

# USS TOPEKA CLG-8

## Reunion Association Newsletter

Volume 27, No. 1

March 2016

### Officers:

Dan Moore, Chairman, Board of Directors; Dan Moore, President;

Gary Baker, Secretary-Treasurer;

Ruth Judge, 2016 Reunion Chairman;

Kathy Spatz, Newsletter Editor; Gary Baker, Web Master;

Pat Baker, Ships Store



### FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sharon and I just returned from a “scouting” trip to Sedona, Arizona along with Ruth Judge, her posse, and Pat and Gary Baker. It will be a great location for our 2016 reunion. Much more to follow in this news letter and on our web site. Has anyone noticed it is an election year? All I have to say about that other than I encourage everyone to get out to vote in your primary and the November election.

We’re looking for someone to host the 2018 reunion. As a backup, I’m going to do research on Nashville, TN and toss it out in Sedona. Al and Catherine Gustafson will be hosting 2017 in Buffalo, New York. They are already working on it.

Have you heard? A defense contractor finally succeeded in building a computer capable of solving the most complex naval warfare problems. The top Navy brass assembled around the new machine and were instructed to feed a difficult tactical problem into it. They described a complex hypothetical battle situation to the computer and then asked the question, “should our forces attack or retreat?”

The computer hummed and beeped for about an hour, and finally printed out an answer, “Yes”.

The Admirals stared at each other, mystified by the response. Finally one of them submitted a second request to the computer, “Yes what?”

The computer responded instantly, “Yes Sir”.

Hope each and every one of you can join us in Sedona. It is one of the most beautiful areas of our country.

Dan

### NEW MEMBERS (SINCE November 2015)

Chester W. Chapman GMM3 65-67

(Posthumous Registration)

William Willett SF2 64-67

(Posthumous Registration)

### TAPS

David L. Small RD1 62-66

Don Archer DK3 63-65

Chester D. Chapman GMM3 65-

William D. Bodine CS3 63-66

Gerald W. Dunne LTJG 64-66

William Willett SF2 64-67





## **USS TOPEKA 27TH ANNUAL REUNION**

**Poco Diablo Resort  
Sedona, Arizona**

**Sunday 09-25-16 to Friday 09-30-16**

Room rates:

Traditional Room \$139; Deluxe \$149; Poco King \$169; plus a 13.4% local tax and a \$10.00 per day resort fee.

Any updated reunion reservation information is available on the USS Topeka Association website at <http://usstopekaclg8.org>.

Sedona has many names, The Verde Valley, Oak Creek Canyon and the Most Beautiful Place in the World!

Our reunion is booked at the Poco Diablo (little devil) Resort which offers 3,300 square feet of indoor space and 2,500 square feet of outdoor space.

We will have our Buffet on the Canopy Patio that overlooks the beautiful grounds which include an executive golf course, running streams, beautiful fountains and gorgeous red rocks. The Resort is located in close proximity to a variety of area restaurants and shops. The Resort restaurant is open daily along with full room service. The 10th Hole Lounge offers large screen TV and exceptional food. All the guestrooms are spacious, featuring private balconies or patios, luxurious guest robes, flat screen TV, work station with high-speed internet, mini-refrigerators, coffee makers and resort amenities. In addition there are four tennis courts, heated swimming pool, an outdoor whirlpool, fitness center and on-staff massage therapist.

Sedona sits at an elevation of 4,500 feet with towering red rock mountains that provide some of the most inspiring scenery in the southwest. Some of the rock formations you will enjoy are Cathedral Rock, Bell Rock, Courthouse Rock, The Three Wise Men, Tea Pot, Snoopy and many others. The grandest spectacle of them all is the Chapel of the Holy Cross, a non-denominational chapel built in 1953 that defies the rocks with its man-made beauty. There are some great hiking trails up to the rocks,

also several Indian Vortexes which are “power points” of energy. These vortexes are outlined by a circle of rocks; there is one at Bell Rock, Boynton Canyon, Airport Mesa and Cathedral Rock. Explore Uptown Sedona where you can experience many unique shops, galleries and dining. On your own Jeep excursions are a fantastic way to enjoy the beautiful red rocks.

