

## USS SPROSTON (DD/DDE – 577) REUNION KANSAS CITY, MO 21-25 SEPT 2016

**FINAL REUNION:** Tony Filosa predicted several years ago that we wouldn't have enough participating members "in a few years" to continue the Reunion Group. Last year he proposed to the Board of Directors that we disband right after the Kansas City reunion this year, and the Board unanimously accepted that plan. There are several arguments for disbanding on a high note in an organized manner rather than a forced disbanding in the future, with a few "mature" guys having to scramble around trying to tie up loose ends:

1. There have been fewer shipmates volunteering to be officers or host a reunion in their home city.
2. If we plan a reunion and can't fill the number of hotel rooms contracted for we are subject to an "Attrition Fee" by the hotel compensating them for the rooms set aside and not rented. This could be a rather large amount of money for which we are liable.
3. I believe we have the right people in place to do the disbanding job systematically and correctly:
  - a. Orville Amos, as president will be overall leadership.
  - b. Leon Muellner, treasurer will pay all outstanding debts and cut a check for the remaining treasury money to be donated to the Tin Can Sailor Destroyer Museum Ship fund.
  - c. I, as secretary will write a letter to Tin Can Sailor advising them of our intent, a letter to the print shop with whom we have been doing business and a letter to the Post Office in Youngstown, OH where we maintain our non-profit postal frank.
  - d. Tony Filosa will notify the IRS because we are an official, recognized, non-profit 501(c)(19) veterans organization with a Tax Identification Number.
  - e. Some physical *Sproston* memorabilia is held by Al Fitz, Ken Landry and myself.
  - f. Paulette Bacci will continue to maintain the website. I will continue to maintain our address list file.

**REUNION CHAIRMAN:** Orville Amos has made the following arrangements for us:

- Accommodations at Harrah's Hotel and Casino in North Kansas City (check-in time: 4PM)
- **Note: The same person making the phone reservation must show photo ID upon check-in!**
- Group rate of \$99 + tax and \$12 resort fee per night good for two days prior and after our reunion
- Individual cancellations without penalty up to 72 hours prior to the attendees' scheduled arrival date
- Complimentary auto parking, Wi-Fi, business center, fitness center, pet-friendly rooms, smoking and non-smoking rooms

**GETTING THERE:** Kansas City International (KCI) Airport is your destination if you are flying. You will arrive at Concourse "B" or Concourse "C" depending on your airline. Concourse "A" is shut down.

**FREE SHUTTLE VAN TO HOTEL:** We have provided a free shuttle van to take you to the hotel from the airport **Wednesday only**. The van, marked "SPROSTON" and operated by Arrow Stageline will be parked in the shuttle area across the roadway from Concourse "B" door B-7 on the hour, every hour from 9AM to 6PM. The van will then proceed to the shuttle area across the roadway from Concourse "C" door C-9, parking on the quarter hour to pick up those arrivals, then drive to the hotel. This cycle repeats every hour 9AM-6PM. If you have difficulty finding the shuttle van call Orville Amos on his cell phone: (816) 308-8618. Free shuttle bus from hotel to airport starting at 5AM *Sunday morning only*.

**TAPS:** After our Galveston reunion last year we were notified of the passing of the following shipmates:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Rank/Rate:</u>	<u>Service:</u>	<u>Deceased:</u>
JULIANA HARVEY	LTJG, NC	WWII	APR 2016
AUGUST ARMANI	COXSWAIN	WWII	MAY 2016
HENRY JOHNSON	CHIEF STEWARD	WWII	MAY 2016

Everything you need is included with this invitation. We sincerely hope to see all of you, especially those for whom this may be a first reunion. We missed some of you last year – do not miss this final reunion!

If you have questions, feel free to contact one of our Reunion Group officers:

Orville Amos, President  
Oamos541@aol.com  
816-483-2710

Michael Bereskin, Secretary  
Sproston@comcast.net  
415-239-0104

Leon Muellner, Treasurer  
lands@q.com

**2016 REUNION EVENTS**  
**21-25 SEPTEMBER 2016 — KANSAS CITY, MO**

Harrah's Hotel and Casino in North Kansas City  
1 Riverboat Drive, North Kansas City, MO 64116  
Front Desk Phone: (816) 472-7777 Reservations: (800) 427-7247  
Website: <https://www.caesars.com/harrahs-kansas-city/hotel>

**WED. SEPT 21**

- 12:00PM Hospitality Room set-up - Laughlin Room
- 4:00PM Hotel check-in and welcome  
Dinner on your own • Many nearby first-class restaurants
- 10:00PM Hospitality Room secured

