



Official Newsletter of the USS Charles S. Sperry DD 697 Association

August Special Reunion Issue 2021

## September 19 – 23, 2021 Reunion

### Hello Shipmates. Welcome to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina!

“We’ve had a rough couple of years with the loss of friends and family due to this pandemic. The 2020 reunion was canceled as we experienced lockdowns, restrictions, and fear. It felt strange having gotten out of our normal routine, and now it feels strange to get back into what we have always enjoyed. This year we are moving forward. The **USS Conway DD/DDE 507** Veterans Association has invited us to have a joint reunion with them in Myrtle Beach, N.C. The **Conway** was in the Reserve Training Squadron in Philadelphia, PA when the **Sperry** relieved her and re-homeported to Philadelphia before the **Conway** was decommissioned. Many of the **Conway’s** crew were transferred to the **Sperry** when we relieved her, so we have much in common and it’s natural that we seek to have joint reunions, as our numbers decrease. Many of the **Conway’s** crew are also members of the **Sperry** Association.

“We hope you will join us. We have not received notification of any pandemic related restrictions with the reunion’s tour venues or the Beach Cove Resort. A great reunion with great meals and wonderful tours have been planned for you and your family.” Gary D. Chesser, Webmaster/Reunion Coordinator

**[We are approaching the AUGUST 19 deadline to get the special Sperry/Conway reduced hotel rate. Call 1-888-974-5531](#)**

The 2021 Reunion hotel is the **Beach Cove Resort** featuring Ocean Front Executive Suites. These one-bedroom suites include two queen beds and bath, living room with sleeper sofa, a small efficiency kitchen, table and chairs, and a private ocean front balcony. The total cost is a very reunion special reduced to \$112 per night.

***Bring your Sperry-Conway pictures and memorabilia to share in the Hospitality Room. We also need your live and silent auction goodies; and, of course, we will have our annual bidding war(s) on a secret “suitcase” containing ... ?? \$\$ & ## \$ !!***



*Our bedroom suites, meeting room, and dining areas are large and spacious. We will, of course, encourage mask wearing on tour buses, and elbow bumps to those who prefer them over hugs and handshakes. And, as insurance we remain “bug” free: we’ll have extra “clear” alcohol to sanitize the tables, and “flavored” alcohol to clean the gullet! As weather and AC permits, we’ll laugh & yak outdoors on the terraces.*

**Lee Barnes**  
**USS Charles S Sperry Association**  
**PO Box 1024**  
**Orange Beach, AL 36561**

**“Shipmate, you stand relieved ... We have the Watch**



Cal Dyk

**Cal Dyk** (59-60), 80, former **Charles S Sperry** president for eleven years until 2018, passed May 25, 2021 in Hudsonville, MI in peace surrounded by his family. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Fran, four children and beloved spouses, nine grandchildren, and Cal and Fran’s honorary son and family from Senegal. An avid member of the King’s Choraliers, Cal was noted for his laughter and baritone voice said to be more suited for a career in radio or television rather than being a retired farmer cultivating 7000 acres. That career choice, he fondly said, came from his much-loved Dutch heritage. He was well known nationally in the agricultural industry. Friends Bob and Barbara Jennings recall him as “a shining light and a Godly man”.

**William “Bill” Glahn**, 86, (53-56), passed May 17, 2020 in Lynchburg, VA from injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident. His son Mark said, “He loved the Navy; ... he talked often about his time aboard the Sperry and going to the ships’ reunions. He was proud of his service to our country; Bill was an avid sailor, pilot, motorcycle enthusiast, and family man. He lived the life of ten men.” **George C. McCrackin**, 67, **planker**, (44-46), Cool Spring, SC passed in November 1990.

**Carter C. Lueders**, 92, (44-46), Chandler, AZ, passed June 27, 2008.

**Financials 2nd Quarter April thru June 2021**

Month	Member	DUES PD	REUNION FEES	INCOME/ NO EXPENSES	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter Ending Balance
April	Jennings, Robert		375.00	\$ 375.00	\$22,761.59
May	Smithson, George	25.00			\$23,136.59
	LaPlaca, Ron	25.00	366.00	\$ 416.00	\$23,552.59
June	*1 – 9 members	250.00		\$	\$
	*2 – 4 members		1,197.00	\$1447.00	\$24,999.59
					<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Ending Balance \$24,999.59</b>

\*1 Joe Friend, Robert Henk, Doug Sebold, Robert Weisbrot, Gary Gillian, George Newton, Wayne Maki, Doyce Maki (Associate), Robert Dykes @ \$25.00 each

\*2 Bill Auty (\$268.), George Newton (\$268.), Wayne Maki (\$375.) Robert Dyke (\$367.)