

THE CVE PIPER



ESCORT CARRIER SAILORS
& AIRMEN ASSN.
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ECSAA IN WASHINGTON DC IN 2023



ECSAA Announces 2023 Convention

A Final Face to Face Reunion Convention

Honoring 30 Years of Service by CVE Sailors & Airmen – WWII, Korea, Viet Nam

&

Re-Commissioning of ECSAA to an Historical & Memorial Organization

The ECSAA Governors are delighted to have announced the 2023 Escort Carrier Sailor & Airmen Reunion Convention, located in Washington DC. We've dedicated this issue to include as much information as possible to help you make plans & bookings for the entire family to attend. Conference Registration AND Hotel bookings are open NOW and described elsewhere in this Piper.

How special is this event & How did it come about?

We were honored to have Samuel J. Cox, Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Retired) as Keynote at our pre-COVID convention in New Orleans in 2019. Shortly thereafter, with Mr. Cox's support and that of several of his Bremerton-based officers, plans were in full swing to mark the 75th



ECSAA 2019 Convention: Samuel J. Cox, Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Retired), Director the Naval History and Heritage Command / Curator of the Navy posing for photos with attendees with the Color Guard and Bugler

anniversary of the end of WWII in an ECSAA Bremerton Convention. Even though we had to cancel that event, and wait more than two years for it to be safe to plan a face-to-face Reunion Convention, A was very encouraged that Mr. Cox immediately accepted our request to re-connect in December 2022 and discuss the possibility of ECSAA producing a 'final' Convention.

To be honest, all of your ECSAA Governors were skeptical of the possibility of a successful event in 2023 for many reasons. But, your membership survey feedback has been consistently supportive of having at least one final Convention. Therefore, your Governors seriously deliberated on multiple alternatives. The week before Christmas, I visited Mr. Cox at his office to seek his input on our options.

As the Director showed me around the facilities, he talked to me about how important it is to the Navy and

the country that the service of our veterans be remembered. And how important is the work of the ecosystem of private organizations, like ECSAA, to ensuring that the history be collected and preserved and shared with the next generations. After the multi-hour meeting, I left DC with my head, and notepad overflowing with valuable input to help ECSAA plan and even more valuable offers of support.

Shortly thereafter, and with the awesome support of Convention Committee Chair Clay Hathaway, the ECSAA Governors unanimously voted to hold a very special, final Convention in Washington DC in August 2023. The event will feature a two day program spanning our Crystal City hotel and the Washington Navy Yard's National Navy Museum.

(And discount hotel rates were negotiated for dates prior to and after the event to support families wishing to build a vacation around the short Convention.)



December 2022 at Mr. Cox's headquarters, where he hosted ECSAA Board President Dave Ryan for a discussion of the importance of preservation of the Escort Carrier history, and provided a personal tour of a small selection of the NHC's collection and restoration capabilities.

Continued on page 4

ECSAA Announces 2023 Convention A Final Face to Face Reunion Convention

This year's 'final' Convention will also mark a transition for ECSAA, as an organization. This year's event will be ECSAA's final act fulfilling the Reunion mission to which it was commissioned in 1991. With the approval of members during the Annual Membership Meeting (to be held during this year's Convention), ECSAA will be re-commissioned as an Historical Preservation and Memorials public benefit non-profit dedicated to remembering and honoring all those who served on or with an Escort Carrier.

To be sure, ECSAA has been publishing historical accounts in the CVE Piper since its inception. But this year, we transition to become an organization solely dedicated to history and memorials. To kick that mission into high gear, we are working to develop a partnership with a professional archiving organization and plan to announce a significant donation of CVE-Era artifacts during the Convention in August.

