



USS KASKASKIA BLAST

Dedicated to the men who served aboard USS KASKASKIA (AO 27)

Volume 4 No. 1

June 2021

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**USS KASKASKIA's 31th REUNION IS SCHEDULED FOR
Columbus, Ohio
20-24 OCTOBER 2021**

See Page 2

USS KASKASKIA Reunion Webpage
<http://www.kaskaskia27reunion.com/>

President's Message

J.D. "Jimmy" Tabb
tabbjd@msn.com

Ahoy Shipmates:

The 31st reunion is coming this fall and it is time for everyone to make plans to attend. I'm really looking for a good turnout since we missed last year's reunion due to COVID, and because this is our first ever reunion in the State of Ohio. My first trip to Ohio also and I'm looking forward to it.

Bob Crosbie has taken over temporary duties as treasurer due to Terry Gacioch's health issues. Thankfully Terry is better and we will address this at this year's business meeting during the reunion.

I know **Larry Kish** has done an excellent job planning our reunion and a great time should be had by all.

Personally, I can't wait to see everyone and catch up on our "Sea Stories". Be safe and I'll see you at the reunion.

Jimmy

Treasurer's Notes **Bob Crosbie**

Dues are now being collected. They are needed to keep the *Blast* and reunions going. Dues are \$10.00 per year, and we have not raised the price for the past 29 years. Please send dues to: **Bob Crosbie, 60964 M-40, JONES, MI 49061**

If you had a change of address or know a shipmate who has moved notify **Bob Crosby** or **Larry Kish**. So they can keep an updated list of shipmates for mailings and for the KASKASKIA web pages.

From the Editor's Desk

COVID-19 has really turned all of our lives upside down as far as "normal" life goes. Most every KASKASKIA crewmember should have received the COVID vaccinations by now if you want it. If you are now seeing some reductions in your state's safety protocols, that should be good news. By the time of KASKASKIA 31st Reunion in October, I hope many of you feel that you are ready to join in on the events **Larry Kish** has planned for you and your family. After all these months of isolation, you should look forward to sharing memories of your time aboard KAS and the other ships you served aboard. **Please join us in Columbus, Ohio!**



USS Kaskaskia AO27 Reunion
October 20-October 24, 2021

Attendee Information

Your host hotel:

Staybridge Suites Columbus Polaris
909 Lyra Drive, Columbus, OH 43240

- \$96 Studio Suite 1 King
- \$106 One Bedroom 2 Q/Q
- Hotel will honor these rates from October 18th to October 25th
- Reservation to be made at (800)238-8000 mention USS Kaskaskia AO27 Reunion 2021
- Reservations must be made by September 1st.
- Non-smoking interior
- Complimentary on-site parking
- Amenities include a business center, on-site guest self-laundry facilities, luggage storage, fitness room and pool.

Each suite is equipped with a full kitchen including range, microwave, full size refrigerator with ice maker, dish washer, and all kitchen ware.

- Breakfast is included with your stay

Suggested optional experience:

The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium is rated one of the top five zoos in the country by USA Today in 2019. It is within eight miles of our hotel. Group rate tickets at \$5 good for Thursday, October 21 or Saturday, October 13 will be available with your registration form. The zoo would be a nice excursion for small groups wishing to car pool there Thursday afternoon or Saturday.

Special recognition:

We are very grateful to **Paul Pacer at Cavalier Tours** for providing our tour bus transportation for our 31st reunion at cost. Their generous transportation donation will allow us to enjoy our reunion excursions as a total group experience.

Suggested attire:

We suggest casual, comfortable clothing for the entire trip, including comfortable walking shoes.

There is much to enjoy in Columbus. Have fun and thank you for attending!

4:00pm Check-in at the Columbus Staybridge Suites Columbus Polaris
Early check-ins will be accommodated on an individual basis

Wednesday, October 20, 2021

4:00-6:00pm Welcome Reception in Hospitality Suite
Register, receive your welcome package, and enjoy drinks and conversation

Thursday, October 21, 2021

8:45am Meet in the Lobby
Board the bus and head out for tour day number one! Enjoy breakfast at the hotel prior to leaving.

