

USS TOPEKA CLG-8

Reunion Association Newsletter

Volume 22, No. 2

June 2011

Officers:

John Reynolds, Chairman, Board of Directors; John Reynolds, President;
Dudley Cass, Secretary-Treasurer;
Ruth Judge, Kathy & Ray Spatz, Reunion Chairman;
Kathy Spatz, Newsletter Editor; Ken Noble, Web Master;
Linda Roberts, Ships Store



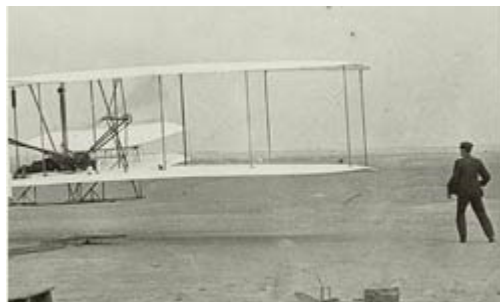
FROM THE PRESIDENT

A mural on the wall of my high school featured a large oak tree with a small acorn beside it. The caption read: "Large oaks from little acorns grow." I couldn't help thinking of that picture as I visited the Air & Space Museum in Washington D.C. That fabulous Museum has everything from the Wright Brothers little box kite aircraft to the stealth bomber. And if that wasn't enough there is an entire section devoted to the space program and the amazing moon landing. Your heart will skip a few beats as you wander through the exhibits and see the gains we have made in aviation in the years following the Wright Brothers flight.

You can stand on the bridge of an aircraft carrier and watch the planes take-off and land, and you will enjoy an entire day and still only scratch the surface. The best part of it all is that it's free (at least it was the last time I was there).

This is definitely something you shouldn't miss, I go there every time I am in D.C. and I never tire of it.

JR



NEW MEMBERS (since March 2011)

Gary Whitehead SN 68-69 Washington IL
Bob Lewis MR2 64-65 Pateros WA
Mark King FTM2 63-65 Missoula MT

TAPS

Loy Nix GMM1 59-62 Estill SC 2011
Irye Couch BM1 60-65 Grand Junction CO 2011
Jack Timmons LTJG 64-65 San Diego CA 2011
James Reynaud FTM3 66-68 Midland TX 2011
James Rebeor MMFN 68-69 Oswego NY 2011



WHO IS COMING TO DC
(taken from intention forms)

LASTNAME	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Adams	2	2	2	2	2
Altamirano	2	2	2	2	2
Anderson				1	1
Anderson				2	2
Baker	2	2	2	2	2
Bond	1	1	1	1	
Brooks	2	2	2	2	2
Cass	2	2	2	2	4
Clymer		2	2	2	
Connery	2	2	2	2	2
Craig		1	1	1	1
Crane				1	1
Crum			1	1	1
Fitzpatrick		2	2	2	2
Gray	2	2	2	2	2
Gustafson	2	2	2	2	2
Hall		2	2	2	2
Henslee	2	2	2	2	2
Hight	2	2	2	2	2
Hoel	2	2	2	2	2
Houseknecht		2	2	2	2
Jackson	2	2	2	2	2
Johansen	2	2	2	2	2
Jones	2	2	2	2	2
Judge	4	4	4	4	4
Kershaw	1	1	1	1	1
King					8
Ladd	2	2	2	2	2
Luistro		2	2	2	2
Moore	2	2	2	2	2
Ohm				1	1
Pennington	2	2	2	2	2
Reynolds	2	2	2	2	2
Roberts	2	2	2	2	2
Rudin	2	2	2	2	2
Rutter				2	2
Schroder		2	2	2	2
Smart	2	2	2	2	2
Spatz	2	2	2	2	2
Starr	2	2	2	2	2
Stein	2	2	2	2	2
Stumpf				1	1
Tipton		2	2	2	2
Wallace		2	2	2	2
Weeks			2	2	2
Woolston			2	2	2
Wooten		2	2	2	2

HOW TO GET TO HOTEL FROM DULLES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

There is no hotel shuttle from Dulles to the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center.