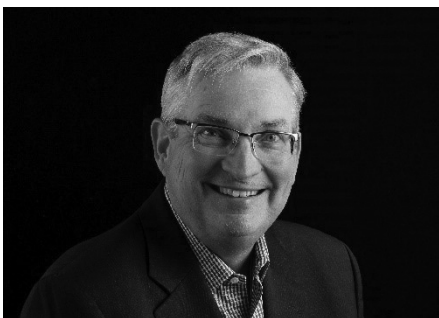
**WE NEED YOUR HELP to gather and preserve artifacts
from very every chapter of the 30 years of CVE history.
Let ECSAA organize and protect your historical items, and
include them in a larger historical donation.
If you think you may have something to donate,
please contact me directly at Dave.Ryan@ECSAA.org
as soon as possible to explore options.**

As the recipient of a collection of CVE history from my Dad, I have worried for a couple of decades about how to protect and preserve that treasure after I am gone. I also know first-hand how confusing and difficult it is to figure out where to donate and how to donate Navy service artifacts. That's where ECSAA can serve us all.

The organization began collecting historical artifacts about ten years ago as an adjunct to the reunion conventions. We've received physical and digital donations from most of the ships whose shipmates and descendants reunited at the annual ECSAA Conventions. And, we have received large collections from ships who've completed their own dedicated reunions and joined ECSAA. As much as we have been able, the digital content is archived on ECSAA's secure online storage. We also now have a dedicated, climate controlled ECSAA storage unit where we are warehousing physical donations.

In case you're not sure if what you have is 'worth' being archived, I've compiled a simplified list in the DONATE THIS sidebar.

There is much for the ECSAA team has been doing already to ready a great event. To help ensure success at our final reunion and give a strong start to ECSAA's new Historical/Memorial commissioning, please Register for the Convention now and secure your Hotel bookings, and search your family storage for artifacts that can add to the a public collection of the history of your, or your ancestor's service.



Dave Ryan, ECSAA Board of Governors
President
Progeny, USS Bogue, CVE-9



29 Conventions
We first joined ECSAA in 1991 after my husband, Keith King, read about this new organization being formed to honor the CVE's. Keith served aboard the USS Puget Sound, CVE 113. We attended their first convention in Las Vegas in 1991. When we heard where the next convention was to be held Keith would get out the maps and Atlas and methodically map out our route. Whoever heard of navigation systems in cars or smartphones? We would go on to attend every single convention until his passing in 2017. I have continued with the tradition, accompanied now by my daughter and son-in-law Art & Pam Hutt. We traveled from coast to coast, north to south and would stop and see family and friends along the way, while also seeing the country. We always looked forward to seeing old ship buddies and catching up at the conventions. Looking forward to another convention in 2023 after a 3 year COVID break.
Doris King, Bennet, Nebraska

| | | | | |
|--|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Elect the following individuals to seats as Governor of ECSAA for the terms named. | | | | |
| Oscar (Clay) Hathaway | 2023-2026 | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain |
| Joyce Wilson | 2023-2026 | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Abstain |

As we plan the ECSAA convention for August in Washington, D C , please complete the information below for planning purposes:

Name: _____

Ship: _____

Date you plan to arrive: _____ Date you plan to leave: _____

Number of family members\friends that will be attending: _____

Please place in envelope and return no later than 31 July.

DONATE THIS

Examples of the Historical Artifacts that ECSSA is looking for and working to gather for donation to official museums / archives for professional and perpetual curation. If you think you have some of the items below, please directly contact ECSAA President Dave Ryan at Dave.Ryan@ecsaa.org

Command Operation Reports, Deck Logs, Ships Drawings, official photography and official film is archived by the Navy and accessible to the public through the Navy Archives. However, you might have one or more of these items and it turns out they are missing from the Navy’s collection.

Books, Logs, Documents, Letters: Books, publications, newsletters, manuscripts, log books, letters, correspondence and other ephemera enhance historical collections and support research by historians, scholars, and researchers.

