

USS McKean DD 784 / DDR 784 SCUTTLEBUTT

July, 2015

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(J'aibon Esperance) "I Have Great Expectations"

NOW HEAR THIS: We Want You At Our 2015 Reunion. Don't Miss Out.

- ***Reserve Your Hotel Room Directly With The Hotel AND***
- ***Register With The USS McKean Reunion Association For Our September 25-27, 2015 Reunion In Indianapolis, Indiana***

REUNION LODGING:

Thanks to the hard work of Mike Colby (1965-1967, IC3), we will have another excellent venue for our 2015 reunion. Our reunion will be at the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center, 2930 Waterfront Parkway West Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46214 (www.clarionwaterfront.net).

All rooms feature cable television, coffee makers and hairdryers. Some rooms also include refrigerators and microwaves. Non-smoking rooms are available.

Additional amenities include:

- Free deluxe continental breakfast
- Free wireless high-speed Internet access
- Free newspaper
- Indoor heated pool & hot tub
- Fitness center
- Free outdoor parking

Make your reservations as soon as you possibly can by calling the Clarion Hotel at 317 299 8400.

The room rate is \$79 per night plus 17% tax.. This rate applies 9/23/15 through 9/30/15. The room rate is guaranteed until **8/23/15**. This is our cutoff date. On this date, rooms which have not been reserved will be released to the general public. Rooms will then be based on availability at the then current rate.

REUNION ITINERARY:

Friday 9/25

10:00 Reunion Check-In & Hospitality room opens

Saturday 9/26

09:00 "Crossing the bar" memorial at the hotel

10:00 Board bus at the hotel for travel to the Indiana State Museum and the IMAX Theater

10:30 Tour museum and possibly view an IMAX movie depending on current show times and length

12:30 Depart museum for lunch at Shapiro's Deli, a landmark deli in downtown Indianapolis

14:00 Depart Shapiro's Deli for Indiana History Center (**See Saturday Activities**)

14:30 Visit the Indiana History Center and the Historic Downtown Central Canal

16:30 Depart Indiana History Center and return to the hotel

17:00 Arrive at hotel

18:00 Hospitality room opens.

19:00 Attend the association meeting and auction in the hospitality room.

Sunday 9/27

Free day for you to sight-see until 16:30.

08:30 Hospitality room opens

16:30 Group & Couples Pictures (See Note)

18:00 Banquet with a Guest Speaker

Note: Couples pictures will be taken immediately before the Group pictures. The charge for couple's pictures will be \$10 for an 8 x 10 photograph to be collected by Joe Winkel. All pictures will be mailed to you 2 to 3 weeks after the reunion.

REUNION REGISTRATION FEE

The USS McKean Reunion Association registration fee is \$75 per person. Complete the attached registration form and send it along with your check to Chuck Horvath at P.O. Box 509, Nevada, MO 64772-0509 by July 31, 2015. **Make your checks payable to: USS McKean REUNION ASSOCIATION.**

Staying at the hotel is not required; however, attendance at the reunion requires being a member of the association and paying the registration fee. **If you have not paid your 2015 reunion association dues, add \$15 to the check.**

We have made contractual obligations for this reunion so we need to determine how many people will attend very soon. Even if you haven't made hotel reservations yet, please let Chuck Horvath or Joe Winkel know ASAP if you plan to attend. Plans can change, but we need your feedback as soon as possible. Contact Chuck at taxshop1@aol.com or Joe at joe.winkel@comcast.net.

SATURDAY ACTIVITIES

Indiana State Museum

Located in White River State Park in downtown Indianapolis, the Indiana State Museum is the place to explore Indiana's past, present and future — from mastodons and dire wolves to contemporary art by some of Indiana's best artists. Special exhibits can, also, be viewed or explored.

Saturday Lunch

<http://www.shapiros.com/menu/>

"Cook good, serve generous, price modestly, and people will come." These words to live by and nosh by have been the guiding philosophy of Shapiro's Delicatessen and Cafeteria since 1905. More than 2,000 customers drop in each day for breakfast, lunch, and dinner at its two locations. It is far and away Indiana's, and many would argue the Midwest's, prime forum for corned beef and pastrami piled high on rye or egg buns, for matzo ball and chicken noodle soups, and for such comfort

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foods as Swiss steak, baked chicken, meat loaf, macaroni and cheese, and unconscionably high-rise pies, cakes, and pastries. And it is perhaps the last Hoosier haven for smoked pickled tongue.