9:00am Bus Departs for Motts Military Museum

9:30am Tour of Motts Military Museum

The mission of Motts Military Museum is: "To educate the public on the importance of America's military past through the documentation, collection, interpretation, and preservation of tangible artifacts and personal stories of the men and women who served and are serving in the United States Armed Forces."

- 11:30am **Depart Motts Military Museum**
- 12:00pm **Arrive at Hotel**
Use the rest of the day to gather in the hospitality room and share stories, explore some local favorites, or use those Columbus Zoo tickets!

Friday, October 22, 2021

- 8:45am **Meet in Lobby**
Board the bus and head out for tour day number 2! Enjoy breakfast at the hotel prior to leaving.
- 9:00am **Bus Departs for Greater Columbus Convention Center**
Stay on the bus! We are just picking up our tour guide for the morning.
- 9:30am **Columbus City Adventures Tour**
This excursion provides an enjoyable glance at the best the city has to offer.
- 11:30am **Bus Arrives at Greater Columbus Convention Center**
Stay on the bus! We are just dropping off our tour guide.
- 11:45am **Lunch at Spaghetti Warehouse**
Casual Italian chain dating back to 1972 with a family-friendly vibe.
- 1:00pm **Tour of National Veterans Memorial and Museum**
This museum is the only place where the stories of our veterans, their families and the Fallen – across all branches of service and all eras of conflict – are told together.
- 3:00pm **Depart National Veterans Memorial and Museum**
- 3:30pm **Arrive at Hotel**
Use the evening to gather in the hospitality room and share stories or explore some local favorites!

Saturday, October 23, 2021

- 9:00am **Business Meeting**
Use today to gather in the hospitality room and share stories, explore some local favorites, or use those Columbus Zoo tickets!
- 6:00pm **Banquet Dinner at Hotel**

Sunday, October 24, 2021

- 11:00am **Check-out of the Staybridge Columbus Polaris**
Late check-outs will be accommodated on an individual basis

Thank you for another wonderful reunion! We hope to see you again next year.

Some Local Favorites to explore Thursday afternoon or Saturday

Columbus Zoo
AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame
Barber Hall of Fame & Museum
Anti-Saloon League Museum
Kelton House
Central Ohio Fire Museum
Billy Ireland Cartoon Museum
Early Television Museum
Doll Museum
Anthony Thomas Candy Tour
Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens
COSI
Columbus Museum of Art
Wexner Center of Art
Other World
Honda Heritage Site
Easton Town Center
Hollywood Casino



USS Kaskaskia AO27 31st Reunion
Columbus, OH – Oct 20-Oct 24, 2021
Reservation Form Due by September 1

Attendee Name _____ Guest/Spouse _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Home Phone (____) _____ Cell (____) _____

Email _____

Hotel Reservation Information

Reservations can be made by calling (888)695-4678 and mention USS Kaskaskia AO27 Reunion 2021, or (800)238-8000 Group Code USS, or use this link [USS Kaskaskia AO27 Reunion 2021](#)

Excursion and Banquet Reservations

Wednesday – 10/20 – Meet and Greet in the Hospitality Room. Register, receive your welcome package, enjoy drinks, and conversation. Cost of hospitality room this year is \$20.00 per person. Pick up Columbus Zoo Tickets good for October 21 or October 23.

Hospitality Room Guests _____ **x \$25 per person = \$** _____

Number of Zoo Tickets _____ **x \$5 = \$** _____

Thursday 10/21 – Mott's Military Museum guided tour.

Number of Guests _____ **x \$20 per person = \$** _____

Friday 10/22 - Guided tour of Columbus, Lunch at Spaghetti Warehouse, and National Veterans Memorial Museum guided tour. Lunch included in cost.

Number of Guests _____ **x \$47 per person = \$** _____

Saturday 10/23 – Dinner will be in the Hospitality Suite at Staybridge Suites Columbus Polaris.

Number of Guests _____ **x \$52 per person = \$** _____

Your total cost = \$ _____

Please make all checks out to Larry Kish – Registration due by September 1

Mail to: Larry Kish

150 Scottsbury Ct.

Gahanna, OH 43230

Home Phone (614)475-6079

Cell Phone (614)266-6095

email: lrkish1@gmail.com

Minutes of the 2019 Reunion Branson, Missouri



USS KASKASKIA (AO 27)

2019 Reunion Meeting
Branson, MO.

22 Sept. 2019

1000 President J.D. Tabb called the meeting to order.

Board members present: J.D. Tabb, Don Seymour, Robert Crosbie, absent: Terry Gacioch.

