

USS Myles C. Fox DD/DDR-829

<http://MylesCFoxDD829.net> webmaster@mylescfoxdd829.net



2005 Fox Reunion: Baltimore, MD

The executive committee of the Fox Association made a command decision this year and has chosen the Inner Harbor of Baltimore as the prestigious location of the 60th anniversary of the commissioning of the Fox. We tried our best to set up Bath, ME but there are no tours allowed of the Shipyard or NAS Brunswick, and any other sites are miles away.

The postal and e-mailing list has never been bigger, and since the site is more central to the highest number of shipmates, the turnout should be great!!

Date: August 31 – September 3, 2005

Hotel: Holiday Inn Inner Harbor, Baltimore, MD. Hotel will allow booking two days prior and two days after.

Reservations: 410-685-3500 direct or 800-465-4328 national. Ask for USS Myles C Fox Association block (code USM)

Discounted Group rate \$109 (+tax)

Hospitality room will be open evenings, Aug 31 through Sept 3.

Thursday: Touring will start off easy Thursday morning with a Water Taxi ride out to Ft McHenry (Stars and Stripes forever) to see their show and tour the fort. After that your water taxi ticket will be good all day to visit other areas around the large harbor. Group cost: \$16 per person.

Thursday afternoon City and Harbor Tour 1 hr/20 minutes aboard preserved WW2 Army DUKW amphibious vehicles. (Ducks!) Capacity 36. We'll use two if necessary. Group rate: \$21 per person.

Friday: Board bus(es) 9:00 a.m. for trip to Annapolis for tour and lunch at U S Naval Academy, then 1.5 hours to walk/shop in Annapolis historic area. Return to Holiday Inn at 4 p.m. Each bus holds 50. Cost: \$21 per person.

Saturday: Board buses at 9:00 a.m. for short trip to pier for boarding Liberty Ship SS John W. Brown for 7 hour cruise of Chesapeake Bay. Includes breakfast and lunch. Entertainment includes big band (Glenn Miller style) for listening or dancing. Entertainment by Abbott and Costello and other entertainers. Visit with General Patton, President Franklin D Roosevelt and other notable (imitators) Warbird fly-bys including the token Jap Zero which the gun crews will fire at with their 3 inch and twin 40 mm guns (blanks). Also tours of the ship and engine room. (you have to see this engine!) Return by 4 p.m. *Discounted Group Cost, including transportation, two meals, and entertainment: \$130 per person.

Walking tours: At your discretion, you can visit the Marine Museum and tour USS Constellation, USS Torsk, USCG Cutter Taney, US Lightship Chesapeake, and Seven Foot Knoll Lighthouse. Other sites include Babe Ruth Home & Museum, Camden Yards Ballpark, Aquarium, etc.

Saturday Banquet at Holiday Inn:

Starts at 6:30 p.m. Specify choice of Beef, Chicken or Fish. Entertainment/Speaker to be announced. Cost: \$40 per person.

Sunday: If you're staying, we have no firm plans, but there's much to do in downtown Baltimore. See "Walking Tours" above.

Registration: Registration form is on the other side of this page, at bottom. Circle dinner/tour selections: send payment, AND Thursday/Friday/Saturday tour selections to: Perry Ballinger, 2468 Bellevue SW, Massillon, OH 44647. phone 330-832-8612, or e-mail: w8au@ssnet.com

Reunion Notes: Hospitality Room at hotel is always a fun place to be in between events, so bring your photos, cruisebooks and memorabilia to share with others. Don't forget to bring your camera.

Ship's Store will be available during the reunion (All proceeds support the Fox Ass'n.)

- DD and DDR Fox ballcaps @ \$17.00 each
- Fox DD and DDR jacket patches at \$3.00
- CD versions of 59-60, '70 and '72 Fox Cruisebooks for \$15.00
- Copy of Website on CD: \$15.00
- Photos of Ship: \$5.00 each
- Zippo lighters: \$18.00. Beauts!
- CD's of '52-'54 photos \$15.00 each.