Indiana Historical Society

<http://www.indianahistory.org/>

Since 1830, the Indiana Historical Society has been Indiana's Storyteller, connecting people to the past by collecting, preserving and sharing the state's history. The History Center is located along the historic Central Canal. The Indiana History Center, home to the Indiana Historical Society, allows visitors to discover the fascinating stories of Indiana's past in entirely engaging, interactive ways. The Indiana History Center completed a major renovation in 2009.

Indianapolis Central Canal Walk

<http://www.indianatrails.com/content/canal-walk-indianapolis>

We will access the walk from the History Center. The Canal Walk is a 3-mile loop, but you can enjoy the canal in whatever distance is comfortable for you. Simply return to the Historical Society when you chose to. There are plenty of opportunities to sit and rest.

The Canal Walk is part of the Indiana Central Canal, which was dug in the early 1800s, in an effort to facilitate interstate commerce. Today, the refurbished Canal Walk (stretching north through White River State Park to 11th Street) serves the downtown community as a waterside promenade for walkers, runners, bikers and sightseers (while the canal itself includes a steady stream of pedal boats, which may be rented west of the Indiana State Museum). It is an Indianapolis landmark. It is a three mile looped walk ordained with beautiful historic architecture, mechanical marvels, inspiring monuments. The canal offers a plethora of permanent art exhibits and monuments, including the USS Indianapolis Monument, the Congressional Medal of Honor Memorial, featured art by Kyler Ragsdale, and a monument that reads, "We Will Never Forget" commemorating the September 11th attack on US soil. Old fashioned street lamps, well-groomed trees and beautiful flowers line the water. Seating is provided abundantly along the trail, both public grassy blanket spots, and semi-secluded benches shaded with ivy wrapped trellises, creating a romantic atmosphere for all types.

There are 11 well-spaced bridges on the canal, each one devoted to a particular movement or era in the history of Indiana, accompanied with vivid art and podiums providing fascinating success stories that have made Indianapolis what it is today.

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS FOR YOUR FREE SUNDAY

The NCAA Hall of Champions is near the downtown area. It boasts two-levels of interactive exhibits to engage visitors and create a true-to-life understanding of what it takes to make the grade.

Arena, on the first level, all 23 NCAA sports are represented and include a novice to historian trivial challenge, current team rankings, video highlights, and artifacts donated from colleges around the nation.

Play, on the second level, is a fully interactive area to compete virtually and hands-on, a media room displaying current games on seven television screens, and 1930's retro basketball gymnasium.

Indianapolis Motor Speedway is the home of the Indianapolis 500 and the Brickyard 400. It is located at 4790 W. 16th St. Indianapolis, IN 46222 on the corner of 16th Street and Georgetown Road.

- The Indianapolis Motor Speedway Hall of Fame Museum, located on the grounds of the famous Indianapolis Motor Speedway, is recognized as one of the most highly visible museums in the world devoted to automobiles and auto racing. In 1987, the museum and Speedway grounds were honored with the designation of National Historic Landmark.
 - Adult Museum admission is \$8.
- Track Tours - Track Tours (1 lap on the 2.5-mile oval track in an IMS bus, narrated) are available on any day except for when there is racing, testing, special events, and construction or winter weather conditions.
 - Adults \$8
- Ground Tours - The 1.5 hour narrated tour of this historic facility gives guests the opportunity to tour the oval track, plus visit the media center, the Pagoda, victory platform, garage area, and a Gasoline Alley suite, plus stand on the famous 'Yard of Bricks' at the start/finish line. In addition, guests will also tour the Hall of Fame Museum.
 - Adults \$30 (includes museum tour)

The Indiana War Memorial Plaza Historic District, in the heart of downtown Indianapolis, is composed of predominantly Neoclassical buildings and structures, landscaped open space, and sculptural ensembles. The district is flanked on the west by Meridian Street, the primary north-south route running through the center of the city and on the east by Pennsylvania Street. Because of its location between two primary north-south traffic arteries, the

Plaza provides a monumental entrance to the Indianapolis business district from the north.

The plaza, along with the Indiana Soldiers and Sailors Monument, two blocks to the south, and the USS Indianapolis Memorial, five blocks west, comprise the holdings of the Indiana War Memorial Commission.

REUNION ASSOCIATION DUES

Starting in 2014, the annual reunion association dues are \$15/yr instead of \$25/yr. We are taking this action because we believe that \$15 is adequate to fund our ongoing expenses, cover deposits for future reunions, and subsidize the registration fee for our reunions.

In order to ensure continued receipt of our newsletters (Scuttlebutt), please keep your annual dues paid up and current.