You need to arrange for a shuttle yourself. I have arranged for myself and it is about \$18 to \$20 each person one way, they meet your flight and for return, they pick up at the hotel. Have your airline information for them.

You call Super Shuttle 1-800-258-3826 and they will make your reservation.

HOW TO GET TO HOTEL FROM REAGAN (NATIONAL) AIRPORT

After getting baggage go to the area that says Hotel Shuttles and get on the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center shuttle. Comes every 15/20 minutes and drives past, so hail them when you see them and they will stop and take you to hotel.

TOPEKA CLG8 PLANK OWNERS

All the plank pieces have been given out to plank owners who got their names in first. If you did not get your name in I am very sorry. In case any more turn up I have started a list that has 3 people on it now. For those who have their piece of plank I hope you are enjoying a piece of history.

Submitted by Ruth Judge

CITIES PROPOSED FOR 2012 REUNION

Dan Moore proposed Branson and Cleveland, Paul Stein proposed Madison WI and both will present information on the cities at the 2011 Reunion in Washington DC area.

GOLF ANYONE?

Bob Ohm (ET2: 1960-61) has volunteered to coordinate a golf outing during the DC reunion. Please let him know if you're interested, to include the day that would be best for you. Possible courses are Andrews AFB (three courses) or Fort Belvoir (two courses). Bob's contact info:

E-mail: boh107w@aol.com

Home: 410-552-9030

Cell: 443-695-3991

Tour Details: For the tours below, all admission, fees, driver, tour guide-narrator gratuities are included in the price. The cost of lunch on your own is not included.

“A” Mt. Vernon & Old Town Alexandria – Wednesday, August 24, 2011

Time of the tour - 9:00AM to 3:15 PM

Morning begins with trip to Washington’s lavish, beloved estate, **Mount Vernon**.

You will tour through 14 rooms of the mansion; learn about plantation life in pre-colonial America. A highlight is visit to **Reynolds Museum Center**, 25 galleries and theaters about Washington’s exceptional life. We will go back to **Old Towne, Alexandria**, which Washington surveyed. Free time, “lunch on your own”, to explore cobblestone streets, quaint restaurants, many boutiques.

Cost: \$65 per person (includes \$15 entrance to Mt. Vernon)

“B” Welcome to Washington by Day - Thursday, August 25, 2011

Time of the tour – 8:45AM to 4:00PM

Our morning begins with visit to **FDR Memorial** across from the **Tidal Basin**. Then a stop at the **National WWII Memorial** honoring the defining event of the 20th century. Next, **Capitol Hill** to view the US Capitol Building, including the Senate and House of Representatives Office Buildings.

Stop at **Union Station**, restored with specialty shops, restaurants and boutiques. “Lunch on your own”. Finally the afternoon will be spent at **Arlington National Cemetery**; we will witness the “changing of the guard” at Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, stop at JFK eternal flame.

Some time will be allowed for private visits.

Cost: \$64.00 per person (includes \$9.50 Arlington Tour mobile, private)

“C” Washington by Night with Dinner – Thursday, August 25, 2011

Time of the tour – 6:15PM to 10:45PM

We begin with dinner at Washington’s famous **Tuscan West Restaurant** dating back to 1856.

Choice of 4 entrees: 8oz sirloin steak, fresh swordfish, fresh rolled ravioli, or green spinach gnocchi (choices made at time of dinner). When sun goes down we will tour with a professional narration of many of the magnificent monuments illuminated in spotlights, **White House, Capitol’s dome, Washington Monument and reflecting pool...**

Several stops will give a close up view of Washington at night. Final stop is the awe-inspiring **Lincoln Memorial and Vietnam Wall and Korean Memorial**.

