

USS ENGLAND DLG/CG-22

Special Preview Edition

June 2002

SPECIAL EDITION FOR USS ENGLAND DLG/CG-22



SAN DIEGO, CA—JUNE 12-15, 2003 HANDLERY HOTEL

On June 12-15, 2003 former crewmen of the USS ENGLAND DLG/CG-22 will meet in San Diego, CA at the Handlery Hotel and Resort for their next reunion. The Handlery is a modern, first-class hotel, located right in the heart of San Diego. It is only minutes away are some of San Diego's most well-known attractions—the San Diego Zoo, Sea World, Old Town, Qualcomm Stadium, Downtown, the Gaslamp District and beautiful beaches. Trolley and bus stops are nearby for easy access to these attractions. The Lindbergh International Airport is only 6 miles away. Shuttle service from the airport to the Handlery is available. Make arrangements for return service with the shuttle for your departure time.



THE HANDLERY
HOTEL AND
RESORT

As many of you will remember from 2001, San Diego is a great location to host a reunion. The history of modern San Diego begins with Alonzo Horton, the former New Englander. In 1867 he purchased nearly 1,000 jackrabbit-infested acres (for about 27 cents each) along the harbor, initially giving away lots to anyone who would agree to build on them. By the turn of the century, "New Town" contained more than 300 buildings and had replaced "Old Town" as the center of San Diego commerce.

As we explore the downtown area, you will see Horton's legacy lives on in the unique citadel of shopping and dining that bears his name, **Horton Plaza**, located in the Gaslamp Quarter where Horton's development first began.



Horton Plaza

The Gaslight Historic Society works to preserve the spirit of Victorian times through the restoration of old buildings that now house offices, shops and restaurants.



The 16-block **Gaslamp Quarter** has become the hottest place since the development of Horton Plaza in 1985 and the creation of San Diego Convention Center. There are round-the-clock activities in the area

with shops, galleries, coffee houses, theatre spaces and dozens of restaurants.

On the waterfront is the **San Diego Maritime Museum** showcasing San Diego's rich maritime past. It consists of the century-old windjammer *Star of India*, the steam ferry *Berkeley* and the luxury yacht *Medea*.



Star of India



Medea

We have established a really good relationship with the Public Affairs Office on the **Naval Base**, and barring alerts, or some other special occasion, we can normally arrange a **guided tour on an active duty ship**. We of course have no control over the type of ship. One recent reunion we hosted in San Diego got a 3 1/2 hour tour of USS VALLEY FORGE and were treated like VIPs. It was the highlight of the reunion for many of the men.

Along the **Embarcadero** toward the Convention Center you'll find not only the city's working tuna fleet but also part of the US Navy's Pacific Fleet. The city's maritime history is actively commemorated in **Seaport Village**, a 14-acre waterfront shopping and dining complex that recalls the days when cargo ships would make the dangerous journey from New England around Cape Horn.

Downtown San Diego encompasses much more than the harbor area. The most famous attraction is **Balboa Park**, another reminder of Alonzo Horton's civic vision. Just north of the central business district, the park covers 1,200 lush acres and contains some of the most fantastic architecture ever assembled in one place:

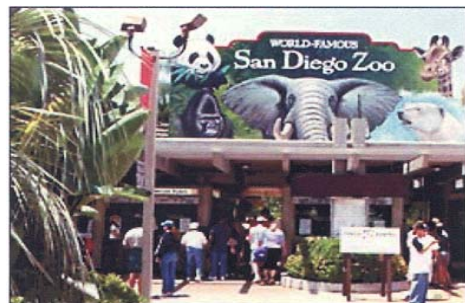


- 13 Museums**
- Art Galleries,**
- Reuben H Fleet Space Theater**
- and Science Center**
- Simon Edison Centre for the Performing Arts**
- San Diego Junior Theatre**
- Starlight Bowl**
- California Tower**
- (with its working 100-bell carillon)
- San Diego Automotive Museum**
- War Memorial Building**



A trolley will take you right to Balboa Park's Visitor's Center, located in the historic House of Hospitality on the Plaza de Panama.

Balboa Park is also the home of the world-famous **San Diego Zoo**, which houses 800 different species in the enclosures carefully designed to resemble the animals' natural habitat. The entire Zoo is designed as a 100-acre tropical garden and can be visited on foot and on a special three-mile guided bus tour.



Just across the harbor from downtown San Diego lies the quaint village of **Coronado** which is accessible by the four-lane, two mile long San Diego-Coronado Bay Bridge. It is also connected to the mainland on the south by a long, narrow sandbar known as the **Silver Strand**.



The jewel in the Crown City is the historic and fascinating **Hotel del Coronado**, which has attracted the rich and famous since its opening in 1888.

Hotel del Coronado

The north end of Coronado is occupied by **North Island Naval Air Station**, and the east is the headquarters for the Naval Amphibious Base.



Naval Air Station

Point Loma, one of the most beautiful spots in California is also nearby. Situated at the tip of Point Loma is Cabrillo National Monument which honors Juan Cabrillo, the Spanish explorer who claimed the area that is now San Diego for Spain. On the site is the historic Point Loma Lighthouse, first lit in 1855.



