USS MacDonough

Reunion Association

Newsletter – Summer/Fall 2026

Presidents Message!

Hello Mighty Mac Family —

Well, another fun-filled reunion has come and gone! Gettysburg is a place for the history books. Hard to imagine just 163 years ago this great country was at war with itself. Once again Ed and Helene put together a fantastic and fun-filled reunion. A lot to see and do for sure. I hope everyone is having a nice summer. We are looking forward to next spring's reunion in Huntsville, Alabama. Hope to see as many shipmates and families as possible. For those of you who are having medical issues, I hope and pray for you to recover as soon as possible — getting older ain't for sissies! The golden years?? Hah. More like rust! Take care and God bless us all!

Best Regards,
Vic Radeka

Business Meeting Summary

1. Nominations and election of officers for 2026-2027
   - Victor Radeka, vaac9@yahoo.com; President
     4900 SW 15th St. Ft Lauderdale, FL 33317-5512. 954-793-2094
   - Dominick Pace, dominickpace@aol.com, Vice President
     140 Dinsmore St. Apt C. Staten Island N.Y. 10314. 718-490-2926
   - Ed Bayona, helene@northstate.net; Treasurer
     711 Liberty Rd. High Point, NC 27263-2427. 336-687-6028
   - Ed & Helene Bayona, helene@northstate.net; Reunion Coordinators
     711 Liberty Rd. High Point, NC 27263-2427. 336-687-6028
   - Leonard Dalenberg, macdonough@dalenberg.org; Secretary
     2210 Weiser Rd. Niles, MI 49120, 269-338-7855

2. The Association Bylaws were updated following the reunion (revision dated May 15, 2026).
   a. The principal changes: officer terms are now a minimum of two (2) years (the Treasurer a minimum of three),
   b. the term-limit language was relaxed so officers will normally – but not automatically – rotate out after two full terms, and
   c. Electing a second Reunion Coordinator is now optional rather than required.

3. The membership selected Huntsville, Alabama as the site of the 2027 reunion, to be held next spring. Ed and Helene Bayona will again coordinate. They will be going to Huntsville, AL in October for a site visit to confirm the hotel and attractions we will be visiting

Created by Leonard Dalenberg with assistance by Claude (AI)

Secretary's Report

What a great week in Gettysburg! Thank you to Helene and Ed for all the work that went into this reunion, and thank you to everyone who shared their pictures from the week – the photo pages in this newsletter are only as good as the photos you send in.

The full set of reunion photos is posted in COLOR on our website, www.dlg8new.org – look under Reunions for the 2026 Gettysburg page. If you have photos that aren't in the gallery, send them my way and I will add them.

A reminder on email: we are now only using the pony express for members who don't have an email address and who have paid dues recently. So – send me your email address. If you don't have one, contact me (email leonard@dalenberg.org or text 269-338-7855) and I will set you up with a free <your name>@dlg8new.org account.

For information about Huntville,

Oh, contact me for a copy of the bylaws.

Thanks, Leonard

Reunion Attendees

33 shipmates, mates, and guests joined us in Gettysburg.

Nancy Achelpohl	Carol Devaney	Michael O'Shea
Roger Achelpohl	Ray Devaney	Dominick Pace
Tammy Anderson	Jody Grafft	Maria Pace
DeWayne Baker	Phil Grafft	Vic Radeka
Tina Baker	Ken Hall	Diane Schnurrpusch
Ed Bayona	Ginny Hint	Gary Schnurrpusch
Helene Bayona	Larry Hint	Terry Tonneson
John Curtin	Bernie Kershner	Rick Tylla
Kathy Curtin	Deanna Kershner	Mark Wood
Leonard Dalenberg	Russ Naden	Patricia Wood
Rennay Dalenberg	Ginny O'Shea	Ginny Ziolkowski

Here is a pictorial representation of our Gettysburg, Pennsylvania Reunion – Enjoy!

Photos provided by our shipmates and their families. To keep printing costs down the mailed copy is in black & white — the full set is posted in color at www.dlg8new.org.

Downtown Gettysburg



Sunday afternoon in downtown Gettysburg



Meeting Mr. Lincoln on Lincoln Square



Shipmates on the square



The historic Adams County Courthouse



The Dobbin House, Gettysburg's oldest building

Created by Leonard Dalenberg with assistance by Claude (AI)

Monday — The WWII American Experience



The WWII American Experience



An M4 Sherman tank



A jeep named “USS Hancock”



GMC cargo truck



Halftrack and paratrooper



A captured Kübelwagen

Created by Leonard Dalenberg with assistance by Claude (AI)



Field artillery



The “Follow Me” jeep



I Like Ike



President Eisenhower



“I’d give a month’s pay” — wartime advertising



Scale models on display

Created by Leonard Dalenberg with assistance by Claude (AI)

Tuesday — The Battlefield



Boarding the battlefield coach



Our licensed battlefield guide



Walking the hallowed ground



At the stone wall



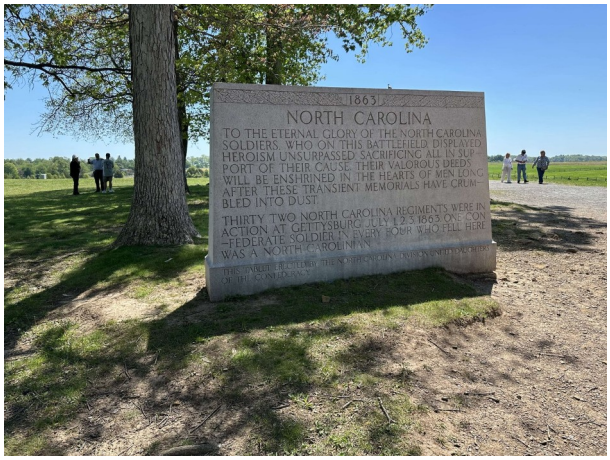
Atop Little Round Top



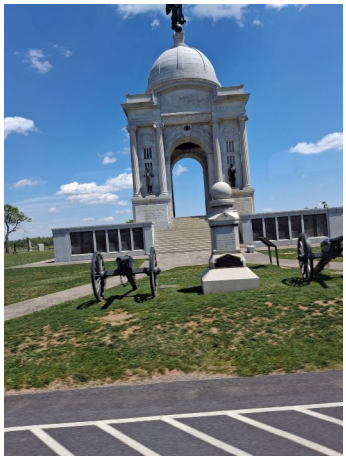
Shipmates at Little Round Top



The Cyclorama — Pickett's Charge in 360°



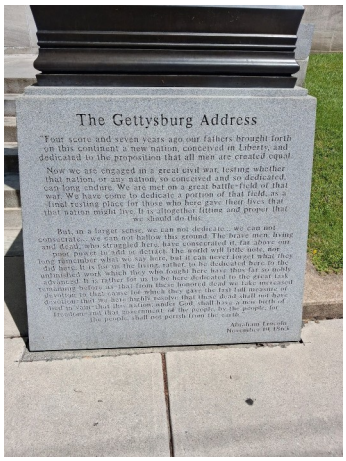
The North Carolina Memorial



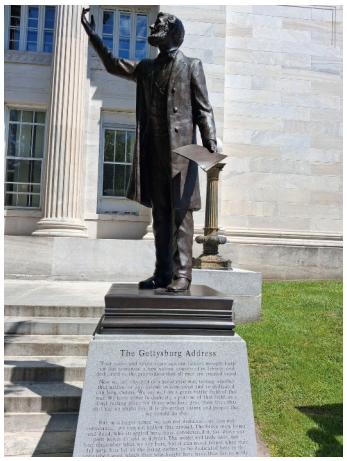
The Pennsylvania Memorial



Gathered at a gun



The Gettysburg Address



Lincoln at the Soldiers' National Cemetery

Created by Leonard Dalenberg with assistance by Claude (AI)

The Business Meeting & the Ship's Bell



Ringing the ship's bell at the business meeting



Shipmates with the MacDonough bell



Posing with the bell

The Banquet



The banquet at the Wyndham



Gathered before dinner

Created by Leonard Dalenberg with assistance by Claude (AI)



A full table



Good food, better company



Holding court

Our Group



The whole crew



The shipmates

Created by Leonard Dalenberg with assistance by Claude (AI)



The First Mates

The Hospitality Room



Good times in the hospitality room



Old friends



Catching up



Swapping sea stories

Created by Leonard Dalenberg with assistance by Claude (AI)



By the fireside



Dinner out

Thursday — Hershey



Hershey's Chocolate World



Arriving at Hershey



Life is sweet



The Hershey Story museum

Created by Leonard Dalenberg with assistance by Claude (AI)

The Mighty Mac



The Mighty Mac — until next year, shipmates