

USS Benjamin Stoddert (DDG-22) Association



The Stoddert News

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SUMMER EDITION

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NEXT REUNION: Getting close! Washington, DC 2008—October 2nd—6th

It will be held **Thursday, October 2nd through Monday, October 6th**—Note this is a change from our past reunions, which have been Wednesday through Sunday events.

*REMINDER: The registration cutoff date for this reunion is **September 2, 2008!*** Registrations are made by completing and returning the registration form, which is found at our website (www.ddg22.com), or as an enclosure/attachment to this newsletter.

Full refunds for meals, tours, and registration are available to anyone who must cancel any time prior to September 2, 2008 by contacting Military Reunions to Remember at (757) 479-0849, Monday through Thursday.

We will be staying in the Hyatt Dulles Hotel, ph. (800) 233-1234, in Herndon, VA, which is a short drive from Washington D.C. and the airport. We are confirmed at the Hyatt Dulles on the dates above. Plans are to open the Hospitality Suite on Thursday, October 2, buffet dinner



Saturday night October 4 and the banquet dinner on Sunday, October 5.

We have a block of rooms under the name of USS Benjamin Stoddert Association. The room rate is \$95.00 a night. If there is any chance that you will be joining us, please make your reservations NOW. We have been assured that this hotel will sell out and there will be NO last minute rooms, at any price. Make your reservations ASAP and if your situation changes and you can't join us, we have also been assured that this hotel has a very liberal cancellation policy.

The Hyatt Dulles Hotel has a lot of amenities for when we're not in the Hospitality Room or out on tour. Things to enjoy include: Indoor Pool, Heated Pool, Laundry/Valet Service, Truck Parking, Cable Television, Bar/Lounge on site, Restaurant on site Golf on site, Shops on site, Hot Tub on site, Fitness Center on site and Billiard Room. (cont'd on page 2)

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On the last page of this newsletter we have information on the tours that will be available. We hope that everyone who is able to sign up for the tours. The rates are based on putting a certain number on the bus—if we have less, we still go, but the Association has to pay a premium and thereby loses money. Every seat sold over the magic number puts extra money to the Association, so it benefits us all. We have found that the tours offer an excellent opportunity to get to share Stoddert stories and meet new people. Hope you can join us.

Benjamin Stoddert Association Executive Committee 2007-2008

Lou Turilli	Chairman
Frank Chesla	Co-Chairman
Dave Saunders	Secretary
Herm Chambers	Treasurer
John Bassolino	Member-at-large
John Dishaw	Member-at-large
Art Hansen	Newsletter Editor
Carole Bryan	Webmaster

2008 50-50 TICKET DRAWING

The 50-50 ticket drawing will be held at the 2008 reunion; however, we will not be sending out tickets with a newsletter this year. Paper copy newsletters will be sent only to members of the Benjamin Stoddert Association (you can join on-line, at www.ddg22.com). Remember, the drawing is always open to everyone, regardless of whether or not you attend the reunion. **You do not have to be present to win.** The winners who are not at the reunion will have a check mailed to him or her as soon as we return from Washington. Here is a chance to cash in on some big bucks. Ticket sales for the 50-50 will continue until just before the drawing, which will be at the Sunday evening banquet.



Help support a growing Benjamin Stoddert Association. If you want to purchase 50/50 tickets, simply mail \$10.00 for each 12 tickets to Herm Chambers at the address below and include 12 address labels so we can place them on the tickets for you.

Make your checks payable to USS Benjamin Stoddert Association and mail it to **Herm Chambers, 220 Meister Way, Sacramento, CA 95819, DDG22ETCM@yahoo.com**

Adams Class Veterans Association

This link (<http://www.adamsclassddgvets.org/>) is our last physical link to the ship we proudly served aboard. The Adams Class Veterans Association (ACVA) has completed the application to the Department of the Navy to have DDG-2, the USS Charles F. Adams, (the sole surviving ship of this class) gifted to the ACVA for permanent display as a museum ship in Jacksonville, Florida. The chances look very good that the gift will be made and we will be able to save an important piece of Naval history. The following mission statement is on the web site:

- Work with all Adams class groups and organizations to Save, Restore and Preserve the USS Charles F. Adams DDG-2;
- Educate the public on the rich naval heritage of the Adams class DDG ships;
- Document the roles of Adams class DDG ships in United States history;
- Show the importance of preserving historic naval vessels and memorabilia for future generations to appreciate.

At the web site you can sign up to volunteer to help restore the ship (once it is handed over to the group). They will need the time and expertise of many to accomplish such a task.



