

THE JERSEY BOUNCE

USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.

WWW.USSNEWJERSEY.ORG

Volume XXXVII No. 2

Fall 2022

President: Bob Dingman

Vice President: Leon Tucker



Alternative Payment Options

The organization has worked over the past year to expand payment options for Ship's Store purchases, Reunion registrations and Membership Dues. We can now accept payment through PayPal, Zelle, and by credit card, Apple Pay, And Google Pay.

To make a payment through PayPal you can scan this QR code:



In the alternative, you can make payment through PayPal or Zelle by e-mailing the payment to

bb62veterans@gmail.com

Credit card, Apple Pay and Google Pay remittances can be made by requesting to be invoiced. We will send an invoice that can be paid securely through *Square*, a national payment processor.

REGARDLESS OF METHOD, PLEASE NOTE WHETHER THE PAYMENT IS FOR SHIP'S STORE, REUNION, OR MEMBERSHIP.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Greetings,

Thank you to all who attended the 2022 reunion. The weather was hot due to the dates being in early August and area temperatures being hotter than normal. Unfortunately they were the only dates we could get in August, September or October, due to all the rescheduling of Covid postponed 2020/2021 events.

As I think back on the reunion, I believe the organization has turned a corner. For years we've talked about the need to get the crew from the last commissioning to join. About 105 are currently members. Five of them are Board members. At this years reunion we had over 30 attend. For some it was their first reunion and they were really enjoying themselves. There was a lot of interaction between all the eras in the hospitality room. As the week went on the men from all the different eras got to know each other and many new friendships were established. I witnessed a bond between men who's only connection is a 79 year old steel gray lady. Service on the ship brought them together years ago and keeps their friendships alive and well. Reunions on the ship bring them together now and keep old and new friendships alive as well.

A new member, who was attending his 1st USS New Jersey Veterans reunion, asked to speak at the General Meeting. He spoke very emotionally about how he felt about attending. He sent me an email Saturday afternoon. In his email he again expressed his feelings. "I must apologize, I believe, for getting so emotional when I spoke this

morning, but in all seriousness, I have been to many ship reunions in my years and have never been to one where my feelings welled to the fore as they have these past several days. This was more than a reunion: it was a get together of a bunch of people who have the same feelings, attachment, and affection for the ship and each other. They are, indeed, a family, a rarity in the Navy on shipboard, but even more so on a capital ship with such a large crew. It is a treasure."

After the reunion, another member made this comment on social media: "...I am not a big Navy reunion guy, but I was impressed with the entire event and look forward to many more. I have heard that there is no "re" in reunion if you hadn't met before and I was very happy to meet some of my old shipmates, but I felt a bond with many whom I had not personally met before. I won't name names, as I would forget some, but thanks to "All" for a refreshing week."

These comments mirror what many of us feel about our organization and the time we spend together at our reunions. When I witness the enjoyment of all the members and spouses, I know that the USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc. will be in good hands for many more years. Thank you to all who attended and all who helped with planning and execution the 35th reunion. Spread the word and let others know that you enjoy your time with fellow shipmates who served during WWII, Korea, Vietnam and the 1980's. Word of mouth is the best advertising we have.

Stay safe and healthy.

Bob Dingman, EM2, '67-'69
President

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Greetings,

Earlier this year Master Chief Williams and I with our expected shipmates visited the battleship. I was invited by the OI division group. The invitation came about at the IHOP restaurant in Norfolk, Virginia. I was wearing a USS NEW JERSEY ball cap. The former shipmate and I exchanged greetings and departed. The meeting resulted with the OI division reunion tour of the ship and lunch in the wardroom. I gave each member a thank you packet and some dvds about the battleship.

Their reunion visit on board the most decorated battleship was very spectacular; It made us feel wonderful and proud being a member of a ship that's a legacy that will never end.

Our reunion in Cherryhill New Jersey. Brought more excitement. It really felt wonderful and thankful to see fellow shipmates and associates from across the nation. As well other shipmates from other countries.

Hopefully, God willing the next reunion will be even better. I am hoping to see everyone in good health at the next reunion! God bless us all.

Leon Tucker Jr. GMG1{SW}
G1 Division 87-90

SECRETARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT



Danny Fielder/ MM3 Lebanon, Secretary

E- mail address dfielder@gsengr.com

(601) 955-8233 Cell

22011 Hwy 51 Crystal Springs, Ms.39059

That time of year when it's time for another issue of the Bounce. A great time was had by all at this year's reunion. Sheila and myself really do enjoy this each year and always look forward to the reunion's. Junie Hobbs and her daughter Amy were at this reunion. Her husband Ken Hobbs has passed away, they came to the Memorial Service to hear his name called out during taps. Ken was from the Korean era, however we got to know him and Junie and now their daughter Amy. What a blessing, it is like we have more family. You see when we come to these reunion's it is like being part of a large family and it does not matter from what era you served, essentially it is a brotherhood, saw more from the 80's this year and that was great. More sea stories to be heard and some tall tales as well. We have had 39 new members since last reunion and 21 of those registered for this reunion. Let's really keep this part of history going on, and it will as long as we can get more members, especially from the 80's. Next year's reunion will be in Charleston, South Carolina dates will be September 18th-21st. This issue of the Bounce will have the Business Meeting minutes in it. Please read over the minutes and let me know if something is incorrect, or even give suggestion's if necessary. Please give a lot of thought to participating in next year's reunion. Enjoy the upcoming holiday's and may you a blessed rest of the year.

