

USS COLLETT REUNION ASSOCIATION
5604 BLOOMINGTON AVE
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55417-2641

Registration Form for 2009 USS COLLETT DD730 Reunion.
Branson, MO September 16 through September 20 2009.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Name for Badge: _____

Companion: _____

Guests: _____

List any special dietary needs:

Registration \$15.00 \$15.00

Thursday Tour \$45.00 Number attending ____ Subtotal _____

Friday Tour \$43.00 Number attending ____ Subtotal _____

Saturday Tour \$13.00 Number attending ____ Subtotal _____

Banquet \$24.00 Number attending ____ Subtotal _____

Unpaid Dues \$10.00 Subtotal _____

Total _____

Make checks payable to: USS COLLETT Association

Mail to:

Sue Senn
P.O. Box 742
Pearce, Arizona, 85625

USS Collett Reunion Association Newsletter of May 2009

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A message from the President

Greetings shipmates:

I keep getting messages from your officers for the Collett Association and they all tell me that the organization is growing and improving. You can give all of them a Bravo Zulu for the hard work they are doing. Everyone can help by responding to requests for more names and any other information about men who served on the Collett. Anyone you can remember will give us leads to try to reach as many of our shipmates as we can. When you look at the lists that are available, it may help each of you to remember one more name for one more person we can try to track down. This is an effort for all of us to work on.

September and the reunion at Branson is coming. The Texas reunion was great and I hope to see more of you at Branson. For those of you who attended last year, you will remember that at the banquet we identified men who served on the Collett by year and there was at least one shipmate from every year from commissioning in 1944 through her end as a U.S. Navy ship in 1970. I am hoping to do at least as well this year and hope to see more than one from each year the ship was in commission.

As we work on a history of the ship through a quarter century of war and peace, we need input from all of you. Please share your stories of where you were and what you saw while you were aboard the ship. I know that I have learned a lot that I did not know about our history by listening to what shipmates had to say about their time aboard.

You can all help to make Branson a success. See you there.

Bill Brooks

Dues:

If the characters in the upper left hand corner of the mailing label on the front of this newsletter do not end in 09 or 10, you have not paid your dues for 2009. PLEASE Send your dues of \$10.00 for 2009 to:

Sue Senn
P.O. Box 742
Pearce, Arizona, 85625

If you send your dues to the return address on the newsletter, it only delays the credit because the Corresponding Secretary has to mail them to Sue.

Frank's History Timeline Project:

Frank Olderr is trying to generate a history of the USS COLLETT with some help from shipmates. His initial timelines for the years have drawn some feedback from shipmates, but we need more. The following table is a list of where the time line stands now in this writers opinion.

1943 Keel Laid Date only	1957 Big Gap
1944 Good Start	1958 Nothing
1945 Good Start	1959 Very Little
1946 Big Gap	1960 Very Little
1947 Very Little	1961 Nothing
1948 Nothing	1962 Good Start
1949 Very Little	1963 Good Start
1950 Very Little	1964 Good Start
1951 Very Little	1965 Big Gap
1952 Very Little	1966 Big Gap
1953 Big Gap	1967 Good Start
1954 Good Start	1968 Good Start
1955 Big Gap	1969 Big Gap
1956 Nothing	1970 Big Gap

In the above table;

Good Start means that only a few dates are missing,

Big Gap means several months with no data.

Very Little means we have a few dates,

Nothing is exactly what we have.

If you have any old letters or logs that could fill in a portion of the period, they will be greatly appreciated.

Shipmate name database.

The Schall's had copies of most of the Personnel diaries from the ship. Betty was happy to get them out of the attic and sent them to Sue. Sue sent them to Frank and he in turn sent everything prior to 1957 to Chuck. The two of us have been busy checking the existing names and adding the rest to the list in the computers. We should have over 99% of the shipmates names when we finish. Prior to 1957, the officers were only listed in the deck logs and not normally in the Personnel Diaries as this was standard Navy Policy at the time.

The following table shows the progress we are making on getting the names of all shipmates into the COLLETT Reunion Assn. database.

	# Records
Paid CRA Members	164
CRA Members	247
CREW on 2/16/2009	2734
CREW on 5/27/2009	4328
Members with email	407
LIVE	4010
LOST	27
Patrol Eternal	318
Snail Mail only	639
Unlisted Telephone	17

The two crew dates above illustrate how many names were missing in the years 1944 through 1956.

Year	Crew	New	Full
1944	426	426	357
1945	607	250	134
1946	633	310	36
1947	361	119	105
1948	310	160	122
1949	587	309	120
1950	461	134	180
1951	409	111	178
1952	497	223	120
1953	483	166	179
1954	443	131	172
1955	455	172	122
1956	404	143	136
1957	341	83	40
1958	95	29	44
1959	107	38	50
1960	484	400	37
1961	453	188	109
1962	316	97	123
1963	244	61	105
1964	198	47	72
1965	177	70	55

1966	270	151	43
1967	202	73	90
1968	207	62	54
1969	335	238	45
1970	321	77	0
Unknown	51		

The years 1957 to 1970 are in process now. The column headed by crew is the number of shipmates who served in that year. The column headed by new is the number of new shipmates that year. The column headed by full is the number of shipmates who served the entire year aboard the ship. The year 1944 begins on the day she was commissioned and the year 1970 end with the day she was decommissioned, all the rest are 1 January through 31 December.

