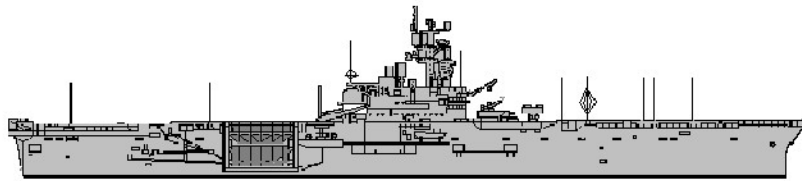


# USS GUAM ASSOCIATION



WINTER '09 1965



1998

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello Shipmates and Associates,  
We had a great reunion in Corpus Christi, Texas last September. "I'm still looking for my horse". I want to thank *Jim and Martha Webb* for all the hard work organizing a fantastic reunion. Everyone enjoyed themselves and it was great to have new shipmates and their wives in attendance. The tour to NAS Corpus Christi resulted in a Guam Reunion first. The local ABC TV station produced a video news story about our Ship and our annual reunions. You can view the news video on the internet on Youtube under USS GUAM REUNION.

At the annual business meeting on September 25, 2008 many items were discussed and I need to Pass the Word. **First**, it was voted on and approved that the copy of the USS GUAM LPH-9 Memorial Plaque that was presented to me at the Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C., be raffled off at the Reunion Banquet.

(president's corner-continues pg. 2)

## REUNION CORPUS CHRISTI 'OUTSTANDING'



Photo by Al Getter...NAS Corpus Christi...September '08

The 11th annual reunion of the USS GUAM LPH-9 Association took place in Corpus Christi, Texas during the week of September 22-26, 2008. Forty shipmates and their better-halves attended. Ten of those were "first timers" and we welcomed them into our Ship's Family. Shipmates attending for the first time were: *Brian Affeldt, Donald Clawges, Robert Dawson, Ernest Desautel, Rick Johnson, Calvin "Skip" & Mary Singleton, Alden & Kandi Southmayd and Nick Yarmechuk.*

We want to thank *Jim & Martha Webb* for planning and organizing a memorable reunion. The Radisson Hotel and the Quality Inn were located on the beach with views of Corpus Christi Bay and the USS Lexington. We enjoyed a week filled with activities, good food and fun times. On Tuesday September 23, 2008 we braved morning showers and boarded our motor coach for a tour of NAS Corpus Christi. The tour included visiting the Flight Training Center and sitting at the controls of flight simulators, lunch at the Officers Club and a shopping spree at the Navy Exchange. While at lunch, *Bob Torres*, Base Public

1.

(reunion-continued pg. 2)

2009 REUNION INFO. On Pg. 3.



## President's Corner

(continued from page 1.)

This reunion's lucky winner was **Brian Affeldt**. I talked with him later and he agreed to bring the plaque to our next reunion, and for it to be raffled off again. It will become a traveling plaque where each year a new winner gets to keep it until the next reunion. Second, it was voted on and approved that we as an Association not join the Iwo Jima LPH Class Association. Shipmates who would like to join may do so with individual memberships.

Third, it was voted on and approved that we change the location of the 2009 Reunion from Hawaii to Kissimmee (Orlando) Florida for economic reasons. **Harvey Spinowitz**, has contacted and secured dates for our next reunion at the Ramada(Orlando) Celebration Resort and Convention Center. The dates are Monday August 31, 2009 to Saturday September 5, 2009. Rates are \$79.00 per night, good for three days before and after the reunion - full breakfast buffet each morning. It was also voted on and approved that we have our 2010 reunion in San Diego, California. **Jim Parker, Skip Singleton and Al Getter** will be making arrangements for Reunion XIII.