- Personal papers generated, collected, and/or maintained by an individual or family. Often a mix of media formats and may include published and unpublished materials.
- Correspondence, diaries, journals, notebooks, speeches, draft publications, research or reference files, scrapbooks, audio/visual materials, maps, drawings, plans, oral histories.
- Financial or organizational records, electronic documents, and ephemera.
- Unofficial copies of U.S. Navy documents that were created, acquired, collected, compiled, or received by an individual or organization as part of their work or research.
- Cruise books for ships, Seabee and aviation units, and training activities
- Welcome aboard, launching, christening, commissioning, decommissioning, and transfer to a foreign government ship brochures
- Change of command and retirement ceremony brochures
- Manuals, ship & unit newsletters, and other official publications and ceremonial certificates.
- Menus, ship’s entertainment/sports programs (including “smokers”), other paper ephemera
- Naval postal covers
- Naval, nautical, and military history books in foreign languages, Naval war games documents
- Command Operation Reports, Deck Logs, Ships Drawings, official photography and official film is archived by the Navy and accessible to the public through the Navy Archives. However, you might have one or more of these items and it turns out they are missing from the Navy’s collection.

Ships Archives: Artifacts relating to specific ships, events or people. Three-dimensional objects relating to the U.S. Navy with specific emphasis on ships, aviation, places, wars/events, activities, and significant individuals associated with naval history. Both official and unofficial naval items.

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| • Uniforms, Medals, Awards | • Signal, Radio and Communications | • Builder’s plaques |
| • Plaques | • Bells | • Flags |
| • Ship parts, instruments | • Models | • People |
| • Navigation instruments | • Rest & Relaxation | |

Photo/Audio/Video/Film Archives: Photographic, video, film, slide or scrapbooks/albums of such, and/or audio recordings related to the U.S. Navy (or other navies specifically associated with U.S. involvement). Especially ships, aviation, places, wars/events, activities, and people associated with naval history.

- Individual items, collections, scrapbooks, albums
- Including daguerreotype, glass plate negatives, prints, transparencies, slides, and negatives.
- Including all formats of film, video, audio recordings
- Oral Histories (individual and/or collections) recorded on audio or video/audio

Art: Paintings, watercolors, drawings and engravings.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

ESCORT CARRIER SAILORS AND AIRMEN ASSOCIATION FINAL CONVENTION – AUGUST 22-28, 2023

Conference Registration may be done and paid online at <http://www.ECSAA.org/Register>
IMPORTANT NOTE: Hotel reservations must be made separately at <http://www.ECSAA.org/Hotel>

Listed below are registration options for the Convention. Send the total amount in the form of a check or money order payable to ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC. Your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. All forms and payments **must be received by July 22, 2023**. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. (Note: Returned checks will be charged a \$35 fee.)

MAIL FORM W/Check to:
Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.
322 Madison Mews
Norfolk, VA 23510
ATTN: ECSAA

OFFICE USE ONLY

Check # _____ Date Received _____
Inputted _____ Nametag Completed _____

We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing. Please do not staple or tape your payment to this form.

CUT-OFF DATE IS 7/22/2023

| | Price Per | # of People | Total |
|---|-----------|-------------|-------|
| REGISTRATION REQUIRED (Per Person, Select One) | | | |
| FULL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION { *Includes all Programs, Meals, Buses } | \$254 | # | \$ |
| BANQUET ONLY REGISTRATION { **Includes ONLY the Saturday night Banquet } | \$115 | # | \$ |
| Grand Total Amount Payable to Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. | | | \$ |



NAME(s) AS YOU WOULD LIKE IT TO APPEAR ON YOUR CONFERENCE BADGE(s):

SHIP AFFILIATION _____

1) FIRST _____ LAST _____

2) FIRST _____ LAST _____

3) FIRST _____ LAST _____

4) FIRST _____ LAST _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (____) _____ - _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____ @ _____

Attach separate sheet if you need space to list additional registrants, list multiple addresses or detail out Disability / Dietary Restrictions per attendee.
(Note: Hotel/Sleeping room requirements must be conveyed by attendee directly with hotel.)

**If you have any questions, suggestions or need assistance,
please contact the ECSAA Convention team at Convention@ecsaa.org**

Registrations received after the cut-off date will still be accepted on a space available basis, we will contact you immediately with any restrictions.

CANCELLATIONS WILL ONLY BE TAKEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 9:00am-5:00pm
EASTERN TIME (excluding holidays). Call (757) 625-6401 to cancel Convention
Registration and obtain a cancellation code.

Cancellations prior to July 22, 2023 will receive a full refund less the non-refundable AFR fee (\$15 per person). In all cases, Hotel bookings must be made, changes or cancelled directly with the hotel.