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 Tampa FL 33603-1526
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 USS Myles C Fox (DD-829) Association, Inc.

Postal/e-mail shipmate list

Fox shipmate list with either postal or e-mail address is now up to 936 and the total names of shipmates who served is 2,604. We continue to be thankful to Bill Quinn for starting this reunion activity back in 1993; his award of a nicely engraved plaque at the 2004 reunion was well deserved for all the hard work that he has accomplished.

Volunteers & Committees

We need a few men to help with some of the work during and after this reunion. Next year's reunion is up in the air at the moment, but you can volunteer by calling Perry Ballinger 330-832-8612 or Dan Petras 315-736-4584.

Websites

Our Fox website at <http://MylesCFoxDD829.net> continues to be the largest single-ship site in the World! Over 3,000 pictures and files on the site, and will be 51 months old by the reunion date. Please submit photos and other memorabilia to include in the site. Lots of folks from around the World looking at it, too, as we are averaging about 3,500 "page views" every day. If you don't have a computer and haven't seen the site, go to the local public library and ask the librarian for help with on their personal computers and go to that "address" noted above.

Our "other" Fox web location is an e-mail distribution site that resides at YAHOO Groups is also the largest of its kind with 555 active members; the closest astern is the Independence CVA 62, but we left them in our wake two years ago. If you have e-mail, make sure to contact us at: deckape@mylescfoxdd829.net or go to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MylesCFox-DD829/> We share lots of stories and information there, and lots of the old shipmate feelings seem to readily surface. Since its inception nearly five years ago, we've amassed 7,794 messages. Lots of comraderie there....

REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

Make checks payable to:

USS Myles C Fox

DD-829 Assn., Inc.

**Mail to: Perry Ballinger
2468 Bellevue SW
Massillon, OH 44647**

Event	Date	How Many	Each	Total
Ft McHenry Water Taxi	Thurs 09/01/05		\$16.00	
'Duck' City & Harbor Tour	Thurs 09/01/05		\$21.00	
Annapolis Tour	Fri 09/02/05		\$21.00	
SS John Brown (w/2 meals)	Sat 09/03/05		\$130.00	
Crew Banquet	Sat. 10/23//04		\$40.00	
			TOTAL:	
Name (as they will appear on name tag)		1		
		2		
		3		

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

My name is Daniel Petras, SHSN, serving aboard the USS Myles C. Fox from December 56 to March-60. It is an honor and pleasure to serve as the first President of the USS Myles C. Fox Association. I hail from the village of Oriskany, New York. This year is the 60th birthday of our ship that served as a home for us during our commitment to the US Navy. At our Ad Hoc Committee meeting in Tampa on January 21st it was resolved that we are now and will continue to grow to be the largest ship association among all the ships that ever sailed the seven seas. Also named at that meeting were Paul Wieloszynski as Vice President, Perry Ballinger as Secretary and Ken Morgan as Treasurer. Hopefully this will spread out much of the tedious work that Paul has been doing alone over the years.

Paul has obtained the files of those that served aboard the Fox and the process has started to put them on a hard drive obtained from the Navy Department during its tenure as a naval Destroyer. Paul has a committee of 10 or more men who will organize those records and will make efforts to contact all sailors that served between 1945 to 1963 at this juncture. Anyone who would like to get involved, please contact Paul. The files for the rest of the years will be sought after later this year.

I have contacted my own Congressman to find out how to request the naming of another US Naval ship after the Myles C. Fox.

It was decided to give \$5000.00 of our treasury to the refurbishing of the USS Orleck DD-886, she is one of two Gearing Class Destroyers that became a museum ship and is now located in Orange, Texas. (As most of you know, the USS Joseph P Kennedy DD-850 is the other. We have also committed another \$3000.00 for a later date.

