

Less than 3 months to go to the deadline for reservations!!!!

As of 2/18/12 active members stand at 656. There is only 2 shipmates pending information, and we have 99 on the memorial page. We added James Thomas (58-59, Qm3) Letter was returned by the post office marked by them Return to sender Deceased. Also Walter Foil (yn3, 65-67) See note below submitted by Paul Goff

From The President' s Desk

THE TIME IS SLIPPING AWAY FAST FOR THOSE ATTENDING THE 2012 REUNION IN NEW ORLEANS, AND WHO STILL NEED TO GET THEIR REGISTRATION AND CHECKS SENT IN. PLEASE, DO NOT FORGET THAT THE CUT-OFF DATE IS APRIL 30TH. IT WILL BE HERE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT.

THE FRENCH QUARTER CULINARY HISTORY AND TASTING TOUR IS LIMITED TO 15 IN A GROUP. FEAR NOT! WE CAN ESTABLISH MORE THAN ONE GROUP. I HAVE STARTED A LIST FOR A SECOND TOUR GROUP, WHICH CAN LEAVE THE HOTEL ABOUT FIFTEEN MINUTES BEHIND THE FIRST GROUP. THE ONLY ISSUE WITH ESTABLISHING A SECOND GROUP IS "TIME." PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT WE EXPECT TO LEAVE THE HOTEL BETWEEN 1815 AND 1830 HOURS TO BOARD THE PADDLE WHEELER FOR THE DINNER CRUISE. SO KEEP IN MIND THE TIME, YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS "SHIPS MOVEMENT" AND MISS THE DINNER CRUISER.

MOVING ON!

DOES ANYONE OUT THERE REMEMBER THE SHIP OPERATING WITH THE USS MORTON ON THE VUNG GAHN RAI AND SAIGON RIVERS, DURING APRIL, 1966? THE REASON WHY I ASK, IS THAT THE USS MORTON HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY PLACED ON THE AGENT ORANGE EXPOSURE LIST. IT SEEMED THAT WHEREVER THE READY EDDIE WENT, THE MORTON WAS THERE TOO. WE COULD SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR THE SHIP'S LOG WHICH WOULD ESTABLISH THE LOCATION OF THE READY EDDIE DURING APRIL, 1966. HOWEVER, AFTER THIRTY YEARS HAVE PASSED, SHIPS LOGS ARE FORWARDED TO THE TEXTUAL REFERENCE BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION. AS I SAID, WE COULD SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR THE SHIP'S LOG BOOK HOWEVER THERE ARE ONLY TWO PEOPLE WHO WORK IN THE TEXTUAL REFERENCE BRANCH, SO IT COULD BE YEARS BEFORE OUR REQUEST WOULD BE PROCESSED. I KNOW IT'S BEEN OVER FIFTY YEARS AND OUR MEMORY BANKS MIGHT BE A FUZZY, BUT THINK ABOUT AND LET ME KNOW IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION THAT MIGHT BE OF HELP.

THAT'S IT FROM THE FROZEN NORTHEAST CORNER OF WYOMING. HOPE YOU ARE ALL DOING WELL.

JOE

"FOR ALL THOSE WHO WILL BE ATTENDING THE REUNION THIS YEAR, I NEED TO LET YOU KNOW THAT THE SATURDAY, JUNE 2ND, FRENCH QUARTER CULINARY HISTORY AND TASTING TOUR HAS REACHED CAPACITY. THE LIMIT OF PARTICIPANTS IS FIFTEEN AND WE HAVE REACHED THAT LIMIT. I WILL START A WAITING LIST AND SHOULD WE HAVE A FEW CANCELLATIONS FOR THAT TOUR, I WILL CONTACT YOU. THE LIST WILL BE ON A FIRST COME SERVED BASIS. SO YOU NEED TO GET YOUR REGISTRATIONS SENT IN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND BE SURE TO INCLUDE THE MONEY FOR THE TOUR. IF NO CANCELLATIONS ARE RECEIVED AND YOU ARE UNABLE TO BE ON THE TOUR, THE MONEY YOU INCLUDED FOR THE TOUR WILL BE REFUNDED.

PLEASE REMEMBER, WE WILL NOT BE RECEIVING ANY REGISTRATIONS AFTER APRIL 30TH. GARY BAIR NEEDS TO KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE WILL BE ATTENDING WHICH TOURS SO THAT APPROPRIATE TRANSPORTATION CAN BE MADE TO ACCOMMODATE ATTENDEES.”
JJ HOGUE

From the New Orleans Coordinator

All of a sudden we are within four short months of our 2012 New Orleans reunion. We are thrilled that so many shipmates have already their hotel reservations and are sending in their registrations. **75 rooms have already been booked**, and there is a big trend for more than four nights. A great many are bringing friends or family (as we have encouraged) and are booking 2 or 3 rooms.

Now is the time to get serious and make your plans. **Even if you are not sure if you will be coming, I urge you to call the Maison Dupuy at 1-800-535-9177 and make a hotel reservation** to hold a room. It costs you nothing, but we need to know how many rooms we will need. We have had such a good early beginning that we may need to increase our commitment; however, we do not want to over-commit. And we certainly don't want to run out of rooms!

