

# FRANKLIN PLAQUES DEDICATED IN FLORIDA

## Stuart Constructs Veteran Park For Commemorative Monuments

Sometimes a dream comes true . . . and that is what happened for Sam Rhodes. A few years ago he learned the city of Stuart was considering building a landscaped park where military Veteran organizations could place a memorial. Exactly what he had in mind for our memorial plaques!

It took time to obtain the construction financing, but on Veterans Day in November of 2013 the park was a reality. The event was celebrated with a community wide parade with Sam and Elaine riding in the lead vehicle . . . he was the Parade Marshal!

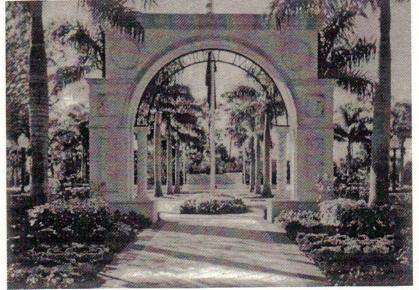
That's Sam, standing at attention and saluting along side our monument. There are two benches flanking the monument so visitors may rest for a bit, perhaps remembering a friend or relative whose name is one of those on the plaques.



There were many organizations and even a band or two with folks on the curbs cheering the marchers on. Dedication ceremony was carried out by several distinguished speakers. Sam was one of them of course. A number of our crew who

reside in Florida were in the audience.

The park will be maintained by the city. If you happen to be in Florida come over to the east coast and stop by Stuart . . . it is a beautiful park.







# from the desk of the president . . .

Greetings:

As your President, I am looking forward to being with each of you in Norfolk, Virginia in 2014. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the board members of the USS Franklin CV-13 Museum Association for their hard work and commitment to our Association.

Their responsibilities and duties are continuous through out the year with subtle highlights during the reunion. The following are just some examples of the kind of activities that various board members were engaged in during the previous year:

- Louise Mast and Bob Ladewig conducted our annual election of board members.
- Kenneth Homko, our treasurer, was engaged in those responsibilities that assure that our organization fulfills its nonprofit status.
- Beth Rowland, our secretary, secures the records of our minutes and always has available information from our board meetings and committee meetings.
- Bill Albrecht has given freely of his time and legal expertise to gently keep us on course.
- Jeannette Haugk, as we all know, stepped in last year and provided the leadership for the successful reunion in Charleston, SC.
- Sam and Elaine Rhodes accomplished the goal of having USS Franklin Plaques installed at Veteran Memorial Park in Stuart, Florida.

Board members, please accept our deepest gratitude on behalf of myself and the USS Franklin CV-13 family members for all that you do to keep us afloat.

Hentre Buplist

Dr. H. Prentice Baptiste, Jr.

#### ANNUAL ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

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

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#### 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 2014 annual dues.

#### NOVEMBER -

The ballot will be tabulated on Saturday, November 8, 2014. Ballots received after that date will not be counted.



## 116 PAGE DIRECTORY

\$20.00 Postage Paid

This 116 page DIRECTORY lists members of the Ship's Company and Air Groups. Computer file information is updated daily and each copy is assembled by hand to order.

## Order from - with check payable to:

Ms. Louise Mast Terra Vista Parkway Unit

11217 Terra Vista Parkway Unit F Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730-7453

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- PRESIDENT-H. Prentice Baptiste

> Vice President Ray C. Bailey

Secretary
Beth Conard-Rowland

Treasurer Kenneth Homko

-DIRECTORS-CLASS OF 2014 William Albrecht H. Prentice Baptiste Kathy Dalton-Uecker Melissa Yates

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

CLASS OF 2016

Darren Hamm

Sheila Hartley

Jeannette Haugk

Kenneth Homko

Louise Mast

# In Memoriam

#### 8 O'CLOCK REPORT

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

Jerry Brooks, AP2/c A-Div. AKC Ret.
Robert S. Crandall, RM2/c K-Div.

John J. Cummisk, S2/c V4-Div. RDC Ret.
Edward S. Luta, Coxswain 6th & 8th-Div.
Glenn K. Davis, AMM3/c V1-Div.
Nicholas J. Mady, AMM3/c V2-Div.

Victor M. Mihal, RM2/c K-Div.

Gerald E. Scannell, AMM1/c VB-13

Ernest S. Scott, WT2/c B-Div.

Laverne A. Stonegraber, A1/c V1-Div.

Bill Joe White Lt. (jg.)

Robert E. Woodworth, S1/c R-Div.

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



# www.ussfranklin.org

Log on, sign in and leave a message!

Our web site is updated and maintained by Darren Hamm and has hundreds of messages from crew members and friends. You will be pleasantly surprised to see what a wide-spread following we have.



Become a member in good standing . . . pay your dues today!

Annual dues just

Check payable to: USS Franklin Museum Association

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

Life in the twentieth century is like a parachute jump . . . You have to get it right the first time.

Margaret Mead

# FRANKLIN FOOTPRINT FROM SEA TO SHINING SEA

#### Black Granite Memorial Plaques — 925 names listed

Garden Grove, CA — Don Gary Park, 20 March 1993

Bremerton, WA — PSN Plaza, 16 June 1994

- Fall River, MA USS Massachusetts (BB-59), 10 October 1994
- St. Louis, MO Soldiers Memorial, 17 June 1997
- Great Lakes, IL Great Lakes Naval Museum 31 October 1997
- Fort Schuyler, NY, 10 November 2001
- Alameda, CA Dedication of Crew's Lounge on USS Hornet (CV-12) 19 March 2004
- Stuart, FL Veterans Memorial Park November 2013

#### Other USS Franklin Memorial Plaques

- Aircraft Carrier Obelisk San Diego, CA, 17 February 1993
- Admiral Nimitz Museum Fredricksburg, TX, 20 March 1995
- US Air Force Museum Dayton, OH, 22 September 1995
- Westerville, OH, 9 November 1997
- Navy Memorial Washington, DC, 29 August 1998
- USS Salem (CA-139) Quincy, MA, 12 October 1996
- Lt. Don Gary Memorial Findlay, OH, 23 July 2001
- Honiara, Solomon Islands 2002
- USS Midway (CV-41) 2004

Though the crew reunions began in 1950 it wasn't until 1988 when Bob St. Peters called eight crew members together and the Association was chartered by the State of Illinois. That is when the serious work of putting the USS Franklin on the map began.

Our memorials have come into existence because crew members often spent months working with city officials.



Many of those dedicated members are gone now – but their efforts live on.

We all played a role in our endeavors: the membership at large paid for the plaques with their dues and donations.

Are we through? Well, not exactly. Though there is no site being considered a volunteer may step up at any moment.

LOOK INSIDE FOR THE DAILY ACTIVITY PROGRAM AND RESERVATION FORM

2014 REUNION
JULY 17.78.79.20
Sheraton Morfolk
Waterside Hotel

USS FRANKLIN MUSEUM ASSN.

11217 Terra Vista Parkway Unit F
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730-7453

Mr. Darren Hamm\* 7749 County Road W. West Bend Wl. 53090-9353

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