



KNOX KNEWS

APRIL MAY JUNE

News & Info

April 2014

Received from Plank Owner Bob Beachkofski

Hi Orv -

Found this in our local newspaper - I know you have worked a long time on the New Orleans Reunion - but I thought you might find one idea in this article.

We won't be enjoying the fun on this Reunion but we will be thinking about you guys and gals. We have been to New Orleans many years ago and wish we could be there again.

Have fun

Bob & Eileen

New Orleans isn't ordinary spring break

AMY DEHN

COMMUNITY COLUMNIST

Life sometimes seems so surreal. You can be standing in your kitchen at 7 a.m. eating a bagel and watching the "Today" show, and then six hours later be sitting in a café in New Orleans listening to jazz music while munching on a crawfish po' boy. It felt like time travel, and in a way, it really was.

During spring break this year, we decided to visit New Orleans for a week, stay in the French Quarter and experience everything that the city had to offer. After taking a smooth plane

ride – well, as smooth as one can feel for me because I hate flying – we landed to a bright, sunny 80-degree day, complete with palm trees and jazz pumping from the airport speakers.

There was an array of beautiful hotels to choose from, going from the old-world antique in the Quarter to five-star hotels deep amid luxury and amenities galore, as well as reasonable chains out and around the city. Choices of hotels and where to stay are a specific personal preference, and can be located in the French Quarter, Warehouse and Central Business District, Garden District and Uptown, Mid-City, and even beyond New Orleans. Taste and pricing for each individual family is different, but we decided to stay right in the French Quarter that was within walking distance of the most popular attractions.

We frequented Jackson Square, where the St. Louis Cathedral stands tall and majestic, casting a shadow over the beautiful park setting and a statue of Andrew Jackson on his horse, tipping his hat to the Mississippi River. Artists and street performers entertain at all times of the day and night around the square. I had an artist do a charcoal drawing of all my children, which will forever hang on my living room wall and will remain a cherished souvenir above all others.

Attached to the St. Louis Cathedral are two museums, one is called the Cabildo, and the other the Presbytere. The Cabildo contains historic information and collections dating to colonial days. It's rich in artifacts and significant details of the making of New Orleans. The Presbytere houses the Hurricane Katrina exhibit and a Mardi Gras exhibit. Both are fascinating and thought-provoking.

Other high points of interest that we managed to fit into our tight schedule were a ride on the Steamboat Natchez for a jazz brunch, a private carriage ride around the Quarter showing the highlights of history and the quaint surroundings, and the French Quarter for souvenir shopping and grabbing a local delicacy of an alligator muffaletta to eat. We made it to the Aquarium of the Americas and spent the day renting a car and driving to Vicksburg, Miss., to see the Civil War battlefield.

There are multiple things to do and many tours available for a family, a couple or even visiting alone. Walking tours abound around the Quarter, and are available right outside your hotel. The most notable were the plantation tours and swamp tours, complete with close-up and personal interaction with alligators in their natural habitat.

Food is another highlight of the trip. We were told there are 1,100 restaurants to choose from in and around New Orleans, and it was my personal goal to hit all of them. The choices are endless, and vary from small and quaint to elaborate and served courses. The choice again is a personal one, and the only problem we had was all agreeing on which restaurant to try first.

Diversity and cultural awareness is what attracted me the most to the city and, although we were there for many reasons, visiting New Orleans even off-season can be utterly fantastic. The people move slower, the time flies and, although Bourbon Street isn't suitable for anyone under 21, we found the flip side of the Quarter to be an inspiration and something absolutely different to experience than the usual spring break or vacation choices.

The biggest problem now is getting back into the groove of life after coming back home. Hey, they don't call it the Big Easy for nothin'.

--Amy Dehn is an Appleton, WI resident

Thanks Bob and Eileen

DON'T MISS THE BOAT, MAKE YOUR RESERVATION NOW!!!

Veterans Invited to Attend D-Day Anniversary Events

American legion and VFW members who served during *Operation Overlord* during WWII are offered a chance to return to Normandy for the 70th anniversary commemoration ceremony in June.

The U.S. Embassy in Paris is extending an offer to assist one qualifying veteran and a guest with transportation to and from Paris, as well as lodging, meals and transportation to and from events in Normandy.

In order to be considered for the trip opportunity, please submit the following information to Chuck Steiner at Post 605 in Paris as soon as possible:

- +Full name of veteran
- + Address, phone number and e-mail
- +Are you a D-Day veteran, Normandy campaign veteran, or a WWII veteran?
- + Age
- + Guest's name
- + Special needs. (e.g. wheelchair)
- + Dates of planned attendance

Submissions can be sent by e-mail to ejsteiner@aol.com, or by postal mail at VFW Benjamin Franklin Post 605, 4Rue du General Leclerc, 92130 Issy-les-Moulineaux, France.

If you would like a comprehensive schedule of activities in Normandy for the anniversary, visit <http://us.rendezvousenfrance.com/minisite/celebrate-normandy>, or contact A Tout France at media.us@atoutfrance.fr or call (212) 838-7800.

If you are able to participate in the ceremonies in Normandy, veterans of *Operation Overlord* are invited to attend a three-day 70th anniversary commemoration planned at the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford, VA. Activities begin Friday, June 6.

Veterans will have the opportunity to share their stories with the public, as well as recorded for posterity.