2009 Reunion Information

Coordinator Gerald Gardner
Telephone: 417 548 7428
email: nuttynuts@centurytel.net

Dates September 16 through 20, 2009
Location Branson, Missouri
Hotel Stone Castle Hotel (Formerly The Settle Inn)
3050 Green Mountain Drive
Branson, MO 65616
Telephone: 417.335.4700 and 800.677.6906

40 rooms have been reserved. Rooms are \$69.00 plus tax. Upgrade to theme rooms for \$85.00. Handicap rooms are available. You may cancel reservations within 5 days of the reunion without penalty. Members are urged to make reservations early so we can make plans for tours and events.

The Hotel is expert in hosting military/retiree reunions and makes special efforts to accommodate their needs.

Hospitality Room:

The hospitality room has been reserved for our complete 4 day stay; there are no restrictions on it's use. It is planned to keep it open and available for members use as long as possible. Minimum security will be required to safeguard items of the association and prevent any liability from unauthorized access.

Airport Air transportation to Branson

Two airlines now are scheduled to serve the Branson Missouri airport which will open 11 May. AirTran will have daily flights operating out of Atlanta and Milwaukee. When scheduling make sure of connecting flights that there are no excessive layovers. Sun Country Airlines will operate out of Minneapolis/St Paul with flights on Monday-Wednesday-Saturday. Fares for the introductory startup are very reasonable. Enterprise car rental will be the only authorized car rental. There will be taxi and shuttle service to the hotels, details and fares will be forthcoming in later updates.

There is an alternative to flying into Branson, Springfield is 40 some miles from Branson and is served by Allegiant, American, Delta, Northwest, and United with multiple schedules. There is shuttle service available but it is rather expensive, \$40.00 per person for two people, over that it is \$30.00 per person. You might consider a car rental, especially if two couples could coordinate their arrivals. Driving in Branson is not that difficult if you avoid the main drag during show changes.

Reunion schedule:

Wednesday:

Hospitality Room opens at 12:00 P.M. with refreshments and snacks available. Welcoming meeting with guest speaker at about 7:00 PM.

Thursday:

Tour

Start at 8:00 AM;

First stop; Wilson Creek Civil War Battle Field, guided tour about 1.5 hours long.

Second stop; Fantastic Caverns, guided tour about 1 hour. Box lunch served here.

Third stop; either The Air and Military Museum or The Springfield Conservation Center.

Fourth stop; Missouri Veterans Cemetery

Last stop; Famous Lambert's Restaurant; (meal not included in price of the tour).

Back to the hotel.

Hospitality Room open all day.

Friday:

Tour

Start at 8:30 AM;

First stop; John Foster Museum located at the School of the Osarks, self guided about 2 hours.

Next; Scenic drive through the Osark hills and along the shore of Table Rock Lake with a break for lunch (cost of lunch not included in the price of the tour).

Second stop; Table Rock Dam and US fish hatchery.

Third stop; "Pizza Cruise" on the "Lake Queen" with all the pizza you can eat from several selections.

Back to the hotel.

Hospitality Room open all day.

Saturday:

Shopping and Sight Seeing in the morning. An afternoon show at 3:00 which will be decided at the reunion.

Hospitality Room open all day.

Banquet; 6:00 PM

Sunday:

Departure day, for those wishing to extend their stay the room rates are the same.

Comments from the coordinator:

Avoid doing business with the Branson Tourism Center, (800) 785-1550, they also use several other names, but always the same phone number.

They generally add 40% to the prices for any event they handle.

Branson, Missouri Links. If you have access to a computer there is lots of information about Branson www.branson.com The Official Website .

Patrol Eternal:

Ditty, Ernest Gene 46-46 (died in 09)

The following are names of shipmates Frank Olderr learned of their passing while working on the names for the sixties.

Bass, Ernest L. BT3	64-66	(died in 08)
Belen, Pedro D. SD2	65-67	(died in 99)
Black, Charles E. SA	60-60	(died in 06)
Boyett, John S. MM2	60-60	(died in 94)
Burgess, James L. RD3	60-60	(died in 98)
Carlson, Richard N. EMP3	60-60	(died in 06)
Clark, Bruce E. MM1	61-61	(died in 01)
Edwards, Phillip K. SA	65-66	(died in 89)
Eppenger, Frank L. GM1	61-61	(died in 01)
Green, Larry W. SN	65-66	(died in 08)
Heisten, Clarence L RM1	60-60	(died in 08)
Isbell, Donald L. SM2	61-61	(died in 98)
Itow, Ronny Y. SA	60-60	(died in 02)
Jenkins, Richard S. FN	60-60	(died in 98)
Jimison, Allen R. SN	65-65	(died in 08)
Knight, David A. SA	60-60	(died in 03)
Meers, Benny L. STCS	64-64	(died in 02)
Mendoza, Freddie BT3	65-68	(died in 04)
Moreci, Clifford F. FN	60-60	(died in 05)
Moreno, Richard D. SN	60-60	(died in 08)
Overstreet, Ralph W. SA	60-60	(died in 01)
Pedro, Fernando E. GMC	60-60	(died in 00)
Pickens, Leonard A. DK3	62-62	(died in 97)
Powell, William L. FA	65-66	(died in 98)
Quisenberry, Thomas T. RM3	65-66	(died in 09)
Radtke, Warren H. BT3	64-66	(died in 00)
Romero, Alvin K. EN1	61-61	(died in 05)
Santos, Malias L. YN1	65-66	(died in 98)
Schafer, James A. MM3	63-63	(died in 00)
Schueller, Herbert R. IC2	61-62	(died in 01)
Scott, Cecil P. MMC	61-61	(died in 01)
Sonnenberg, Richard MM2	62-65	(died in 96)
Sparks, George A. PCSN	64-64	(died in 05)
Thompson, Earl W. STGSN	65-65	(died in 02)
Turner, Theophalus MM2	63-66	(died in 98)
Vernon, Richard L. SN	60-60	(died in 00)