Hope to see you in Charleston next year!!

MM3 Daniel (Danny) Fielder

E- mail address: dfielder@gsengr.com

(601) 955-8233 Cell

22011 Hwy 51 Crystal Springs, Ms.39059

SHIP'S STORE ADVISOR'S REPORT

Mike Schappaugh – Ship's Store Advisor

Greetings,

Would like to take this opportunity to thank that stopped at the ship's store to purchase our large of shirts, hats, pins, etc.

I would also like to thank my very capable staff:

- Beverly Langford
- Larry Rubble
- Mary Porter

Without their help, and all of you reunion attendees, this would not be possible. Thanks everyone!

The Ship's store is just one of the ways to promote and save the ship. The future holds new items and ideas. ANY suggestions are always welcome.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone in Charleston, SC next September 2023

Thanks to Everyone,

Mike

Beverly

Larry

Mary



everyone
number



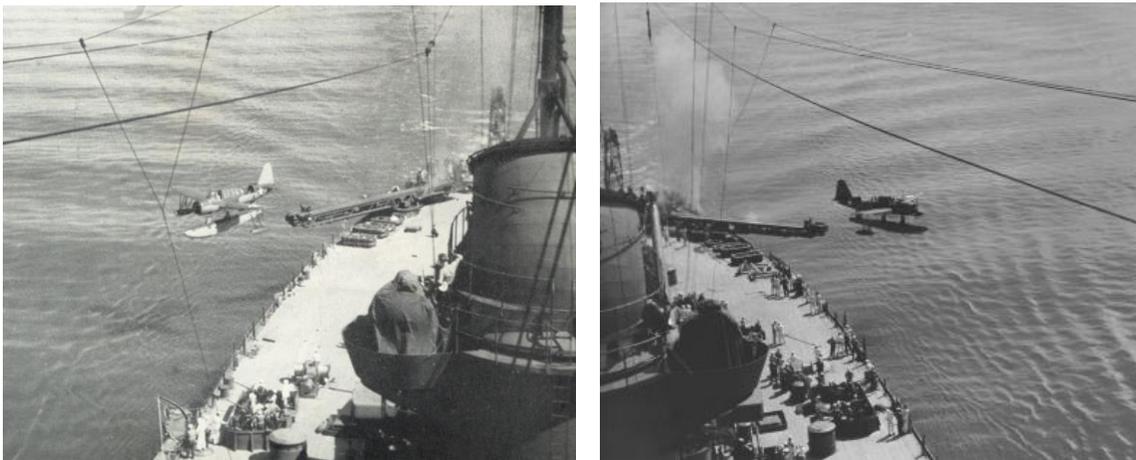
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Hello, shipmates and friends

George Elwood passed away this year. I never knew George, but I'd like to thank him for his part in the formation of USS New Jersey Veterans along with Russell Brown, the founder of USS New Jersey Veterans and all the other men that started up our association. In a time before the internet, using just telephones, the US Mail and a lot of hard work they amassed well over 1300 members. Later on, Russell Brown set up in his home a USS New Jersey dial-up Bulletin Board Service, and that's when I found out about the USS New Jersey Vets and their annual reunions. I usually chatted with Tom Lynch, a Korean War Era vet and LARRY KALAKAUSKIS, a Vietnam Era vet. Larry kept telling me to come to the reunions and I used the standard reasons for not coming, kids in school, I'm still working, etc. Finally, Phil Tasker, Ed Campbell, Paul Benner and I decided to attend the 1997 reunion in Danvers. It was great, and we've been coming ever since. Thanks Larry.

I recently received a check from Bill Marriott for his 2023 dues. Bill is 98 and does not have internet or email, so I decided to give him a call to tell him that I received his check. Marjorie answered, and after a short chat, she gave the phone to Bill. He told me that he was a WWII Plank Owner and was in V division and one of their jobs was to launch the aircraft off the port and starboard fantail catapults. They would then retrieve them with the stern crane. We also talked in detail about how they did it. It was amazing.



Launching Vought OS2U Kingfisher float planes to rescue a downed pilot or to do some spotting for targets. Note the smoke from the explosive charge that propels the plane.



Vought OS2U Kingfisher float plane being recovered aboard battleship USS New Jersey in 1944.

USS New Jersey Aircraft

The evolution of battleships in the early 20th century resulted in big guns that could hit a target beyond visual range. In 1929 the U.S. Navy began equipping new battleship designs with spotter aircraft to scout targets and assist in directing fire.

New Jersey was outfitted with three Vought OS2U Kingfisher floatplanes for this purpose at the beginning of her World War II service in 1943. These were later replaced by three Curtiss SC-1 Seahawk floatplanes in the spring of 1945. Both plane designs required a catapult assisted launch to get airborne. The aircraft was positioned on the back end of a catapult on the fantail, turned seaward, and hurled down the catapult and into the air by the explosive force of a powder charge. Returning floatplanes would land on the water near the stern of New Jersey and then be lifted onto the ship by a crane located at the back edge of the fantail.

Marjorie and Bill attended the first reunion in Long Beach in 1982 and every one through the 2005 reunion in Valley Forge. When I spoke with Marjorie, she said that when riding on the bus to go aboard New Jersey in Long Beach, she watched all the WWII vets when the ship first came into view, “they were all so excited, just like kids at Christmas”. Seeing the World’s Greatest Battleship for the first time in more than 30 years will do that to you.

Bill also told me that he had a number of books and documents that he had saved over the years, and when the time was right, he would send them to me so I could read and scan them before passing them over to the right people.

