

**May 2019
Hawaii Reunion**



Lake Charles Times

Hawaii Reunion!

August 12-16, 2019

We are pleased that we will see several of you at the 2019 USS Savage Reunion in Honolulu at the Hale Koa resort hotel on Waikiki Beach. In this issue, you will find the Activity Registration Form that must be completed and sent back with your payment for the activities no later than June 15, 2019.

PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER

Dear USS Savage Reunion Association members, families and friends,

Greeting and well wishes to all. Thank you for all that you do to keep our association going strong and continuing the memory of those no longer with us. It's for them we continue in our efforts to keep the memory of our ship strong.

First, I wish to thank all of our attendees at the 2018 San Diego Reunion. The efforts of those who arrange the reunion are rewarded by your attendance and your enjoyment. This reunion was organized by the efforts of Paul Doster, Elaine Pizzola, Alan Pizzola and Dan Farley Jr. Thank you very much for all your hard work. Unfortunately, Paul Doster was not able to attend the reunion he helped to organize due to illness. We all missed him at all the events. I have spoken to him and he is doing much better. Please don't forget to send him your best regards.

Our 2019 USS Savage Reunion will be held in Honolulu, Hawaii on August 12th through August 16th. Our Reunion organizers for Honolulu Hawaii include Dick and Linda Geiermann and Ed and Ginny Stone. As many of the Viet Nam Era

crew members know, Pearl Harbor was Savage's homeport during that time. I believe it was homeported in Pearl Harbor from ca.1961 to ca.1969 initially performing Aleutian Island patrols then in 1965-1966 it began the WESTPAC cruises.

Those who will be attending the Hawaii Reunion will be met with a beautiful and memorable vacation spot with great historical meaning to Savage crew members and their families. They include Pearl Harbor, The National Military Cemetery of the Pacific know as Punchbowl National Cemetery, The USS Arizona (BB-39) Memorial, USS Missouri (BB-63) and of course the famous Waikiki Beach.

Due to strict travel requirements by Homeland Security and TSA, we are foregoing anyone from bringing auction items as part of their luggage. This is to preclude anyone from having to carry additional weight or bulky items in their luggage.

Our usual auction funds earned are used to pay for continued support of the USS Stewart's (DE-238) annual donation drive and to provide our Web Master Diane Day, daughter of Gerald O. Day, QM1c, USCG, WWII a financial contribution to keep the USS Savage website, which is dedicated to her Dad, active. She provides a great service in keeping the memory of her Dad and all our crew members alive. We owe Diane a great debt of gratitude.

This year begins the first year in which the office of President will be taken over by the elected Vice President. Every two years the elected VP will move into the President's position, so no election for President will be required. This year our incoming President will be Michael Burkhart, son of John J. Burkhart, GM1c, USCG, WWII. He has served as Vice President for the last two years and has done a magnificent job. As he continues into the President's position, please give him your full support.

I thank all of you for the support you have given me and the USS Savage Reunion Association. It has been my honor to serve you and I will continue to serve the association as a member and help in any way I can. I hope all of you will do the same.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in Honolulu. God Bless You all and keep our shipmates who have passed in your hearts and prayers.

Ernie Velez
TM3, 66-68
President



USS Savage Reunion in Hawaii Plan of the Week

Mon - 8/12

Arrive, meet & greet
Luau at Hale Koa Hotel

Tue - 8/13

Tour of Pearl Harbor & Waikiki
Afternoon at the pool or beach

Wed - 8/14

Memorial Service in the morning
Optional afternoon excursions

Thur - 8/15

Optional morning excursions
Beach time or shopping in Waikiki
Business Meeting & Auction
Mongolian BBQ at Hickam Officers' Club

Fri - 8/16

Hugs & farewells
Check out

Monday - Hale Koa Hotel Luau

<https://www.halekoa.com/experiences/events/luau>

Check out the above site for details on the spectacular luau scheduled at the reunion hotel on the first evening of our reunion.

Tuesday is Tour Day

Please plan to set aside all day Tuesday, 8/13 for tours of Honolulu and Pearl Harbor. In the morning we'll take a narrated bus tour that includes the city of Honolulu, China Town, Iolani Palace, City Hall, King Kamehameha Statue, mission homes, and the Hawaii State Capitol building. We are currently making arrangements for a no-host lunch at Restaurant 604 in Pearl Harbor. Following lunch, we'll tour the battleship USS Missouri (The Mighty MO.), and then visit Pearl Harbor National Park. The Navy has agreed to provide a motor launch cruise around the USS Arizona memorial and Ford Island to cap the day. Then our tour bus will return us to the Hale Koa hotel.

Restaurant 604

Quoting from their website: "Restaurant 604 is setting out to be the best dining option in Honolulu with an incredible selection of American cuisine and island style favorites at affordable prices. Conveniently located next to the Arizona Memorial Visitor Center, it's the perfect place for military families, local residents or visitors who are just passing through to enjoy a quality meal with a breathtaking views and world class service!"

