



## **DESTROYER LEADER ASSOCIATION**

### **MINUTES – GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, KISSIMMEE, FL - 9/16/2016**

**Call to order** – 0934 – by President Larry Rossi

**Pledge of Allegiance** – led by VP Dave Levy

**Invocation** – Chaplain Bill Svendsen

**Presentation of Gavel** – to President Rossi by Treasurer Mike Bugara

**Parliamentary procedure** – Curtis Hanson

**Minutes of San Diego meeting, 2015** – Frank Graham moved to accept the minutes as made available in the Hospitality room, Motion seconded, Approved

**Correspondence** – Mike Bugara – Letter and auction items from Rendy Dunn; Card and \$250.00 donation from Auriol Doherty.

**Treasurer's Report** – Mike Bugara –

- Balance in General Fund, after San Diego reunion, \$8,495.76. Current balance, \$6,641.76.
- Balance in Reunion Fund, after SD reunion, \$441.50. Current balance \$7,329.87; majority will be spent later today to pay the hotel's master account. (Reunion acc't is a self-depleting fund.)
- Auction receipts, \$1,644.00. 50/25-25 raffle fund and Ship's Store amounts are not final.
- Escrow Account – A portion of the General Fund, advance dues payments through 2021 = \$1,070.00 total. \$775.00 will be available for 2017; the remaining \$295.00 will remain in escrow.

At the end of each month the members of the Board of Directors receive reports that reflect donations, dues payments and expenditures. Ask your Ship's Coordinator for details.

Curtis Hanson moved to approve the report, Sandy Sandoval 2<sup>nd</sup>, Approved.

**Reunion Planner's Report** – Mike Bugara –

**2017** After sending 32 RFP packets to Nashville area hotels and only receiving 2 proposals (both with high room rates [~\$365.00]) it was reported by the CVB that our group was too small for the "convention city." The BoD authorized moving on to San Antonio, TX (which was voted second behind Nashville at our 2015 reunion.) Received 12 responses to the RFP: Holiday Inn - Riverwalk; El Tropicana; Double-Tree and La Quinta made the first cut. Each was visited; due to location/size the Double-Tree and La Quinta were dropped from consideration. The final choice was the Holiday Inn.

The reunion will be held at the Holiday Inn – Riverwalk, September 10 – 16, 2017. There will be two tours. The first is to Fredericksburg (an all-day tour) including the Chester Nimitz Museum and shopping opportunities. The second will be a Mission tour including a stop at the Alamo, followed by a stop at the Mercado for food and shopping. We'll return to the hotel; arrangements are being made to then board a couple of the riverboats (barges) for a 50-minute narrated tour of the river.

**2018** "We have a predicament for 2018." The BoD is not presenting any cities ... the membership must decide whether to have reunions every, or every other, year. Bill Svendsen moved that we meet yearly; motion was seconded – discussion followed. (Mostly off-topic – Bill Svendsen called for a vote on the motion.) Unanimous approval.

Mike Bugara asked, “Where would you like to go in 2018? Would you like a cruise or land” reunion? Lengthy discussion followed, with various suggestions, bearing in mind travel distances, accessibility, preference for a naval establishment. Suggested locales included: Boston area; Lancaster, PA; a cruise to the Panama Canal or Bahamas; Washington, D.C.; Duluth, MN; Norfolk, VA; New Orleans, LA; Mobile, AL; and a Mississippi Delta cruise. Preference voting was conducted – the top three were Norfolk, Boston, and the ocean cruise. Selection vote was taken – Norfolk took first place (24 votes,) with Boston (11 votes) in second. 2018 reunion will take place in Norfolk, VA.

**New Business** – No additional business needing attention

**Ship Breakout session** – 15 minutes

**Election of Officers** – Curtis Hanson, nominating committee

Treasurer – only Mike Bugara; nominations open to the floor, none forthcoming. Mike re-elected by acclamation. To be installed at the banquet.

Vice President – two nominations; Dave Levy (incumbent), Gary Marchido; candidates to do a < 2-minute “campaign” speech. Upon completion, candidates were invited to leave the room during the vote. Vote results: Marchido – 24 Levy – 5. Gary to be installed at the banquet.

Frank Graham called for a round of applause for out-going VP Dave Levy.

**Introduction of first timers** – Dave Mader, DL-4; Alvey (Smitty) Smith, Mike Biggs, Henry (Cub) Amos and Raymond Guilfoyle, all from the Wilkinson.

**Good of the Organization** – Ship’s store to close at 1300. Question from Pete Peterson re. recruiting new members from add’l ships. Building on Dave Levy’s foundation, Curtis Hanson and Gary Marchido will be working toward that goal. Considerable discussion as to whether we add members to the DLA or piggy-back with other organizations. Pete suggested not limiting our research to DLs – look to destroyer (and other) sailors as well. Goal is to get “hotel numbers” up, with the caution to be watchful as to whom we choose to join us. Report coming at the spring BoD meeting in Baltimore.

**Committee Assignments and Appointed Positions** – Regarding non-elected positions, President Rossi continued his 2016 appointments for another term.

**Motion to adjourn** – Sandy Sandoval moved that we adjourn, motion was seconded. Meeting adjourned at 1106.