After July 22, please contact ECSAA directly for refund requests which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

REGISTER ONLINE AT www.ECSAA.org/Register

And

BOOK HOTEL AT www.ECSAA.org/Hotel

| | # People |
|---|----------|
| FRIDAY, August 25, Speaker Presentation | # |
| FRIDAY, August 25, 6:30-8pm: Welcome Reception (w/ Cash Bar available) | # |
| SATURDAY, August 26, Bus Tour of Monuments | # |
| SATURDAY, August 26, Behind the Scenes US Navy Yard Museum | # |
| SATURDAY, August 26, Memorial & Formal Donation of Memorabilia | # |

BOX LUNCH

SATURDAY, August 26, 12-12:30pm: **Box Lunch**
(please select meal choices below)

Sandwich Options:

Turkey, Ham, Roast Beef, Corned Beef, Pastrami, Grilled Chicken, Italian, Tuna, Vegetarian

Cheese Options:

Provolone, Swiss, Cheddar, Monterey

Bread Options:

White Sub Roll, Wheat Sub Roll, Salad

Cookie Options:

Chocolate Chip, Oatmeal Raisin

**Please list your desired Box Lunch combination(s)
below with the name of the person it is for.**

(Additional Box Lunch orders may be written on an additional piece of paper, if necessary.)

| Attendee | Box Lunch Choices per Person |
|----------|------------------------------|
| #1 | |
| #2 | |
| #3 | |
| #4 | |

BANQUET

| | # People |
|--|----------|
| SATURDAY, August 26, 6-10pm: Cocktails & Banquet Dinner (please select meal choice below) | |
| Chicken Breast with Mushroom Sauce, Mashed Potatoes | |
| Sauteed Salmon with Saffron Risotto | |
| Sauteed Flat Iron Steak , Roasted Potatoes | |

*, ** Note: Alcohol not included, Cash Bar available

Preliminary ECSAA Conference Weekend Program

August 22th - 24th

***The Conference starts in the morning of August 25th, please arrive on the 24th or before
Arrival may be as Early as August 22nd using the ECSAA Conference Hotel Rate
(Helpful Airport, Train, Car and Transfer information to be provided)
Doubletree by Hilton, Washington DC in Crystal City***

August 25th

9am – 1pm: Registration / Badge Pickup

1pm – 5pm: Conference General Session

- Vietnam Service

- How a carrier is de-commissioned and scrapped

Welcome and Conference Briefing

Special Guest Speaker (TBA) on “What We Know About Sunken CVE-era Ships”

Speakers on histories of: (incomplete listing, suggestions welcomed)

- The building of the Escort Carrier group carriers and escorts
- The Escort Carrier airwings
- Lend Lease
- WWII Service
- Korea Service

5pm – 6 pm: Break (Check into Hotel Room if not done already)

6pm – 7:30pm: Welcome Reception – Social

Hospitality Room (breakout rooms may be available, please make request as soon as possible)

August 26th

7am: Board Busses for the Day’s Events

Historical DC Tour by Coach (there may be one hop off / hop on stop before the Museum. TBA)

- Ceremony marking donation of Escort Carrier historical artifacts

9:30am: Arrive Washington Navy Yard & disembark at the National Museum

Noon: Lunch (Box Lunch orders pickup)

On your own and Docent tours of the Museum

10am: Escort Carrier Sailors and Airman History & Memorial Program (with special guests TBA)

- Welcome & Introduction to the Museum
- Remarks on the 30 years of Escort Carrier history
- Memorial for those who have crossed the bar (Bell Ringing)
- Ceremonial ‘De-Commissioning’ of the ECSAA’s Reunion Mission And ‘Recommissioning’ of ECSAA to its Historical Preservation Mission

3pm: Board Busses to return to Hotel

Free Time to rest and prepare for the Banquet at the hotel ballroom

5:30pm: Cocktails & Seating

6:00pm: Dinner Served

6:30pm: Keynote Speaker – TBA

August 27th: Departure - Attendees may book the hotel for added night and depart on the 28th if desired