

Meeting Minutes USS Sterett Association

Saturday 26 September 2009

The Association assembled at the San Diego Town & Country Hotel to hold the bi-annual Reunion Dinner and business meeting.

Officers:

Wayne McBrian	President	Present
Mike Cornforth	Vice President	Present
Dennis Dean	Treasurer	Absent
Steve Hayes	Member at Large	Present
Evan Mickel	Member at Large	Absent

During the meeting, the following business issues were addressed as noted below.

The following Treasurers Report was read into the record by Vice President Mike Cornforth, seconded and accepted.

USS Sterett Association

Treasurer's Report, 26 September 2009

Membership: At the present time we have 156 active members for 2009. That compares to the 172 members we had as of the end of 2008 and the 152 members we had at the end of 2007.

Reunion Attendees: As of 23 September, 122 attendees were registered for the Reunion.

Reunion Costs: Approximately \$11,400 will be spent on the Reunion. Approximately, \$9,500 of those expenses have not yet been billed and paid, as of the writing of this report.

Financial Status:

The Association assets as of 23 Sep are summarized as follows:

PayPal Account:	\$1,395.95
NFCU Checking:	\$15,029.16
NFCU Savings:	\$6,109.56
Current Total:	\$22,534.67
Post Reunion:	\$13,034.67 (estimated)

This compares with previous total assets as shown below:

31 Dec 2008	\$12,260.95
31 Dec 2007	\$10,025.76

Comments:

1. The use of Pay Pal continues to make life easier for the Treasurer and for those members who use it to pay their dues. No issues have been noticed while using that payment method and members are encouraged to use it if they so desire.

2. Approximately 60% of the dues payments received this year were via PayPal. About 65% of the Reunion payments were received via PayPal.
3. The Association's required tax filing with the IRS, which can be accomplished by filing IRS Form 990-N (e-Postcard) has been completed by the required deadline for this year.
4. About half of the current memberships will expire at the end of 2009. E-mail reminders about expiring memberships will be sent out at the end of the year and beginning of next year.

Reunion Expenses were reviewed and approved.

The estimated Reunion expense was presented with the Treasures Report above was approved by the membership.

Commissioning Review

1. Evan Mickel, Member at Large coordinated the Associations attendance at the Baltimore Commissioning. He also worked with Baltimore Commissioning Committee to make the new Sterett visit to Baltimore a successful event and provide events for the crew. The Officers and Association Members extend a –

Bravo Zulu to Evan for a Job Well Done

2. Evan Mickel, John King, Dennis Dean and Wayne McBrian purchased a copy of Tin Can Sailor and custom Gift Card/Bookmark for each of the USS Sterett 104 crew. The following expenses was submitted and approved for reimbursement by the Association Members.

Books	\$2,664 (includes shipping)
Cards/Bookmark	\$ 400 (includes \$12 shipping)
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$3,064</u>

Checks should be written to:

John King	\$800
Evan Mickel	\$932
Dennis Dean	\$932
Wayne McBrian	\$400

Ships Store

Condition: During the last 2 years there were a few requests for items from our Ships Store that were unanswered, causing some confusion. As a result our website was updated to include a link to a popular "out sourced" Ships Store which could provide desired articles if wanted.

1. Mike Butterfield wanted to continue running the Ships Store and the Association Membership agreed noting we have better prices on our popular items like hats.
2. Discussion also found benefit in continuing the web link to a popular Ships Store website. Membership agreed to continue the link on our site.

Sterett Association Pin

Discussion about redesigning our Association Pin was put on hold.

1. Members agreed that the current design represents the Ship we all served on and for the time being should remain the pin of choice.
2. The die's will be recovered and sent to Mike Butterfield.
3. The new slate of Officers will reconsider as appropriate.

Communication with the ship

To build on the future of the Association, we need to maintain communication with the ship.

1. Master Chief Mike Johnston of Sterett 104 was elected as communication liaison with the ship. In a later discussion at the Reunion dinner, Master Chief Johnston accepted.
2. We agreed to acknowledge Sterett 104's birthday and other events as appropriate with presentations of cards, cakes or other tokens as deemed appropriate by the Association Officers.

Membership

We discussed future membership.

1. Each of us need to reach out to past crew members to encourage them to join and remain active.
2. **We agreed to waive membership fees for current and future Sterett sailors who are on active duty. Each are encourage to register on the website annually and update their contact information.**
3. Mike Garrity will enhance our website so active duty Sterett sailors can register.