Check out our great web site www.dd950-com and get all the details of the reunion and the registration form.

To Fly or Not To Fly - That may be your question. For your consideration: The to/from airport costs are nearly equal to the hotel parking cost - about \$60 plus tip per couple for four nights. Once you are at the hotel, you do not need a car. Our excursions provide transportation to most of the things you would want to go to at a distance. You can walk to anything in the French Quarter in 5 to 10 minutes from our hotel.

Best regards to all,

Gary Bair

WOW! You all have already reserved 75 rooms for 149 people for our New Orleans reunion (as of 2/09/12). Note the distinguished names to be in attendance:

Starting Sunday, May 27: Danley, Gravatt, Lambrecht

Starting Monday, May 28: Kress, Petersen (2 rooms), Robinson, Shiels, Seims, Smith, Trytten,

Turley (2), Winde

Starting Tuesday, May 29: Albritton, Banks, Bernard, Chester (3), Crawford, Cusick, Gnagi, Heinen, Howell, Kruger (2), Rennie, Robertson, Scott

Starting Wednesday, May 30: Abel, Bair, Baly, Bean, Byron, Caldwell, Crawford, Darcey, Davidson, Durfee,

Ealey, Fadely (3), Fasce (2), Fowler, Gagnon, Hadley, Henderson, Hogue (2), Hughes (2), Johnson

Komarek, Loring, Motsco, Parker, Paul, Pavlovich, Plank, Pressott, Sheard, Shults, Solis, Treadwell,

Tuttle, White, Wilson

Starting Thursday, May 31: Cooley, Escott, Marceau, Williams

Check out our great web site www.dd950.com , click on our 2012 reunion, and check out all the great things we have planned. You can even click on each of the unique experiences we have scheduled.

We will max out our capacity of 50 people for each of the restaurant options Wednesday evening, (but will have alternative recommendations available.) We have already filled our max of 15 for the culinary history and tasting tour, but have arranged a second one. **And so you can see that you don't want to delay registering.**

From your Secretary Desk

I am asking for any leads of shipmate that you are in contact with who are not members of the Edwards Association.

We sent out no emails and 3 letters to shipmates.

Treasures Report

Treasurers Report for Jan 1-31, 2011: Beginning Balance \$ 8926.66

Income \$ 2175.50

Expenses \$ 1000.00

Ending Balance \$ 10,102.16

Ship's Store

Start thinking what you are going to need for the reunion and order now.

Missing shipmate

Last letters were returned and we have no current phone number or email address for the following shipmates. At the end of the third monthly newsletter, we will drop them from our active file. Any help with information please contact me at my email address

Rodney Malcom Last known address P.O box 1256 (77-78, GmG3)

2nd month

Newsletter Notes

For those who are having trouble at the web site trying to access the membership

Sign in is the word member

To those who last name begins with E to f and this is the first newsletter you received from me in awhile. Somehow your names were removed from my master email list. If you need or would like to see any back issues please let me know at bullcs3@hotmail.com and I will send them. Now going thru the rest of my email lists

FOR THOSE WHO WILL BE ATTENDING THE REUNION, WE WILL BE DECIDING ON WHERE TO HOLD THE 2014 REUNION. IF YOU THINK YOU MIGHT HAVE A SUGGESTION, BE PREPARED TO MAKE A PRESENTATION TO THE MEMBERS. WE CERTAINLY DO NOT WANT TO SCARE PEOPLE OFF FROM MAKING A SUGGESTION, BUT YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT YOU WOULD BE EXPECTED TO BE VERY INVOLVED WITH ORGANIZING THE EVENT, WHICH INCLUDES FINDING SUITABLE HOTELS AT REASONABLE PRICES, TOURS AND TRANSPORTATION. THE 2014 REUNION SHOULD BE IN THE WESTERN AREA OF THE COUNTRY. IF WE DO NOT HAVE ANY WESTERN VENUES SUGGESTED, WE MAY HAVE TO RESORT TO ANY AND ALL LOCATIONS FOR THE REUNION, NO MATTER WHAT PART OF COUNTRY.

The ConfidentialVeterans Crisis Line is standing by 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year by calling 1-800-273-8255, and press 1. You can also log on to www.VeteransCrisisLine.net

Thanks Jack Turley for the information

There is a you tube video **Help Save our historic US Navy Destroyers** that you may like to watch. Thanks to John Fasce for sending me the link. If you would like to watch it, please let me know and I will send you the link.

For you who are on face book there is a page for the Edwards type in Richard S. Edwards in the search

Those attending this year reunion who want to camp there is a camping sites at the Naval Air Station in Belle Chasse about 30-45 minute away

Have I a link, thank To William Stubblefield to the Pounding The Do Son Peninsula on May 10.1972 for anyone who is interested in it.

Would like to let you know that YN3 Walter Foil, who I served with from 65 to 67, who was killed in an auto accident shortly after being discharged from active duty. Would like to see him on the memorial page.