

Here's the Reunion Deal



The Hilton folks are completely remodeling their DOUBLE TREE INN so when you arrive in July you will think you are walking into a brand new motel. And good news for those who drive to the reunion . . . the parking is free.

The twin cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul are served by many airlines and by Amtrak. Driving? You'll find interstate highways I-94 and I-35W bring you right into the downtown.

What to wear . . . well, it could be quite warm. The average high temperature is 84 degrees and the average low is 62 degrees. "Minnesota is a casual place; whatever clothing you are comfortable in at home will be just fine here," to quote the guide book. Minneapolis and St. Paul are steeped in American history . . . you might want to get a guide book and become acquainted with the "twin cities."

Oh, you asked about the mall of America; there are 520 shops . . . 50 restaurants . . . an indoor amusement park and the Sea Life Aquarium. Over 4.2 million square feet to explore.

So OK . . . that's well and good but what's the plan at the Double Tree Inn?

THURSDAY JULY 19	Registration! Bring your badge holders. Welcoming reception.
FRIDAY JULY 20	A fantastic four-hour luncheon river cruise. (back in time so there will be time to go to the MALL if you wish)
SATURDAY JULY 21	General business meeting in the morning, and the banquet and band in the evening.
SUNDAY JULY 22	Farewell breakfast buffet and comments. Reunion concluded.

and this is the deal with the room rates . . . which are good only until July 1st

Single or Double . . . \$89.00 choose two double, two Queen or one King
Three people \$99.00
Four people \$109.00

All rates plus 14.275% taxes and are available for up to five days before or after the reunion conclusion.

Double Tree Inn by Hilton
Bloomington-Minneapolis South
7800 Normandale Blvd.
Minneapolis, MN 55439

Phone: 952-835-7800

*Be sure you mention that you
are with the USS Franklin group!*



USS FRANKLIN CV13 MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

A NOT FOR PROFIT AND CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION

OUR MEMORIAL PLAQUES ON DISPLAY IN FLORIDA

CITY OF STUART DEDICATED A NEW VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK IN NOVEMBER 2011

This past year has been a whirlwind for Sam and Elaine Rhodes. Early in 2011 they learned that a new Veterans Memorial Park was being constructed in Stuart which is just a little bit south of their home in Jensen Beach so they investigated the possibility of having our memorial plaques permanently installed in the park. The Stuart officials said they would welcome a display of our plaques. The park honors all who have served in the military forces. Stuart is located on the Atlantic coastline midway between Fort Pierce and West Palm Beach.

There was a set of the black granite plaques in storage so Sam made arrangements for their shipment to the park site. All of this took time of course and Veteran's day was creeping closer. The Park construction was still incomplete so there was frequent anxious communication.

However the park was completed on time and our plaques arrived without a scratch. The plaques are on display but on a temporary base: there just wasn't enough time for the city of Stuart folks to construct a permanent base. A permanent base is under construction now.

Sam and Elaine contacted Museum Association members who live close enough to drive to Stuart advising the Veteran's Day ceremony and some made the journey. Pictured in the photograph, from the left to the right are crew members Leo Hopkins, Sam Rhodes, Walter Jordan and Arnold Bardill.

Dedication of the park was a major event. It began with a parade of sixty nine units consisting of veterans organizations, marching bands, civic groups, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Brownies and, of course, elected officials. At hand to greet the folks were: Joe Negron, Senator; Jeffrey A. Krauskopf, Mayor; Gayle Harrell and William Snyder, State Representatives; and Ruth Pietruszewski, Marin County Tax Collector.

Sam played a dual role during the Veterans Day ceremony. He presided over the plaques dedication and also spoke about World War 2. Sam was one of the original five Directors in 1988 and is the only one left! Still on the Board, serving diligently and not about to retire.





from the desk of the president . . .

Greetings:

In recent years we have encouraged family members to become candidates for Board membership and we have been successful. Look at the column on the right . . . today the Board consists of five crew members and seven family members. We are supposed to have thirteen; perhaps the vacant position will be filled at our next election of Directors in October.

More family members than crew members attend the annual reunions. Not an earth shaking revelation I'm sure. My point is, we welcome family members. If you have lost your beloved crew member, you *remain* a member of the USS Franklin Museum Association family.

Our annual meeting is not a crew reunion, it is a Franklin *family* reunion. I'm sure you appreciate that the 2011 reunion was chaired by Ken and April Homko, and the 2012 reunion is chaired by Stephen Rausch; these are family members.