Cost: \$91.00 per person (includes \$46.50 dinner, coffee & tea, not bar drinks)

“D” Navy Memorial and more – Friday, August 26, 2011

Time of the tour – 8:45AM to 3:30PM

We begin with a stop at the White House for a Photo op and narration of the life and life styles of the occupants. Then to the **Naval Memorial and Heritage Center**, honoring and commemorating the sailors of the US Navy. Next we travel to **Georgetown**, rich in history and charm. A historic bonanza of homes and public buildings. A city within a city for “lunch on your own”. Final stop is the highest point in the city **the Washington Cathedral**. We will have a private tour of the Gothic structure modeled after great Cathedrals of Notre Dame, Chartres and Milan.

Enroute back to the hotel we will travel along **Embassy Row** developed for wealthy and influential citizens of early 20th century. Now it is the home of more than 100 foreign dwellings, the setting of Washington’s diplomatic life.

Cost: \$61.00 per person (includes Cathedral donation \$4, Navy Memorial \$2.50)

OR

“E” USMC Museum– Friday, August 26, 2011

Time of the tour – 8:30AM to 3:30PM

The **USMC Museum** is located about ½ hour from our hotel near the Quantico Marine base. The museum goes from the recruiting efforts in 1775, through WW I, through German lines in France at Belleau Wood, where Marines earned the nickname “Teufelhunden” meaning “Devil Dogs”. Visitors will see, hear, feel and smell the battles. There are 2 restaurants at the museum for “lunch on your own”.

One is a replica of **TUN TAVERN** originally located in Philadelphia, the birthplace of the Marine Corps in 1775. It is a small tavern/restaurant with tons of atmosphere and story telling bartender/waiters.

COST: TBD. Will collect from each participant at time of tour. Estimate \$40 per person.

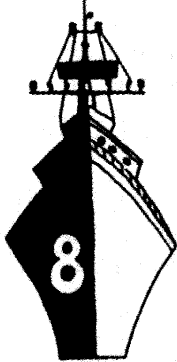
USS TOPEKA REUNION ASSOCIATION

C/O Dudley Cass

3028 Bonita Woods Drive

Bonita, CA 91902-2019

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U.S. Postage Paid
Tulsa, OK
Permit # 2146



NAMES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Board of Directors

John Reynolds, 916 Esplanade #107, Redondo Beach, CA 90277; 310-540-7817; Email canrc@verizon.net

Board Members: Dudley Cass, Jerry Craig, Jack Connery, Ken Noble, Ray Spatz, Dan Moore, Jack Timmons

President

John Reynolds, 916 Esplanade #107, Redondo Beach, CA 90277; 310-540-7817; Email canrc@verizon.net

Secretary-Treasurer

Dudley Cass, 3028 Bonita Woods Drive, Bonita, CA 91902-2019; 619-267-3123; Email DudCass@aol.com

2011 Reunion Coordinator

Ruth Judge, 68E. Sierra Way, Chula Vista, CA 91911, , rajtr@cox.net, Kathy and Ray Spatz, 503 Olive Blvd., South Hempstead, NY 11550, kspatz@optonline.net

Newsletter Editor

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Webmaster

Ken Noble, 14019 Summer Bay Lane, Broomfield, CO 80020; 303-410-7150; Email kwnoble@usstopekaclg8.org

Ships Store

Linda Roberts, 7315 Valley Lane, Hixson, TN 37343-2207; 423-842-5147; Email ijlrob@aol.com

SHIPS STORE

Most of the merchandise will be available at the 2011 Reunion. All orders should be sent to Linda Roberts at 7315 Valley Lane, Hixson, TN 37343-2207. Linda's phone number is 423-842-5147. Include \$5.00 shipping with each order and make checks or money order payable to the Reunion Association and send to Linda with your order. (Items subject to change)

Ladies Shirts

White	\$19.00
Cardigan Baby Blue	\$20.00
Scoop Neck Blue	\$16.00
V-Neck L. Pink & Pistachio	\$16.00

Polo 2003

Navy/White XL, XXL	\$20.00
White/Navy XL, XXL	20.00
Navy w/pocket XXL	20.00

Polo 2005

Navy M, L	\$19.00
Med Blue L	19.00
Red w/pocket M	21.00

Men's Shirts

Dessert Moon	34.00
Nike Blue	31.00

Jackets

Red Jackets	\$36.00
Ping-Canvas	\$48.00

Assorted items available

Ball Caps	\$12.00
Cold Drink Holders	4.00
Coffee mugs w/Topeka emblem	5.00
Topeka Note pads (5 pack)	4.00
License Plate Holder	3.00

Reunion Washington DC August 23-27 2011

The date for the reunion is Tuesday Aug 23 through Saturday Aug 27. Late August weather in Wash DC – expect hot weather and hope for comfortable weather. You may need a light jacket for showers, or for the cooler evenings.

