

# SCUTTLEBUTT

*A Quarterly Newsletter*

*July 2016*

## President's Corner

Hello, Gambier Bay family! I am looking forward to seeing everyone and meeting new family members at our 2016 reunion in New Orleans on September 22-26. Once again our USS Kitkun Bay friends will be joining us! Our reunion committee has some great things planned for us. Inside you will find all the excursion details, as well hotel accommodations and registration information.

Don't hesitate – RSVP now! Deadline is 8/31/2016

We will have lots of business to conduct at our Board meeting (date and time to be determined) and all are welcome to attend and see what the Association is doing to help continue to honor, remember, and recognize all who served on the USS Gambier Bay/VC-10. We welcome your comments and questions.

We have been very busy behind the scenes with our website ([ussgambierbay.org](http://ussgambierbay.org))! Soon we hope to have our original colors back (black background/white lettering). We are looking for input from our survivors and family members of all generations (second, third). I would love to put up events honoring your Gambier Bay sailor, photos of them in their uniforms, family, work or special occasion photos, etc. If you are interested in contributing to the website, please contact me [pk\\_grond@yahoo.com](mailto:pk_grond@yahoo.com). In addition to our website, remember to follow and LIKE our FACEBOOK PAGE!

One way to support the Association is through membership. A lifetime membership is \$100 or you can have your membership yearly at a cost of \$15. Your membership dues help us with the costs in publishing our Scuttlebutt. In addition, if you are interested in receiving the Scuttlebutt via email – please send Marlene Hughes an email with that information at [mahhome@cox.net](mailto:mahhome@cox.net).

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me or any one of our Board members.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND DEDICATION TO HONORING AND KEEPING THE MEMORY ALIVE OF ALL WHO SERVED ON THE USS GAMBIER BAY/VC-10**

Paula LaRocco Grond  
[pk\\_grond@yahoo.com](mailto:pk_grond@yahoo.com)



# SHIPS MERCHANDISE FORM

## ALL PRICES INCLUDE SHIPPING COSTS

	QUANTITY	TOTAL COST
Survivor Oral History from Taffy III 2014 San Diego Reunion <b>\$15.00</b>	_____	_____
Taffy III 2014 Memorial Service San Diego, California <b>\$15.00</b>	_____	_____
Life of Duty Documentary Featuring Norm St. German and Fred Grabos <b>\$10.00</b>	_____	_____
Freedom's Cost Lithograph <b>\$75.00</b>	_____	_____
The Men of the USS Gambier Bay Book <b>\$40.00</b>	_____	_____
USS Gambier Bay Framed Stamp <b>\$5.00</b> small frame/ <b>\$8.00</b> large frame	_____	_____
USS Gambier Bay Hat <b>\$25.00</b>	_____	_____
USS Gambier Bay Mouse Pad <b>\$10.00</b>	_____	_____
USS Gambier Bay Polo Shirt (mens/womans) (Navy with yellow embroidery) S-M-L-XL - <b>\$30.00</b> XXL-XXXL - <b>\$35.00</b> Shipping time is 2 weeks from order	_____	_____
USS Gambier Bay Womens Bling Shirt Black S-M-L-XL - <b>\$35.00</b> XXL- XXXL - <b>\$40.00</b> Shipping time is 2 weeks from order	_____	_____
I Love the Men of the Gambier Bay Button Pin <b>\$3.00</b>	_____	_____
USS Gambier Bay Coffee Mug <b>\$10.00</b>	_____	_____

**RECONCILIATION TOTALS ON NEXT PAGE**

**SHIPS MERCHANDISE FORM**  
**ALL PRICES INCLUDE SHIPPING COSTS**

QUANTITY

TOTAL COST

Personalized Laser Etching Tile  
**\$35.00**  
Shipping time is 2 weeks from order

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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**OTHER OPTIONS FOR ETCHINGS FOR DESIGN AND WORDING AVAILABLE**  
**SEE SEPARATE ORDER FORM FOR EXAMPLES**  
**(CONTACT PAULA AT [pk\\_grond@yahoo.com](mailto:pk_grond@yahoo.com) for questions/orders)**

Air Craft Carrier  
Lone Sailor  
US Flag

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**Example: Tin Can Destroyer**

