

USS Cabildo Crewmembers Association



Fall 2021 Newsletter

Drydock Dribble Issue Number 74 Fall 2021

President's Message Dale Bittle



Greetings Shipmates, families, and friends. To start off I want to say WOW, what a year this has been. Thankfully we have been out from under the COVID crisis for the most part. It's not gone but much of the country is starting to look somewhat normal thank GOD.

I want to personally thank Leo and Claire for hosting a absolutely wonderful reunion in Harrisburg this past September. Those of you who were unable attend really missed out.

The past year has also been extremely difficult for our Association because we unexpectedly lost our Treasurer Bob Gwin in September and Past President Walter Fulps in March as well as Mel Quinn in June and Barry Mapes in October.

Warren Gammeter has agreed to take on the Treasurers job until we can officially elect a permanent treasurer in the future.

We were unable to select a reunion site for next year and we are accepting proposals. I believe we have three proposals at this time and we will decide on a site in the near future. The proposed sites should be presented as part of this newsletter.

I hope all of you have a wonderful Holiday Season and a healthy winter.

We will be speaking with all of you soon.

Dale

**2021 Harrisburg Reunion
Leo Waltsak**



I would like to comment on our recent reunion in Harrisburg, PA. From the positive comments you extended to Claire and me while we were in Harrisburg, and the thank you emails we received after returning home, I think I can say our reunion in Harrisburg was a very nice time for all. One key ingredient to our successful reunion was the number of brothers, sister, sons, daughters, and granddaughters who took the time to join us for however long they could. Whether our loved ones and friends traveled with us or joined our group for whatever amount of time they had, we appreciate them, and hope they join us in the future.

Our Lowee's tour bus team of Bonnie, Ron and Scott were terrific. They were each a lot of fun and extremely helpful in so many ways. We felt like we were saying goodbye to old friends upon our last day trip.

Our day trip to Gettysburg was a first for many of us and a revisit for some. You may remember we were lucky to have Mr. Les Fowler, head of the Certified Battlefield Guide Association as our tour guide. The National Military Park encompasses 6,000 acres with over twenty-six miles of roads connecting major battlefield landmarks, and Les was able to show and explain some of the highlights. I hope you enjoyed the tour even though there was a lot of "off" the bus and "on" the bus.

Our Amish day trip was so much fun. We learned so much about Amish daily life, their customs and culture, and why they choose to live as they do. Personally, I have so much respect for them to continue to thrive as they do with so many attractions and distractions from the "English" world.

The sweet bonus of this reunion was our last day trip to Hershey's Chocolate World. Did you buy some candy for the friends back home?? Personally, I love making my own chocolate bar the best and

seeing all my shipmates in hair nets and aprons. The hair nets and aprons are the great equalizers. None of us look good in them!

Our farewell banquet always starts out fun, but ends too soon, and then we all run around picking and packing and trying to say goodbye to those leaving early the next morning. In the future we could have a farewell breakfast together and leave like the children do in "The Sound of Music". Remember, "So long, farewell, auf Wiedersehen, adieu; Adieu adieu, to you and you and you.

Also, I would be remiss without saying the staff at Red Lion Inn Harrisburg Hershey went above and beyond to fulfill every request we had as a group or personally. Claire and I have stayed there twice and would recommend it to anyone visiting that area.

All in all, there were a few glitches, but "all's well that ends well." Hope to see you all again next year.

P.S. We all look forward to seeing Sue and Deb next year too!!

2022 Reunion Proposals

Warren Gammeter

Please review the following two reunion proposals and let us know if you would be interested attending them. If more than one interests you, rank your preferences 1 2. Let us also know how many might be in your party. We will make the selection based on your feedback on December 15th. Mail your preferences to Warren Gammeter, 3227 Verdun Ave., San Mateo, CA 94403-3850.

Holland American Seven Day Cruise

Proposed by Warren Gammeter

Colorado Springs

Proposed by Dale Bittle

I have worked with the Holland America Cruise Consultant and looked into a 7-day cruise from Seattle on the MS Eurodam. The website shows the non-refundable best fares which are rather misleading. The costs shown are for 1, 2 or 3 persons in a stateroom including estimated port fees and **without** the "Have it All" package:

Occupancy	Interior	Ocean View	Verandah	Signature Suite
1	\$2,105.00	\$3,245.00	\$3,803.00	\$6,087.00
2	\$2,410.00	\$3,550.00	\$4,108.00	\$6,392.00
3	\$3,165.00	\$4,590.00	\$5,288.00	\$8,147.00

Deposit on all options - \$700.00 per stateroom

Final payment due by 6/12/2022

Day	Date	Location	Arrive	Depart
Day 1	10-Sep	Seattle		4:00pm
		Puget Sound cruising only		
Day 2	11-Sep	Day at Sea		
Day 3	12-Sep	Scenic Cruising Stephens Passage		
	12-Sep	Juneau	1:00pm	10:00pm
Day 4	13-Sep	Cruising Glacier Bay	7:00am	4:00pm
	13-Sep	Icy Straight Point	6:00pm	10:00pm
Day 5	14-Sep	Sitka	8:00am	5:00pm
Day 6	15-Sep	Ketchikan	7:00am	1:00pm
Day 7	16-Sep	Victoria BC	7:30pm	11:30pm
	17-Sep	Seattle	7:00am	

Notes on the Alaska Cruise choices:

The MS Eurodam makes three 7-day Alaska trips in September from Seattle. I think we would be better off taking the cruise starting 9/10 the second week later as they are a little less expensive and we all avoid traveling during the Labor Day weekend.