The scenic drive down the Silver Strand will take us just across the border into Mexico to **Tijuana**. Tijuana is a shoppers mecca, and even if you don't spend a peso, the trip is worthwhile.



If you want to go on a safari, but don't want to travel to Africa, then the **San Diego Wild Animal Park** is the place for you. Although this is a zoo of sorts, it's not your traditional zoo. This "zoo of the future" is designed first for animals and second for people. Here animals roam in herds and flocks on acres of enclosed spaces. You can take a walking safari in the 32-acre Heart of Africa or take the Wgasa Bush Line Railway, a 55-minute guided tour of the major enclosures of Asia and Africa. Other sites include the Lorikeet Landing where you can hand feed the beautifully colored birds; and the Nairobi Village, home to the Congo Fishing Village, the Petting Kraal and the Hidden Jungle. Also visit Condor Ridge, which celebrates North American rare and endangered inhabi-

tants. The entire park is a very special place. You'll want to come back again and again.



La Jolla is California's answer to the Italian Riviera and even has its own Rodeo Drive in "Prospect Street." La Jolla is often called the "Jewel of San Diego" because it is one of the most elegant and affluent areas in San Diego County. You may even see a celebrity or two strolling the streets.



Mt. Soledad, with an elevation of about 800 feet, has one of San Diego's best view points. From its top you can enjoy a 360-degree panoramic view of the coast and surrounding canyons and on a clear day see all the way to Mexico. Atop Mt. Soledad is a War Memorial, originally dedicated to veterans of the Korean War. A 43-foot white cross overlooks the Memorial; and, in addition, a flagpole proudly flying the American flag and six new concentric walls have been built that will ultimately hold over 3,000



black granite plaques honoring veterans. The plaques, with pictures and other information, can be bought in remembrance or honor of a loved one, from all branches of military service.

Also in La Jolla are the **San Diego Museum of Contemporary Art** and the **Stephen Birch Aquarium**, located at the **Scripps Institute of Oceanography**. Both offer a chance to explore another world— one of art, the other of underwater life.

After enjoying lunch at the harbor, stroll along the beach and see the seals sunning themselves along the coast.



(Continued from page 3)

The beautiful beaches, fabulous shopping (even if it's only window-shopping), sites and dining, La Jolla is a place you won't want to miss in San Diego.

Another site that will be of interest to the former USS England shipmates is **England Hall**, located at the **Anti-Submarine Warfare School** in San Diego. England Hall was named in honor of DE-635, and its dedication can be



viewed there. Also at the ASW School is the **Prock Building**, named for the man who was at sonar for most of the runs against the submarines in May of 1944. Access to this area will always be determined by the base commander, but barring any national emergency, we should be able to make a visit here.

The **USS Midway, the San Diego Air Craft Carrier Museum**, is to be located on the Navy Pier downtown. Although its opening has been greatly delayed, plans are to have the ship in place by next spring.

Now that you have read about all the attractions that San Diego can offer, please take time to help us make your reunion truly yours. Please fill out the survey at the right and return it to us promptly. We will take your responses and, with the help of Dennis O'Brien, custom design your reunion to your wishes. Your reunion agenda will be created from your returned surveys. Please let your voice be heard.

REQUEST FROM DENNIS O'BRIEN TO SHIPMATES

All shipmates with valid e-mail addresses that did not receive the June Newsletter electronically, please go to the USS England web site and update your On Line Crew data. Dennis is trying to get all current e-mail addresses so you can be sure to get all information promptly.

The USS ENGLAND web site is located at www.ussengland.net. You can contact Dennis by e-mail at dennis@ussengland.net or by phone at (714) 961-6840.

USS ENGLAND 2003 REUNION SURVEY-SAN DIEGO-JUNE 12-15

MAIL SURVEYS TO:

**Military Locator & Reunion Service, Inc.
P O Box 11399
Hickory, NC 28603-6402**

Reunion format:

Do you want a welcome reception the first evening?

____yes ____no;

If yes, would you prefer only an hors d'oeuvres platter____
or a hamburger/hot dog or soup & sandwich type dinner____?

Do you prefer breakfast all three mornings as a group____
or just a farewell breakfast on Sunday____?

Do you prefer a Luau at the hotel on Friday night____
or have the evening free____?

Do you want a band or DJ after the Saturday night banquet (keeping in mind this will increase the banquet cost to pay for the music) ____yes ____no?

Please indicate which activities you would like to see on your reunion agenda :

- ____ Gaslamp Quarter ____ San Diego Zoo
- ____ San Diego Maritime Museum ____ Coronado
- ____ Naval Air Station & Amphibious Base
- ____ Point Loma ____ Embarcadero ____ Tijuana, Mexico
- ____ Seaport Village ____ Horton Plaza
- ____ Balboa Park ____ Old Town
- ____ San Diego Wild Animal Park ____ La Jolla
- ____ England Hall and the Prock Building at the Anti-Submarine Warfare School
- ____ USS Midway, San Diego Air Craft Carrier Museum

Your comments and suggestions are welcome:
