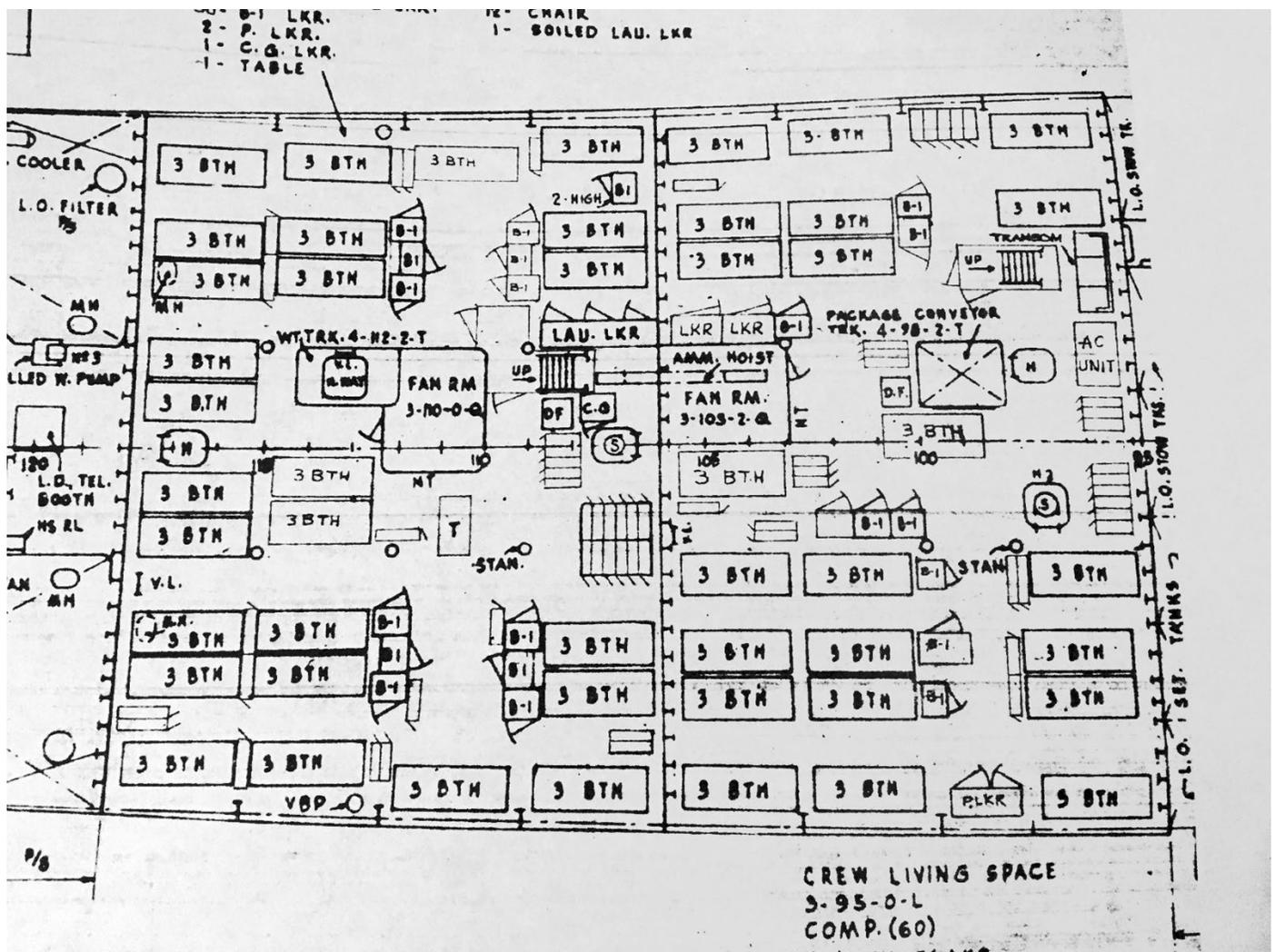


# USS BRADLEY ASSOCIATION

*Founded July 6, 2002*

## September 2025 NEWSLETTER



Not sure where I got this from. Crew compartments for Weapons (left) and Engineering (right). Operations and Supply crew compartments below. Note Mt. 52 ammo hoist running up from the magazine to the upper handling room through the Engineering compartment.

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## *President's Message*

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Ahoy shipmates! The reunion has come together. We will gather in San Antonio, TX, in eight months. Information, including the registration packet, is included in this newsletter.

As summer comes to a close I hope you all stay safe this fall and winter - time for me to find where I put that snow shovel. The bill we were supporting in the Nevada Legislature failed to pass. Hard to go up against a multimillion-dollar industry with their paid lobbyists. The bill passed the committee but failed in the full Assembly. So, I hope none of the Bradley Crew ever finds the need to pay a "Claim Shark" for veterans' benefits. Reach out to a shipmate or a veterans' organization for free assistance. Hope to see you in San Antonio - we have a full agenda to discuss about the future of the association (*you guys from the 80's crew especially.*)

*Bob Planeta*

## Reunion 2026 Info

The USS Bradley 2026 reunion is now scheduled to be held in San Antonio, TX, beginning with check in on 15 May, checking out on Monday, 18 May. We'll be staying at the **Drury Plaza Hotel San Antonio Riverwalk**. There are several Drury Plaza Hotels, so if you look it up online be sure you're looking at **Drury Plaza Hotel San Antonio Riverwalk**.

The reunion planning vendor for our 2026 reunion is Gatherings Plus. The registration packet is below. You'll notice that unlike past years, this is an all-inclusive package for the events (ie. tours, Banquet, etc.) and not an "ala carte" selection.

As usual we will gather on Friday, 15 May to greet fellow shipmates.

The Drury Plaza Hotel San Antonio Riverwalk provides what they call "Evening Snacks and Drinks" at no cost in a very nice space! An example of the Friday menu is: Taco Salad, Chicken Tortilla Soup, Taco Meat, Tortillas, Southwest Corn, Black Beans, Hot Dog & Bun, and Chips, Salsa & Nacho Cheese. And an example of Saturday's menu is: Spring Salad, Hearty Chili, BBQ Pulled Pork Slider Buns, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Mac & Cheese, Hot Dog & Bun, and Chips, Salsa & Nacho Cheese. Of course, the menu may change, but this gives you an idea of what's available.

Breakfast is held in the same space and has Make-Your-Own Belgian Waffles, Tortillas, Breakfast Potatoes, Sausage Patties, Buttermilk Biscuits & Peppered Gravy, Oatmeal & Toppings (raisins, brown sugar, granola), Fresh Fruit, Assorted Yogurt Cups, Hard-boiled Eggs, Bagels & Assorted Breads, Mini Blueberry Muffins, Cold Cereals, Beverages (milk, juice, Coffee).

Our Banquet will, as usual, be held on Sunday, and the menu options for that meal can be found in the registration packet below with options of Chicken, Short Ribs, or Fish.



Any Group, Any Where, Any Time

# Booking Branson & Beyond!

www.gatheringsplus.com | 155 Industrial Park Drive, Hollister, MO 65672 | 417-338-4048

## USS Bradley Association 2026 Registration Form May 15<sup>th</sup> to May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Attendee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Attendee #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Attendee #3: \_\_\_\_\_ Attendee #4: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone:(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Request: \_\_\_\_\_

Date	Time	Event	Cost	#of Ppl	Total Due
05/15/26	3:00 PM	<b>Reunion Package:</b> Registration   Custom Neck Wallet Name Badge   Hospitality Room   Banquet Dinner   3 Breakfast   Kickback Drury Welcome Reception   Transportation (Saturday)   PAC War Museum & Zone/Bush Gallery/NIMITZ Gallery   Riverboat Cruise   Alamo Self- Guided Tour	<b>\$441.53</b> Per person		

Herb Crusted Chicken: Thyme-White Wine pan sauce | Seasonal Grilled Vegetables | Garlic Whipped Potatoes  
Red Wine braised Short Rib: Season Grilled Vegetables | Garlic Whipped Potatoes  
Seasonal White Fish: Lemon Rice Pilaf | Garlic Whipped Potatoes

Banquet Meal Choice: \_\_\_\_\_ Fish \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Beef \_\_\_\_\_

*\*All Credit Card payments are subject to a 4% fee*

Total Due: \$

**Cancellation Protection Plan:** *Individuals may cancel up to 48 business hours prior to the start date of the event with no penalty. The cost of the CPP is non-refundable for any reason.*

# of PPI Total CPP  
\$29.95 Per Person \$

**GRAND TOTAL DUE \$**

**Hotel Information:** Drury Plaza Hotel  
210-270-7799 |  
105 South St. Mary's St.  
San Antonio, TX 78205  
**Room Rate: \$189 + Tax**

**If you would like to pay by credit card please call our office at**  
**800-542-6768**  
**Mon. thru Fri. 9am – 5pm**

**Reservation Deadline:**  
**April 07, 2026**  
Reservations received after this date cannot be guaranteed

**Mail Completed Form & Payment to: Gatherings Plus | 155 Industrial Park Drive | Hollister, MO 65672  
OR Email to : karen@gatheringsplus.com**

**Standard Cancellation Policy:** No refunds will be made on the package after **April 07, 2026**, unless Cancellation Protection Plan has been purchased. All changes or cancellations must go through Gatherings Plus and are subject to a 10% fee, unless Cancellation Protection Plan is purchased.

