

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**Newsletter: Going Digital**  
*What this means to you*

As you may have read in the previous issue, **this is the last planned paper newsletter**. It is critical for any person interested in receiving paper copies of the newsletter to contact Louise Mast with your request (see address inside). After this issue, we will no longer be supporting our current mailing list. Instead we are asking that individuals submit their email address on the USS Franklin website, [www.ussfranklin.org](http://www.ussfranklin.org). From the main page, click **Email Newsletter Signup**. Thank you.

**2016 REUNION Gettysburg, Pennsylvania! June 23 \* 24\* 25**

To book rooms at our group rate of \$145/night, please call the **1863 Inn of Gettysburg** at **(717) 334-6211**. Rooms will be held up to 45 days prior to the reunion and then they will open up to the public. Rooms WILL fill up, so make your room reservations asap! Parking and breakfast are Included! For more information visit: <http://www.ussfranklin.org/?p=1092>

**BOOK YOUR ROOM TODAY AND EXPLORE GETTYSBURG!!!!**

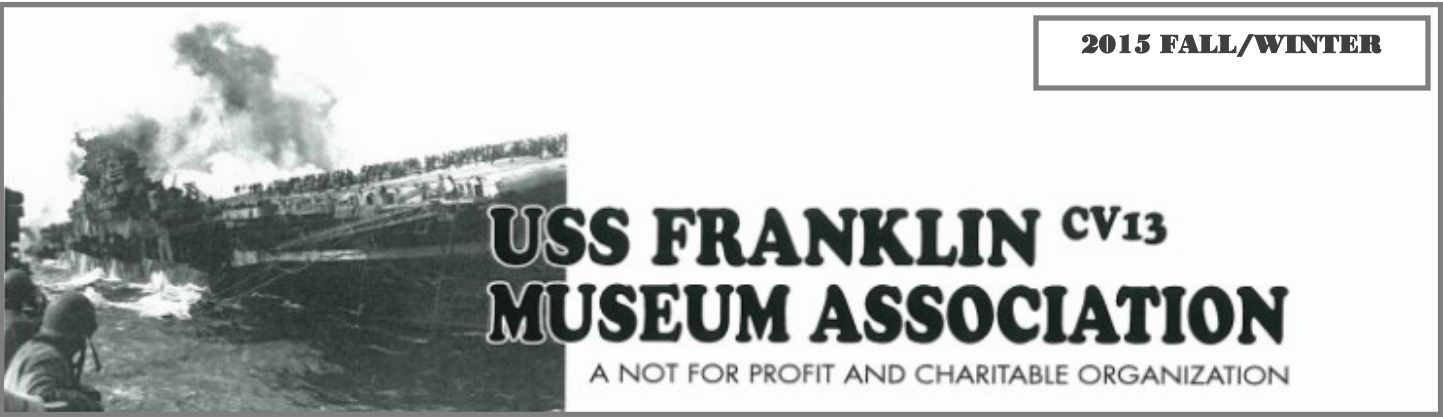


**2016 REUNION**

USS FRANKLIN (CV-13) ASSOCIATION  
Ms. Louise Mast  
11217 Terra Vista Parkway Unit F  
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730-7453

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**On, Wisconsin!**  
**2015 Reunion a success**

As the Editors of this publication, Darren and I can take some liberties in our recap of this year’s reunion. Thank you to all those that attended this reunion in honor of Robert Hamm, WT3/c B-Div., and contributed to making Milwaukee a success.



We would first like to thank Sally Owen and the William Schauer, F1/c E-Div., family for their many contributions including the memorial ceremony music and the silent auction.

Captain (Ret.) Gary Schnurpush USN , CO. USS O’Callahan and USS Gary, delivered a very nice speech at our memorial ceremony. The Captain was attending as a guest at the Milwaukee reunion and was happy to help us out by delivering this speech. Thank you Captain Schnurpush.

One highlight to the reunion was the Curtiss SB2C Hell Diver “The Beast”, operated by the West Texas Wing of the Commemorative Air Force and brought to us by Jerry Scott and Ed Vesely ([www.sb2chelldiver.com](http://www.sb2chelldiver.com)). I know Darren enjoyed this addition to the reunion and we hope you did as well.