I want to thank my shipmates for electing me for another year as your President. I am so grateful to represent you and our great organization (USS GUAM LPH-9 Association, Inc.). I want to thank all my officers - **Jim Parker (Vice President), Richard Daggett (Treasurer), Al Getter (Secretary), Harvey Spinowitz (Ass't Secretary/Counsel) and Jim Gavin (Master-at-Arms)**. Their hard work and support helps keep our Association growing and strong.

I'm looking forward to seeing you in Orlando at our next reunion. If you plan on attending, please contact your shipmates and ask them to join you as we gather and celebrate the life of the USS GUAM LPH-9. Remember our Association and the memory of the USS GUAM LPH-9 relies on your dues and active membership. Call me if you have any questions or ideas (816) 238-4894/e-mail:mushball1@yahoo.com

Respectfully,

**Your President ~ Frank Walker**

(continued from page 1 - reunion)

Affairs Officer invited KIII TV3 News Anchor/Reporter **Katey Kiser** and her cameraman to join us at the Officers Club. Katey interviewed shipmates and on the evening news ran a video story about our Association, our Ship and our Reunions. It can be viewed on the internet on YouTube at USS GUAM REUNION. The USS Lexington CV-16, now a museum, was walking distance from our hotel and many shipmates enjoyed touring the historic WWII Aircraft Carrier. Another attraction close to the hotel was the Texas State Aquarium.

**Jim and Martha Webb** shared their Texas hospitality by hosting a Tamale Party in the Pagoda Room at the Quality Inn. The afternoon feast brought everyone together to enjoy some great regional food. I really enjoyed the home made Tamales and **Martha's** Texas Caviar. The next day we had dinner at Pier 99 Restaurant, where we enjoyed shrimp, Margaritas and **Shiner Beer**. Our week ended with a wonderful Tex-Mex Banquet Dinner. We enjoyed an evening of good food, guest speakers and a raffle. Throughout the evening we were serenaded by guitarist **Ruben E. Limas**. We presented **Jim and Martha Webb**, our hosts, a framed photo of the USS GUAM as a thank you for a wonderful reunion. Our hosts for the 2009 Reunion in Kissimmee (Orlando), Florida are **Harvey and Terry Spinowitz**. We are looking forward to all of you joining us in Florida August 31 - September 5, 2009. Reunion hotel and registration information is included in this newsletter.



### Thank You!

**Richard Daggett**, our Treasurer, sent a Membership Update Letter to everyone listed on our roster. I want to thank **Richard** for his efforts in contacting everyone and to **You**, our **Members** for responding so positively. We now have close to 100 dues paying members. This is the largest number of active members our Association has ever had. **WE ARE STRONG & GROWING~WE ARE THE USS GUAM LPH-9 ASSOCIATION, INC.**

## BARCELONA BOYS

This reunion brought together two shipmates who were boarding the ill-fated liberty launch in Barcelona, Spain on the night of January 17, 1977. Gunners Mates, **Robert Dawson** and **Alden Southmayd**, told me that there was only room for one of them as they tried to board the liberty boat back to the Guam.



"If we can't board, then we'll both wait for the next boat". As we all know, minutes later, the liberty launch was struck by a Spanish Freighter and 49 crewmen and Marines lost their lives. Robert and Alden are life long friends. **Al**



## USS GUAM LPH-9 ASSOCIATION, INC.

**2009 Reunion – Aug. 31 - Sept 5**

Ramada Orlando Celebration Resort

6375 W. Irlo Bronson Hwy.

Kissimmee, FL 34747

Toll free: (877) 467-5786 Direct: (407) 390-5800

### AGENDA

Mon 8/31 3:00 p.m. Hotel check-in. Reunion packages will be available in the Hospitality Room  
Tues 9/1 8:30 a.m. Bus leaves for Kennedy Space Center Tour – lunch at the Space Center is on your own; we will return to the hotel at approximately 6:30 p.m.  
Wed 9/2 Free day to visit Disney, Universal Studios, or the many other attractions in the Orlando/Kissimmee area; 7:00 p.m. Complimentary pizza party in the Hospitality Room  
Thur 9/3 9:00 a.m. membership meeting; 7:30 p.m. leave for optional Arabian Nights dinner/Show  
Fri 9/4 Morning free; 6:30 p.m. Banquet dinner with open bar  
Sat 9/5 Farewell breakfast

### REUNION INFORMATION

**Basic Reunion Package Includes:** registration, hospitality room & refreshments, business meeting, banquet meal, insurance, transportation & admission to Kennedy Space Center.

