyer and children under 12 are free.

You can get to Aloha Stadium by taxi or bus. Check with the hotel for bus stops and times, or go to the bus website: <http://www.thebus.org/>. Driving directions are available from the Stadium website above.

Looks like the Hansen's better bring an empty suitcase. Maybe I can find a good deal on a ukulele.

DINING OUT

Finding food fast (not necessarily fast food) will be no problem with the Ala Moana Shopping Center right next door. Twenty-nine vendors, from the Ala Moana Poi Bowl to the Zagu Original Crystal and Pearl Shakes, are waiting in the fabulous Makai Market Food Court. Plus, there are ten "casual dining" restaurants (including McDonald's and Subway) and twenty more restaurants listed on the Center's webpage. And of course, Waikiki and Honolulu will have hundreds more within a ten minute walk or five minute taxi ride.



CAR RENTALS:

There is no shortage of car rental companies on Oahu. If you are planning to rent a car and will be staying for a day or two extra, the weekly rate can save you hundreds. The rental rates vary widely from one company to the next, so be sure to check Price Line, Yahoo Travel, Expedia, or one of these types of web services that offers price comparisons. A quick check showed daily rates from \$33 to \$175 and weekly rates from around \$300 to \$1,500.

I even found my favorite car rental place when I was living aboard the Stoddert—that is Rent-A-Wreck. Still in business, still renting cars that look like the ones I'm used to driving.

The Beaches and Surfing

There are no less than sixteen beaches on Oahu, each with its own character. Waikiki Beach is world renowned for its long, smaller breaking waves that make it an excellent place to practice your surfing skills before taking on Ehukai Beach (a.k.a. the Banzai Pipeline) whose powerful waves break over a sharp reef, no more than a few feet from the surface. These massive tubes make this one of the most dangerous surf spots in the world and one of the venues for the Triple Crown of Surfing.

Ehukai Beach is the bad boy of the north shore beaches, which include Waimea Bay, Kawela Bay/Turtle Bay and Sunset Beach (also a Triple Crown beach). Windward (East) side beaches are Makapuu Beach, Waimanalo Beach, Lanikai Beach, Kailua Beach and Kualoa Regional Park. South Shore beaches are Waikiki, Ala Moana Beach Park/Magic Island, Hanauma Bay Nature Preserve and Sandy Beach. Ko Olina Resort and Marina, Makaha Beach and Yokohama Bay make up the Leeward (West) side beaches.

While lying around on the beach is still free, surfing is not, unless you bring your own board. Not surprisingly, there are quite a number of places available where we can rent surf boards, canoes, paddle boats, or larger motor boats to explore around the Islands. Just don't sign up for any three hour tours, unless you want to end up like Gilligan, the Skipper, the Professor, Ginger and Mary Ann.

Get in on the Fifty-Fifty Drawing

Remember, **the FIFTY-FIFTY drawing is always open to everyone, and You do not have to be present to win.** The winners will have a check mailed to them if not at the reunion. You can get a whole page of tickets at the website, under the reunion information. As always,



we will be selling 50/50 drawing tickets right up to a few minutes before the drawing at the 2014 reunion banquet dinner.

Help support our Benjamin Stoddert Association. To purchase 50/50 tickets, mail \$10.00 for each 12 tickets to the address below and sufficient address labels. Make your checks payable to USS Benjamin Stoddert Association and mail to:
John Dishaw
3035 Charlotte Street
Newbury Park, CA 91320

The Tours: In addition to the Thursday and Friday tours, we will have a Saturday tour. Following is a summary. The spring SitRep will have greater detail and pictures galore.

Thursday: Grand Circle Tour—Diamond Head Lookout, Pali Pass Lookout, Byodo-in Temple, Hanauma Bay, Chinaman's Hat, Lion Head Rock, Holona Point, Sugar Cane & Pineapple fields, and much more. (8 hours, \$60 each)

Friday: Pearl Harbor/Ford Island, USS Missouri, USS Oklahoma Memorial, Pacific Aviation Museum. (7 hours, \$50 each.)

Saturday: Arizona Memorial, USS Bowfin submarine & museum, National Cemetery at Punchbowl. (4 hours, \$75 each.)



DON'T FORGET—OPT OUT! If you would like to receive the SitRep via email, drop us an email to artandjane@Reagan.com with "Opt out" in the subject line and you will be added to the list of those saving this Association money!!

Benjamin Stoddert DDG-22
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