

November 2017
Post-Reunion Issue



LAKE CHARLES TIMES

A Recap of the 2017 Reunion in Pensacola November 5-9, 2017

Thanks to the tireless efforts of mostly Linda Geiermann, and occasional assistance from Dick, Ed and Ginny, the reunion was a resounding success! Pictured below are 38 of the attendees at the memorial service site.



Left to Right: Jesse, Mack, Judy, Tom, Lee, Marcia, Essie, Lois, Kim, Linda, Bill, Dick, Nancy, Mike, Shep, Susan, Ginny, Art, Jerry, Curtis, Claudia, Frank, Maria, Tom, Carol, Pat, Tiny, Ernie, Fran, Ray, Dan, Bettye, Ed, Gloria, Ed, Bonnie, Henry & Ron. Last names are on the reunion roster inside, and unobstructed candid portraits of everyone are on the Internet at <https://flic.kr/s/aHskx3V74k>.

Reunion Attendees:

Allen, Joe (Tiny)	CS2 1966-1968
Arndt, Henry & Bonnie	SN FTG 4/63 - 5/65
Bruss, Lee & Lois	EN2 02/55 - 08/56
Burkhart, Mike & Kim (Son of John Burkhart)	GM1c 1943 - 1946
Callahan, Jim & Marcia Cron	YN2 07/62 - 07/64
Chaney, Bill & Susan	Seaman 1c 8/44 - 10/45
Dykstra, Dan & Fran	YN2 06/66 - 05/68
Ewing, Ray & Bettye	EN2 1955 - 1956
Geiermann, Dick & Linda	LTJG 06/65 - 03/67
Hanson, Curtis	DK3 3/63 - 7/64
Hendricks, Tom & Judy	RM3 05/65 - 04/67
Krieger, Ron (brother-in-law of Victor Belaire)	EM3 1956 - 1957
Mestas, Frank & Maria	GMG3 1963 - 1966
Portillo, Arturo & Nancy	Seaman 8/64 - 4/66
Rego, Ed & Pat	BT3 08/63 - 08/66
Sheppard, Shep & Toni	SHSN 06/62 - 02/65
Stone, Ed & Ginny	LTJG 05/61 - 04/63
Turner, Jesse & Essie	EN3 11/60 - 5/62
Vanderburg, Jerry, Claudia, Wendy & Del Shawn	E5 1966 - 1968
Velez, Ernie, Mary & John	TM3 1966 - 1968
Wilson, Mack & Gloria	RM3 12/63 - 12/67
Witts, Tom & Carol	IC3 1967 - 1969

Recap of Activities:

Shipmates, friends and relatives began arriving at the hotel on Friday, but the check-in and

reuniting began Sunday evening. Despite the full agenda of planned activities, many felt that socializing in the hospitality suite was the best part of the reunion.

On Monday morning, after breakfast by Ginny Stone, the group was bussed to Veterans Memorial Park in Pensacola for the memorial service. It was a memorable tribute to those who have gone before us, and was complete with color guard and bugler. After the service we took a guided bus tour of Pensacola, with stops at McGuire's, for a large lunch with members of the color guard, and at Joe Patti's for a complimentary gelato dessert.

On Tuesday morning, after breakfast by Pat Rego, we had a private tour of the Naval Aviation Museum, followed by lunch at the Cubi Bar Café, and a thrilling practice show by the Blue Angels.

Wednesday was a very busy day, with breakfast by Linda Geiermann followed by dancing and animal watching (people and fish) on a Dolphin Cruise in the morning, and the annual business meeting, raffle, election of officers and auction in the afternoon. The reunion banquet was held at Hemingway's Island Grill, near our hotel, the Holiday Inn Pensacola Beach.

Fond farewells and long hugs followed breakfast on Thursday morning, as the reunion concluded.

Election Results:

At the business meeting it was decided to elect the Vice President for a two-year term, and promote that officer to President at the end of the two years. Thus, existing Vice President Ernie Velez was named President for the 2017-2019 term, and a new VP, Mike Burkhart was elected. The other existing association officers were re-elected to one-year terms.

New officers, shown in the photo below are:

President – Ernie Velez

Vice President – Mike Burkhart

Secretary – Ed Stone

Treasurer – Tom Hendricks

Historian – Ray Ewing

Chaplain – Dan Dykstra

Next Reunion:

Following a discussion of four locations, it was decided to hold the next reunion in San Diego from November 5 to November 9, 2018.

Elaine and Alan Pizzola, Dan Farley, Jr., and Paul Doster will plan and host the reunion. Details to follow.

Hawaii Calls:

In response to several comments during the reunion that Hawaii would be a great location for a future reunion, a straw vote was taken to determine whether the group should look into holding a future reunion there. The response was an overwhelming YES!

Who would like to host it?



Ed, Dan, Mike, Ernie, Ray and Tom

Webmaster 1/c Diane Day

As many of us know, Diane Day, who created and maintains the website usssavage.org in memory of her father, Gerald O. Day, has suffered several serious illnesses over the past six months. We wish her a full recovery.

Diane asks anyone who has sent her memorabilia for posting on the website to contact her if she has not yet returned their originals. Diane's contact information is dcday@verizon.net, or phone (301) 248-3247.

USS Savage Awards

Per Wikipedia, USS *Savage* earned one battle star in World War II. She also earned the [American Campaign Medal](#), [Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal](#), the [World War II Victory Medal](#), the [Navy Occupation Service Medal](#), the [China Service Medal](#), the [National Defense Service Medal](#), and the [Vietnam Service Medal](#) with six battle stars for her service in Vietnam. See also: <http://www.navsourc.org/archives/06/386.htm>

USS Stewart Donation

Each year our association makes a donation to the museum ship USS Stewart (DE-238), which is a National Historic Landmark in Galveston, TX. See more on the USS Stewart at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Stewart_\(DE-238\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Stewart_(DE-238)).

In Memorium

During the past year the following USS Savage obituaries have been discovered:

Anderson, Paul	SN1c	1944-45	7/30/09
Ramirez, Alfredo	COX	1944-45	10/8/10
Rodway, Frank	QM2c	1946	1/6/17
Bowen, Dennis P	LTJG	1960-63	2/25/17
Holly, Dan	LCDR	1967-68	3/17/17
Reinsimar, Jimmy	EN1	1961-63	4/23/17
Sumner, James P	PF3	1955-57	7/27/17
Keefe, Walter	RM2c	1944-46	10/18/17

Reunion Association Dues

2018 dues for the USS Savage Reunion Association are due and payable now. Twenty-eight shipmates have already paid. If you have not yet renewed your membership, please send a check for \$20 payable to USS Savage Reunion Association to Tom Hendricks, Treasurer, at 5217 35th St, SW, Great Falls, MT 59804-4712.

A New Directory for You

The soon-to-be-updated USS Savage Reunion Association directory will be sent to all paid-up members in the next few weeks. Those with email addresses will receive both .xlsx (sortable) and .pdf directory files. All others will receive printed copies.

2018 Dues Paid: Fred Adair, Tiny Allen, Henry Arndt, Lee Bruss, Mike Burkhart, Jim Callahan, Bill Chaney, Dan Dykstra, Ray Ewing, Dick Geiermann, Roy Giroir, Curtis Hanson, Tom Hendricks, Rich Lovas, Hal Lucas, Steve May, Frank Mestas, Malcolm Pohl, Arturo Portillo, Tommy Pridgen, Ed Rego, Shep Sheppard, Ed Stone, Jesse Turner, Jerry Vanderburg, Ernie Velez, Mack Wilson, Tom Witts.