As I write this, my thoughts are of standing on the forward deck in rough weather with the salt air & water hitting my face. Amazing how some things never leave you. My hope is that we can fire up more of our proud men who served aboard the Fox to attend our reunions. This year it is being held in Annapolis. We had wanted to plan it in Bath, Maine, however, the base & iron works there is closed to the public and site seeing is non-existent. We are going to make some effort of a meeting there for the plank owners and those that wish to go to Bath to celebrate the 60th birthday of the USS Myles C. Fox.

Good sailing, Daniel Petras

More News:

Ship's crew rosters: we now have in hand ALL of the official crew rosters for the years 1945 – 1963, and are working on getting all of the information gleaned off these photos taken from the microfilm copies. The current count of known shipmates is 2,604, and we anticipate that there are as many as 3,500 more to add to the list once we have them all compiled, including the years from 1964 –1979. The last active year of the Fox was 1972 when she made the 'Round the World' Cruise that included a second stint in combat in Viet Nam; quite a way to finish. The following year the Fox became a Navy Reserve ship in Brooklyn, and her full time crew shrank and there were no more major cruises; thus, a smaller crew roster for those years.

Financial Support of the Historic Fleet: We are really proud to announce that Ken Morgan RD3 1957 – 1960, hand-delivered a \$5,000 check from our association to support the USS Orleck DD886 in Orange, Texas; the money will be used for restoration projects aboard the Gearing class destroyer. We received the following correspondence from them:

Dear Mr. Petras;

Words cannot express the tremendous gratitude of the Southeast Texas War Memorial and Heritage Foundation, to the USS FOX ASSOCIATION for the generous \$5,000 donation. It will be of tremendous help in our present restoration efforts. Your support is kindly appreciated, and if we can be of any assistance to your organization in any way, please do not hesitate to let us know.

We welcome you to visit us anytime, and would be more than happy to assist you in any future reunion plans, if you would care to visit our Historical Gateway City of Texas. Thank you for your assistance in THE USS ORLECK DD886 Project.

Sincerely Yours; Steve Phillips / President

So, as you can see, your support of the Fox Association through membership and ship's store purchases can really make a difference, not only to the group, but also to the generations that follow us.

Even more information:

- As a Fox Association member, you can get a FREE list of the known crew that you served with. It can be sent to you either in printed format or in a database format or in an e-mail format. Non-members are required to pay a \$5.00 fee for this distribution.
- There is talk of attempting to get shipmates together to go on a trip to the "Med" at some point in the future. For more information, contact Dan Petras at: 315-76-4584 or dpetras1@aol.com
- We continue to need photos, memorabilia and written stories for the Fox website as well as for some historical documents that we are working on, so PLEASE break out your old stuff and get them to: Paul Wieloszynski 813-872-8739 or deckape@mylescfoxdd829.net
- If there are any Plankowners that wish to get together in Bath, Maine at some point for a mini-reunion of the first crew, let us know.
- We do covet your membership activity in the Fox association, but it is also important to support the Tin Can Sailors Association: **Tin Can Sailors PO Box 100, Somerset, Massachusetts 02726 (800) 223-5535, (508) 677-0515, (508) 676-9740 (Fax)** Their annual membership is also \$15.00, and you get a great quarterly destroyer newsletter. Website: <http://destroyers.org>

• **ASSOCIATION UPDATES**

Your membership funding permits us to do things that other groups have difficulty doing:

- Mailing Materials/postage
- Newsletter Printing,
- Web hosting/registration/software
- Support of historic destroyer fleet
- Ship's store inventory
- Incorporation expenses

We are NOW renewing memberships (for 2005) as well as at this years' reunion. Levels of participation are: Life \$200.00 one-time, Annual Renewals: Gold \$40.00, Sustaining \$25.00, Supporting \$15.00. Articles of Incorporation are available upon request. It is our stated goal to support the Historic Destroyer Museums. If you think that your contribution is minor or not important, read on. **Mail all checks to our new Treasurer: Ken Morgan PO Box 567, Crowley, LA 70527-0527. Checks made out to USS Myles C Fox DD-829 Association, Inc. Thanks in advance for your support!!**