Accredited by



## *Reunion 2026 Info continued*

On Saturday we will travel to the National Museum of the Pacific War which will include the newly renovated George H.W. Bush Gallery (scheduled to be reopened on 6 December 2025).

Sunday morning, we will walk out of our hotel to board a boat at the hotel's Waterfront for a two-hour tour of the San Antonio River, followed by a self-guided tour of The Alamo, which is within about 10 minutes walking from the hotel. Following the Alamo tour, we will convene in the hospitality room for our business meeting.

The Sunday Banquet will begin at 1800.

A detailed schedule (times) for the various events will be available at the reunion.

For those who are so inclined, Gatherings Plus has provided a website for us to register on. Below are instructions from Karen Steele of Gatherings Plus on how to reach their website for registration:

Website: [Gatheringsplus.com](http://Gatheringsplus.com)

To the upper right of the screen there is a red box - REGISTER FOR YOUR EVENT HERE (*click on it*)

Scroll until you find the USS Bradley and *click on it*

Password: *Brad26* (it is not case sensitive)

Then just follow the steps to make the reservations

**Hotel Reservations:** *You* must call the hotel to make your reservation. Tell them you are with the USS Bradley. The number for the Drury Plaza Hotel San Antonio Riverwalk is 210-270-7799.

Karen also says: *Please let everyone know they can either register online or they can print the registration form and fill it out and send it in or they can call me here at the office, 417.338.4048 and make reservations. Also, please let everyone know that if they have any questions to please give me a call or they can email me at karen@gatheringsplus.com.*

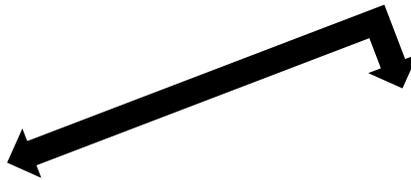
I **strongly** recommend calling Karen to register and/or to answer any questions you may have.

Please **carefully** read the registration package!

One thing that is **not** noted in the registration package is the parking cost. As with most cities these days, they have a charge for parking. The hotel has given us a reduced parking rate of \$39/night. This is what the hotel's web site says regarding parking: "*On-Site Covered Parking-Valet Only. No oversized vehicles or dually trucks. Garage clearance 7ft*".

I should also mention that if you would rather have something to eat other than what's offered for "Evening Snacks and Drinks" at no cost, the hotel also has "Tellers Bar" located in the main lobby, where they offer appetizers, burgers, melts, tenders, salads, pizzas, and deserts, plus a full bar (for a cost). There are also a number of eating establishments near by.

At previous reunions our blue name tags have looked like this for shipmates and their wives or guests:



This year we need to order these through a separate process.

If this is your first reunion or you've lost/misplaced your blue name tag, you can order one by completing the information below. **Cost for each name tag is \$8.75.** Your name, USS BRADLEY, years you were onboard, and your rate/rank is engraved into plastic as seen above. Wife or guest name tag have their name engraved on it.

Option A - If you want the blue name tag, check this box.  
Please fill in the information below for your name tag.  
Your name tag name: \_\_\_\_\_  
What years did you serve aboard? \_\_\_\_\_  
What was your highest rate or rank while onboard? \_\_\_\_\_

Option B - If you want a Wife or guest blue name tag, check this box.  
Wife or guest name on name tag: \_\_\_\_\_

Option C - If you want the reunion city tag(s), check this box and tell us how many you want \_\_\_\_\_. **Cost for each reunion city tag is \$3.75.**

Total cost for all name tags and city tags: \_\_\_\_\_

To order blue name tags, print and cut out the name tag form along dashed lines and mail it with your check to Bruce Gottsch at: PO Box 23516, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33307-3516. Bruce has found a vendor who will produce our name tags. *You must have your blue name tag order to Bruce by 1 April 2026.*

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As we all know, in 1968 the USS Bradley operated off the coast of Vietnam. What is perhaps less known is that in addition to various types of US Naval vessels, the Bradley also spent time with the Coast Guard.