Wording for Top Line Inside Circle

\_\_\_\_\_

Wording for Bottom Line Inside Circle

\_\_\_\_\_

Wording for Bottom **Outside** of Circle

\_\_\_\_\_



**TOTAL ITEMS ORDERED**

\_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ORDER AMOUNT**

\_\_\_\_\_

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address\_\_\_\_\_

Mail Form and Check (**payable to USS Gambier Bay Association**) to:

Marlene Hughes  
USS Gambier Bay Association  
2228 E. Greenlee Road  
Tucson, Arizona 85719



# In Memoriam

## Shipmates who have crossed the Bar



**Vincent A. Ricciardi 05/22/1923 - 04/08/2016 AM**

Vincent A. Ricciardi died peacefully on April 8th in Brooklyn, NY at the age of 92. Vincent is survived by his wife, Teresa, son, Nunzio, grandchildren Vincent &

Breanna & great grandchildren, Sebastian and Scarlett. Vincent was born on May 22, 1923 in New York City. He served in the U.S. Navy & received the Purple Heart for his actions & sacrifice in WWII during the Battle of Leyte Gulf on board the U.S.S. Gambier Bay.

After returning from the war, Vincent married Teresa on October 30, 1949. He worked for the New York Transit Authority until his retirement in 1985.

He enjoyed spending time with his friends and family while pursuing his two favorite past times, bowling and hunting.

Family and friends are welcome to pay their respects on Sunday from 2-4PM and 7-9PM at the Scarpaci

Funeral home, 1401 86th St., Brooklyn, NY. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at Saint Rose of Lima, 269 Parkville Ave, Brooklyn at 9:45 A.M. on Monday.

The family *respectfully* asks that in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to St Jude Children's Hospital. *(We will toll the bell for you Vincent at this years reunion in New Orleans. Thank you for your service and may you Rest in Peace)*



### Jean Parrish

Jean M. Parrish, 87, passed away Friday, May 13, 2016 at Christian Health Center.

Jean was preceded in death by her husband, Monroe Parrish.

Survivors include her son, Larry Parrish (Donna); and loving grandsons. Chad and Cody Parrish.

Her funeral service was held at 10:00 am Tuesday, May 17th at Heady-Hardy Funeral

Home, 7710 Dixie Hwy, followed by burial at Bagdad (KY) Cemetery.

Visitation was on Monday May, 16th from 4-8 pm.

Memorial gifts may be made to Friendship House, 960 S. 4th Street, Louisville, KY 40202

*( We will toll the bell for you at this years reunion in New Orleans, Rest in Peace Jean)*



# Welcome to the 2015 USS Gambier Bay/Kitkun Bay Reunion Information Pages

**When:** September 22-26th

**Where:** Crowne Plaza

**Rate:** \$119 & 12.75% Tax

This rate is good for 3 days before and after reunion.

Call **1-504-467-5611** and advise the reservationist that you are with the USS Gambier Bay/USS Kitkun Bay Reunion so that you are guaranteed the group rate of \$119 & Taxes includes breakfast buffet for 2  
Over 2 people in room is \$10.00 per day

**Online link to book is** <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/GambierKitkun>

Check in is 4pm and check out is 12pm



Check out Crowne Plaza New Orleans Airport Hotel online [www.neworleansairporthotel.com](http://www.neworleansairporthotel.com)

## Amenities at the Crowne Plaza

- \* Free Parking
- \* Complimentary Airport Shuttle Service
- \* High Speed dataport connectivity
- \* High-speed internet Access Complimentary to IHG Rewards Club Members
- \* 42" flat screen TV, in-room movies, coffee maker, hair-dryer, make up mirror, iron/ironing board.
- \* All rooms are non-smoking
- \* The hotel has an outdoor pool & hot tub, 24 Hr. fitness center, ATM & Safety Deposit Boxes
- \* A Lobby Lounge which offers a selection of beverages & cocktails with a food menu from 4pm-11pm
- \* Complimentary hot breakfast buffet for up to 2 guests per guest room each day.

The cut off for hotel reservations is **August 29, 2016** after that date the block of rooms will be released. Make your reservation early and if you need to cancel it can be done by calling the hotel 72 hrs prior to check in and getting a cancellation number.