Great idea, as it will give us a better insight to our history.

Over the last year I learned a few things

- Old Salts just don’t print as clearly as they used to.
- No one answers the phone anymore if they don’t know who the caller is. I will typically let it ring six times. Hang up, wait 30 seconds, then call again.
- To remind everyone that if you change your address, phone number, or email address, please let us know about it.
- Corresponding by email is the best way to communicate. Phone calls and texts are harder for me to manage.

God Speed

Chuck Oehme

ETR2 – OE Division - 12/67 – 12/69

Membership Chairman

USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.

chelaine@comcast.net

USS New Jersey Veteran's Inc.

Dues Invoice for Year 2023

Name: _____

Street: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

E-Mail: _____

Telephone #: _____

Associate Member? Y/N _____

When did you serve on New Jersey? M/Y _____ - M/Y _____ Division _____

When did you serve on active duty? M/Y _____ - M/Y _____

How do you want to get The Jersey Bounce? Mail _____ Website _____

Due Date	Charges and Credits	
10/15/2023	2023 Annual dues	\$25.00 _____
	*Donation to Scholarship Fund	_____
	*Donation to Battleship NJ Deck Restoration	_____

We thank you for your prompt payment. Please include a copy of this invoice with your dues. Total \$ _____

Please make your check or money order payable to:
USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.

Mail check or money order to:
USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc. % Chuck Oehme
1619 Fair Oaks St.
El Lago, TX 77586-5922

Any questions, please contact Chuck Oehme, Membership Chairman
Home: 281-532-1968 E-Mail: chelaine@comca

TREASURER'S REPORT

We enjoyed a great Reunion on the ship in August with 226 folks on hand. It is always a pleasure to renew old acquaintances at our reunions and particularly when we can do it on the board the Mighty Big J.

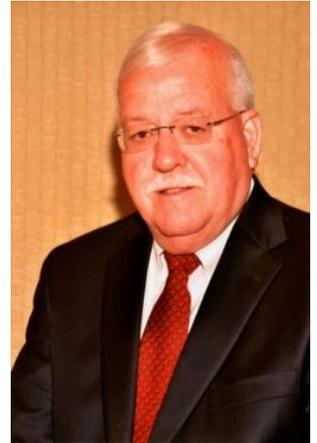
Financially there is not a lot to report since our business year does not close out until December 31st. We remain fiscally sound with just over \$40,000 in bank balances and no debt.

We implemented alternative payment options for the membership including PayPal, credit cards, Apple Pay and Google Pay. This appears to have been well received as about a third of our operating revenues thus far this year were funded using these options.

Our Reunion planning team, including Dave Wasmer and Bob Dingman, are busy working on next year's reunion in Charleston, South Carolina where we will visit the USS Yorktown.

Phil Tasker - Treasurer

ETR2, OE Division, Sept '67 - Dec '69



2022 Reunion 50/50 Winners

First Place: \$386.40

**Pauline Crumley
East Peoria, IL**

Second Place: \$289.80

**Bernard Nalepka (Proceeds Donated to the Ship Restoration
Lemont Furnace, PA**

Third Place: \$193.20

**Delores Ricker
Bristol, CT**

Fourth Place: \$96.60

**Robert Hedrick
Okatie, SC**

REUNION COORDINATOR'S REPORT



MESSAGE FROM THE REUNION COORDINATOR

Hi to all New Jersey Shipmates:

The 2022 reunion is over and hopefully everyone had a wonderful time. With a well-attended reunion back again at the ship, this was a very successful and enjoyable time. Old friends, shipmates and spouses makes a reunion a success, thanks to all who attended. I want to thank Bob Dingman and Phil Tasker for all their help and for putting up with me on my first year as Reunion Coordinator.

As I write this, I'm putting the finishing touches on the 2023 reunion which will be held in Charleston, SC from Monday, September 18th, 2023 thru Friday, September 22nd, 2023. The reunion hotel is the Town & Country Inn and Suites, 2008 Savannah Highway, Charleston SC. This Hotel is newly remodeled and very nice with a restaurant on site call the Trotter's Restaurant, which has very good food. We changed our usual Wednesday thru Sunday reunion days because of the weekend rates for the Charleston hotels. Their weekend rates are \$100.00 plus per night more than the weekday rates.

Our Memorial Service will be held Wednesday, September 20th, 2023 aboard the USS Yorktown, an Aircraft Carrier at Patriots Point. It will be held in Hanger Bay III – come rain, shine or hot weather we will be protected. We have contracted with a bus company to take us from the hotel to Patriots Point and back again to the hotel.

We are looking into tours and information for the Charleston area. The tour day will be Tuesday, September 19th, 2023.

We hope to see you all at the 2023 reunion, the place and food are fabulous. Let's make this reunion a great success and a memorable one. There will be more information about our 2023 reunion in the Spring Bounce.

Dave Wasmer-Reunion Coordinator Wife Norma

LIAISON OFFICER'S REPORT



Shipmates,

Well, we had a great reunion in Cherry Hill, NJ, and got to see our great ship again. By the time you receive this bounce there should be many pictures posted on the web page. To those who went to the reunion and have pictures that aren't already on our web page please send them to me by email. We will be returning to the ship in 2024 to catch us up to our four-year cycle.

I work with our membership director on keeping the rosters up to date. If you know of anyone who has passed away, if you have changed your address, email address or phone number please contact me so our data base

can be updated.

