



## The President's Corner

### San Diego is Here

Our time to gather in San Diego to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of our Association and the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the commissioning of the 104 is upon us! There is still time to register for the Reunion (last day is 24 April) but unfortunately we have filled our room quota with the hotels and we can not guarantee you will get our special pricing).

The Reunion officially kicks off on Thursday, 4 May and ends Sunday, 7 May after our Chapel service to honor all our Shipmates who perished on the 407 during the Battle of Guadalcanal and those who have crossed the bar to Fiddler's Green since our last Reunion.

As in Reunions past, we will have a hospitality suite where you can gather with Shipmates from all years and sip on your favorite beverage. This year, due to contracts the hotels have with their unions, we can not provide free drinks, though we will have a cash bar.

Activities start Thursday, 4 May with daytime tours of the USS Midway Museum which is in close proximity to our hotels. If there is enough interest, I will have van transportation available. I have contacted the Midway and unless I arrange for a docent to conduct a guided tour of the ship, there really is no advance group ticket purchase available. Veterans do get reduced admission prices though, and tickets are readily purchased at the pier.



Thursday night is an all-ships gathering at The Nolen Rooftop in the Gaslamp District of downtown! Great views of the surrounding skyscrapers, Petco Park and the harbor from high atop a hotel. We are scheduled from 1800-2000 for appetizers, drinks and dinner for \$70 per person. We already have close to 60 signed up to attend, so if you would like to join us, please let me know asap! I need to give the Nolen total numbers by 20 April.



Friday, 5 May is going to be a very special day! The 104 will be returning from a six week deployment/training mission and we will be able to welcome her home from the point at the ASW base just across the street from our hotels. Friday evening I have secured 50 tickets to the San Diego Padres/Los Angeles Dodgers baseball game at Petco Park at 1840. We will all be able to sit together in one section and have a great evening of baseball, beer and brats (or hot dogs). We will also have a special message shown on the right field scoreboard during the game. Please contact me to get your tickets!

Saturday we will have our Association business meeting (members in good standing only please) where you will hear our Treasurer's Report, results from our audit, recommendations of our By-Laws Review Committee, election of officers to lead us the next two years and we will choose the location for our Reunion in 2025.

Saturday evening will be our banquet and our guest speaker will be CDR Chris Descovitch, Commanding Officer of the 104 and presentations to honor some very special people.

Our Chapel Service Sunday, 7 May will close out our 2023 Reunion and send us on our way to our next reunion location!

There is still time to register, so please use the link below to sign up to join in what promises to be a truly great gathering!

Respectfully

*Burton*

Burton Dietz  
President  
USS STERETT Association

<https://www.sterett.net/reunion-2023/>