

DD 457

# U.S.S. EMMONS

DMS 22



Volume XXX, No. 2

USS EMMONS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

August 2018

## *In This Issue*

- Emmons Reunion Approaches
- 2018 Scholarship Awards
- Emmons Shipmate Honored
- Research Center Studies Emmons Remains with 3D Technology

## **2018 REUNION**

Saratoga County, NY  
September 20 - 23

### **DEADLINES**

Hotel - Aug. 25  
Registration Form - Aug. 25

For information, visit our  
website at  
**www.ussemmons.org**  
or call us at  
**610-691-7770**

## **RESERVATION DEADLINE FAST APPROACHING FOR SEPTEMBER GATHERING IN SARATOGA**

Plans are in place for the Emmons family's 2018 reunion September 20 to 23 at the Hyatt Place Saratoga/Malta, 20 State Farm Place, Malta, NY, 12020. A group rate of \$109 is available.

Following our customary schedule, activities will begin with registration and greeting of arrivals in the hospitality room throughout the day on Thursday.

### **Battlefield Tour and Memorial Service**

On Friday, we'll visit Saratoga National Historical Park to tour the Saratoga Battlefield where the Patriots claimed a crucial victory during the American Revolution.

Following the tour, we'll proceed to the Saratoga National Cemetery where a military Honor Guard will participate in the memorial service for our fallen Emmons heroes and recently deceased.

Lunch will be on our own as we stop at a local favorite restaurant before returning to the hotel.

Back at the hospitality room, a special program will be held later that afternoon. A buffet dinner hosted by the Association will be served Friday evening.

The annual meeting of the USS Emmons Association, Inc. will be held Satur-

day morning with all Association members invited to attend. The remainder of the morning and afternoon are free to explore the area.

Reunion activities will climax with the banquet Saturday night. As always, a highlight is the announcement and award presentation of the Lt. John J Griffin/USS Emmons Memorial Scholarship awards.

### **Honored Keynote Speaker**

And this year we are especially honored to have as our banquet's guest speaker Donald Emmons PEACOCK, great-great grandson of George Foster EMMONS, the ship's namesake. This editor had the opportunity to meet and talk with Donald during his visit to Philadelphia this past spring and I guarantee you won't want to miss what he has to share with us.

Everyone is reminded to make room reservations directly with the hotel, either online at their website or by calling 518-885-1109, option #3, using Group Rate G-USSE. A link to their online hotel reservations is available on our website. The group rate is available until August 25, but only so long as rooms are available, so don't delay!

## **2018 GRIFFIN/EMMONS SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED**

The USS Emmons Legacy Committee is pleased to announce Alaina SHORT as the recipient of the 2018 \$3000 Lt. John J. Griffin/USS Emmons Memorial Scholarship award. Alaina is the granddaughter of shipmate Paul F. DODD and daughter of Thomas & Ann (Dodd) SHORT. She is a student in the Doctor of Optometry program at Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

Alaina was also our 2016 award recipient.

We're also excited to announce Troy Biermann as recipient of the \$1500 Honorable Mention award. Troy is the son of Gary & Cyndy (Pomykala) Biermann and grandson of Joseph Pomykala. He is attending Northwestern University where he is a neuroscience major.

**(continued....see SCHOLARSHIP on page 2)**

## DELAYED TWO WEEKS FOR FOUL WEATHER, MEMORIAL DIVE CARRIED OUT BY OUR DETERMINED FREINDS

Disappointment was evident in his April 5 email when Kurt REESE wrote to inform us the memorial dive at the **Emmons** site scheduled for April 8th had to be postponed due to an unfavorable weather forecast. He always makes the effort to schedule the dive as close to the April 6 anniversary as practical.

The delay, however, did not deter the divers from honoring our fallen heroes two weeks later. In addition to Kurt, participants included Chuck DECESARI (and his boat), Mike BORING, who documented the event in stunning photos, some of which are available on our website,

Darlene FONG, Masayoshi KONDO, Troy CLOWNFISH, Gary JOYCE, and Jonna MCGRAW. Susan LAMMER once again provided the beautiful floral wreath used in the service.

The memorial dive was captured in a moving video produced by Kurt with a special guest introduction by Don WILDMAN, former host of *Cities of the Underworld* on the History Channel, which featured a story on the **Emmons** back in 2008. The memorial dive video will have its first public screening at the reunion, then made available on our website.

## SHIPMATE CHANTLIN HONORED BY AMERICAN LEGION

As this newsletter was preparing to go to press, we received word from Henry BATISTE of the Lake Charles, Louisiana, American Legion Post 551 of their plans to honor USS Emmons shipmate Clarence CHANTLIN, StMc1. Plans were to present a Dress Legion Cap and letter of appreciation for his service.

Clarence boarded the **Emmons** February 7, 1944, and was a survivor of the April 6, 1945 kamikaze attack. He recalls his experience of hearing the fourth kamikaze strike the ship



and upon reaching topside, finding the ship was torn to pieces with fire everywhere.

We are extremely excited to learn another of our **Emmons** heroes is still

with us and we look forward to a long and lasting relationship with Clarence and his family.

Local news station KPLC reported on the presentation which you can view on our website. We can't agree more with Lake Charles American Legion Post 551 that said with the number of veterans from WWII on a rapid decline, you must always make time for a veteran in your life.

Congratulations Clarence and thank you for your service to our great county! You are not forgotten.

### (SCHOLARSHIP...continued from page 1)

Five students submitted applications, including three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. The academic performance, references and essays of all five applicants made the committee members proud to know these students are part of the Emmons family and the future of the Emmons legacy.

This year's essay asked them to address two excerpts from FDR's February 23, 1942, "fireside chat" regarding the American spirit during times of crisis.

Official announcement of the awards will take place at the reunion's Saturday evening banquet program.

## 3D TECHNOLOGY ALLOWS RESEARCHERS TO EXPERIENCE EMMONS FIRST-HAND

A type of sonar is being used by researchers to generate 3D models of the **Emmons** to be used for research and monitoring the condition of the archeological remains in hope of learning how to preserve such historical landmarks.

Professor Hironobu KAN of Kyushu University's Research Center for Coastal Seafloor has been working with archeologists in Okinawa for six months to create a 3D image of the Emmons using 1800 pictures. The 3D data obtained from this process makes it possible to share the site

information of war ruins that are difficult to observe first-hand, to move or that should remain undisturbed as war graves.

The 3D image is also being used as an educational tool at the university where history students are shown the destruction caused by the kamikaze attacks. Professor KAN tells his students that because those who experienced the war are aging, it's up to young people to keep the memories of the tragic past alive.

Visit our website to see an article about the study and the 3D images.



## USS EMMONS ASSOCIATION

c/o T. Hoffman  
3136 Northampton St.  
Bethlehem, PA 18020

Phone: (610) 261-3890

E-mail: [ussemmons@gmail.com](mailto:ussemmons@gmail.com)



*USS Emmons (DD457-DMS22)*

**We're on the web at**  
**[www.ussemmons.org](http://www.ussemmons.org)**

# HAVE YOU REGISTERED FOR THE REUNION YET?



Don't be left out! Deadline is August 25th. See story page 1.