If you know of anyone who served on the USS New Jersey that isn't a member, any era, please contact me with their name and info. I keep a list of all USS New Jersey crew members from all four era's that I'm aware of.

Sadly, we also need to know if any member or crew member has passed away, please let us know.

Finally, next year we will be in Charleton, SC, please try to attend and see what going on with your organization we need your support to keep going!

Stay well,

Bob Williams, Liaison Officer/Web Master

ERA REPRESENTATIVES

WW II - 1940's

Paul Robbins 1942-44
402-334-9042
Wizoz22@aol.com

KOREA - 1950's

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VIETNAM - 1960's

Thomas Gallucci
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tomgallucci4049@yahoo.com

LEBANON/PERSIAN GULF - 1980'S

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US MARINE CORP REP

Michael Goins
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usmcmg@aol.com

Commander Jared Smith, PCO NEW JERSEY

Cdr. Jared Smith is the prospective commanding officer of the submarine New Jersey SSN796. He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 2002, and later earned a Master of Science in Engineering Management from Catholic University of America and an Executive Master of Business Administration from the University of Memphis. During the 20 years he's been in the submarine service he has had sea duty aboard four attack and nuclear-armed submarines as Commanding Officer - USS New Mexico SSN779, Executive Officer - USS Pasadena SSN752, Combat Systems Officer - USS Cheyenne SSN773, Junior Officer - USS Kentucky SSBN737, and multiple tours ashore, including as a deputy director at Navy Personnel Command and action officer on the Director, Undersea Warfare Division (OPNAV N97) staff.

At this years reunion, we were honored to have Cdr. Smith, his wife, Anna, and daughter, Foster, join us. The commander spoke after our memorial ceremonies aboard the ship on Friday and was our keynote speaker on Saturday night. It was obvious that many of our members and guests were thrilled to meet him and he was just as thrilled to meet so many battleship sailors from WWII, Korea, Vietnam and the 1980's.



His speech centered on the mission of SSN796 and her roll as a deterrent to foreign aggression by China and Russia.

The commissioning of the submarine New Jersey is currently expected to take place in the early spring of 2024. The exact location has not been set, but it's hopeful that it will be on the Delaware River, somewhere near Camden/Philadelphia. The limit of invitations available for the commissioning is not known yet, but we are hopeful that as many battleship sailors as possible will be invited.

Minutes USS New Jersey Veterans Inc.

Business Meeting Saturday 8/6/22 9:00 am.
Double Tree Hotel Cherry Hill New Jersey

Officers and Advisor's Present: President-Bob Dingman, Vice President- Leon Tucker
Treasurer- Phil Tasker, Secretary- Danny Fielder
Membership Chairman- Chuck Oehme
Small Stores-Mike Schauppaugh
Web Master- Bob Williams
Master at Arms Ray Kehoe
VA Coordinator-Joe Dimaria

Meeting Opening and Pledge of Allegiance: Bob Dingman

Opening Prayer: Danny Fielder

Reading of past minutes was dispensed to the 2021 Fall issue of the Bounce. Motion by Danny Fielder to accept, 2nd by Steve Sheehan motion carried.

Treasurer Report: Phil Tasker reported that reunion expenses exceeded registration by \$2466.00. Ship revenue for the year was \$1662.00. Other revenue such dues and other operations was \$2933.00. Area of negative cash flow was scholarship fund because last year there was no auction, currently have \$1831.00 for scholarship fund. Not all disbursements have been made for 2022 reunion, just some small outstanding such as transportation, but we are up by \$1825.00. Ship store revenue is up by \$475.00. Ship store operating expenses are up by \$1724.00, expenses are up due to getting more inventory for this year's reunion. More detailed information will be Treasurer report in this Bounce. Motion to accept by Jim Barnett 2nd by Steve Sheehan. Motion carried.

Membership Report: Chuck Oehme reported that we currently have 477 members which 15 are WWII members and 96 Korean era members. The rest of the make up is from Vietnam and 80's era. 39 new members since last reunion and 21 of those are registered at this year's reunion. General discussion on how to increase membership. Motion to accept by Bill Romer 2nd by Garry Blaylock. Motion carried.

Editors Report: Phil Tasker all is going well with the Bounce. He would like to find someone to take over the Editor's position permanently. Motion to accept Marvin Williams with 2nd by Joe Cusumono. Motion carried.

VA Report: Joe Dimaria explained that the VA has made a lot of improvements over the past 20 years. If not using VA you should at least sign up to get things in motion. In the event you do have medical issues from military service go ahead and make a claim. Joe also said that the Government has passed the Toxic Waste Bill. Joe went into some detail about the Toxic Waste Bill and the steps needed to make a claim. Make use of benefits they can provide you with glasses, hearing aids and very good price on prescription drugs. Joe did inform that all the states have a VA location and will work with you, you just have to get the process started. General discussion and comments from the floor. Motion to accept by Marvin Williams 2nd by Steve Sheehan. Motion carried

Reunion Coordinator's Report: Dave Wasmer reported that the 2023 reunion will be held in Charleston, South Carolina dates are September 18th-21st. Next year's reunion will be somewhat different in that it will start on Monday. The reason is the hotel rates go up significantly for the weekend and they will not waver from that.