Election of New Officers

The following volunteers were approved by the Association Members:

President	Bob Johnson
Treasurer	Don Hageman
Vice President	Mike Cornforth
Member at Large	Fred Cross
Member at Large	Wayne Wright

* Master Chief Mike Johnston, Ships Liaison

Wed-Master

The Web Master needs assistance. As a result the Officers requested a volunteer to assist Mike Garrity with the site maintenance and development **Tom Jacobsmeyer** volunteered to work with Mike on the website.

2011 Reunion location

Biloxi, Mississippi was selected as the next Reunion location.

1. Steve Hayes will organize the reunion with the help of Mike Heron
2. The Reunion will be help on April 21st & 22nd, of 2011. The date mat be adjusted as the Officers may determine.

Meeting concluded at 11:40

Miscellaneous Notes

1. Received \$60 for registration from the widow of Archie Smith. Kiyoko Smith attended the Reunion. This will be forwarded to Dennis Dean for deposit.
2. Received \$1,150 from Chief Roy Vasquez for the Crews registration. This will be sent to Dennis Dean for deposit.

Tour of Sterett DDG-104

Busses departed the Hotel at 13:00 for the Ship

The ship's tour included the topside decks, Bridge, Heritage Passageway, CIC, Mess Deck, Engine Room and ended with pictures on the bow with the 5" Gun.

- 90+ Association and Family Members visited Sterett DDG-104 at the San Diego Navy Base.
- The Photographer joined us on the trip and documented the visit.
- Pictures will be on the Reunion CD.
- Returned to the Ship at approximately 17:00

Reunion Dinner and Dance

Festivities commenced at 18:00.

The Color Guard opened the festivities

The Sterett Color Guard presented the Colors. The Pledge of Allegiance and National Anthem kicked off the Dinner.

Chaplin Donald den Dulk offered the prayer.

Three of the 407 crew were present and recognized.

Greated the Ships Skipper, Commander McPherson, XO, Commander Blankenship, Master Chief and Chief of the Ship Mike Johnston and Ship Crew (22 Present)

Captain MacPherson offered remarks

Chuck Farham (Capt. Retired) presented his personal gifts to the Captain

Wayne (Then President of the Association) Discussed the Commissioning Event in Baltimore. Slides were running in the Starboard corner for those interested to view.

Debbie Sterett offered remarks to the Association on behalf of the Sterett Family.

Dinner was served

An auction was conducted of 3 cigarette lighters donated by Capt. Farnham

Phil won the DLG-31 Plank Owners lighter

Master Chief Johnston won the Sterett DLG-31 monogrammed lighter

One of the crew won the Lighter with the Sterett DLG-31 crest applied.

Approx \$120 of auction proceeds were given to Mike Butterfield.

The "DJ" livened up the event with a dance event I would call the "I'm Too Sexy Dance" with a prize going to the winners. The Skipper of the Sterett won Most Sexy male dancer and won a dance with a female guest who won it for the ladies. Limited pictures are available for the curious. This really had the room swinging and all had fun!

The dancing and Dinner wrapped up at approximately 22:00 with many remaining to talk over old times. A great evening who some have said was the best!

Memorial Service

Chaplin Donald den Dulk presided over the Memorial.

The Chaplin served on Sterett CG-31 from 1977 – 1979 and Retired in June 2000 as Command Chaplin Naval Base Coronado.

The 407 Crew recalled the killed in action on the 407
Chaplin den Dulk led us in prayer and song

The Service was closed and the new Offices were presented with their new positions.

We look forward to the next two years and the Reunion in Mississippi.

Reunion was officially ended approximately 10:30.

Extended thanks go to the organizers of the Reunion.

Captain Reichert

Captain Farnham – Ships Coordinator

Dave Spear – Transportation and Base Communication

Dave Bilak – Name Tags

Van Hada - Disk Jockey

Mike Butterfield – Ships Store

Also Assisting

Larry Johnson

Fred Cross

Wayne Wright

Leonard Alexander

On behalf of the Sterett Association and its members please accept our heartfelt thanks for your efforts and contributions. We know the extent of the work necessary and the pressure to perform can be stressful. Without your commitment, we certainly would not have had what some have called the best ever Reunion Event.

Wayne McBrian

Then President, Sterett Association