We can give you a refund for the registration fee but not for the tours, the tours have to be prepaid

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## Things to Do in New Orleans, LA

New Orleans offers so many things to do that it's difficult to share in simple text. Why not check out the convention bureau's website and watch some video's to get a few inspirational ideas on what to see or do while you are in New Orleans. [www.neworleanscvb.com](http://www.neworleanscvb.com)

You might like to take a food tour, cemetery tour, ghost city tour or check out the French Quarter day or night.



Cafe Du Monde



# Reunion Itinerary

- Thurs - Sept 22nd- Hospitality room open by 3pm in The Landings room-Check in and Welcome Reception will be from 6pm till 10PM in the Grand Ballroom 5 & 6.**
- Friday- Sept 23rd - 8:30AM-4:00PM-National WWII Museum includes movie and box lunch.**
- Friday- Sept 23rd- Dinner on your own**
- Sat - Sept 24th- Board Meetings in AM. Time to be determined**
- Sat - Sept 24th - Banquet 6PM till 11PM in Grand Ballroom Salon 4**
- Sun - Sept 25th - 11AM Memorial Service and Luncheon following**

**The Hospitality Room will be open every day from 8am to 11pm during the reunion except for the banquet, memorial service and luncheon.**

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## Reunion Details

- 1. Be sure to attend the reception on the Thursday evening of the 22nd.**
- 2. Friday of the 23rd is open to enjoy the hospitality room or take the National WWII Museum tour and see a movie and have a box lunch or do your own site seeing. Dinner will be on your own.**
- 3. Saturday, the 24th is open to enjoy the hospitality room, take a dip in the pool or take a visit the French Quarter. There will be some early morning meetings to be announced.**

**On this evening the banquet will take place. A great meal is being planned, there will be a raffle, and then some outstanding musical entertainment.**

- 4. Sunday, the 25th the memorial service will be at 11AM in the hotel. After the memorial service, we have planned one final luncheon gathering. Dinner that night is on your own. The hospitality room will be open until 10pm.**

**Any questions, comments please contact Marlene Hughes. (520-326-0747 or [mahhome@cox.net](mailto:mahhome@cox.net). Please get your registrations in as early as possible by 9/1/2015.**



## Board of Governors & Officers

2013-2015

1. Paula Grond, President  
13632 Carpintino Ave  
Bellflower, CA 90706  
Telephone: 562-866-1192  
E-Mail: [pk\\_grond@yahoo.com](mailto:pk_grond@yahoo.com)
2. Lauren Bagen-Buhl, Vice President  
1944 Paris  
Plano, TX 75025  
Telephone: 972-489-7281  
E-Mail: [lauren.bagen.buhl@gmail.com](mailto:lauren.bagen.buhl@gmail.com)
3. Marlene Hughes, Treasurer  
2228 E Greenlee Rd  
Tucson, AZ 85719-2012  
Telephone: 520-326-0747  
E-Mail: [mahhome@cox.net](mailto:mahhome@cox.net)
4. Linda Shimerda, Secretary  
9110 Trails St  
San Antonio, TX 78250  
Telephone: 210-680-1574  
E-Mail: [kayshimer@yahoo.com](mailto:kayshimer@yahoo.com)
5. Jennifer Wheeler, Governor  
4122 Blossom St  
Columbia, SC 29205-2849  
Telephone: 860-816-4236  
E-Mail: [phanchap@live.com](mailto:phanchap@live.com)
6. Tom Westbrook, Governor  
5958 Lookingglass  
Roseburg, OR 97471  
Telephone: 650-248-3987  
E-Mail: [westpony@yahoo.com](mailto:westpony@yahoo.com)
7. Lucille Gutzwiler, Governor  
212 W Edgemont  
Wenatchee, WA 98801  
Telephone: 509-663-1406  
E-Mail: [luciqutz@nwi.net](mailto:luciqutz@nwi.net)
8. Susan Bagen, Governor  
1944 Paris Ave  
Plano, TX 75025  
Telephone: 972-517-7928  
E-Mail: [bagen@verizon.net](mailto:bagen@verizon.net)
9. Susan Turner, Governor  
14875 Creekside Lane  
Longmont, CO 80503  
Telephone: 303-485-8815  
Email: [turnersusan31@gmail.com](mailto:turnersusan31@gmail.com)
10. Mark Heinel, Governor  
217 Eastview Dr  
Coldwater, OH 45828-1506  
Telephone: 419-678-8168  
E-Mail: [heinel\\_22@hotmail.com](mailto:heinel_22@hotmail.com)
11. Norm St. Germain, Governor  
1231 N Street  
Springfield, OR 97477  
Telephone: 541-736-6759
12. Dean Moel, Governor  
1761 Racine Avenue, NE, A-1  
Solon, Iowa 52333  
Telephone: 319-430-4348