The hotel is Towne and Country Suites in Charleston. Monday will be the Welcome Aboard Dinner and we will have an auction. Tuesday is normal tour day, nothing has been set up yet but it is being worked on. The streets are very narrow in Charleston and really can not accommodate a large tour bus. May be possibility of doing individuals tours to various areas. Tuesday is still open at this point. Wednesday will be our Memorial Service and it will be held on the USS Yorktown in hanger bay 3 located at Patriots Point. We can spend the whole day at Patriots Point, a lot of things to see and do. Various aircraft that can be looked at as well as past military vehicles on board the Yorktown there is a museum, plenty to occupy a day. General discussion and comments from the floor. Mentioned that there are Antebellum home tours that can be done. You can also see the submarine Hunley and also Fort Sumter. Thursday will be Business Meeting and Banquet. Motion to accept made by Steve Sheehan and 2nd by John Baker. Motion carried.

Small Stores: Mike Schauppaugh reported that the store is selling things. He stated that when he goes back home he will be placing an order to replenish stores inventory. Sales at this year's reunion have been very good. Mike plans on being in Charleston next year but would like to find someone to take over the ships store position. Mike did go into some explanation on the operation of this position. There was also a lot of discussion as well as comments from the floor, such as other people trying to sell USS New Jersey items from our Facebook page and Website that are not members of our organization. Please be aware of this so we can support our own ship's store. Motion to accept made by Steve Sheehan with 2nd by Joe Cusumono. Motion carried.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Scholarship Recipients for 2022:

The organization received 4 applications and gave out 3 scholarships this year.

Andrew Berwanger, Dover, N.H. son of Joseph Berwanger and Colette Bean, grandson of shipmate Bob Dingman (Vietnam E Division). Graduated Exeter High School in Exeter, N.H. Will be attending the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Nicholas J. Cook, Poway, Ca. Son of Neal and Michelle Cook, grandson of shipmate Wayne Bendelow (Vietnam E Division). Graduated Poway High School, Poway, Ca. He will be attending California State University, Long Beach.

Katherine Shorter, Albany, N.Y., daughter of Gregory and Jill Shorter, granddaughter of shipmate Bruce Wittman (Vietnam 4th Division). Graduated Guilderland High School, Guilderland Center, N.Y. Currently attending State University of New York, Cortland.

Motion to accept by Marvin Williams with 2nd by Steve Sheehan. Motion carried.

2024 reunion will be back in the Philadelphia area. Bob Dingman said that there still needs to be a nomination to go back to ship for 2024. Marvin Williams made the nomination for Philadelphia area. No other nominations were made and no discussion.

Motion to accept by Steve Sheehan and 2nd by Randy Bergman. Motion carried.

Bob Dingman has received Mike Schauppaugh official letter of resignation. Mike did say that he will continue with ships store until he does receive a replacement.

Points of information:

Ralph Millemon wanted to recognize the wives of board members for the work they put into helping husbands with reunion information.

Bob Dingman wanted to point out as well how much Helen Tasker helps Phil with the Bounce.

Michael Holmes pointed out about ships 80th Anniversary Celebration coming up May 23rd 2023.
John Baker got up and with a very heart felt speech on how much it means to him to be part of our organization.
Commissioning of USS New Jersey Submarine March 2024.
Bob Dingman wanted to recognize Tom Gallucci for providing all the water drinks and donuts in Hospitality room for this reunion.

This concludes the 2021 business meeting.
Motion to adjourn made by Garry Blaylock and 2nd by Michael Holmes, meeting adjourned.
Recorded Minutes
Danny Fielder : Secretary USS New Jersey Veterans Inc.



State of the Museum Report

Shipmates,

It was great to host many of you on board for the crew reunion earlier this summer. I hope you noticed all the changes and improvements that have been made since we last hosted the reunion. We strive to allow guests to experience the ship as close to how she would have been in service as possible. You got to see some of the major projects the museum is currently undertaking such as the redecking efforts, the installation of the captain's gig on the fantail, and painting the aft smokestack.

The fact that we have accomplished all this since you were last on board is a tribute to the staff and volunteers here at the museum. Many museums did not survive the last several years of disruption caused by the pandemic, but we were able to.

Now that we are more than halfway through 2022, I can report that our visitation numbers have plateaued at approximately the same level as 2021, which is about 60% of the guests we saw prior to the pandemic. While museums in some regions have seen different numbers, 60% is on par with other cultural institutions in our area. It is unlikely that we will go back to 100% of pre-pandemic visitation numbers in 2022 or 2023. Now that international travel is more open self-guided visitation is returning to normal but guided tours and the encampment program are still well below average. While we can advertise and create new programs to draw families on board most guided programs and overnights are booked by schools, scout troops, and summer camps. Many of those organizations are not traveling yet so our numbers will remain low for the foreseeable future.

Fortunately, things like the foundering of the museum ship USS THE SULLIVANS in Buffalo earlier this year have made the plight of museum ships very public, and our museum has been able to capitalize on that to get grants and donations like the one your reunion group made last month to continue to fund the major restoration projects currently ongoing.

One recent success the museum had was on 4th of July. As most of you know we fire the 5" gun, the saluting guns, and the 40mm Bofors for a donation. We recently restored all six portside 5"/38 mounts to firing condition so we could fire a rolling broadside after the 4th of July fireworks. As far as we know this is the only time this has been done since the ship was in service.

Finally, my pride and joy, the YouTube channel continues to grow. The museum earned an award from YouTube for growing past 100,000 subscribers and one from Navy History and Heritage Command for the work we are doing to promote the Navy. If you haven't seen it yet go to [YouTube.com/BattleshipNewJersey](https://www.youtube.com/BattleshipNewJersey) and click the subscribe button.