SHIPMATE'S REUNION SCRAPBOOK

Over the years, some of our shipmates have completed and sent a scrapbook page for our reunion scrapbook. This scrapbook is available at each of our reunions and is a huge success. If you have not sent a scrapbook entry (or would like to update yours), do so by printing and completing the **USS McKean SCRAPBOOK PAGE** at the end of this Scuttlebutt.

Send your page as soon as possible so we have it for the reunion in 2015. Use the mailing information on the scrapbook page.

Just a Touch of Humor

Now they tell me

During a commercial airline flight a Navy Chief was seated next to a young mother with a baby in arms. When her baby began crying during the descent for landing, the mother began nursing her infant as discreetly as possible. The Chief pretended not to notice and, upon debarking, he gallantly offered his assistance to help with the various baby-related articles. When the young mother expressed her gratitude, he responded, "Gosh, that's a good looking baby...and he sure was hungry!" Somewhat embarrassed, the mother explained that her pediatrician said breast feeding would help alleviate the pressure in the baby's ears. The Chief sadly shook his head, and in true Sailor fashion exclaimed..... And all these years I've been chewing gum.

Route to becoming a Admiral

Three men are sitting stiffly side by side on a long commercial flight. After they're airborne and the plane has leveled off, the man in the window seat

abruptly says, distinctly and confidently, in a low voice, "Admiral, United States Navy, retired. Married, two sons, both surgeons."

After a few minutes the man in the aisle seat states through a tightlipped smile, "Admiral, United States Navy, retired. Married, two sons, both judges."

After some thought, the fellow in the center seat decides to introduce himself. With a twinkle in his eye he proclaims, "Master Chief Petty Officer, United States Navy, retired. Never married, two sons, both Admirals."

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM SHIPMATES



In 1917 the U.S. Navy built a full-size battleship in Union Square, New York. It would stay there for the next three years.

Intended as a recruitment and training center, the ship was commissioned as a normal seagoing ship, under the command of Acting Captain C. F. Pierce, and manned by trainee sailors from Newport Training Station. Internally the ship had a wireless station, full officer's quarters, doctor's quarters and examination rooms to assess the health of potential candidates.

Constructed from wood, the USS Recruit carried two cage masts, a conning tower and a dummy funnel, or smokestack. It had six wooden replicas of 14-inch (360 mm) guns housed in three twin turrets, 10 wooden five-inch (130 mm) anti-torpedo boat guns and two replica one-pound saluting guns, matching the configuration of battleships of the time.

According to the August 1917 edition of Popular Science, the Recruit followed the normal navy routine. Sailors rose at 6 a.m., scrubbed the decks, did their laundry, and attended instructional classes. They then stood guard over the ship and were available to answer questions from visitors. By night, all the ship's lights were turned on, including a series of searchlights.

The ship hosted a variety of social events and receptions, including a christening, patriotic speeches and visits by various dignitaries, a group of Native Americans and the woman's motor corps.

As a recruiting tool the ship was very successful, helping to recruit 25,000 men into the U.S. Navy.

The First World War ended in 1918, and by 1920 the Recruit was no longer needed in Union Square. It was properly decommissioned and dismantled, with the intention of relocating it to Coney Island's Luna Park. This did not happen and the fate of the Recruit is unknown.



USS McKean REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

A Note About Our Auction On Saturday Night:

One of our most fun events is our auction after the association meeting. Please bring with you a few inexpensive, fun items for the auction. Typically they are hand-made crafts or second-hand gifts or "re-gifted" items . We auction them for whatever we can get and add the proceeds to our collected association dues to fund expenses and future reunions. It is fun and entertaining. Some items are appreciated and useful to the auction winners while some are brought back and auctioned at the next reunion.

() I WILL ATTEND THE 2015 REUNION IN INDIANAPOLIS, IN, SEPT. 25-27, 2015

Name _____

Name for Name Badge (Nickname) _____

Address _____

Rank/Rate _____ Years on USS McKean _____ to _____ (ex 1948 to 1952)

The following person(s) will also attend the reunion as my guest:

Name _____

Name for Name Badge (Nickname) _____

Total number attending _____ x \$75.00 = Total registration fee enclosed: _____

() I am including my USS McKean DD/DDR 784 Reunion Association dues of \$15.00.

() I plan on using my personal car or a rental car during the reunion. Free parking provided.

TOTAL CHECK AMOUNT \$ _____
(includes registration & association dues if applicable)

Make Checks Payable to: USS McKean REUNION ASSOCIATION

Mail Checks & Registration Forms to: Chuck Horvath, PO Box 509, Nevada, MO 64772-0509

To Make Hotel Reservations Call : Clarion Hotel and Conference Center, 2930 Waterfront Parkway West Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46214 at 317-299-8400.