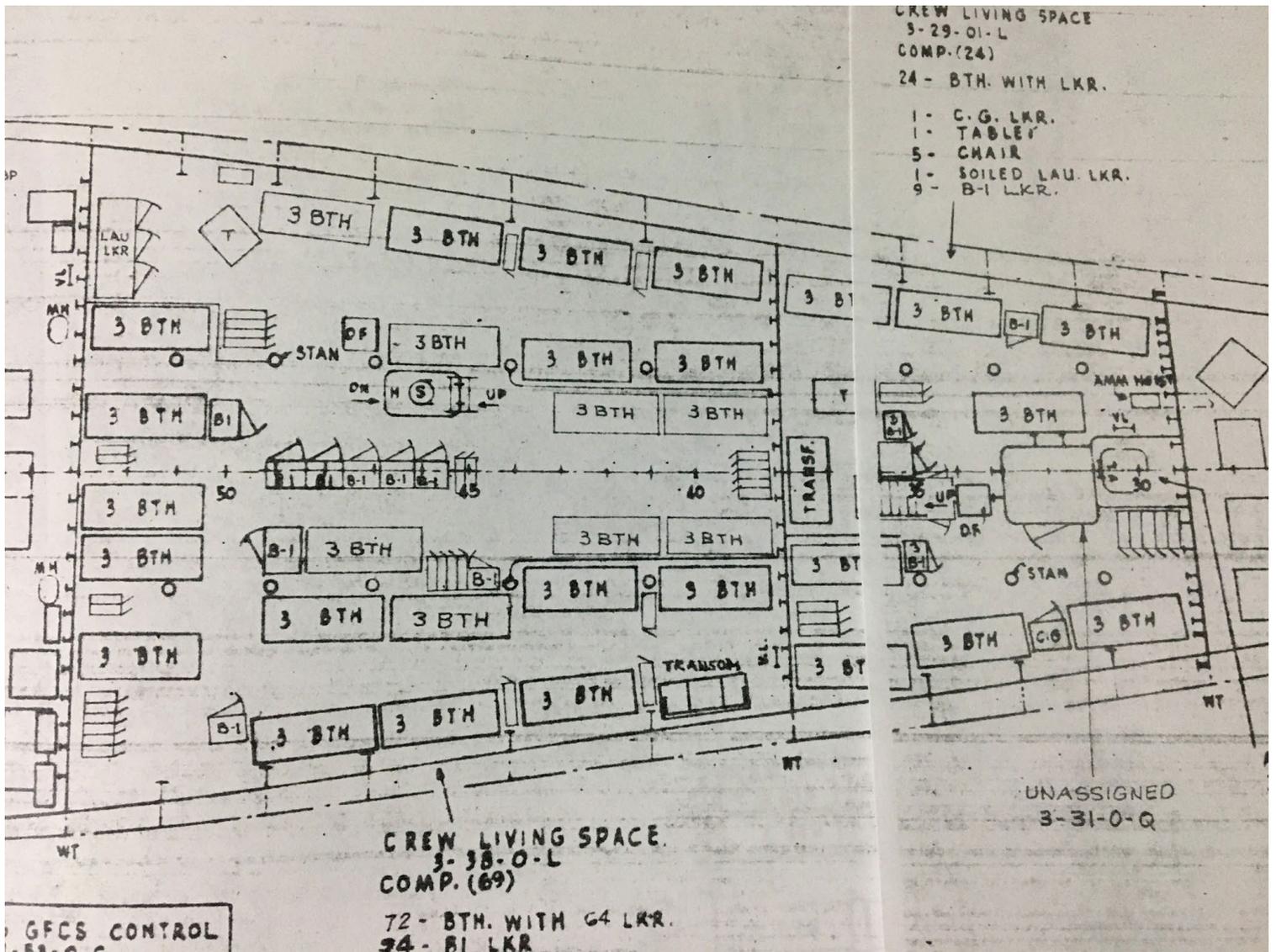
Here, the Bradley follows the USS Navasota (AO – 106) as she refuels the USCG Cutter Duane (WHEC -33). Note the cover over the aft deck of the Duane.

The above photo is a frame grab from 8mm film shot by QM3 Michael O'Connor during Bradley's 1968 WestPac cruise.