Despite the belt tightening, and recent reorganizations of some responsibilities, we are still following our strategic plan and positioning ourselves to continue expanding once visitation returns to normal and then begins to increase. We look forward to seeing you all back on board your ship later this year, and we appreciate your continued donations and support of the museum that are allowing us to survive through this lean time.

I will see you all on board soon,
Ryan

Ryan Szimanski
Vice President of Curatorial and Educational Affairs
Battleship New Jersey Museum & Memorial
R.Szimanski@BattleshipNewJersey.org

New Jersey Veterans Scholarship Awards

Andrew R. Berwanger , Dover, NH



Andrew is the son of Joseph Berwanger and Colette Bean and the grandson of shipmate, Bob Dingman (Vietnam, E Division). Andrew graduated this past June from Exeter High School, Exeter, NH. He graduated in the top ten of his graduating class of 340 seniors. Andrew was a member of the National Honor Society and was on the High Honor Roll throughout high school. He received the Exeter High School Academic Achievement Award.

He was a member of the Exeter High School marching band, playing the tuba and the sousaphone. Andrew has been active in the Boy Scouts of America, beginning with Cub Scouts and advancing to the level of Eagle Scout. His Eagle project required over 700 hours of commitment to completely rebuild a birch bark wigwam at a State of New Hampshire Fish and Game Educational Facility. He loves the outdoors, fishing, camping, hiking, sailing, biking, and kayaking. Andrew desires a career based on conserving and protecting wildlife. To reach his goals he will be pursuing a degree in natural resources and environmental conservation at the University of Massachusetts - Amherst.

Nicholas J. Cook, Poway, CA

Nicholas is the son of Neal and Michelle Cook and the grandson of shipmate, Wayne Bendelow (Vietnam, E Division). Nick graduated this past Spring from Poway High School. He was recognized by the University of California ELC program as one of the top 9% of his graduating class based on academic performance. He was on the academic honor roll and Junior class president. Nick volunteers at his church and is a church high school group leader. Although Nick worked hard and excelled in the academic side of high school, his true passion was, and is, baseball.

He was a three-year Varsity baseball starter, two years as Team Captain and an All-CIF (California Interscholastic Federation) Athlete. His high standards and personal dedication have led him to be a D1 athlete and an academic achiever. He understood that to be successful in baseball, he needed to be successful in school. He is now seeking a degree in Business Management at California State University - Long Beach, while playing Division 1 college baseball and chasing his dream to become a professional baseball player



Katherine Shorter, Albany, NY



Katherine is the daughter of Gregory and Jill Shorter and the granddaughter of shipmate, Bruce Wittman (Vietnam, 4th Division). Katie graduated from Guilderland High School, Guilderland Center, NY, in June.

As she relayed to us in her scholarship application essay, when starting high school, sports came first and academics was a distant second. She wrote, "I was doing 'enough', but deep down I knew I could do better.

In the middle of my sophomore year was when my Grandpa took the Honor Flight (to Washington, DC). It was when he walked off the plane that I felt a deep rush of emotion and realized that my education was so important and that I had goals ahead of me that were attainable."

Her grandfather, Bruce, a USS New Jersey Vietnam Veteran, changed her life that day. Knowing her grandpa's story of his early hardships, she realized she had opportunities that her grandfather could only have dreamt of. From that day on, Katie changed her attitude toward school. She worked hard and her grades improved steadily.

Her love of track and field continued through high school, but during her junior and senior years she added 6 Scholar Athlete Awards to her resume. Katherine is currently attending the State University of New York - Cortland, majoring in Early Childhood/Childhood Education. Her plans include obtaining her Masters degree and teaching our future generations.

2018 USS New Jersey Veterans Scholarship Recipient

Lauren M. Valdez



Parents: Rey & Courtney Valdez Grand Parents: Ernie and Connie Dalton
Attended Texas A&M University Corpus Christi for 2 years
Texas State University San Marcos for 2 years
Graduating on December 10, 2022, **MAGNA CUM LAUDE**, with a **3.7 GPA**
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theater with a Teaching Certificate
Presently student teaching theater at John Jay High School in San Antonio, TX
Lauren practices her craft and has starred in commercials, videos and acting

2022 Battleship New Jersey Reunion
Cherry Hill, NJ









WWII/KOREA ERA MEMBERS



VIETNAM ERA MEMBERS



VIETNAM ERA WIVES



80'S ERA MEMBERS



80'S ERA WIVES



THE LUCKY FEW THAT CAN STILL WEAR THEM















VIETNAM VETERANS COMMEMORATION CEREMONY

Did you serve in the military between November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975?

Your organization, **USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.** has partnered with **The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration** to recognize all Vietnam Veterans with a Lapel Pin and Certificate honoring their service. Our President, Bob Dingman was awarded his pin, in a one-on-one ceremony, by Major General Peter M. Aylward, U.S. Army (Retired), Executive Director of the The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration. I, Wayne Bendelow, was awarded my pin by my Congressman, Daryl Issa. Bob and I talked about what it meant to us individually. We both felt that we should bring it to our organization. When we contacted the commemoration, we learned that more was involved than what we had anticipated. Formalities were carried out and Bob Dingman is our Vietnam Commemorative Partner chairperson and I am the committee member. This National Commemoration was authorized by Congress, established under the Secretary of Defense and launched by the President in 2012. Its primary purpose, "to thank and honor Vietnam veterans and their families for their service and sacrifices". Truly, we are proud partners with The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration, and are privileged to honor Vietnam veterans and their families.