For more information about the commemorative activities taking place at the National D-Day Memorial, please visit www.dday.org

Important Reminder. You MUST be a PAID UP member to attend a Reunion. You have already missed the first Newsletter of the year if you have not sent you Dues. Don't Miss The Boat! Send your Dues TODAY. We need your support.

"MURDER ON PRATAS REEF" (a novel)	\$15
BASEBALL CAP Black/Gold with insignia	\$18
USS FRANK KNOX & US NAVY PATCH 2 for	\$ 5
ROUGH RIDER PATCH	\$ 5
SHIELD & ANCHOR PATCH	\$ 5
SHIP PHOTO 8 X 10 (Black/White)	\$ 5
SHIP PHOTO 8 X 10 (Colorized '52)	\$ 5
SHIP SUNK BY GREEK NAVY (Color)	\$ 5

COLOR PHOTO W/ SHIP PATCH	\$ 5
LICENSE PLATE FRAME: Heavy Cast Metal w/ USS FRANK KNOX DDR-742 & US NAVY (Top & Bottom)	\$20
<i>Now available</i> <i>NEW</i>	
<i>FRANK KNOX COIN</i>	<i>\$10</i>
“ “ “ <i>Arleigh Burke Award</i>	<i>\$10</i>
NAME BADGE (USS FRANK KNOX DDR-742 Name/Rate/Rank Dates Aboard)	\$10
Wife Name Hometown/State	\$10

All items sent 1st Class US Mail

Make check payable to ORV KRIEG. Mark Memo Line USS FRANK KNOX SHIP STORE

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS! The next REUNION
will be at the BIG EASY. New Orleans, LA September
17-20, 2014**

New Orleans promises to be a fantastic trip. Make your plans now to see old shipmates and friends and you'll be sure to re-acquaint with many old time pals and renew friendships.

NEED YOUR HELP Recent mailing has some returned as,
“RETURN TO SENDER NOT DELIVERABLE AS ADDRESSED UNABLE TO
FORWARD.”

If you are still in contact with the following please update their USPS mailing address and send to me. ORV KRIEG, 585 SKY HARBOR DR. #125, CLEARWATER, FL 33759 **THANKS!**

Michael Anderson, 3158 Killarney Lane, Costa Mesa, CA 92626-2844
Albert E. Gritz, 5200 Entrar Dr. Spc 153, Palmdale, CA 93551-2727
Matthew Gunderson, 8050 E. Seaview Dr., Port Orchard, WA 98336
Robert J. Guzman, GMCS (RET) P.O. Box 833, Winlock, WA 99595-0833
Gilbert N. “Gil” Roupe, 13619 N 94th Dr., Apt. 127, Peoria, AZ 85381-4895

**NOW IS THE TIME TO CHECK YOUR ROSTER LISTING, IS
EVERYTHING CORRECT? LET ME KNOW IF ANYTHING
NEEDS UPDATING.**

Plank Owner Robert Beachkofski sent the following:

1-15-2014

Hi Orr:

After reviewing a Knox Knews from Summer/Fall 2013 about Plank Owners 2014 - been married to Eileen for 66 years - have three daughters and a son and am still "Kicking the Can".

recollections of the signing of the surrender by the Japanese on the Battleship U.S.S. Missouri, I recall an unbelievable sight, sound and never ending fleet of B-29's flying overhead by the "thousands". We were told later that several hundred B-29's flew in a big circle which I thought were "thousands".

I also note that Jack Patterson's 90th birthday is on 2-22-2014. Another anniversary on that same date in 1944 (2-22-1944) the date I became a U S Navy seaman 3rd class - at Great Lakes Training Station. I became a Plank Owner on Dec. 11, 1944, a very blustery day - more like a blizzard, and Honorably discharged from the U S Navy as SKD-1 on May 20, 1946.

I will be 96 years old on April 14,

FYI:

The TIN CAN SAILOR edition "January-February-March" has a very good article by Captain Orlie Baird USS Cogswell (DD-651) entitled "Getting the KNOX off the Rocks"

Captain Baird gives a very interesting and informative view of the grounding rescue of the USS Frank Knox including photos of the operation. If you are not a member of TIN CAN SAILOR contact some of your shipmates and try to get a copy of the article.

If you contact me I will try to copy his article and send it to you by e-mail excluding the pictures.

ORV

REUNION ATTENDEES as of June 1, 2014

Orv & Nancy Krieg

Greg & Diane Arata

Mike & Yung Mei Haloski

Don & Betsy Landers

Bob Summers & Donna Scuitto

Steve & Carol Cross

Bill Atkinson

Suzanne McClanahan & Brion Sellinger

Don & Nancy Critz

Mike & Margaret Watson

Vaughan & Carol Kruger

Bill & Elaine Kelly

Don & Vanielle Johnson

Harry & Joy Chandler

Bill & Carol Read

News From New Orleans;

February 27, 2014

I won't copy the entire letter. The most important paragraph is;
In 2013, the Louisiana State Legislature passed Act 410 authorizing an assessment of 1.75% on the daily hotel room rate, applied to the consumer the same as and in conjunction with sales tax.

(In other words it will be on your hotel bill.)

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO FOR NEXT REUNION?

Put you thoughts and ideas where we should hold the 25th reunion. Send your suggestion, mail, e-mail, telephone to me. ORV KRIEG, 585 Sky Harbor Dr. #125, Clearwater, FL 33759 (727-274-1279). All will be given careful consideration.