The U.S. Coast Guard cutter USCGC *Duane* (WHEC-33) shelling targets in Vietnam. Her main battery fired in support of forces ashore in Vietnam 17 different times, firing a total of 1,778 rounds of ammunition. Naval Gunfire Support (NGFS) was one of the primary missions assigned to the cutters of Coast Guard Squadron Three.

Photo above from US Coast Guard



Crew compartments for Operations (left) and Supply (right). Note Mt. 51 ammo hoist running up from the forward magazine to the upper handling room through the Supply compartment.

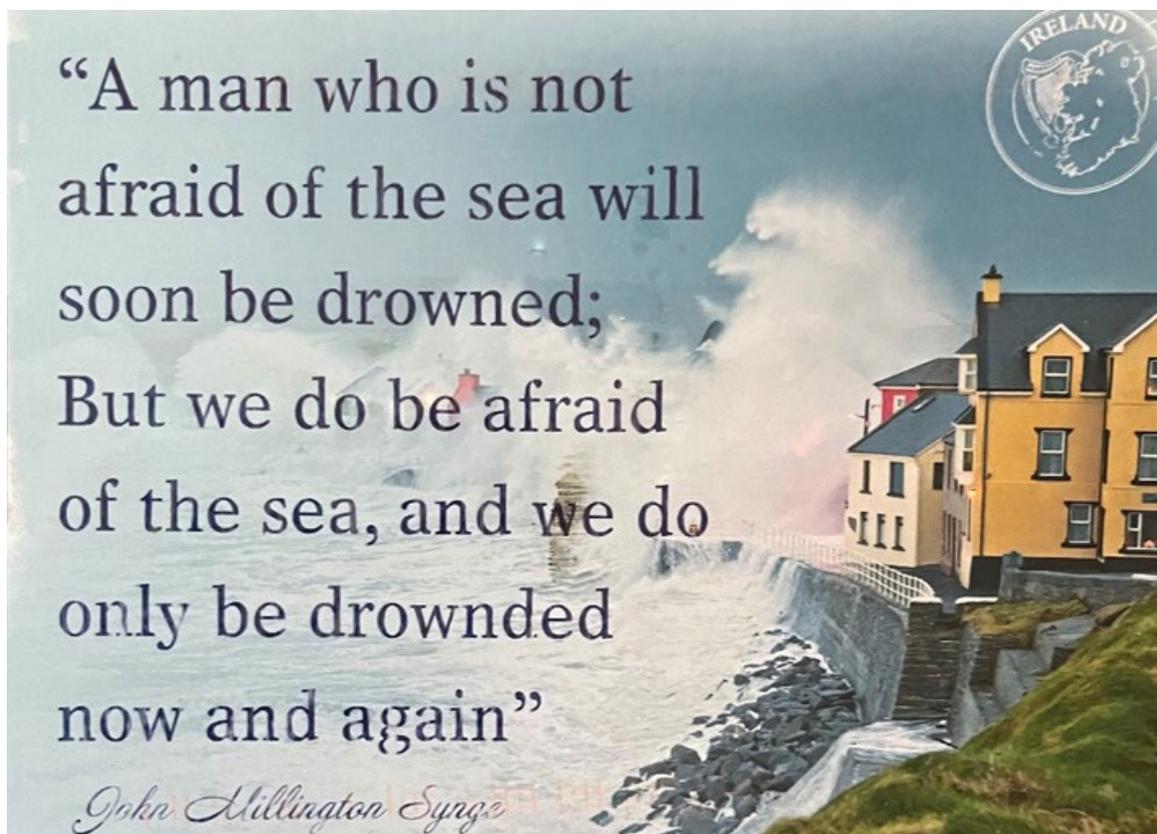


**THE FIVE MOST DANGEROUS THINGS  
YOU WILL HEAR IN THE NAVY**



A SEAMAN SAYING: "I LEARNED THIS IN BOOTCAMP"  
 A PETTY OFFICER SAYING: "TRUST ME SIR"  
 AN ENSIGN SAYING: "BASED ON MY EXPERIENCE..."  
 A LIEUTENANT SAYING: "I WAS JUST THINKING..."  
 A CHIEF SAYING: "WATCH THIS SHIT..."

USS BRADLEY Assoc.  
P.O. BOX 50333  
Eugene, OR 97405



“A man who is not  
afraid of the sea will  
soon be drowned;  
But we do be afraid  
of the sea, and we do  
only be drowned  
now and again”

*John Millington Synge*