



U.S.S.
U.S.C.G.C.

FINCH



DE 328 – WDE 428 – DER 328

*Distinguished Service Through Three Decades and Three Wars
World War II, Korea, and Vietnam*

Twenty-Third Year No. 4

July - September 2010



Spruce Goose Fly-over?

Gene Somann, our reunion host is working hard to arrange a fly over by the Spruce Goose for our reunion. Sound like another sea story? You are right - it is! The Spruce Goose will not do a fly-over for the Finch reunion, but you can visit this magnificent flying machine made from wood at the Evergreen Aviation Museum located in the greater Portland area. Wondering what to do on Friday? This would be a perfect side trip and an enjoyable way to spend a morning or afternoon. The museum is home to the world famous "Spruce Goose" and over 50 historic aircraft and exhibits. With a wingspan of 320 feet, you could sit the Finch atop her wings and still have seven feet of wing left on each end! Check out the museum's website for more information on the Spruce Goose and other exhibits - www.evergreenmuseum.com.



The reunion is scheduled for 22-25 September at the Days Inn, located at 9717 S.E. Sunnyside Road, Clackamas, Oregon. The hotel features complementary wireless internet, deluxe continental breakfast, free parking, a swimming pool, and a fitness center complete with a sauna and whirlpool.

Clackamas is a Portland suburb located about 12 miles to the south. If arriving by car, it is very conveniently located right off Exit 14 of I-205. The hotel is also situated close to the Portland light rail system. Simply catch the Green line and get off at the Clackamas Town Center stop. Route maps are available.

Gene has negotiated a daily rate of \$89. This is a great price and the manager has promised to honor it for the reunion dates plus as many days as you wish to stay in the Portland area, before or after the reunion.

You can reach the hotel at 800-241-1699 to make your reservations. Be sure to mention the "Finch" to get this rate and to make sure we get credit for the rooms booked. You can also make your room reservations online at the hotel's website: www.daysinn.com and search for the Clackamas location.

The Reunion at a Glance

As usual, the hospitality room will be open around noon on *Wednesday* with registration continuing until all shipmates are accounted for and liberty has been announced.

Wednesday evening is open and shipmates and guests are free to enjoy the many delights of the Portland area.

Thursday finds us with early reveille for a bus trip to the Columbia River gorge and then we have lunch at the Timberline Lodge while at Mt Hood. Also included is a stop at the fabulous Multnomah Falls as well as a tour of the Bonneville Dam and the world famous "fish ladder." This is a trip worth taking and will provide for many fabulous pictures that you will treasure for years to come!

Thursday evening is your time to enjoy the company of your shipmates and sample some of the local cuisine. If there is enough interest, Gene will order pizzas for those who prefer to stay in for the evening.

(Continued from page 1)

Friday is officially listed as a free day, but that is a misnomer because of the many, many activities and attractions in the greater Portland area. (see the other articles concerning the Portland and Oregon activities).

Friday evening is our traditional Spaghetti dinner at the Old Spaghetti Factory, a longtime local favorite restaurant. Dinner includes two giant hand-made meatballs and all the spaghetti you can eat plus fresh baked bread and salad! Non-pasta alternative meals are also available.

Saturday morning the women depart for their annual shopping trip, this time to a restored area of Portland (Sellwood Road) that guarantees shoppers some of the most unique as well as good quality merchandise.

While the "Finch" women are out shopping, the men will be busy making arrangements for the 2011 and 2012 reunions at the annual business meeting. As discussed in our last newsletter there are several opportunities to be a part of the Finch leadership for anyone interested in lending a hand.

Saturday evening we will enjoy a delightful meal at another local eatery -

Gustav's Restaurant in beautiful downtown Clackamas! Gene has selected several options for you to choose from including Grilled Salmon which is certainly one of the dishes that makes this restaurant one of the favorites places for locals to dine.

Gene is still working on entertainment and has committed to us that he will make this a memorable evening for all to remember.

If it's a good time and an opportunity to fellowship with your shipmates, this reunion has it all - great location, fun things to do, exciting trips that highlight the must-see attractions in the Portland area, and it is all for an amazingly low price. If you've put off coming for economic reasons, it just won't get any better than this year's offerings. Call now to make your hotel reservations and simply clip out the registration form on page three to get your plans underway. We look forward to seeing you this year. The next two reunions will probably not be in the western part of the country, so sign up today and plan to have a great reunion in Portland.

Register Today - 800-241-1699

Registration

This is the last issue that you will receive before the reunion. Act now and register before you forget. It takes two simple steps, call the hotel at 800-241-1699 to make your lodging reservations for the days you will be staying in Portland. Then, fill out the registration form on page 3, cut it out and send it to Kent Overholser and he will ensure that you are properly registered. It can't get any easier than this!!

Airport Transportation

The Days Inn provides arrival and departure shuttle service to the Portland Airport at no cost. Simply call the motel a few days in advance of your arrival to let them know what time you are arriving and what airline you are using. They will pick you up at the terminal and drive you to the motel. Another kudu for Gene!

Oregon Coast

The Oregon Coast has some of the most beautiful scenery in America. The coast is not only populated by a number of quaint and interesting lighthouses, it is also one of the nation's finest cheese producing areas, including the well known Tillamook Cheese factory.



Internet Sites to Explore

Part of the fun of traveling is exploring the local scene to determine what attractions and other sightseeing opportunities the area provides that may be of interest to you. So take a few minutes and explore these websites to help understand the local area attractions.

www.daysinnportlandoregon.com This website links you to some attractions in the area and provides several worthwhile activities.

www.TravelPortland.com This is one of the official visitor sites and provides some of the same locations as above, but also has additional sites to explore.

www.northernoregon.com This site provides insight into places outside of the Portland area

including the Pacific coast attractions.

www.willamettewines.com When in doubt, it is always fun to visit a winery and Oregon has some great wineries and some great local wines to sample.