Our Commander-in-Chief also issued a presidential proclamation in 2017, which stated, and I quote ... "To ensure the sacrifices of the 9 million heroes who served during this difficult chapter of our country's history are remembered for generations to come, I signed into law the Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017, designating March 29 of each year as National Vietnam War Veterans Day. Throughout this Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War, and every March 29 thereafter, we will honor all those who answered our Nation's call to duty. We vow to never again confuse personal disapproval of war with prejudice against those who honorably wear the uniform of our Armed Forces. With conviction, our Nation pledges our enduring respect, our continuing care, and our everlasting commitment to all Vietnam veterans." Unquote. The president's proclamation lists the number of veterans who served during this period as 9 million. This number reflects the fact that the National Commemoration honors everyone who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces from **November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975**. No distinction is being made between veterans who served in-country, in-theater, or who were stationed elsewhere during the Vietnam War period. **All were called to serve, none could self-determine where they were stationed, and all were seen in the same way by a country that could not separate the war from the warrior.** Each person who served during this period earned and rightly deserves our profound thanks.

Our 1st Ceremony was held at the 2022 Oklahoma City Reunion and the 2nd was held at the 2022 Cherry Hill reunion. Spouses of members who are no longer with us were recognized with a special Pin and Certificate recognizing their Service, Sacrifice and loss. We plan on holding our 3rd Ceremony at the 2023 Charleston Reunion. It is of note that **The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration** lists a Vietnam War Veteran, based on its designated time period, whereas our organization, **USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.**, defines our veterans based on when the USS NEW JERSEY was in commission, i. e. Vietnam era. We do not have the means to identify all of our members that served during The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration designated time period. Therefore, if you have not already received a Lapel Pin, served during the dates defined by **The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration**, will be in attendance at the 2023 Charleston Reunion and desire to be recognized and awarded your Lapel Pin, send me an email at wbendelow@gmail.com stating your proper name for the Certificate. You will receive a confirmation email back.

THANK YOU!!

To all who helped make the 2022 Cherry Hill Reunion special and enjoyable. Many were seen by everyone, but many more helped behind the scenes doing small tasks that added so much to the success of the event. We apologize for missing anyone.

Lisa Avalos
Wayne Bendelow
Randy Bergman
Joe and Carol Cusumano
Joe and Maureen DiMaria
Bob and Judy Dingman
Danny and Shelia Fielder
Tim Flynn
Tom and Karen Gallucci
Ricky and Lisa Hicks
Mike Holmes
Ray and Rita Kehoe
Bev Krol
Beverly Langford
Mike and Jody Murphy
Chuck and Elaine Oehme
Mary Porter
Paul and Jack Robbins
Bill and Carolyn Romer

The Staff and Volunteers of the
Battleship New Jersey Museum &
Memorial
Mike Schappaugh
Ethan & Robin Scott
Steve Sheehan
Cdr. Jared & Anna Smith
Foster Grace Smith
Phil & Helen Tasker
Leon and Hilda Tucker
Lt. Cdr. Nicholas Tuuk
Dave and Norma Wasmer
Bob William
Marvin Williams
Phil Rowan
Rae Womak
Larry Ruble
Janet Russas
All the Auction Item Donors and
bidders



USS New Jersey BB-62 Taps Listing

Robert C. Abercrombie	8th	World War II Era	St. Petersburg, FL
Robert "Robbie" A. Abernathy	M	80's Era	Peoria, IL
	Gunnery		
Richard J. Abrams	Dept	Korean War Era	Aventura, FL
Fred Cecil Allison	2nd	Korean War Era	Durham, NC
Arnold Bartlett	K	Korean War Era	East Aurora, NY
Edwin Blackshear Bean		World War II Era	Columbus, GA
Rene J. Beaulieu	Eng Dept	Korean War Era	Holyoke, MA
Mark Armand Beaulieu	M	80's Era	Houston, TX
Clarence Beland		World War II Era	Napa, CA
Albert Henry Bell Jr	M	Korean War Era	Bradenton, FL
Raymond O. Bennett		Korean War Era	Parkersburg, WV
John Marvin Benson	B	Korean War Era	Alabaster, MI
Thomas Walter Bergin	2nd	Vietnam War Era	Gainesville, GA
Rickie H. Bertholf	B	80's Era	Viroqua, WI
Carl Black		World War II Era	Knoxville, TN
Donald Raymond Borg		World War II Era	Tawas, MI
Robert Franklin "Bobby" Bransford Jr.	5th	Korean War Era	Charlottesville, VA
Ronald Allan Briggs	X	80's Era	Woodbridge, VA
Robert Eric Bryan Sr.		World War II Era	Lucedale, MS
Finley Monroe Burns		World War II Era	Greensboro, NC
George G. Cherkis	FM	World War II Era	Bethlehem, PA
Charles "Chink" Clawson	FM & 7th	Korean War Era	New Boston, IL
Jared Frank Collup	OS	80's Era	Bakersfield, CA
Leo Joseph Curda	X	Korean War Era	Danvers, MA
Archie Leon Davis	E	80's Era	Trenton, NJ
Daniel R. DeMeo, M.D.	H	Korean War Era	Margate, NJ
Samuel (Sam) DiLeo	X	Korean War Era	Scranton, PA
John B. Dorsey		World War II Era	Bangor, PA
Walter Eisenberger		World War II Era	Lakewood, NJ
George Elwood	S	World War II Era	Hancock, NY
Marilyn Edith Esser		Associate Member	Lorain, OH