Wednesday - National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl)

The Memorial Service will be held at the Punchbowl Cemetery in the chapel on the grounds there. We were advised to do this indoors because it rains nearly every morning at the Punchbowl.

Thursday - Tour a Modern Destroyer

Your reunion committee has arranged for a tour of a modern DDG, assuming one is in port while we are. The tour day is Thursday morning, and we have been assured that we will be welcome to tour one of these impressive new ships, providing there is one in port that day. If there is no ship, your tour fee (\$35 per person) will be refunded - or we may decide to visit some other part of the island of Oahu in our tour bus.

Banquet at Historic Hickam Officers' Club

The Historic Hickam Officers' Club is a landmark that dates back to WWII with its architectural features and decorations. In addition to a highly-acclaimed Mongolian barbeque held on the lanai pictured below, we will enjoy a walk back in time through the art pieces and one of the best views on the island from one of three lanais overlooking the entrance to Pearl Harbor.

Details...

Reunion Event Transportation

Once you have gotten to the Hale Koa hotel, all reunion event transportation will be provided. We have chartered a bus and driver to provide narrated tours and transportation to and from all events, including the business meeting and fabulous Mongolian Barbeque at the historic Hickam Officers' Club on Thursday evening. Our on-site contact in Hawaii reports that Honolulu has excellent public transportation, and sees no need for rental cars, unless you plan to fill the unplanned hours with private tours with your family. We are excited to have so many family guests attending this reunion, and hope that this practice will become a tradition in future years. Everyone is welcome to attend every planned function.

Upcoming Reunion Details

Watch for the next newsletter for reminders on coordinating Hale Koa check-in with your sponsor, dress code, meals that are on your own, specific daily event departure times, and an updated attendance roster.

News to Share...

Tennis Tournament Win for Ed Stone

Congratulations to Ed Stone and Dee Tran for winning the 8th Annual Fairhope (Alabama) Tennis Association Social "May the 4th Be With You" mixed doubles tournament. They beat the rain all day Saturday until the end of the final match, which was continued on Sunday for a "Cinco-de-Mayo" final, when Ed and Dee won the remaining two points of the last game to clinch their win. The team won five consecutive 8-game pro set matches in the tournament, competing in a field of twenty-four teams with individual USTA skill levels ranging from 3.0 to 4.0.

Update Email from USS Savage Member James (Ron) Armstrong

Hi Ed

Reunion in Hawaii is wonderful. Great opportunity to visit the island. Was looking forward to that, but in December I was diagnosed with oral cancer. Spread to upper jaw and roof of my mouth, so surgeon removed part of the jaw and the roof of my mouth. Prosthetic had to fitted for the roof. On a feeding tube now, hopefully for a short time. Start with radiation and chemo next week. Not sure how this will be in the future.

Thanks

James (Ron) Armstrong, Seaman 62-64

James – All of us with the USS Savage Reunion Group send our best wishes, thoughts and prayers to you and your family.

ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

USS SAVAGE (DE/DER-386) HAWAII REUNION - 2019

Listed below are all registration, tour, and luau costs for the Hawaii reunion. Please enter how many people in your group will be participating in each event, and total the amount. Send that amount, in the form of a check or money order payable to USS Savage Reunion Association, to Tom Hendricks, treasurer, **5217 35th Street, S.W., Great Falls, MT 59404**. Your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing. Note that the all-in cost per adult is \$275, including a luau, two scenic tours, two ship tours, base and cemetery admissions, and banquet transportation.

All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before **June 15, 2018**.

<i>Everyone is welcome to attend every event.</i>	Price Per	# of People	Total
Mon, 8/12 Hale Koa Hotel Luau – Adult	\$ 60		\$
Hale Koa Hotel Luau – Youth (12-17)	\$ 24		\$
Tue, 8/13 Tour Day. Narrated city tour in the morning, USS Missouri tour, Pearl Harbor National Park, motor launch cruise around Ford Island and USS Arizona. *			
USS Savage Reunion Assn members and spouses	\$ 80		\$
Family guests of Reunion Assn members	\$ 60		\$
Wed, 8/14 Memorial Service: includes 5-hour bus tour to Punch Bowl National Cemetery and scenic lookouts *	\$ 40		\$
Thur, 8/15 Potential DDG ship tour. Bus transportation to and from Pearl Harbor. 3.5 hours in the morning.	\$ 35		\$
Thur, 8/15 Bus transportation to and from Hickam for BBQ Banquet at O-Club. * Banquet food not included. **	\$ 30		\$
Registration Fee – Covers various reunion expenses. Maximum registration fee is \$120 per family.	\$ 30		\$
Total Amount, Payable to USS Savage Reunion Assn:			\$

* Our chartered bus holds 56 people, and will provide group transportation to all events.

** The price you pay for the Mongolian BBQ at Hickam is based on the weight of your ingredients.

NAME of Reunion Association Member: _____ **DATE** _____

If you have any questions please contact Linda Geiermann at 303-570-2335 or Ed Stone at 251-978-4562 – or send emails to geiermanns@msn.com or edstone1960@alumni.purdue.edu.

Changes in directory information, comments, or special physical or dietary requests: