

USS STERETT ASSOCIATION



[DD 27 \(1910-19\)](#)



[DD 407 \(1939-1945\)](#)



[DLG 31 \(1967-75\)](#)



[DDG 104 \(Commissioned 2008\)](#)

San Antonio Here We Come!



Greetings from the **STERETT** Association

Our 2021 Reunion September 16-19 in San Antonio is looking to be the best ever (and we already have a record number of Shipmates who have signed up at 196)! Our homeport will be the Holiday Inn Riverwalk that is literally in the heart of all the great things to do. For the Plan of the Day, registration information, tourist attractions, restaurants that are close by, and to see which of your Shipmates have already signed up, the information can be found in the last two pages. It is not too late to join in all the fun, and we hope to see you there! If you don't attend, you know your shipmates will be talking about you!

Farewell to Another Shipmate and Friend

Don Hageman, member of the DLC/CG crew, lifetime member of our Association and longtime Treasurer of our Association passed away in June. His obituary read as follows:

Donald W. Hageman, beloved husband, father, grandfather, and brother, 73, of Vonore, TN, passed away June 25, 2021.

Don served in the U.S. Navy from 1970 to 1994. He retired from the Navy and worked for the federal government as a contractor, then as a civilian employee of the U.S. Army at the Pentagon.



Don and MaryBeth Hageman

He enjoyed officiating for flag football, basketball, and softball games. Don served the community as treasurer for the Friends of the Vonore Library, and treasurer of the USS Sterett Association. In addition, he chaired the fundraising event for the Hopewell Volunteer Fire Department and enjoyed his time with the Banger Boys setting off community fireworks. He was a member of the Vonore Baptist Church and served and loved his Lord and Savior. Don was born in Billings, MT in 1948.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Marybeth; daughters Betsy Hageman and Natalie Hageman both of VA; daughter Sally and son-in-law Chad Brewer and granddaughters Ava, Megan, and Tessa of MS; sister Lynn Langeliers and brother Joe Hageman both of Montana.

The Memorial Service was held Saturday, July 17, 3:00 pm, at Biereley-Hale Funeral Home, Madisonville, with military honors provided by the U.S. Navy, V.F.W. Post #5156 & American Legion Post #106. Representing the USS STERETT Association was Gary Pritchard who served with Don in the mid-70s – thanks Gary for driving all the way up from Georgia.

Crossing The Bar

by Alfred Lord Tennyson

***Sunset and evening star, And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar, when I put out to sea,
But such a tide as moving seems asleep, too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out the boundless deep turns again home.***

***Twilight and evening bell, and after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell, when I embark;
For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place the flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face When I have crost the bar.***

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Greetings STERETT Family, summer is here, and the reunion is 47 days away. Since the last newsletter, we have gained 99 attendees and are now at 196 registrations! And yes, that means we have broken the all-time record of 186. There is now a great possibility that we will reach the 200 plateau. We continue to keep in mind that we need to place everyone's safe at the forefront, especially with COVID-19 still among us. If you want to wear a mask during the event, no problem. It will make "drinking to the foam" very challenging, but not impossible LOL! We have a wine tour set up and golf is available as well if that is your cup of tea. The Alamo is only a short walking distance from the hotel as well as Starbucks. See our website under the Reunion 2021 menu to get more information on signing up for the wine tour and to hit the links. Plenty of time to register and gather with your Shipmates in San Antonio...

Unfortunately, we have lost our long time Treasurer and Shipmate Donald "Don" Hageman. He took over the job in 2009 "because no one else would." For over 12 years Don kept our coffers safe and sound, doing a marvelous job in the process! He reluctantly gave up the position a few days before his passing; he was truly a fighter until the very end. Without a doubt, he was the backbone of the Association for many, many years keeping our records straight and ensuring we complied with our non-profit status. He often provided me with course change recommendations, even if meant going to toe-to-toe, all for the benefit of the Association. Well done my friend – you have been a good and faithful servant.

Please help me welcome aboard as our Interim Treasurer the former FC2 Shannon Crawford (CG 31, 90-94). Shannon and his family reside in San Diego, gladly accepting the position when asked to take over. Welcome aboard Shannon!