## **TOURS:**

### **Tour A**

**MONDAY: SEDONA (FOUNDED 1902)**  
Sightseeing this beautiful area. Featuring Boynton Canyon, history of movie making in Sedona, Indian Lore, Chapel of the Holy Cross, Cathedral Rock on the Magic Trolley with a break for **Lunch on your own** and shopping in Uptown Sedona.

### **Chapel of the Holy Cross**



### **Tour B**

**TUESDAY: FORT VERDE (FOUNDED 1871)**  
State Historical Park with docents to guide us in the history of the Fort and even a lesson in making Adobe Clay with Ranger Robert.

**Lunch on your own** in Quaint Camp Verde (menus in the hospitality room) and then a visit to Montezuma Castle National Monument.

Since this is a National Park they were not able to reduce the entrance fee of \$10 **BUT** many of you have Golden Age Passes with lifetime admission to all National Parks SO you and 3 others can go in on one pass. Gary mentioned this in his reunion registration, if you have a pass please bring it, if not you can buy one here, or there is a small museum you can wait in. We will count the number of passes times 3 and that many people can go in free. If you have one **PLEASE BRING IT WITH YOU!**

## Tour C

**Wednesday:** JEROME (founded 1871)

Officially named in 1883 with 550 residents, by 1903 there were 15,000 residents and by 1953 a ghost town with about 100 residents. **Lunch at the highly recommended MILE HIGH CAFÉ**, we who visited can vouch for this.

CLARKDALE (FOUNDED 1912) A Copper Smelting Town built by William A. Clark and totally owned by the company with houses and businesses assigned by the company. **This evening, Buffett at Poco Diablo.**

**THURSDAY:** Annual meeting of USS Topeka members, group pictures and then free time. Dinner Banquet at Poco Diablo.

**\*\*NOTE:** Trip to the Grand Canyon. This is a 2 hour trip up and 2 hours back, if you never been there it is a breathtaking experience. I can get different size vans for the tour, if there is enough interest it can be arranged for any day instead of scheduled tours. Please email me at [rajtr@cox.net](mailto:rajtr@cox.net) if you are interested.

## HOTEL ROOMS

We are so looking forward to seeing everyone in Sedona, Az. The Poco Diablo is beautiful with rooms everyone will love. All of the rooms have a fridge, coffee maker, robes, desk, comfortable chairs or couch for sitting to gaze at the incredible view.

In addition the Poco King has a fireplace, jacuzzi and a balcony overlooking the executive 9 hole golf course. The Elite Spa room has a spa tub, fireplace and an outside balcony. The spa has a masseuse, hair dresser and mani's and/or pedi', available with appointments. The deluxe rooms are available pool side with outside balconies. The traditional rooms are all close to the hospitality room. The 2 queen bed rooms face the fountain and the king bed rooms overlook the golf course. All of the rooms are huge and very nice. The hospitality room has an ashtray outside and there is also a fireplace area with seating, and ashtrays for smokers. See you in September! Pat Baker

## AIRPORT SHUTTLE

Shuttle service is available from Phoenix to Poco Diablo Resort. Details are on the Ground Transportation link on the Reunion page of the USS Topeka website.

## REUNION NAME TAGS

Engraved name tags are available if anyone would like one. There would be a fee of \$7.50 per tag if you would like your existing name tag engraved, or \$11.50 for a new engraved tag. Contact Gary Baker at [gbaker@usstopekaclg8.org](mailto:gbaker@usstopekaclg8.org) or 406-252-4546 for more details.

## SHIP'S STORE

All clothing items are out of stock and have been discontinued. The store will continue to stock ball caps, lapel pins, jacket patches, and license plate frames.

The ship's store is managed by Pat Baker. Her contact information is on the ship's store page of the website and the address page of the newsletter.

## MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Please check the mailing label on the newsletter for your dues status. If you are not paid through 2015 you will not receive the 2016 Member Directory or any newsletters in 2016 until your dues are current. Dues in arrears are forgiven, so any dues paid now are applied to the 2016 calendar year. Dues are \$20.00 per year or \$80 for 5 years. Dues should be made payable to USS Topeka CLG-8 Association and mailed to Gary Baker at the address shown on address page of the newsletter.

## ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORTS

The annual financial reports are sent to the president and board members every January. They are also presented to the members at the business meeting during the annual reunion. All members of the association are entitled to the reports, and if you would like a copy e-mailed to you, please contact Gary Baker at [gbaker@usstopekaclg8.org](mailto:gbaker@usstopekaclg8.org) to be put on the mailing list. Here's your opportunity to see where your dues money goes!

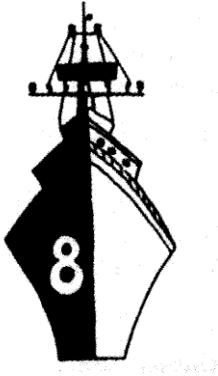
## GIVING BACK

Over the past several years the association has accumulated a considerable surplus in the reunion fund. It is time to return some of this to our members. With the concurrence of the board of directors the association will absorb \$2,000 of the fixed costs of the 2016 reunion in Sedona. Hopefully this will alleviate some of the concerns about the higher costs of this year's reunion and stimulate attendance.

## USS TOPEKA REUNION ASSOCIATION

C/O Gary Baker  
1240 Lonesome Pine Lane  
Billings, MT 59105

**TEMP – RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



### NAMES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

#### Board of Directors

Dan Moore, 56619 Wedgwood Ct N, Elkhart, IN 46516;  
574-295-5156 [Dan56619@aol.com](mailto:Dan56619@aol.com)

#### Board Members:

Gary Baker, Dudley Cass, Jerry Craig,  
Harold Jackson, Dan Moore, John Reynolds, Ray Spatz

#### President

Dan Moore, 56619 Wedgwood Ct N, Elkhart, IN 46516;  
574-295-5156 [Dan56619@aol.com](mailto:Dan56619@aol.com)

#### Secretary-Treasurer

Gary Baker, 1240 Lonesome Pine Ln., Billings, MT 59105;  
406-252-4546 [gbaker@usstopekaclg8.org](mailto:gbaker@usstopekaclg8.org)

#### 2016 Reunion Coordinator

Ruth Judge, 68 East Sierra Way, Chula Vista, CA 91911;  
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#### Newsletter Editor

Kathy Spatz, 503 Olive Blvd., So. Hempstead, NY 11550;  
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406-252-4546; [gbaker@usstopekaclg8.org](mailto:gbaker@usstopekaclg8.org)

#### Ships Store

Pat Baker, 1240 Lonesome Pine Ln, Billings, MT 59105  
406-252-4546 [pbaker@usstopekaclg8.org](mailto:pbaker@usstopekaclg8.org)

**2016 REUNION REGISTRATION**  
**USS Topeka CLG-8 Association**  
**28th Annual Reunion, Sedona, AZ September 25-30, 2016**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Number in party \_\_\_\_\_  
 Staying at Poco Diablo Resort? \_\_\_\_\_  
 What nights? Check: Sun \_\_\_ Mon \_\_\_ Tue \_\_\_ Wed \_\_\_ Thu \_\_\_ Fri \_\_\_  
 Any Handicap and/or Special Dietary Requirements? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Emergency Contact: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ (Confirmation will be sent by E-mail)  
 Name(s) for nametag(s) (Name tags are provided free for first time attendees. For replacement name tags there will be a charge of \$4.00 per tag, payable at the reunion): Initial \_\_\_ Replacement \_\_\_

(Older pin-on and clip-on type name tags can be upgraded with magnetic clasps at no charge – contact Gary Baker at the reunion)

**Reunion Fee:** The Reunion Fee includes the fixed costs of the reunion (e.g. Event liability insurance, banquet guests (Speaker and Color Guard), buffet and banquet bartenders, and the costs of snacks and beverages in the Hospitality Room.

