



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### Salutations to the MATCA family

From all indications, the MATCA members that were able to attend the 25<sup>th</sup> annual reunion in San Diego CA had a great time celebrating both old and new friendships. Host Jerry Fisher provided a wonderful venue in a city with so many things to experience. Included in our welcome aboard packets we received a special gift commemorating this special reunion, a beautiful set of coasters and stand with four different pictures of the San Diego area. The coasters were the work of Bob and Marnie Mifflin, who coordinated with the company that produced this gift. For those that were unable to attend this monumental occasion, but would like to enjoy a set of the coasters, Jerry Fisher has additional sets that may be purchased for \$15 plus shipping cost.

We enjoyed great weather throughout the reunion and were able to share many experiences laughs together. Due to that great weather the welcome aboard dinner at the hotel was held outdoors and the food was excellent and plentiful.

We had the honor of having two of the three MATCA presidents emeritus in attendance. J.J. Dargan came from North Carolina to attend and we had the distinct honor of having the president emeritus and founder of MATCA, Joe Medico and his family in attendance. It made the 25<sup>th</sup> reunion even that much more special. During the reunion Joe's wife took a fall which resulted in a fracture that required surgery at a local hospital. It was fortunate that there were so many of the family present to get her to the hospital. I emailed Joe upon my return and learned that Lorraine was able to travel home on the Monday after the reunion

and she is currently in the Twin Oaks acute rehab facility in Chico California. Please keep Lorraine in your thoughts and prayers.

On Thursday many of the attendees were able to take part in the tour of the USS Midway followed by a dinner on the fantail of the ship. On Friday a group of us were treated to a tour of the Miramar tower and radar room courtesy of ATCO Major Cooper, along with DOD controllers Mr. Jeffords and Mr. Pelham.



Photo by Frank Fodor

*Cathy Griggs & Barb Trosper on the Midway*

The memorial banquet on Saturday proved to be a very special 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Our guest speaker, Lieutenant Colonel Meeker engaged the audience with a heartfelt speech. Colonel Meeker also presented both the Controller of the year award to Sgt./Mr. Largent and to the Technician of the year Sergeant Carlos Amador. Founder of MATCA, Joe Medico, was given special recognition for his forethought to form the association. Joe was presented with the original MATCA gavel mounted to a plaque and a Marine Corps decanter set.

I must once again thank Jerry Fisher for all the work he put in to make this 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary reunion special and memorable!!

Hope to see you all in Oklahoma in 2018!!

Semper Fidelis

John Trosper