Reunion Tours and Events

<u>Tour/Event</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Hosp. Room	Tue	PM	Setup and Open Hosp Room
Mt. Vernon/Old Town Old Towne, Alexandria	Wed	9a-3:15p	Mt. Vernon, Reynolds Museum,
Board Meeting	Wed	4:30 p	Board business meeting
Day Tour Washington Capitol Hill, Union Station, Arlington Cemetery	Thu	8:45a-4p	FDR Memorial, WWII Memorial,
Nite Tour Washington	Thu	6:15p-10:45p	Tuscan West Restaurant Dinner, White House, Capitol Dome, Washington Monument, Reflecting Pool by nite
Navy Memorial Washington National Cathedral, Embassy Row	Fri	8:45a-3:30p	Naval Memorial, Georgetown,
USMC Museum near Quantico	Fri	8:30-3:30p	Museum, Tun Tavern,
Friday Buffet	Fri	6p-8p	Cocktail hour followed by Buffet
Membership Meeting	Sat	9a-11a	Group photos after meeting
Saturday Banquet	Sat	6p-9p	Cocktail hour, banquet, program

The hotel is the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center. The hotel provides 24/7 shuttle service (free) to and from the airport, and to the nearest METRO station at Pentagon City. (The Metro is an excellent way to get around in the DC downtown area – for example the Smithsonian, Navy Memorial, Arlington National cemetery are near stops on the Blue and/or Yellow lines which you can choose at the Pentagon City station). \$7 discounted self parking is available to overnight and event attendees.

The hotel room rate is \$109 per night, single or double occupancy, (\$129 triple, \$149 quad) (plus 11.5% room tax, and \$1 daily room fee) and includes a breakfast at no extra charge Wednesday thru Saturday morning. The special room rates are available for 2 days before/after the reunion date, subject to availability. Handicap and smoking rooms are available. Hotel wheel-chairs are available for guests arriving or departing the hotel. 24/7 wheel-chairs must be arranged by the guest. **See the reverse side of the registration form for hotel reservation information.**

The **Hospitality Room** is where we visit, relax, swap sea-stories, look at cruise books, share photos, etc.. Coffee, beverages (alcoholic and non-alcoholic) and snacks will be available. The Hospitality room will be setup Tuesday and will be open for check-ins Tuesday afternoon and evening, and will be open 7 am to 11 pm Wednesday thru Saturday, except during the Friday evening buffet and the Saturday evening banquet.

The **Ship's Store** will be set up in a nearby room with caps, tee/golf shirts, jackets, etc.

Our Friday buffet, and the Saturday banquet, will be at the hotel. The menus: **Friday Buffet** – BBQ Slow Cooked Baby Back Ribs, Grilled Breast of Chicken, Salad(s), Vegetables, Dessert, Coffee and Tea. **Saturday Banquet** – Salad, choice of Entrees; Steakhouse Flat Iron Angus Steak, Seared Salmon with Lemon-Chive Sauce, Grilled Marinated Chicken Paillard with tomato-scallion relish, or Vegetarian; Red Bliss potatoes roasted with herbs & garlic, Dessert. Coffee, tea, choice of wine (by glass). Child's Plate(12 yrs or younger): Chicken Fingers and Fries, Fruit cup, Ice cream, Soda or Juice **No-host bar at both the events.**

REUNION REGISTRATION
USS TOPEKA (CLG-8) Reunion Association
22nd Annual Reunion, Washington D.C. August 23-27, 2011

