**President Emeriti**

John Geraghty
Ken Werth

President

Robert "Willie" Williams
1829 Kathleen Ct
Virginia Beach, VA 23464
Phone 757-479-2733
E-mail griswold5@verizon.net

Vice President

Joe Pietrosanti
123 Seminary Ave.
Binghamton NY. 13905
Phone 607-723-0428
E-mail NONE

Secretary/Treasurer

Kent Thomas
7800 W.158th St.
Overland Park, KS 66223
Phone: 913-381-8934
E-mail kthomas82@kc.rr.com

Directors

Warren Hopkins
David Engelbert
Ron Orszag
Jack Chesnick

PIEDMONT NEWSLETTER MAY 2017

Time is slowly counting down to our Joint reunion with the USS on Dixie 03-07 October 2017. Contracts have been signed for hotel and 2 days of tours in our host city of San Diego. Our host hotel is the Handlery Hotel, 950 Hotel Circle North at a rate of \$109.00 per night which includes free breakfast for two. **No hotel shuttle service is available for the airport** pick up or drop off. Cost to and from airport is approximately \$25.00 by taxi or less if using Uber/Lyft. Hotel reservations can be made by calling 619-298-0511 or 800-676-6567. Ask for USS Piedmont / USS Dixie rate of \$109.00/night. Hotel offers free parking for cars and RV's.

Day 1 Tours (Wednesday 04 Oct)

Tour of the USS Midway CVA 41, a WWII Aircraft Carrier that was in service until 1992. The ship houses an extensive collection of aircraft, many of which were built in southern California. You will have three hours to tour the ship and exhibits assisted by headphones to enhance our tour. We will then muster on the pier and transit to a two hour tour of San Diego Harbor while enjoying a box lunch. After the tour we will return to the hotel hospitality room activities.

Day 2 Tours (Thursday 05 Oct)

We will start with a city tour of our host city visiting areas that many remember from years past; a trip to Coronado including the beach area; we will travel through Balboa Park. We will stop at Seaport Village for about an hour to explore the many unique shops, purchase postcards, or enjoy some coffee, then onto the Bali Hai Restaurant for lunch overlooking the harbor and city skyline. After lunch we will

proceed to Mount Soledad visiting the Veterans Memorial and enjoying a 360 degree view of our beautiful host city. Afterward we will return to our hotel.

A free day (Friday 06 Oct) is planned so folks who want can explore on their own and see sights that were not scheduled or just relax at the hotel and enjoy some me time before our final Banquet that evening at 1800 (6pm); dress is smart casual.

In an effort to keep costs down please keep us updated on your email address. remember you can always view latest newsletter and happenings on our web page usspiedmont.org or on Facebook. I have found the Kids and Grandkids are very helpful for us less the tech savvy folks.

A plug for the members to think over: The USS Yosemite AD-19 has invited us to join them in Dayton Ohio in 2019; we can discuss further at our business meeting in San Diego.

A few comments from your elected officers:

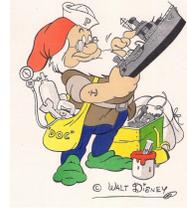
We need members to step up to leadership positions. I am willing if voted on to continue as your President but many of the other officer positions have been filled by the same shipmates and some have a desire to step down. If we are going to continue we must have member take part and help lead the organization. It is not a time consuming commitment but you must be a committed individual and at times it can be interesting especially the closer we get to our reunion so we want you to think about it and, if asked, take a role and help us help the association.

We have lost the following Shipmates since our last newsletter all will be honored in San Diego:

- Kyle M. Waites Jr. of Lagrange Ga. ET 55-57 passed 2/4/2017
- Richard V. Forbes of Monticello MN MM 44-46 passed 4/6/2017
- Willis Bloyd of Lincoln NE SM 44-45 **Plank** passed 4/10/2017
- Clifford Roberson of Elma WA SK 50-52 passed 23 Jan 2017

So make your reservations and remember the reunion runs 03 October-07 October that is Tuesday-Saturday instead of our usual Wednesday-Sunday. The hotel rate is good for 3 days prior and 3 day after for those who desire to arrive early or stay later. As always if you have questions/concerns call me at 757-479-2733 or email griswold5@verizon.net.

Registration form USS Piedmont AD-17 San Diego 2017



Name _____

Guest _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Years served aboard Piedmont _____ to _____ Rate-rank _____

Registration Fee \$50.00

2017 dues if not paid \$ _____

2018 dues \$15.00

Tour 1 USS Midway/Harbor cruise \$74.00 x number \$ _____

Tour 2 City tour with lunch at Bali Hai \$79.00 x number \$ _____

Final Banquet \$27.00 x number \$ _____

If **only** attending final banquet and nothing else the cost is \$37.00 x number
\$ _____

Final Banquet check one: _____ Salmon _____ London Broil

Total \$ _____

Reminder: reunion is 03-07 October (Tuesday-Saturday).

Hotel reservations call Handlery Hotel #800-676-6567 or 619-298-0511 ask for Piedmont/Dixie rate of \$109.00

News you would like to share with your Shipmates

Fill out this form and mail it with a check for the total to the Treasurer:

Kent Thomas
7800 W.158th St.
Overland Park, KS 66223