

# USS JAMES MADISON (SSBN627) ASSOCIATION

*A 501c Veterans Organization*

**DECEMBER 2018**  
**Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays**  
**and a most prosperous New Year**



**Dear Shipmates and Friends,**

As 2018 draws to a close, we hope it has been a good year for all. There have been losses among our shipmates this year who will continue on in our hearts and in some of our best memories. They will be missed. In February, the second US submarine welcomed female enlisted crewmembers. We witnessed the addition of a James Madison bench to the Patriots Point Cold War Submarine Memorial. The year has seen devastating storms and fires and we hope the direct impact to our shipmates has been minimal. It was announced in November that the wreckage of the Argentine submarine ARA San Juan has been located.

With credit to Roy Mack Bowen: *“Remember those brave souls who are no longer around; Some passed too close to Death’s dark door; And wait for Eternity on the cold ocean floor.”*

In this newsletter, you'll find information on our 2019 Reunion which be in Rapid City, SD. We are hoping to see many of you there. Don and Veronica Hix have outdone themselves in planning the reunion and tours. South Dakota Tourism is also supporting our effort, and we hope you received your SD Tourist Guide. Lots to do and see so stay a few extra days and enjoy this beautiful state. We are looking for donations of items to be used in raffles. Sub and Navy memorabilia, wine, cocktail accessories, gift baskets, etc.

### Finding Shipmates

It appears we're sending this newsletter to about 900 folks. We need your help in getting the word out and helping us find our missing shipmates. There is a list of shipmates on the website showing some of the missing but we still know that there are still some that have not been identified.

The liquidation of the inventory of the Ship's Store has not worked out as we hoped this time last year and has been suspended. We're still working and haven't given up, so stay tuned. I really don't have anything concrete to tell you at this time.

### Membership Dues:

The Membership Form is enclosed. If you've already paid up through 2019, you can disregard. The date can be found on your current membership card. Remember that first year dues are \$20 and any year after your first year, dues are \$10 per year, even if you miss a year. The dues help to support the association and the Reunions. Also, please note that **dues and reunion fees need to be on separate checks**. If you're unsure about your status, please contact our secretary, Sam Walton at: [secretary@ussjamesmadison627.com](mailto:secretary@ussjamesmadison627.com).

### Historian:

JD Walton is our ship's historian and continues to collect sea stories and memorabilia that have been saved. If you have things to share with him, please contact him at [w1140@msn.com](mailto:w1140@msn.com). These memories are available to share at our reunions.

### Choosing the 2021 Reunion Sites:

We choose our reunion sites by popular vote on the website. To be considered for a reunion location, a site must have someone who is willing to sponsor that site. A sponsor is someone who agrees to take responsibility for making the arrangements, finances for deposits and so forth will be paid by the Association. Potential sponsored locations will be discussed at the 2019 Reunion. Where should we go next??

### USSVI:

United States Submarine Veterans, Incorporated is a nationwide organization of Submarine Veterans. Visit their website at [www.ussvi.org](http://www.ussvi.org) and “Find A Base” or “Join Us” for more information.

### Current Board of Directors:

President: Keith Holman, [keith.holman@verizon.net](mailto:keith.holman@verizon.net)  
Vice President: George Gross, [ggross2@cfl.rr.com](mailto:ggross2@cfl.rr.com)  
Treasurer: Don Hix, [vcahix@hotmail.com](mailto:vcahix@hotmail.com)  
Secretary: Sam Walton, [secretary@ussjamesmadison627.com](mailto:secretary@ussjamesmadison627.com)  
Volunteers of Merit:  
Historian: JD Walton  
Webmaster: Keith Holman  
Memorials: Charline Huwe

# Thank You!



USS James Madison Bench at Patriots' Point

The USS James Madison Association would like to thank Scott Holt for his donation for the bench at Patriots' Point in Charleston, South Carolina. We also wish to acknowledge all the work done by Madison crewmembers to make the arrangements for the bench, including Tim Esch and Keith Holman. Also thanks to Rusty Pickett of Patriots' Point.