Name _____ Number in party _____
 Staying at the reunion hotel: Hilton Alexandria Mark Center? _____
 What nights? Check: Tue ___ Wed ___ Thu ___ Fri ___ Sat ___ Sun ___
 Any Handicap and/or Special Dietary Requirements? _____
 Emergency Contact: Name _____ Phone () _____
 Name(s) for nametag(s) (if you haven't previously received permanent nametag):

Reunion Fee: The Reunion Fee includes the fixed costs of the reunion (e.g. Bartenders at the Buffet and Banquet, Event liability insurance, rooms for Reunion Coordinator and Sect/Treas, and Banquet guests – Speaker and Color Guard), the costs of snacks and beverages in Hospitality Room, and the Friday night Buffet and Saturday night Banquet.

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

	Number Attending	Price (Per Person)	Cost
<u>Members and Adult-Guests, All four days</u> (Includes Buffet and Banquet)	_____	\$145	_____
<u>Members and Adult-Guests, Not all four days</u>			
Wednesday	_____	\$10	_____
Thursday	_____	\$15	_____
Friday (Includes Buffet)	_____	\$55	_____
Saturday (Includes Banquet)	_____	\$65	_____
<u>Guests (Not already included above) For Only the Friday Buffet and/or Saturday Banquet</u>			
Friday Buffet: Adult	_____	\$45	_____
Teen's	_____	\$45	_____
Children (3-12)	_____	\$25	_____
Sat Banquet: Adult	_____	\$55	_____
Teen's	_____	\$45	_____
Children (3-12)	_____	\$33	_____
Total Reunion Fee Costs	_____		

Banquet Entrée Choices (give number for each)

Seared Salmon _____ Flat Iron Angus Steak _____
 Grilled Chicken Paillard _____ Vegetarian _____
 Child's Plate: Chicken Fingers _____

(Continued on Reverse Side)

TOPEKA 2011 Wash DC Reunion Registration (continued)

Tour	Number	Price	Cost
“A” Mt Vernon/Old Town Alexandria Wed 9AM- 3:15 PM	_____	\$65	_____
“B” Welcome to Washington by Day Thu 8:45AM-4PM	_____	\$64	_____
“C” Washington by Night with Dinner Thu 6:15PM-10:45PM	_____	\$91	_____
“D” Navy Memorial Fri 8:45AM – 3:30PM	_____	\$61	_____
“E” USMC Museum Fri 8:30AM-3:30PM	_____	TBD	<u>TBD</u>

Price: TBD. Will collect from each participant at time of tour - estimate \$40 per person.

Tours Cost Total _____

Reunion Fees and Tours Cost Total _____

Deadline for Payment and Receipt of above costs is July 22, 2011.

Make checks payable to Topeka Reunion Assn. and mail to:
Dudley Cass, 3018 Bonita Woods Dr, Bonita CA 91902-2019

HOTEL AND RESERVATION INFORMATION

Hotel: **Hilton Alexandria Mark Center**

Address: 5000 Seminary Road, Alexandria VA 22311 Telephone: 703-845-7668

For Reservations, Call the hotel room reservation department at **1-703-845-1010**, or the toll-free number **1-877-783-8258**. Request the group rate for **USS Topeka 22nd Reunion**. Deadline for this group rate is July 22, 2011.

Your will be asked for Arrival Date, Departure Date, Your Full Name, Number in your party, and Credit Card #.

Rooms may be reserved, as available, 3 days before, and 3 days after the contracted dates (Aug 23 thru Aug 27). Handicap rooms and smoking-allowed rooms may be reserved, as available.

Our group room rates are \$109/day for single/double; \$129/day for triple; \$149/day for quad ; plus local taxes and fees, currently 11.5% + \$1 daily per room.

Early Departure Fee: If you checkout prior to your reservation check-out date, a \$75 early-checkout-fee will be added to your bill. To avoid this fee, advise the hotel at or before check-in of any change to reservation length of stay.

If you have problems with reservations (e.g., rates, availability, etc.), call Dudley or Ruth Cass at 619-267-3123, or email them at dudcass@aol.com or bonitarcdc@aol.com