I would personally like to thank those that reached out to me about my family. I was sorry to miss this reunion and am looking forward to Gettysburg. Darren and I have already booked the hotel and mapped the roads out (we are just a *little* excited)! Thank you again to all that attended our reunion, we’ll see you in Gettysburg!

*--Susan and Darren Hamm*



## from the desk of the President:

Greetings:

I do hope this message finds everyone in good health, if not in good health at least in good spirits. Once again, I wish to extend my deepest gratitude to Darren Hamm and his family for the tremendous and gratifying reunion in Milwaukee. I will never forget the Harley-Davidson Motorcycle Museum. We all were inspired to dance and, sometimes sing, to the music provided by the lovely band for the Saturday night celebration.

We are all looking forward to the reunion in Gettysburg, PA, June 23-26, 2016. This will also be an exciting reunion for all!!!

As I stated, during our general assembly meeting, I will not serve as your president following the reunion in Gettysburg.

Please accept my deepest appreciation for your support and commitment to the legacy of the USS Franklin CV-13 Men during my presidency.

Dr. H . Prentice Baptiste, Jr.

### \*\*\*\*A Tribute to Dr. Prentice Baptiste\*\*\*\*

Prentice, when you announced in the business meeting at the Milwaukee reunion that this would be your last year as our president, I think we were all speechless. I'm sorry we let a magic moment slip away to thank you for all the support you have given to the USS Franklin Museum Association. The time and effort you have so generously contributed to keep the memory of the shipmates alive has been greatly appreciated.

You have been a true friend to the shipmates and all of their families. You attended all the reunions even when you had to leave your own dear family when they may have needed you. Your positive attitude and good humor has been a treat for all of us to share. I hope you and Lesley will not forget us and we will continue to see you at the future reunions. We need your gracious welcoming smile and your admirable dignity.

With sincere appreciation,

Jeannette Baines

## 2015 Annual Dues

*Become a member  
in good standing!*



### Make Check Payable to:

USS Franklin Museum Association

### Mail To:

Kenneth Homko, Treasurer

2210 Grey Hawk Drive

Plainfield, IL 60586

## In Memoriam

### 8 O'CLOCK REPORT

*Word was received that these crew members have been absent from muster since our last newsletter and who received orders from the Supreme Commander to be transferred to The Big Ship In The Sky.*

Alfred E. Amos TMV1/c V5-Div.

John J. Barle EMI/c E-Div.

Vincent M. Cass AMM2/c VF-2

William A. Coker S2/c 6th-Div.

Russel E. Cole S1/c 1st -Div.

Herve E. Dionne S1/c V2-Div.

Thomas O. Ellis RM3/c K1-Div.

Richard C. Fink YN2/c 3rd.-Div.

Robert A. Gray AMM1/c VB-13

Billy Lee Jones, Sr. S2/c V4L-Div.

Robert W. Marks S1/c N2-Div.

Victor J. Norton AM3/c V2-Div.

Albert Thomas Ostheimer

Otis W. Pickett AMM1/c V2-Div.

Eugene S. Staples 1st Lt. VMF-452

Edwin Mac Culloch Stephens LT (jg)

Robert Lee Tice S1/c 8th -Div.

Robert S. Waddington Pfc 7th -Div.

*The Supreme Commander called them home to sail the crystal sea,*

*Where they will steer with steady hand throughout eternity,*

*No longer will the high sea roll,*

*The skies will be clear and every day will be a day of happiness and cheer,*

*No storm shall cross their valiant prow and calm will be the sea,*

*In that bright place where all is well and kindly is the breeze,*

*They are at peace with our shipmates who have gone before.*

Please send information on the death of a crew member to:

Ms. Louise Mast 11217 Terra Vista Parkway Unit F Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730-7453

## Annual Election of Directors

*This is our procedure for electing candidates to the Board of Directors.*



### OCTOBER:

In October, a ballot will be mailed with a listing of the candidates. *The ballot will be mailed only to each person who has paid their 2015 annual dues.*



### NOVEMBER:

The ballot will be identified as such and the mailing address will be listed with the election date to be November 21, 2015. Ballots received after that date will not be counted.