Sunday is the setup day for the hospitality room which will be available in the afternoon and evening for those checking in on/or before Monday. No charge for Sunday.

	<b>Number Attending</b>	<b>Price</b> (Per Person)	<b>Cost</b>
<b><u>Members and Adult-Guests, All four days</u></b> (Includes Buffet and Banquet)	_____	\$142	_____
<b><u>Members and Adult-Guests, Not all four days</u></b>			
Monday	_____	\$10	_____
Tuesday	_____	\$10	_____
Wednesday (Includes Buffet)	_____	\$53	_____
Thursday (Includes Banquet)	_____	\$69	_____

**Guests (Not already included above) for only the Wednesday Buffet and/or Thursday Banquet**

Wednesday Buffet:	_____	\$43	_____
Thursday Banquet:	_____	\$59	_____

**Total Reunion Fee** \_\_\_\_\_

**Banquet Entrée Choices (Give number for each)**

Beef Medallions \_\_\_\_\_  
 Saguaro Salmon \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chef's Choice Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_

(Continued on Reverse Side)

**Topeka 2016 Sedona, AZ Reunion Registration (continued)**

<b><u>Tour</u></b>	<b><u>Number</u></b>	<b><u>Price</u></b>	<b><u>Cost</u></b>
<b>“A” Sedona &amp; Vicinity</b> Mon (9:30 AM – 2:30 PM) (Lunch not included)	_____	\$27	_____
<b>“B” Fort Verde &amp; Montezuma’s Castle</b> Tue (9:30 AM – 3:30 PM ) (See Note B)	_____	\$37	_____
<b>“C” Historic Jerome</b> Wed ( 9:00 AM – 3:15 PM ) (Lunch included)	_____	\$54	_____
	Tour Cost		_____
	Reunion Fee (From First Page)		_____
	<b>Total Cost</b>		_____

Space is limited on all tours due to the size of the buses, so make your plans early.

**Note B:** Tour “B” **Does not** include lunch. It also **does not include entry fee** to Montezuma’s Castle National Monument. It is part of the National Park System and many of you already have the Golden Age Passport which allows free entry to all national parks and monuments. The entry fee to Montezuma’s Castle is \$10.00 a person, but the Golden Age Passport is also \$10.00, and it allows lifetime entry to all the National Park System for yourself and three others. Passport may be purchased at the Monument. **If you already have a Golden Age Passport please bring it.**

**Deadline for payment and receipt of above costs is August 25 , 2016**, but please make your arrangements as soon as possible.

Make checks payable to USS Topeka Association. and mail to:  
Gary Baker, 1240 Lonesome Pine Lane, Billings, MT 59105-1646

**HOTEL AND RESERVATION INFORMATION**

Hotel: Poco Diablo Resort  
Address: 1752 State Route 179, Sedona, AZ 86336 Telephone: 1-928-282-7333

Our group room rates are \$139/day for Traditional King or Double Queen room and \$169/day for a Poco King room (Plus room tax of 13.4 % and \$10.00 Resort Fee.) The group room rates will be honored from Sept 23 thru Oct 3. **Reservations must be made by August 25, 2016.**

Hotel reservations can be made on-line for the period September 25<sup>th</sup> through September 29<sup>th</sup>. Copy and paste, or type, this link in your browser: <http://www.usstopekaclg8.org/Reservations.htm>. Reservations can also be made by calling the hotel directly at 1-928-203-5923. Be sure to ask for USS Topeka Reunion group rate.

If you have problems with reservations (e.g., rates, availability, etc.), call Gary Baker at 406-252-4546, or email him at [gbaker@usstopekaclg8.org](mailto:gbaker@usstopekaclg8.org).