“Goin’ to Kansas city, Kansas city here I Come!”
We got a crazy little reunion there, and boy, we want YOU to come!

All hands on deck! Mount McKinley and All AGC

WWII era Shipmates

Korean era Shipmates

Vietnam era Shipmates

We want you there enjoying the camaraderie and Fun!

Kansas City World War 1 Museum

Downtown Kansas City

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This Newsletter is dedicated to all the men who served on these extraordinary ships in service to their country whether in time of war or peace.

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**Navy News**

**USS Essex LHD-2 During Amphibious Assault Exercises**

Amphibious squadron and Marine Expeditionary unit (MEU) integration, which allows sailors and marines to train as a cohesive unit in preparation for an upcoming deployment.

*US Navy photo by Mass communication specialist Seaman Jacob Owen (released) 180328-RY670-247*

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**Additional Important Positions**

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Fellow shipmates:

So for those who are tired of Winter, Spring is finally here. (I say as I see another 4” of snow outside.) This past winter, we have experienced some pretty cold temperatures and a lot of bone-chilling winds. Fortunately, we are well on the way to warmer days and we are looking forward to them.

And for those who watched the Olympics, I personally feel a lot of pride in the athletes who participated. Some have done better than anyone anticipated and others, not so much. But for 17 days, as athletes from around the world gather in one country, there seems to be a sense of unity even though it is temporary. An example would be the athletes from North and South Korea entering the arena together and showing that people can actually live and work together regardless of their country’s politics.

Not sure how many are following the NCAA games, but as an Ohio State fan, I was sorry to see them lose to Gonzaga (again). But there is excitement in watching the games.

Back to association business, Membership Secretary Wes Brubacher has been working to update the membership roster. The official roster has nearly 10,000 names with everyone who was ever on the Mt. McKinley. That includes those who were with the USMC and the Army. It would be wonderful if all the remaining living members could be contacted and join us for a reunion. That, however, is very unlikely. In keeping the roster as accurate as possible, it is necessary to have updated and accurate information on everyone. So, please take a minute to read the information that Wes has in the Masthead and please make it a priority to update your information as soon as you can. And speaking of Wes, he has done a piece on a former shipmate. It is a nice tribute and it is a great way to show respect. Take a look as you read the Masthead.

And finally, the reunion planning is complete and we now have a hotel, dinners, tours, etc. Mike will be attaching a registration form in the Masthead so they can be sent to Wes. Registration is again $65 per person and the rooms are unfortunately $109 per night which is $10 per night higher than last year. Dinner and tour information will be in the Masthead. And sadly, like everyone else, we are subject to higher prices on many items. This year, the tours will be $55 per person for Thursday and Fridays tours. So be watching online @ ussmtmckinley.com or your U.S. Mail for the next Masthead and look for the registration form.

David Long
What started out as a dues due notice return with payment for another year has morphed into an interesting lesson in reaching out to one of our fellow Association members and learning a little more about history.

Tony Mattia, himself a Navy veteran, sent in the dues for this year for his almost 95 year old father Bob Mattia, Association member #004C, and ship plank owner, with a note saying, "Robert is currently in a nursing home and still wears his Mt. McKinley hat proudly".

That statement and one by Tony saying "his father always wears his Mt Mac hat" prompted this writer to think that, if this 94 year old was still so proud of the ship that he served aboard during WWII, maybe he'd enjoy having one of our "musical hats" to wear and entertain the folks at the home where he now resides. With the help of our ship's storekeeper, Mary Ruth Halas, arrangements were made to send one of the musical hats to Tony. He promptly took it to his father who is shown in the accompanying photo proudly showing the hat, a photo of the Mt Mac in its war paint, his Navy blanket and wearing his older Mt Mac hat.

In an article written over two years ago by a reporter for his hometown newspaper, Bob related some of his experiences while aboard the Mt Mac near the end of WWII. He and fellow Medical Corpsman Lenny Pellitier, Association member #197 and deceased, went ashore one time on Peleliu to help the injured Marines and bring them water. When they got there the Marines weren't interested in water, "They wanted to know if we had eggs." At Leyte he watched as Japanese bombers flew past the ship but didn't attack. That was fortunate because a lot of the wounded were being treated by the Medical staff on board the Mt Mac.

As a tribute to Bob I am asking that as his 95th birthday nears - 6 April - each of us send him a birthday card. It can be sent to Bob in care of his son at this address - Tony Mattia, 35 Guzzle Brook Dr., Sudbury MA, 01776.

Wes Brubacher

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BOB (YOUR Shipmates)
Reunion Registration 2018
Kansas City, Missouri
September 12th-16th

Hilton Hotel Airport Registrations made separately

Call 1-800-445-8667 (Mention our group USS Mt McKinley Association)

Return this form with your payment on or before August 15 2018

Register the following for the 2018 Reunion. Print your name(s) Residing in.. City & State as you wish them to appear on the name badges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>City, State of residence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Name
City, State of Residence

If you wish your Name badge to include the Ship you served on, your rate/rank and actual years served aboard that ship (ex. 59-62) Please complete the following:

Ship name or Flag staff_________________ Rate/Rank_______ Yrs. Served_____
Division_____

Total # of persons Registered _____@ $65.00 Each........................................total $_____

Tours are optional
Thursday September 13th       Tour ____ Tickets@ $55.00 Each........................total $_____
Friday September 14th         Tour ____ Tickets@$50.00 Each........................total $_____
Total amount enclosed (reunion+ tours).......................................................Total $_____

Banquet meal Buffet style

Buffet: Baby greens Salad served with chef’s choice of creamy and vinaigrette dressings, Dinner rolls and butter, Hickory smoked pork loin, BBQ sauce, BBQ glazed Chicken with mango relish, bacon mashed potatoes, Crispy green beans with shallots & hickory smoked bacon, Chef’s choice dessert.