## ANNUAL MADISON ASSOCIATION DUES

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Wife's Name (for Assoc. Membership and/or our records) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Yrs. on Board 19\_\_ to 19\_\_ Crew \_\_\_\_\_ Rate/Dept. \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Yr./Yrs/ Pd. For \_\_\_\_\_

If no dues have ever been paid, the first year is \$20. Thereafter, dues are \$10 per year. (If not sure, contact the Secretary, at [secretary@ussjamesmadison627.com](mailto:secretary@ussjamesmadison627.com), who maintains a current list.) Associate Members (Wives) are \$10 per yr. (We are limited by the IRS to 25% of our membership for Associate Members; therefore, it is first come, first serve.) If you wish to be paid in advance, add \$10 for each year and note above.

Make check payable to: **USS JAMES MADISON ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**Mail to:**

Don Hix, Treasurer  
4911 Albert Lane  
Rapid City, SD 57703

PLEASE REMEMBER, by being a paid member of the Association, you are helping to finance the continuation of the USS James Madison SSBN627 Association and the reunions it sponsors.

**Welcome To Rapid City and The Black Hills of South Dakota**

**May 15 - 16 - 17 - 18, 2019 James Madison Reunion**

**Best Western Ramkota Hotel**, 2111 N. Lacrosse St., Rapid City SD 57701 (I 90 at Exit 59) (605) 343-8550. Rate is \$120.00 + tax. with 2 breakfasts included per day. Make sure you inform them this is for the James Madison Reunion. Request for 1<sup>st</sup> floor accommodation as the 2<sup>nd</sup> floors do not have elevators. Request handicap room if needed. (Prices will be honored May 11<sup>th</sup> - May 21<sup>st</sup>, reservations must be made on a timely basis for this rate.) The Hotel is donating the use of the banquet room and hospitality room; please make your reservations with them. Free Parking and shuttle service anywhere within the city including Rapid City Regional Airport.

**One Registration Fee Of \$125.00 Per Person Pre Paid covers entire Reunion**

**Please make payment no later than March 5, 2019**

<b>5/15/2019 Wednesday</b> at 2:00PM Evening registration Hospitality room with Pizza, foods and drink. Hospitality room open everyday	<b>5/16/2019 Thursday</b> at 0900 AM Tour the Southern Hills - included in this is: Mount Rushmore, Crazy Horse and Custer State Park, fees have been included. Please tip the bus Driver. (lunch on your own either Mt Rushmore or Crazy Horse)
<b>5/17/2019 Friday</b> at 0900 AM Tour the Northern Hills - included in this is: Sturgis, Fort Meade, Deadwood and Spearfish Canyon. Please tip the bus Driver (lunch on your own in Deadwood)	<b>5/18/2019 Saturday</b> at 0100 PM Tolling of the Bell for lost Boats, Meeting to follow. Evening banquet- cash bar at 5:00 PM eat at 0600 PM (Serving Buffalo and Chicken buffet style).

( The Tour bus company will be very accommodating, if the passengers numbers increase to a large amount they will run Southern Hills and Northern Hills per day to keep the group numbers down.)

Come a few days early and stay later to enjoy more of the hills.

We will be asking **ONE Registration fee per person** for the entire reunion. This will cover Pizza & beverages in the Hospitality room on Wednesday registration night. Hospitality room will have: snacks, water, soft drinks, wine and beer daily. Tours to the Southern Hills, and Northern Hills, Saturday Tolling of the bell, meeting, and Saturday Banquet.

**ONE FEE OF \$125.00 PER PERSON.**

Name of crew member attending \_\_\_\_\_

Rank & Rate \_\_\_\_\_ Gold / Blue Crew or both.

Address & Phone #  
\_\_\_\_\_

Guest names \_\_\_\_\_

One Registration fee per person: must be pre-paid. Please submit **check by March 5, 2019.**

\$125.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_ Total cost

Make check out to James Madison Reunion Ass. Mail to Don Hix, Treasure, 4911 Albert Ln  
Rapid City, SD 57703 Call Don if you have questions- (605) 716-2194



**USS James Madison SSBN 627 Association, Inc.**

4911 Albert Ln  
Rapid City, SD 57703-6420  
[www.ussjamesmadison627.com](http://www.ussjamesmadison627.com)

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RAPID CITY, SD

# USS James Madison Reunion Information

Some of the sites of the Black Hills of South Dakota



Black Hills with Rock Formations



Mount Rushmore National Monument



Best Western Ramkota Hotel



Buffalo at Custer State Park