17 members present.

Pledge and prayer was led by J.D. Tabb. Names of deceased since last meeting were read with a moment of silence afterwards.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Motion to approve: Larry Kish, seconded: Dick Gagnon.
Motion carried.

Old business:

Treasurer's report: \$4500.00+/- in the checking account, \$100.00 in savings. Updated report from Terry is coming soon.

New business:

1. J.D. Tabb and Don Seymour would like to retire as president and vice president. New board members will be elected at the next meeting. Motion to approve: Ed Shied, seconded: Dick Gagnon. Motion carried.

2. Discussion on who should be president and vice president. Formerly, it was the reunion host as president and the following year's host was the vice president. No decision was made at this time.

3. Next reunion: Little interest was shown in having the reunion in Las Vegas. The next reunion will be in Columbus, Ohio with Larry Kish as the host and Robert Crosbie helping with the planning. Robert will place the reunion notice in the VFW, American Legion and Fleet Reserve magazines. Motion to approve: Delbert Scott, seconded: Lowell Hottman. Motion carried.

4. Discussion on a backup treasurer was discussed. Terry Gacioch's brother is now backup contact. J.D. Tabb is on the bank signature card. Motion was made to have Robert Crosbie contact Terry Gacioch and be put on the signature card and be made an assistant treasurer. Motion to approve: Larry Kish, seconded: Dick Gagnon. Motion carried.

5. Lowell Hottman is 87 today. Larry and Diane Kish were married 51 years ago yesterday. Farthest traveled: Dick Gagnon 1540 miles.

Closest: David Luttmann 260.7 miles.

Oldest: Erv Wilferd 93, 9/28/26 and George Young 93, 8/23/26

Youngest: Ed Shied 71.

Motion to adjourn: Mike Valsamy, seconded: Lowell Hottman.

Note: Both Erv Wilferd and George Young were on the USS KASKASKIA in Tokyo Bay when the Japanese surrender was signed on the USS MISSOURI.

Attendance:

Robert Crosbie, Years aboard 61-63

Dick Gagnon, 68-69

Larry Helk, 68-69

Lowell Hottman, 53-54

Larry Kish, 62-66

David Luttmann, 68-69

L. J. Quesenberry, 67-68

Delbert Scott, 51-53

Don Seymour, 67-68

Jerry Sheets, 61-63

Ed Shied, 67-69

J.D. Tabb, 65-66

James Washburn, 63-66

Erv Wilferd, 44-46

Stanford Wise, 53-55

Carl Wray, 61-62

George Young, 44-45

Points of Contact

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WEB PAGES---- <http://www.kaskaskia27reunion.com>

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Secretary Steve Shay at shaymur@flash.net. We will send you the next three month's issues of the *LOG* by email - **free**, with no obligation.



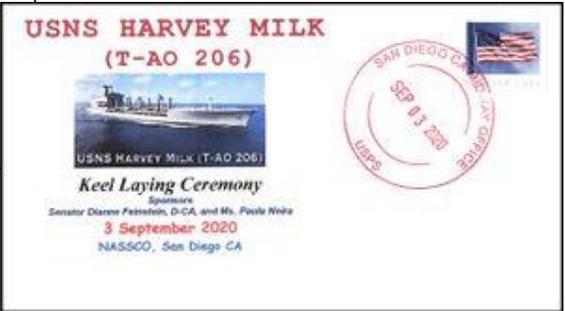
Richard D. Jones
137 Putnam Ave
Ormond Beach FL 32174

To:

Reunion Registration Information Enclosed – This Year--Join in--Be There!

See you all in Columbus, Ohio!

The Future of Fleet Oilers



Construction on the first two ships of the USNS JOHN LEWIS-class of underway replenishment fleet oilers is well underway. USNS JOHN LEWIS was launched on 13 January 2021 in San Diego and the second ship USNS HARVEY MILK is 60 per cent along in the main hull construction. JOHN LEWIS should be delivered in late 2021. Contracts have been awarded for the first 6 ships in the class to NASSCO, San Diego.