Finch Reunion 2010

Day's Inn
9717 S.E. Sunnyside Road,
Clackamas, Oregon.

Wednesday, September 22nd

-Registration/Hospitality Room Opens

Thursday, September 23rd

- Bus Tour, Mt Hood, Bonneville Dam
Multnomah Falls
- Evening is Open

Friday, September 24th

- Open Day
- Traditional Spaghetti Dinner, 6 pm

Saturday, September 25th

- Business Meeting 9 am
- Women's Shopping Trip
- Banquet 6:30 pm

FINCH 2010 REUNION RESERVATIONS

September 22-25, 2010

Day's Inn Motel 9717 S.E. Sunnyside Road
Clackamas, Oregon 97015 (503) 654-1699

Name: _____	Guest: _____
Spouse: _____	Guest: _____
Arrival Date: _____	Departure: Date _____
Will arrive by car or will be using a rental car at the reunion:	Yes _____ No _____
My (our) reservations are to stay at the Day's Inn Motel:	Yes _____ No _____
If my (our) answer was no, I (we) will be staying at: _____	

Wednesday, September 22

Registration and Hospitality Suite opens at approximately noon.

Thursday, September 23

9:00am - 5:00pm

Trip to Trailhead Lodge at Mt Hood, Bonneville Dam and Multnomah Falls

Includes bus transportation /Lunch is on your own

Number Attending _____ x \$20.00 per person \$ _____

6:00pm - 9:30pm

Pizza party in the hospitality room

Number of pizza eaters _____ x \$10.00 \$ _____

Friday, September 24

11:00am - 4:30pm

Open Day. Sign up for any of the several activities in hospitality room

6:00pm - 9:30pm

Annual Spaghetti Dinner at the Old Spaghetti Factory

Number of dinners _____ x \$15.00 per person \$ _____

Saturday, September 25

9:00 am - 2:00pm

Ladies Shopping Trip to Sellwood Road

Number _____ x \$5.00 per person \$ _____

6:30pm - 9:00pm

Annual Banquet at Gustov's

Prime Rib Dinner (10oz)

Number of dinners _____ x \$26.50 per person \$ _____

Grilled Salmon Dinner

Number of dinners _____ x \$20.00 per person \$ _____

Caesar Salad with Chicken

Number of dinners _____ x \$15.00 per person \$ _____

Registration, administration, and miscellaneous expenses

Number attending reunion _____ x \$10.00 per person \$ _____

TOTAL SUBMITTED: \$ _____

**Please Submit Your Reservations
To Kent Overholser
So They Are Received by August 10, 2010**

Make checks out to
USS Finch Reunion
c/o Kent Overholser
20 Warrington Road
Vernon Hills, IL 60061



FINCH REUNION "2010"
Richard S. Resnick (WDE '51)
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Return Service Requested

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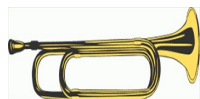
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Finch Reunion Association



Editor's Corner



TAPS

Stephen D. Kappler DER'62 RM2.
We received word earlier this year
that Stephen passed away in 2005

Newsletter Input

It would be nice to have a volunteer
serve as the focal point to gather in-
formation concerning our shipmates.
The newsletter has become primarily
focused on our reunions and each is-
sue contains less information concern-
ing our fellow shipmates. If you would
be interested and willing to serve as
our new "Scuttlebutt" please let me or
Richard Resnick know and we will help
you get started. You can find our
email addresses on the back page of
the newsletter. I also enjoy getting
short articles from shipmates about
their days and adventures aboard the
Finch. Think about it.....

2012 Reunion

We currently do not have a site or a
volunteer for the 2012 reunion. This
years Chairman of the Executive
Board, Jim Wachob, is committed to
making sure we have this piece of the
puzzle in place before we leave Port-
land. Again, we are hoping to find
someone to host a reunion in the
northeast, perhaps around Boston or
the New York City area. Think about
it and let Jim Know your availability as
soon as possible. It helps the Execu-
tive Board if they have some insight
into the options before the reunion.

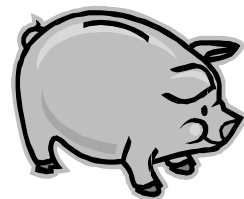
Live Taps

Buglers Across
America is an
organization that
is committed to see that every veteran
who has honorably served his country
should have a bugler play taps at their
funeral. Contact [buglesacrossa-
merica.org](http://buglesacrossa-
merica.org) and find out how you can
arrange to have this service as part of
a funeral service for the veterans in
your life.



Dues

We want to thank
everyone that has
paid their dues for
this year. It really
helps to have the
money available to assist with the reun-
ions and to pay the other Association
bills. If you haven't paid, (you can tell
by checking to see if there is a \$ sign
printed by your name on the mailing
label) simply mail your check for \$10
to Kent Overholser, 20 Warrington
Road, Vernon Hills, IL 60061



Memorabilia

We have not encouraged shipmates to
bring their Finch "stuff" to recent reu-
nions. This would be a great time to dig
it out of the closet, dust it off and
throw it in the suitcase. We have a
nice hospitality room and some free
time this year, so if you have some of
the old pictures and other memorabilia
dating back to your Finch time, bring it
along so other can share in the memo-
ries! It is amazing how looking at a few
pictures can bring back the memories!