## In Appreciation

**Thank you to all the names listed for your donation, buying from the ship's store, subscription or lifetime membership. All of this helps the association spread the word about that fateful day on October 25,1944.**

*Chris Shelvik  
Teresa Ricciardi  
Rudolph Biller  
Sharon Hirshman  
Robert Belcoure II  
Norm Loats  
USS Johnston/Hoel Assoc  
Bob Despain  
Mary Pappas  
Diane Gjestvang  
R Scott Boggs  
George Bisbee II  
Gordon Smith*



Atlantic Ocean (July 10, 2016) Aircraft Carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) transits the Atlantic Ocean. Harry S. Truman Carrier Strike Group currently on an 8-month combat deployment in support of maritime security operation and theater security cooperation efforts.

# USS Gambier Bay/Kitkun Bay 2016 Reunion Registration Form

**Please Print**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse or Guest (s) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Ship Represented: \_\_\_\_\_ Survivor \_\_\_\_\_ Associate \_\_\_\_\_ Special Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate with an \* next to the name if this is the persons first reunion. Use additional paper if necessary.

**Make checks payable to: USS Gambier Bay Assoc.**

Event	Day	Cost per person	# Attending	Total
Registration Fee by 8/01/2016		\$85		\$
Registration Fee by 8/31/2016		\$95		\$
Tour to WWII National Museum with lunch /send in by 9/1/16  Please see tour sheet on details	Fri- 9/23	\$58 WWII Vets \$39.50		\$

Box Lunch/Tour	Qty	Name
Cane glazed Ham on Kaiser Roll		
Slow roasted Beef on Kaiser Roll		

Banquet Entree Choices	Qty	Name
Grilled Salmon		
Herb crusted Porkloin		
Includes salad, starch, veggie, dessert & beverage		

Luncheon Entree Choices	Qty	Name
Pecan Crusted Chicken		
Blackened Gulf Fish		
Includes salad, starch, veggie, & beverage		

*Registration fee includes Dinner Banquet, entertainment, Luncheon, welcome reception and printing of Memorial Service programs.*

**Grand Total: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail this form with payment to:**  
**USS Gambier Bay/Vc-10 Assoc.**  
 c/o Marlene Hughes  
 2228 E Greenlee Rd  
 Tucson, AZ 85719-2012

Phone: 520-326-0747  
 Email: [mahhome@cox.net](mailto:mahhome@cox.net)

**Any questions regarding the reunion call me.  
 Cut off date for registration is 9/1/16 and  
 hotel is 10/1/2016**



# National WWII Museum Tour Information

Friday September 23, 2016: 8:45AM – 4:00 PM

- \* **PLEASE NOTE: All WW II Vets will get into the Museum for free plus the movie so your ticket price is \$39.50**
- \* **Board the motor coach at 8:45Am and depart for the museum**
- \* **9:00 am Group arrival- Self visit galleries in Louisiana Memorial, Campaigns of Courage and US Freedom Pavilions.**
- \* **11:00am Movie Beyond All Boundaries in Solomon Victory Theater- Please arrive at theatre at least 10 minutes before start time to ensure entry. Movie is a 4D journey through the war that changed the world. This movie is not recommended for children under 10.**

Elements of the movie may aggravate certain medical conditions. These elements include loud noises, flashing lights, fog effects and sudden chair movements. Stationary seating is available.

No food or beverage is allowed into the theatre.

- \* **Last minute participants will be accommodated on a space-available basis only, and ticket prices on site will be an additional \$3.00 per person.**

All participants who do not show for their tour will not be refunded their money. This price is based on a minimum of 35 people per tour.



