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**USS Piedmont Newsletter October 2018**

Our 2018 reunion in Denver Colorado is complete and everyone attending had a great time. Starting on Tuesday's check in, receiving a Piedmont bag to load the crew roster, Plan of the Day along with ID slings, drink cozies and luggage tags. The hospitality room gave everyone room to mingle and say "Hi" to old shipmates, greet new members attending their first Piedmont reunion, and of course welcoming our friends from the USS Dixie just like family.

Wednesday: We boarded our bus and van and headed to the Air Force Academy and afterwards we stopped for lunch and then on to The Garden of the Gods. Upon our return we entered the hospitality room where we enjoyed a catered dinner.

Thursday: Our tour of Denver letting us know how Denver has grown in the last few decades and a stop at the State Capital Building where we located a marker on the steps indicating exactly 1 mile above sea level, then we were off to Red Rocks State Park and some more fantastic scenery. After that it was time for lunch. Our only disappointment was after arriving at Coors we were informed that no tours were available but that did not stop us and upon our return to the hotel we conducted our annual business meeting Electing myself for another year as your President, Ron Orzage stepped up and was elected Vice President (Joe Pietrosanti moving to a Director position replacing Ron). Mike Morast answered the call and was elected Secretary/Treasurer. Our Members decided upon Dayton Ohio hosting our 2019 reunion giving us 3 Dixie class tenders together (USS Dixie, USS Piedmont and USS Sierra) the dates are set so put 23-27 September on your schedule for next year, we will put more information out in our March 2019 newsletter. We have also selected Washington DC to host our 2020 reunion hopefully having all five Dixie class tenders represented. Anyone who desires a copy of the **Treasurer's report let me know and I will be glad to email or mail you one.** Our raffle of items member brought in was a success and went a long way in reducing hospitality room costs.

Friday: We boarded our bus and van again to Estes Park and The Stanley Hotel, where several movies were filmed including *The Shinning* and *Dumb and Dumber* we then dropped everyone off downtown for some great shopping and lunch. Upon our return to the hotel folks had time to freshen up and assemble for our Final Banquet. Starting off with a memorial service honoring shipmates lost the past year both Piedmont and Dixie. Afterward another fine meal and last but not least a 50/50 raffle and (2) free hotel night stays. Afterwards it was time to say goodbye wishing everyone safe travels home and hoping that we would meet again in Dayton, Ohio.

Saturday: We packed our bags heading home via plane or car except for the lucky ones who stayed a few more days to enjoyed Denver and all it has to offer. There are so many folks I must thank for helping make our Denver reunion a success, helping setup/stock hospitality room and keeping it stocked and of course folks that set up tables and raffle items and not to mention our shipmates that conducted or memorial service and raffles, both from the Piedmont as well as Dixie a big thank you to all of you that helped make Denver a successful reunion.

Our sales of hats and Polo shirts continued and once stocks have been resupplied I will post what is available and sizes, we did have some requests for larger size shirts and shirts with pockets which I will take for action. If you have some ideas for items we can put in our gift bags please pass them along to me we are always looking for good items that our member can use or share with their family members.

We ask that you keep us informed of address and phone numbers changes this would includes email addresses and if at all possible receive your newsletter via email; also don't forget to keep your dues current and up to date.

We have a web page [usspiedmont.org](http://usspiedmont.org) and a Facebook page [usspiedmont](https://www.facebook.com/usspiedmont) we post information that we would like to share with members during the times not covered by our newsletters

If anyone has pictures from Denver that they would like to share please forward to me at [griswold5@verizon.net](mailto:griswold5@verizon.net) we will post on our web and Facebook pages so we can share with all our members. I am in the process of reordering hats and Polo shirts (with pocket) and have included lager sizes of 3XL and 4XL no information as of yet on prices for larger sizes but once received I will post information on our web page and or Facebook.