

USS GREGORY DD-802 MEETING MINUTES

PENSACOLA FLORIDA

OCTOBER 11, 2016

The meeting was called to order by President Walt Neumann. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance which was followed by the singing of God Bless America. The invocation was given by Bill Bohn. The Two Bell ceremony was held to remember the shipmates/members who have been deceased since the last Reunion. As each name was read, Don Gappa rang the ship's bell two times. The names read were: John Richter, John Nolta, Jim Williams, George Williams, Stanley Damas, Howard F. Tomlin, Claude Gunnensen, Charles Blodgett.

Walt gave a special thank you to Vice President Loy Buley and his wife Kathy for organizing the Reunion. He then thanked the officers (Treasurer Bill Laing was absent) for their work in keeping the organization running.

The minutes of the 2015 St. Louis Reunion meeting were presented and approved. The Treasurer's report was given and approved. The balance in the treasury is \$8735.89 before Reunion expenses are paid. Ed Richardson gave a report on the Ship's Store. He will carry a supply of hat/caps and license plate holders. Shirts can be ordered by calling Ed rather than carrying a large inventory.

Walt gave a special welcome to Jim Johnson who is 92 years old and the only Plank Owner who has attended the last two Reunions. Walt re-introduced and welcomed back Victor Leyland and Bill Bohn who were not at the St. Louis Reunion.

New business: Walt addressed the situation of someone stepping up to become officers. Bill Laing has officially resigned as Treasurer. Walt asked for someone to take the position and Victor Leyland volunteered and was appointed Treasurer. Ken Boyer had submitted his resignation as Secretary but when no one volunteered to take the position, Ken said he would accept the office again. Walt Neumann and Loy Buley again accepted their positions as President and Vice President respectively.

Discussion for the next Reunion. Jim Johnson suggested that we keep the Reunions centrally located in some place like Branson Missouri. Ed Richardson said that our by-laws state that we do the East Coast, West Coast, Central U.S. Don Gappa re-iterated the by-laws. Walt asked by show of hands which attendees lived in each time zone. Voted by show of hands to keep the reunions at three time zones. Suggestions for next Reunion were Monterey/San Francisco California area, Long Beach California, Bremerton Washington. By secret ballot the

results were twelve votes for Monterey/San Francisco, five votes for Long Beach CA, no votes for Bremerton and one blank vote. The next Reunion will be in the Spring of 2018 in the Monterey/San Francisco area depending on room and tour rates. Loy will look into the rates at the Military Hotel in San Francisco.

Discussion on price of membership. It was decided to keep it at \$12.00 per year regardless of when payment is made. Operating Fund will remain as a donation.

The auction for the donated jacket resulted in no bids so Ed Richardson will put it back in the Ship's Store. The picture of the ship that Loy Buley donated was auctioned off and bought by Walt Neumann for \$20.00. Jim Johnson's picture of the ship was donated to the Association. The raffle items netted \$60.00.

Bill Bohn gave the Benediction and the meeting was adjourned.

Ken Boyer, Secretary

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