**Hotel Room Rate:** \$79.00 plus tax and includes a full breakfast buffet for two people per room.

You must mention you are with the USS Guam Association to get this special rate. Cutoff date for the special room rate is August 10, 2009. Rates are good for 3 days before and 3 days after the reunion.

We have arranged for an optional dinner & show at the Arabian Nights attraction. This is a spectacular show with dinner and unlimited beer, wine and soft drinks. It is held in the world's largest indoor equestrian arena and is filled with horses and action. To learn more about this show please go to [www.Arabian-nights.com](http://www.Arabian-nights.com). It is just minutes from the hotel and we will be car-pooling to the show.

-----Cut off here & send in your application-----  
REUNION REGISTRATION FORM please submit by \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

FEES	PRICE	NO. ATTENDING	TOTAL
Basic Reunion Package per person	\$150.00 X		\$ _____
Optional Arabian Nights Dinner & Show	\$ 35.00 X		\$ _____

**TOTAL REUNION FEES \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Please make checks payable to USS Guam LPH9 Assoc., Inc.

Mail for with check to: Richard Daggett, Treasurer

P.O. Box 264, Monroe City, MO 63456

If you have any questions, please contact Harvey Spinowitz at (727) 688-0320 or [hspinowitz@aol.com](mailto:hspinowitz@aol.com)



**Ramada Orlando Celebration Resort**

**6375 W. Irlo Bronson Hwy.**

**Kissimmee, FL 34747**

**Toll Free: (877) 467-5786 Direct: (407) 390-5800**



It's time to start making plans to attend the 12th Annual Reunion of the USS GUAM LPH-9 Association, Inc. Our hosts this year, Harvey & Terry Spinowitz (pictured above), have been busy making arrangements for a memorable reunion in Florida. Please complete the reunion registration as instructed above and mail it to Richard Daggett our Treasurer. Call and make your hotel reservations before August 10th to receive the special room rate. Don't forget to mention the USS GUAM ASSOCIATION when reserving your room.



# USS GUAM LPH9 ASSOCIATION, INC.

## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL

**Member**

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

**Associate Member's**

**Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Tel.No.(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dates Served on**      **from:**      **rate/rank:**

**USS GUAM:**      **to:**      **dept:**

**Dues Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Total** \_\_\_\_\_

Member - \$20.00 ----- \_\_\_\_\_

Associate - \$5.00 ----- \_\_\_\_\_

**CHECK ONE:**

**Total Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

(New Member) (Renewal)

**Make Checks payable to: USS GUAM LPH-9 Assn., Inc.**

**Send Application and checks to: Richard Daggett, Treasurer USS GUAM**

**PO BOX 264**

**Monroe City, MO 63456**

Membership is open to anyone who served aboard the USS GUAM LPH-9. We welcome Officers, Enlisted, from the Navy or Marine Corps. Associate members can be family, friends or anyone interested in the history of the USS GUAM LPH-9. To all who join, or renew memberships we say "Welcome Aboard".

President: Frank Walker - mushball1@yahoo.com ~ (816) 238-4894

Vice President: Jim Parker - deckape@cox.net ~ (949) 240-7562

Treasurer: Richard Daggett - rdaggett@warpdiveonline.com ~ (573) 735-4713

Secretary/Newsletter/Editor: Al Getter - G2121@cox.net ~ (619) 464-3103

**VISIT OUR WEB SITE:**

**WWW.USSGUAM.ORG**