**THU. SEPT 22**

- 8:45AM Board bus for National WWI Museum - Liberty Memorial • Sproston Memorial Service • Learn the history of WWI • See WWI weapons, vehicles, display of trench warfare and lunch at the Over There Café ("Liberty Lunch" chit required - in your ID badge holder with your banquet entrée chit).
- 1:15PM Board bus for TWA Museum • Learn the history and importance of the major role Trans World Airlines played in pioneering commercial aviation, airmail and inception of passenger air travel.
- 3:30PM Board bus for hotel
- 4:30PM Hospitality Room open • Dinner on your own
- 10:00PM Hospitality Room secured

**FRI. SEPT 23**

- 9:15AM Board bus for Steamboat Arabia Museum • Recovered in 1988 after sinking in the Missouri River near Kansas City in 1856 with now-displayed everyday items and treasures of the pre-Civil War era.
- 12:00PM Board bus for catered lunch of BBQ meat sandwiches, salads, fixin's and beverages in a private hall. Hosted by Carl Armato, Pit Master of the Sweet Beaver BBQ Sauce team competition.
- 2:15PM Board bus for Negro Leagues Baseball Museum • Learn the history of African-American Baseball See displays and photographs from the late 1800s.  
Visit the American Jazz Museum (same building) • Operate interactive displays • See graphics and commissioned artwork • Enjoy great American jazz music at listening stations.
- 4:30PM Board bus for hotel • Dinner on your own
- 10:00PM Hospitality Room secured

**SAT. SEPT 24**

- 9:30AM Sproston Board meeting - Hospitality Room
- 10:00AM Activities on your own (activities will be suggested) • Gaming in the hotel
- 12:00PM Hospitality Room secured
- 6:00PM Cocktail hour (cash bar)
- 7:00PM Banquet dinner and raffle - Tahoe Ballroom • Choice of baked chicken or prime rib entrée plates  
Open dessert bar provided

**SUN. SEPT 25**

- 6-9AM Farewell breakfast buffet - Tahoe Ballroom • Hotel checkout by 11AM  
Free shuttle bus to airport *today only*: 5AM, 7AM, 9AM and 11AM - total of four trips.

USS SPROSTON (DD/DDE-577)  
 2016 REUNION REGISTRATION  
 21-25 SEPTEMBER 2016 — KANSAS CITY, MO

PLEASE MAIL YOUR REGISTRATION FORM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE  
FORM SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS THURSDAY, 1 SEP 2016

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

ON BOARD FROM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_ RANK/RATE \_\_\_\_\_ FIRST REUNION? (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF WIFE/GUESTS \_\_\_\_\_

**THE \$20 REGISTRATION FEE MUST BE PAID FOR ACCESS TO THE HOSPITALITY SUITE**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>COST</u>	<u>#PEOPLE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Wed 21 Sep	Registration and hospitality suite open until 2200	\$20	_____	_____
Thu 22 Sep	National WWI Museum, Memorial Service, lunch at "Over There Cafe," TWA Museum	\$35	_____	_____
Fri 23 Sep	Steamboat Arabia, catered BBQ lunch, Negro Leagues Baseball Museum, American Jazz Museum	\$50	_____	_____
Sat 24 Sep	Cash bar, Banquet dinner and raffle	\$34	_____	_____
Sun 25 Sep	Farewell breakfast buffet, free shuttle bus to KCI Airport	\$11	_____	_____
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT DUE:</b>		<b>\$</b>	_____	_____

Saturday banquet dinner - please indicate number of each entrée: BAKED CHICKEN \_\_\_\_\_ PRIME RIB \_\_\_\_\_

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**REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS: COMPLETE THIS FORM. MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER FOR TOTAL AMOUNT DUE PAYABLE TO "SPROSTON REUNION GROUP." MAIL REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECK TO OUR TREASURER:**

**LEON MUELLNER  
 14998 FRANCESCA AVE N  
 HUGO MN 55038-9310**

**HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION:**

Harrah's Hotel and Casino in North Kansas City  
 1 Riverboat Drive, North Kansas City, MO 64116  
 Front Desk Phone: (816) 472-7777 Reservations: (800) 427-7247  
 Request the "USS Sproston Reunion" group. GROUP CODE: **S09USS6**  
 Hotel reservation cut-off is Wednesday, 7 September 2016.  
 Individual cancellations without penalty up to 72 hours prior to the attendees' scheduled arrival date.  
 If you have problems, call Zach Hendrickson, Convention Services Rep at (816) 889-7117.  
 • *Note: The same person making the phone reservation must show photo ID upon check-in!*