# Mail Call



Received from Scott Boggs

4/15/2016

Dear Marlene,

Thanks for keeping the stories alive! I so enjoy the stories about the "Greatest Generation." All the best to you and the group.

keep me on distribution but save the postage. You can add me to the email list.

Thanks

**Scott Boggs** ( *Scott-this issue should come via e-mail. Hope you can come to this years reunion in New Orleans. Scott's dad was Robert Boggs a VC-10 pilot and our association's President for 19 years.*

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## Navy Unveils National Museum of the American Sailor

Release Date: 7/5/2016 8:03:00 AM

From From Naval History and Heritage Command Communication and Outreach Division

GREAT LAKES, Ill. (NNS) -- The Great Lakes Naval Museum was officially renamed the National Museum of the American Sailor during a ceremony and sign unveiling at the museum July 4.

The National Museum of the American Sailor name change signals a shift in vision from a regional focus to one that depicts the diverse history of Sailors who have served in the U.S. Navy. The name change also reflects the interest of museum visitors, many of whom travel from across the country to attend the basic training graduations at the Navy's Recruit Training Command.

The National Museum of the American Sailor currently features exhibits on life in Navy boot camp, naval uniforms and traditions, the history of Naval Station Great Lakes, the role of diversity in the Navy and the role of women in the Navy. Over the next two years, the museum will expand its exhibits to introduce visitors to the overall history and role of the U.S. Navy and the experiences of American Sailors in the past and today

The museum is located in Building 42 just outside the perimeter of Naval Station Great Lakes. Building 42, known as Hostess House, was built in 1942 and served as a visitors and reception center for almost one million American Sailors who came through Great Lakes during WWII.

The former Great Lakes Naval Museum was dedicated on Oct. 26, 1996 in Building 158 and opened to the public on Oct. 13, 1997. It became an official Navy Museum in Building 42 in 2009, joining the Naval History and Heritage Command museum enterprise.

The National Museum of the American Sailor is one of ten museums in the naval history enterprise. Other museums include:

- National Museum of the United States Navy (Washington Navy Yard, D.C.)
- National Naval Aviation Museum (Pensacola, Fla.)
- Hampton Roads Naval Museum (Norfolk, Va.)
- United States Navy Seabee Museum (Port Hueneme, Calif.)
- Submarine Force Library and Museum and Historic Ship NAUTILUS (Groton, Conn.)
- Naval Undersea Museum (Keyport, Wash.)
- Puget Sound Navy Museum (Bremerton, Wash.)
- Naval War College Museum (Newport, R.I.)
- United States Naval Academy Museum (Annapolis, Md.)

For more information, visit [www.navy.mil](http://www.navy.mil), [www.facebook.com/usnavy](http://www.facebook.com/usnavy), or [www.twitter.com/usnavy](http://www.twitter.com/usnavy).

**APPLICATION FOR USS GAMBIER BAY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP**

**SURVIVORS/WIDOWS DO NOT PAY DUES**

**Membership dues are \$15.00 annually or \$100.00 for Lifetime Membership**

**Both options include a subscription to our newsletter, Scuttlebutt**

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**Membership Application (please check one)**

\_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00 annual dues  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$100.00 lifetime dues

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please indicate if you would like your  
Scuttlebutt subscription emailed  
or send via the US mail.**

**Additional Information**

**Survivor Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Crossed the Bar Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Survivor Rank/Rate:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Division:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Member relationship to survivor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Mail Application and Dues  
(payable to USS Gambier Bay Association)  
TO  
Marlene Hughes  
2228 E. Greenlee Road  
Tucson, AZ 85719-2012**

**USS Gambier/VC-10 & USS Kitkun Bay Reunion  
2016 in New Orleans, LA**

**Save the Date Sept 22-26th 2016**

**Please join the Gambier Bay & Kitkun bay Associations Commemorate  
the 72st Anniversary of the Battle of Leyte Gulf**

**Bring your children, grandchlidren, nieces and nephews.  
Let them be aware of the the strong history your ship had in WWII.**



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The Latest Scoop from around the

**“ Scuttlebutt”**

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