As I have advertised on our social media pages, I will be driving to San Antonio with my lovely wife Gerlie. Finally, she will be in attendance so you can see who has put up with me since 1988. On our way, we plan on making stops in LA and San Diego. While in LA 5-6 September, our plans are to meet up with Frank Ludwig and visit the USS IOWA where the National Museum of the Surface Navy (NMSN) is located. We hope the NMSN will be the final resting place of all our USS STERETT memorabilia. We will be meeting up with DDG-104's Command Triad at the Bali Hai Tuesday 07 September in the early evening to present them with the Stephen P. Hayes Memorial Award perpetual plaque. Anyone in the LA and San Diego area are more than welcome to join us. Contact me to get additional information if interested in attending.

Our Bylaws dictate that election of officers take place during our general assembly (business meeting). This event will take place Saturday morning and it is for Association members only; therefore, this is a great opportunity to mention that all elected positions will be open for nominations – President, Vice-President, Treasurer/Secretary, and three (3) Officer at Large positions. We have grown so much over the last two years that we need to have the position of Treasurer/Secretary become two separate positions. A motion will be put on the floor in San Antonio to revise our Bylaws and add a position of Secretary. So, plenty of opportunities to lead and serve our Association!!! Also, the 2023 reunion site will be voted upon, so if you wish to bring the reunion to your neck of the woods, please be prepared to "sell" your city – hopefully out West (last time was in 2015).

We remain steady on course and speed towards San Antonio. Hope to see many more of you there.

Enjoy the summer and carpe diem, chuck bond

THE CAPTAIN'S CORNER



CDR Shaun Dennis, CO DDG-104

Greeting family, friends and loved ones!

We are BACK!

The crew is excited to be home and reunite with everyone as well as welcome aboard our new shipmates. I am personally grateful for the opportunity to serve as STERETT's Commanding Officer. Post Deployment life for the ship has been just as busy, but in a different way.

We are in full swing now of the ship's next cycle, which is the Maintenance Phase. We are modernizing and repairing the ship, while providing opportunities for the crew to train and learn on new and or updated systems. This is an important part in the lifecycle of a ship as we look to keep STERETT on the front fighting lines for many years to come! I want to say THANK YOU again for the continued support, love, and prayers.

FOREVER DAUNTLESS
-CDR DENNIS sends

USS STERETT Association 2021 Reunion



16-19 September 2021

Holiday Inn San Antonio Riverwalk
[217 North St. Mary's Street, San Antonio, TX 78205](#)

- The room rate for the reunion is now \$151.00 (plus taxes and fees) per night.
- To make reservations, please call (210) 224-2500 and mention the "USS STERETT" or the group code "STA."
- Reservations made after August 23, 2021, will be provided on a space available basis at the Hotel's current selling price.
- A Full American breakfast buffet for the price of \$14.00 per person (tax and gratuity not included) is available (normally \$22.00).
- Overnight self-service parking is available for \$18.00 per night (normally \$27.00).
- As long as the Holiday Inn San Antonio Riverwalk has availability, they will honor the room rate three days before and three days after the reunion dates of 16-18 September (19 September the departure date for most).

Reunion Plan of the Day (POD)

Thursday, 16 September 2021 – early arrival date (discover San Antonio and Texas)

Friday 17, September 2021 – arrival date, wine tour, golf tourney, audit & Board of Directors meeting, and group gatherings

Saturday, 18 September 2021 – General meeting (Committee Reports, election of officers and 2023 reunion site) and banquet

Sunday, 19 September 2021 – Memorial ceremony and departure



Binnacle List

Binnacle is defined as the stand or housing for the ship's compass located on the bridge. The term binnacle list, in lieu of sick list, originated years ago when ship's Hospital Corpsmen used to place a list of the sick on the binnacle each morning to inform the captain about the crew's health. Please keep the following Shipmates and family members in your thoughts and prayers for a speedy recovery:

Frank Ames (CG31, 84-88)	Ray Miem (CG 31, 88-91)
Ron Burch (CG31, 86-89)	Jessica Morera (DDG 104, 2019-2020)
Eric Goetz (CG-31, 87-89)	Richard Seghers (CG 31, 87-91)
Jacque "JQ" Hutchins (CG31, 87-89)	Bill Stafford (CG 31, 90-92)
Kenneth Wilhelm (CG 31, 88-91)	

If anyone is missing off the list, please contact Chaplain Jackson at glennjackson27@gmail.com