

USS Cacapon (AO-52) Veterans Reunion Association

Spring 2010 Newsletter

Greetings Shipmates,

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!! The next CACAPON REUNION will be September 14th-18th, 2011, in the Minneapolis area!! As in the past, Wednesday (14th) will be an arrival and sign-in day. Sunday (18th) will be breakfast and farewells.

We have been touring hotels and reviewing their offerings to find the best facility for the money for our 2011 reunion. Our fall newsletter will provide more detailed information, and next year's spring newsletter will provide full registration info! We will also provide more info on the Minneapolis/St. Paul area.

Though we are a land-locked state, we do have some unique Naval History. The USS Ward, a re-commissioned destroyer, with an entire crew of reservists from Minnesota, spotted a surfaced Japanese mini-sub, outside of Pearl Harbor, the day before the attack. They sank the sub with gunfire. These were the first shots fired by the US in World War II. The gun mount from the Ward, that fired those shots, is on display on the grounds of our state capitol in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Spring is half over in the Upper Midwest, with cool weather making us pay for the earlier warm weather in April. Fishing opener is this weekend and I will not be fishing, as I have had rotator- cuff repairs done recently. Recovery is slow!

I want to give a big "thank you" to Bill Armstrong (CS3, 1967-72). Since our last reunion, he has done a tremendous job of contacting additional shipmates and getting their info for our roster. As a result, our roster has grown from about 270 names to about 430 names. Some of these have come to us through the website, and some from reunion publicity in various veterans' magazines, but most of these additions have come from Bill. We are in the process of getting all of this added info into our roster, and preparing for the 2010 roster distribution scheduled for the fall of this year. If you haven't paid this year's membership to get the 2010 roster, I can tell you this will be the biggest change since I have been in the organization!

If you are receiving this by paper mail and have an email address or have changed address's please let us know and we will begin distributing our correspondence to you electronically.

Correspondence can be addressed to Bill McReaken (President) or Lorna McReaken (Secretary/ Treasurer), 10905 27th Ave S., Burnsville, MN 55337-1009.

Telephone 952-890-0102 email: Cacapon@q.com Dues are \$15.00/year – checks made out to "Cacapon Veterans."

Bill & Lorna