1. We have done 5 cruises on the MS Eurodam and it is an excellent ship and it is currently being refit.
2. There are three different Veranda categories, I listed the most expensive, they differ mainly because of their location on the ship and the least expensive are only \$30 -\$90 less.
3. If you don't drink a significant amount of alcohol, I don't think the "Have it All" package saves you much if anything.
4. The Ocean View rooms all look out across the main deck. It is nice to be able to look out but everyone walking around the deck can also look in.
5. We have always booked a Veranda cabin. I probably have taken more than 60% of my trip photos from the veranda because it's so easy to just step out take them. The ships tend to arrive early morning most places, usually before I am up and fully dressed, and depart in the evening. If you can afford the extra cost, I would recommend one.
6. The Airport Shuttle is a good deal. They will be there when your flight gets in and get you to and from the airport. Your departure time will be coordinated to you flight time.
7. Reasonable cancellation insurance is available which protects you if you have to cancel after June 6th. The cost ranges from \$139 to \$305 depending on you cabin fare.
8. Cabin Fares often change either up or down depending on demand. Once booked they are guaranteed.



Colorado Springs, Colorado

SAMPLE

Day One	Day Two	Day Three	Day Four	Depart
<p>09/13 - 09/17/2022</p>  <p>Embassy Suites by Hilton</p> <p style="color: red; text-align: center;">\$139 plus tax Room Rate includes Breakfast</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2:00pm Hospitality Room Open</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">5:30 p.m. WELCOME RECEPTION AT THE HOTEL</p>	<p>Hot Buffet Breakfast</p> <p>Depart hotel at 8:30am AIR FORCE ACADEMY</p>  <p>Followed by Garden of the Gods & Geo Trekker Movie</p>  <p>Includes Lunch</p> <p>Return to Hotel</p> <p>Hospitality Room Open</p> <p>Dinner on Own</p>	<p>Hot Buffet Breakfast</p> <p>Hospitality Room Open</p> <p>Depart Hotel at 9:00am</p>  <p>Guided City Tour & Shopping</p> <p>Lunch on Own</p> <p>Dinner on Own</p>	<p>Hot Buffet Breakfast</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10 a.m. Business Meeting in Hospitality Room</p>  <p style="text-align: center; color: red;">Free Day</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Memorial Service</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">6:30 pm FINAL EVENING BANQUET DINNER</p>	<p>Hot Buffet Breakfast</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Depart</p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin: auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center; color: red;">ACTIVITY PACKAGE: \$250.00 per person</p> <p>INCLUDES: Welcome Packet Name Badges Tour Listed Welcome Reception Final Evening Banquet Transportation Taxes and Gratuity Included With the exception of Drivers</p>

Randi Weaver – 417-338-4048 | randi@gatheringsplus.com

**Rates may vary depending on actual dates chosen*

Cabildo Ladies Zoom Sessions

Sue Gwin



We will have another Cabildo Ladies Zoom session on December 15th. If you are interested in joining in let Warren know with an e-mail at this [link](#).

Chaplain's Message

Ken Bredehoeft



I was able recently to attend the memorial service for our shipmate Barry Mapes - "Boats" - where I extended condolences from the USS Cabildo Association to his family. Let's take this time also to remember Bob Gwin, our shipmate and association treasurer, who passed away only months ago. Bob played such an important role in the association and was quite simply one of the nicest men you would ever meet. Our sympathy, thoughts and prayers to you, Sue.

Our numbers continue to dwindle but not the memories we have all stored up from twenty-six years of Cabildo reunions. I write this on Veterans' Day and feel so proud to have served and shared so much with so many of you. Can't wait to see you Sue Gwin and also Deb Fulps wherever we drop anchor next year. I wish all of you good health as we near the end of another year and hope to see each of you at our next reunion.

Treasurer

Warren Gammeter

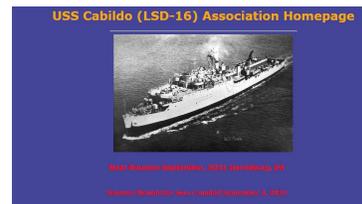


I am assuming the role of Acting Treasurer until our next election. Sue Gwin has graciously agreed to continue making the ship's Reunion store shipments. I have setup remote access to the checking account in Central Bank in Sioux City whose people were most helpful.

I will collect the dues and keep the books. Dues will again be \$25 due in January. You can save the association a little postage money by paying your dues by January. Just mail them to me, Warren Gammeter, 3227 Verdun Ave., San Mateo, CA 94403. I will send a dues reminder to all current members in February who have not paid by then.

Website and Newsletter

Warren Gammeter



The 2021 Harrisburg Reunion pictures are up on the website. You can see what lovely weather we enjoyed just before a big rain arrived. Beautiful country at a most pleasant time of year. If you weren't able to attend you can enjoy what you missed. It was sure nice to be together again.

Somehow I didn't get any pictures of the huge Shady Maple restaurant and if you have some please e-mail them to me. Several reunion web sections could also use a few picture additions if you have some so send them along.



Cabildo Website Links

[USS Cabildo Home Page](#)

[Over the Bar](#)



(label Here)

address correction requested

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(stamp)

USS Cabildo (LSD-16) CRewmembers Association FALL 2021 Newsletter

