

President's Corner, January 2018

Thanks to all who attended the 20<sup>th</sup> Guam LPH-9 Reunion in Louisville, Ky.

We had several new shipmates attending the reunion this year.

Saranell (who did most of the organizing of the reunion) and I received several comments about the activities. Which included Jim Beam's factory tour, and the Backside Ministers of Churchill Downs. Also the downtown tour of Louisville was very informative about the history and future of this great city.

Other activities that were enjoyed by all, was Bingo Night and Pizza Night.

Our guest banquet speaker was Rev. Joseph Rosario of Backside Ministries. He reminded us that a lot of Churchill Downs care takers spend many months away from home as we did while serving.

The Porter Ridge Band was led by Rick Smith, a very good friend of the Braniger's. They supplied some entertaining Kentucky Bluegrass Music which was good listening and dancing.

I want to thank the Executive Board for the fine job this past year, and looking forward to working with them again as next year's re-elected board for 2018.

A Thank You goes to Ray Downs for full filling the duty as Chaplain. Also Thanks to Joe Keidel for filling in as Master of Arms for our appointed Jim Gavin.

Vise President John Evans, Secretary Al Getter, Treasurer Bill Frazier, and Assistant Secretary Harvey Spinowitz were on top of things all year long.

This year's Reunion Chairman donation choice of \$100.00 was the Backside Ministries.

We now look forward to Durango, Co. with Reunion Chairman, Chuck Lester. The Reunion dates are Monday October 1 thru Saturday Oct. 6, 2018. Chuck has been suggesting this site for several years. One high-light will be the Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad Train Ride.

Looking forward to seeing you ALL in October.

Take care,

Gar,