

2021 USS Nimitz Association History

The USS Nimitz (CVN-68) Association held our 23rd Reunion in San Antonio, Texas, from October 20, 2021 through October 24, 2021 at the Holiday Inn Riverwalk. Rich Galecki was the coordinator. The current Board of Directors, Executive Board and Officers are Rich Galecki, President, Newsletter Editor and By-Laws Committee Chair, Dave Wood, Vice President and Ship's Storekeeper/Memorabilia Storekeeper, Ed Deats, Secretary/Treasurer, WebMaster, Database Administrator and Nomination Committee Chair, Laurie Crabtree, Spousal Advocate, John Wilder, Audit Committee Chair, Ray Bigelow, Membership Committee Chair, Tim Gildea, Scholarship Committee Chair, Mark Thompson, Veterans Service Officer, Marc Berlin, Executive Board Member-at-Large, Stephen Crabtree, Executive Board Member-at-Large.

Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 1800: The Bud Scott Hospitality Room was open to all hands and guests. President Galecki commenced Executive/Full Board meeting to discuss the Agenda for Thursday's All Hands and Members Business meeting. A brief discussion on items for voting were discussed by the Board.

Thursday, October 21, 2021 at 0900: President Galecki opened the all Hands meeting and welcomed members, spouses and guests. Introductions were conducted and first time attendees were recognized. We had 50 members and guests attending. We also had four new members join the Association during the Reunion. The members that attended were, Marc Berlin, Ray Bigelow, Tony Blatnik, Billy Chastain, Jim Cox, Jeff Crabtree, Stephen Crabtree, Forrest Conrad, Keith Davis, Ed Deats (Secretary/Treasurer), Al Descalso, Jim Futtner, Rich Galecki (President), Tim Gildea, Bob Hayden, Rudy Law, Rob Jamison, Andy Lewallen, Mike Livingston, Rick Morley, Joe Murphy, Fr Peter North (Association Chaplain), Pat O'Brien, William Pate, Frank Reusche, Richard Vien, Myrl Wallace, John Wilder, Dave Wood (Vice President).

The spouses and guest were excused to hold their meeting and President Galecki conducted the Business Meeting in accordance with the Association's By-laws. There was no reunion held in 2020 due to the COVID outbreak. President Galecki welcomed all new members and commented on the Nimitz's new Skipper Captain Craig Sciola, who will be our Guest Speaker at the banquet. Ed Deats mentioned that Fred Cooper who created our web site went through a major fire in California and his home was totally destroyed. The ladies held a bingo night and the proceeds went to Fred and his wife. A motion was made by Pat Obrien to match the \$250 for a total of \$500 be sent to Fred and was unanimously voted on. Discussion was held concerning the Audit of the Association Financials to be conducted by John Wilder. We had only two positions to be voted on the next days. Secretary/Treasurer with Rudy Law nominated for the position and the Spousal Advocate that the ladies will voted on tomorrow. Nominations were taken for the 2022 Reunion site: Fredericksburg, Texas, Corpus Christie, Texas, and a cruise with a Port TBD. There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 AM.

Friday October 22, 2021 at 0900 the Member's Business Meeting commenced. The Treasurer's Report and Financials for 2020 and 2021 were accepted after an audit was conducted by John Wilder. The 2022 Reunion site selection was the cruise and it will be hosted by Dave and Carol

Wood. Secretary/Treasurer Ed Deats updated the membership on the Association's Financials through the first quarter of 2021. The Association Checking Balance as of the end of 2021 was \$23,896. Rudy Law was voted in as the new Secretary/Treasurer. Eileen Galecki was voted as the new Spousal Advocate. A special motion was made to purchase a computer and printer for the new Secretary/Treasurer and approved by the members. A second Scholarship was voted on as no scholarship was awarded in 2020, approved by members.

Saturday October 2021 at 1815. Banquet commenced with a Cocktail Reception. President Galecki opened the Banquet with his Welcome remarks. The Pledge of Allegiance was held. Per the Association's tradition, Ed Deats and VP Dave Wood conducted the Two Bell Ceremony. Father Peter could not make it out of England and Chaplain Sylvester Macintosh USMC filled in for Father Peter and conducted the invocation and dinner commenced. Our guest speaker this year was the current Commanding Officer Captain Craig Sciola. The Captain's family also attended our banquet.

President Galecki announced that Eileen Galecki was elected as Spousal Advocate.

Tim Gildea – Scholarship Chair discussed the candidates for this year's two scholarships

President Galecki closed this year's Reunion with his final remarks, thanking Captain Sciola and everyone who attended. He stated he is looking forward to seeing everyone next year on the cruise.

Our recruiting efforts in 2021/2021 resulted in 25 new members, 20 new Life Members, three members returned to the Association and three members who became Life Members. We lost 10 members in the last two years due to non-payment of dues for over two years.