THURSDAY TOUR: National WW1 MUSEUM & KC BBQ

FRIDAY TOUR: HARRY S. TRUMAN PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY & FORT LEAVENWORTH

BOTH TOURS INCLUDE LUNCH

Make Check to : USS MT McKinley Association

Mail To: USS Mt. McKinley Association Attn: Wes Brubacher P.O. Box 376 Geyserville, CA 95441
This Newsletter is dedicated to all the men who served on these extraordinary ships in service to their country whether in times of war or peace.

Members and Non Members reported deceased since 09/31/17

- Johnson, Harry YN3 ’55-’56 Phibron 1
- Burnison, Earl Phibron 7 ’44-’46
- Hobart, Melvin ET3 ’50-52, T Division
- Mullen, Barbara Spouse, John Mullen
- Lynn, David ETN3 ’64-65, CE Division
- Broadway, Ed S1 ’46-’47

Report for heavenly duty

No new members since 12/31/17

USS Mount McKinley Association Financial Statement as of 31 March, 2018

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"This Financial Statement is a summary of the activity of the Treasury of the Association. If anyone desires a complete detailed statement, contact the Treasurer directly."

Warning

*When you drink vodka over ice.*

*It can cause kidney failure*

*When you drink Rum over ice.*

*It can cause liver failure*

*When you drink Whiskey over ice.*

*Heart problems*

*When you drink gin over ice.*

*Brain problems*

*Apparently ice is really bad for you*

A panda walks into a bar and gobbles some beer nuts. Then he pulls out a gun, fires it in the air, and heads for the door. "Hey!" shouts the bartender, but the panda yells back, "I'm a panda. Google me!" Sure enough, panda: "A tree-climbing mammal with distinct black-and-white coloring. Eats shoots and leaves."
THE OLD DOBERMAN- An old Doberman starts chasing rabbits and before long, discovers that he's lost.

Wandering about, he notices a lion heading rapidly in his direction with the intention of having lunch.

The old Doberman thinks, "Oh, oh! I'm in deep do-do now! "Noticing some bones on the ground close by, he immediately settles down to chew on the bones with his back to the approaching cat.

Just as the lion is about to leap, the old Doberman exclaims loudly, "Boy, that was one delicious lion! I wonder, if there are any more around here?"

Hearing this, the young lion halts his attack in mid-stride, a look of terror comes over him and he slinks away into the trees.

"Whew!," says the lion, "That was close! That old Doberman nearly had me! Meanwhile, a monkey who had been watching the whole scene from a nearby tree, figures he can put this knowledge to good use and trade it for protection from the lion. So, off he goes.

The monkey soon catches up with the lion, spills the beans and strikes a deal for himself with the lion. The young lion is furious at being made a fool of and says, "Here, monkey, hop on my back and see what's going to happen to that conniving canine!"

Now, the old Doberman sees the lion coming with the monkey on his back and thinks, "What am I going to do now?," but instead of running, the dog sits down with his back to his attackers, pretending he hasn't seen them yet, and just when they get close enough to hear, the old Doberman says "Where's that monkey? I sent him off an hour ago to bring me another lion!

Moral of this story:

Don't mess with the old dogs... Age and treachery will always overcome youth and innocence!
USS Mt McKinley Association

Our Purpose:

To Promote Patriotism and Camaraderie among those who served on board the USS Mt McKinley during that ship’s 25 years and 10 months active service to the U.S. Navy from May 1st 1944 to (commissioned) to March 26th 1970 (de-commissioned)

Kansas City, Missouri Reunion this September 12th to 16th 2018

Hotel information

Kansas City Missouri, Hilton Hotel Airport 8801 Northwest 112th Street Kansas City, MO 64153 -call 816-801-4006 or toll free 1-800-445-8667 for hotel reservations.

Tour information

Tour #1 National WW1 Museum/Kansas City BBQ
Day tour includes round trip motor coach transportation entry tickets and lunch. Depart Hilton hotel 9:00AM – 9:45 AM arrive WW1 museum 10:00AM – Noon guide tour of the museum 12:15-1:00PM lunch group #1(if there are 2 groups) 2nd group lunch 1:00PM to 1:45PM. 2:15 depart for Hotel 3:PM arrive at hotel. Lunch will be served on the premise in the “Over There” Café you will have plenty of time to enjoy the tour, the galleries, the memorial buildings and BBQ. Tour cost $55.00 per person.

Tour #2 Harry S. Truman Presidential Library, Independence, MO
Film and guided tour. Lunch at Ft. Leavenworth Conference Center, and step on tour and visit to the Frontier Military Museum at Ft. Leavenworth (Kansas) tour is all inclusive. 9:15AM depart Hotel for Independence and the Truman Library. 10:00AM to 11:45 AM at the Truman Library. 11:30AM to 12:30 PM ride to Ft Leavenworth, Kansas. Lunch at the Solarium Restaurant 1:00PM to 1:45 PM Conference Center. 2:00PM on post at Ft Leavenworth with historian John Riechle. 3:45 depart for hotel. 4:30 PM Arrive at Hilton Hotel Airport.

Cost $50.00 per person all inclusive.

“Everything's up to date in Kansas city.”
Lots of interesting things to see and do!