Yes, I have expressed my appreciation of our volunteers before, but let me again say Directors, Committee Members and reunion chairpersons have my most profound thanks

Dr. H. Prentice Baptiste, Jr.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President
H. Prentice Baptiste

Vice President
Ray C. Bailey

Secretary
Beth Conard-Rowland

Treasurer
Kenneth Homko

Class of 2012
Ray C. Bailey
Robert A. Ladewig
Samuel Rhodes
Beth Conard-Rowland

Class of 2013
Robert E. Baines
Sheila Hartley
Jeannette Haugk
Kenneth Homko

Class of 2014
William Albrecht
H. Prentice Baptiste
Kathy Dalton-Uecker
Melissa Yates

Board Membership Is Open to All Museum Members

Board membership is no longer restricted to crew members. In fact, in the interest of perpetuating the Museum we have to have younger people on the Board. So, if you are interested, follow these criteria:

A) be at least twenty-one years of age, **B)** be a current paid up member of the Museum Association, **C)** make an effort to attend the reunions, **D)** submit a 250 word essay on why you wish to serve on the Board including any experience or ability you can offer. This essay is to be mailed to:

H. Prentice Baptiste
2205 Colonial Drive
League City, TX 77573-5873

**MUST BE MAILED NO LATER THAN
OCTOBER 1, 2012**

ANNUAL ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

This is our procedure for electing candidates to the Board of Directors.

October						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			
November						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

OCTOBER —

During the second week of October a ballot will be mailed with a listing of the candidates and their profile.

The ballot will be mailed only to each person who has paid their 2012 annual dues.

NOVEMBER —

The ballot will be identified as such and the mailing address will be listed with the election date to be Saturday, November 17, 2012. Ballots received after that date will not be counted.

In Memoriam

8 O'CLOCK REPORT

Word was received that these crew members have been absent from muster since our last newsletter. Seamen who received orders from the Supreme Commander, were transferred to The Big Ship In The Sky.

Joseph Fallanca S2/c R2-Div.
George H. Hamilton Ens R-Div. Lcdr. Ret.
Wilson Helsel Lt (jg) N-Div.
Reon G. Hillegrass Jr. ABM3/c V3-Div.
Orville T. Holley F1/c B-Div.
John M. Jackson AOM1/c VT 13-Div.

Frank H. LaRiviere RMC K-Div. RMC Ret.
Kenneth N. Linder Sr. 1st Lt. VMF-214
Robert D. McCrary Ens. 1st Div. Capt. Ret.
Bernard Petrie Sgt VMF-14
Stephen W. Pinson MAM2/c K-Div.
Julian B. (Dusty) Rhodes

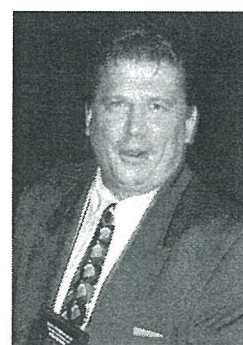
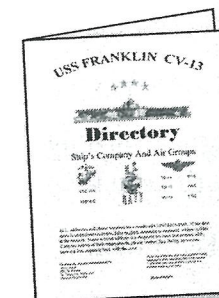
*The Supreme Commander called them home to sail the crystal sea,
Where they will steer with steady hand throughout eternity,
No longer will the high sea roll,
The skies will be clear and every day will be a day of happiness and cheer,
No storm shall cross their valiant prow and calm will be the sea,
In that bright place where all is well and kindly is the breeze,
They are at peace with our shipmates who have gone before.*

Please send information on the death of a crew member to
Ms. Louise Mast 11217 Terra Vista Parkway Unit F Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730-7453

108 PAGE DIRECTORY

Order from – with
check payable to **\$20.00**
Postage Paid

Ms. Louise Mast
11217 Terra Vista Parkway Unit F
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730-7453

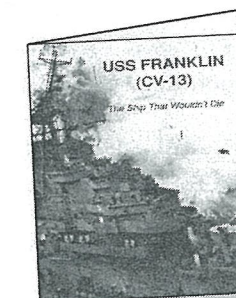


*When you pay your dues you become
a member in good standing!*

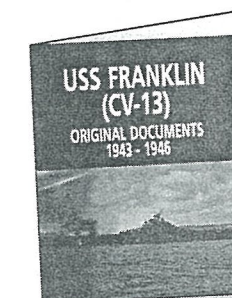
**2012 Annual dues
\$10.00**

Check payable to: USS Franklin Museum Association

MAIL TO: Kenneth Homko, Treasurer
2210 Grey Hawk Drive
Plainfield, IL 60586



\$53.00
Postage Paid



\$53.00
Postage Paid

There is no other more definitive history of the role the USS Franklin played in World War 2 than that recorded in these two books. Priceless for a crew member or his family.

Check payable to: USS Franklin Museum Association

ORDER FROM: Robert A. Ladewig
331A Oak Hill Road
Lake Barrington, IL 60010-1686