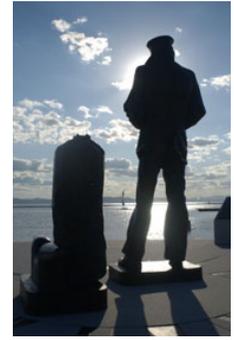
The Charles Adams as it would look in Jacksonville, Florida

A Navy Joke

A soldier, a marine, and an airman got into a fight about which service is best. The fight was so heated, that they killed each other. Soon, they found themselves in Heaven. They see St. Peter walk by and ask, "Which Branch of Service is the best?" St. Peter replied, "I can't answer that. But I will ask God what He thinks the next time I see Him." Some time later, the three see St. Peter again and ask him if he was able to find the answer. Suddenly, a dove landed on St. Peter's shoulder. The dove was carrying a note in its beak. St. Peter opened the note and read it out loud to the three fellows:

"Gentlemen: All the Branches of the Service are 'Honorable and Noble'. Each one of you has served your country well. Be proud of that.

(signed)
GOD, USN (Ret.)"



The Watch

For twenty years,
This sailor has stood the
watch

While some of us were in
our bunks at night,
This sailor stood the watch

While some of us were in school learning our
trade, This shipmate stood the watch

Yes...even before some of us were born into this
world,
This shipmate stood the watch

In those years when the storm clouds of war
were seen
brewing on the horizon of history,
This shipmate stood the watch

Many times he would cast an eye ashore and see
his family standing there,
Needing his guidance and help,
Needing that hand to hold during those hard
times,
But he still stood the watch

He stood the watch for twenty years,
He stood the watch so that we, our families,
And our fellow countrymen could sleep soundly
in safety,
Each and every night,
Knowing that a sailor stood the watch

Today we are here to say:
"Shipmate...the watch stands relieved.
Relieved by those YOU have trained, guided,
and lead
Shipmate you stand relieved...we have the
watch!"

"Boatswain...Standby to pipe the
side...Shipmate's going Ashore!"

—William Whiting, 1860

History of the U.S. Navy Memorial

For America's sea services, the United States Navy Memorial is the triumph of a centuries-old dream. In the early days of America's national independence, architect Pierre L'Enfant envisioned a memorial in the Nation's Capital to "to celebrate the first rise of the Navy and consecrate its progress and achievements." But it was only in the twentieth century that L'Enfant's vision of a Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C. was realized. Pennsylvania Avenue, "America's Main Street," the boulevard that links the U.S. Capitol and White House, the scene of so many parades, pageants, and national memories, was chosen to be the location.

After President John F. Kennedy – himself a Navy war hero – inspired the redevelopment of Pennsylvania Avenue, another Navy war hero, Admiral Arleigh Burke, proclaimed in 1977 that "we have talked long enough about a Navy Memorial and it's time we did something about it." Burke and several Navy colleagues got busy: They founded a non-profit organization, the United States Navy Memorial.

In 1980, under the Presidency of Rear Admiral William Thompson, USN (Ret.), the United States Navy Memorial sought and received the blessing of Congress to construct a Navy Memorial on public land in the District of Columbia. Working with the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation, the Foundation selected Market Square, across the street from the National Archives, as the Navy Memorial's site. Construction began in December 1985, and the Memorial was dedicated two years later on October 13, 1987, the 212th birthday of the United States Navy. "The Navy Memorial is new," said Admiral Thompson, "but it is rich in tradition and heritage that parallel the history of the Navy and the history of the United States."

(The above passages were excerpted from the book *From The Sea*)

NOTE: We will conclude our Friday tour at this museum.

THE TOURS

The itinerary and prices are preliminary at this time.

Friday:

Group to depart Hyatt Dulles hotel at 8:30-9:00AM

9: 30am: Arrive at Arlington National Cemetery. Visit the grave sites of JFK, Robert Kennedy, The Changing of the Guard at Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and visit the Robert E. Lee House

12pm: Visit the FDR and Jefferson Memorials

1pm: Lunch at Union Station

2pm: Visit the WW-II Memorial

3pm: Visit the Navy Memorial and museum



Saturday:

9: 00am: Visit the Lincoln, Vietnam Veterans and Korean War Memorials

10: 30am: Drive by the Pentagon, stop at the Air Force Memorial

11: 30am: Visit the Iwo Jima Memorial

12: 00pm: Drive through Georgetown and lunch at Union Station

1: 00pm: Visit the Air and Space Museum

Prices for Friday's tour are \$56.00 per person which will include the cost of tram tickets at Arlington. Saturday's tour set at \$44.00 per person.

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Benefits of Association Membership

**Full pass worded access to
website**

Member Directory
(With written permission from members)

Hard copy newsletters

**Free entries into Reunion door
prize drawing**

Discount at Ship Store

Join Today@

www.ddg22.com