USS New Jersey BB-62 Taps Listing

Kyriacos (Charlie) Euripides	4th	Korean War Era	Alexandria, VA
Kenneth Ray Evans	4th	Vietnam War Era	Stonewall, OK
William Henry "Bill" Exley		World War II Era	Erie, PA
William Fahning Jr.		World War II Era	North Tonawanda, NY
Gordon P. Fairbrother		World War II Era	Montague City, MA
Carl William Fischer		Korean War Era	High Point, NC
Eddie Anthony Fisher	S2	Vietnam War Era	Donaldsonville, LA
Rear Admiral William M. Fogarty	CO	80's Era	Des Moines, IA
Carlton Daniel Foster	M	Vietnam War Era	Winona, MN
Stephen D. Frazee	G1	80's Era	Ironton, OH
William John Good	A	Korean War Era	Hialeah, FL
Julius R. Grant	S-3	Korean War Era	Yeadon, PA
Donald Gray	M	World War II Era	Saint Louis, MO
Herbert John "Hitch" Hancock	7th	Korean War Era	Hartland, WI
Edward F. Hansen	B	Korean War Era	Troy, NY
Larry O'Neal Hargrove	B	Vietnam Era	North Little Rock, AR
Clifford L. Harris		World War II Era	St. Petersburg, FL
Robert Hens		World War II Era	Amherst, NY
Robert J. Houk	M	Vietnam War Era	Boiling Springs, SC
William B. Huckenpoehler		World War II Era	Annapolis, MD
LeRoy E Hurd	C	World War II Era	Midvale, AZ
James Laverne Iler	S-3	80's Era	Riverside, CA
Bruce L. John	FM	Korean War Era	Dover, PA
Ronald Edward Johnston	S2	Vietnam War Era	Sacramento, CA
William J. (Bill) Kilby		World War II Era	Halfway, OR
Donald A. Kreft		World War II Era	Sandwich, IL
Orval H. Lampton		World War II Era	Muskogee, OK
Wilbur E. Lane		World War II Era	Monticello, IN
Lula Leeds		Associate	
Angelo F. Lombardo	A	Member	Gibbstown, NJ
Loren Lundeen	OI	Korean War Era	La Habra, CA
		80's Era	Siren, WI



USS New Jersey BB-62 Taps Listing

Raymond John Manzi		Korean War Era	Bloomfield, CT
Frank W. Marschner	1st	Korean War Era	Whitehouse Station, NJ
Gaylord G. Martanis		Korean War Era	McKeesport, PA
Donald R. Maxwell	CR	World War II Era	Mountain View, CA
Grover McElroy		World War II Era	Weaverville, NC
Harry W. McElwain		World War II Era	Falls Church, VA
Lavern M. Mesch	A Div	80's Era	Dixon, IL
William Franklin Miller		World War II Era	Olympia, WA
John T. "Jack" Mulready	C	Korean War Era	Glenville, NY
Dale Musgrove	M	Vietnam War Era	Klamath, OR
Walter Mystkowski	B	Korean War Era	Pinehurst, NY
Norman E. Fryer Jr.		Korean War Era	Lutherville, MD
Phil Padget II	Eng Dept	80's Era Associate Member	Springfield, Mo Divernon, IL
Peregrin Elsie		Korean War Era	Manchester, NH
Norman R. Poulin		80's Era	Beatrice, NE
Darren L. Rayburn	MARDET	Vietnam War Era	
Charles D. Reed	3rd	80's Era	Princeton, MN
James D. Robak	OS	Korean War Era	Saint Louis, MO
Donald Leroy Rose		Korean War Era	San Antonio, TX
Homer J. Sanchez		Korean War Era	La Crosse, WI
Charles Schlegel	S-1	Korean War Era	Anderson, SC
Edward F. Schrader	B	Korean War Era	Broken Arrow, OK
Hugh Lee Selman	C	World War II Era	Minnetonka, MN
Kenneth Lloyd Shannon		World War II Era	Cambridge, MA
Thomas M. Sheehan Sr.		Korean War Era	Sewickley, PA
William E. Smith Jr.	B	Korean War Era	Winona, MN
Donald Martin Smith	C	World War II Era	Los Angeles, CA
Don Stansauk		Vietnam War Era	Windsor Locks, CT
Joseph John Strong Jr.	B	World War II Era	Midland, SD
George W. Stroppel		Vietnam War Era	Fort Lauderdale, FL
Stuart W. Goldman	5th		



USS New Jersey BB-62 Taps Listing

Frank Tanzer		World War II Era	Greenburgh, NY
Robert Harlen Taylor, Jr.		Korean War Era	Anderson, IN
Andrew Frank Thornburg	F	Korean War Era	Long Beach, CA
Roger Tolleson		80's Era	Jacksonville, AR
Wellington J. Tolmie		World War II Era	Wilmington, DE
Guy S. Van Ness	EX	World War II Era	Newport News, VA
Morriss Veal		World War II Era	Lawrenceville, GA
Clifford C. Wade		World War II Era	Dixfield, ME
Alan W. Warner	OE	Vietnam War Era	Des Moines, IA
Edward D. Welch	MARDET	Korean War Era	Cedarburg, WI
Gordon Andrew Wells		World War II Era	Newport Beach, CA
John Lawrence Wentling	OI	80's Era	Clay, NY
Douglas F. Whalen	Eng Dept	80's Era	Detroit, MI
James "Jim" Nathan Wilson	4th	Korean War Era	Double Springs, AL
Gerald "Jerry" Norris Winters	FA	Korean War Era	Pulaski, PA
Hugh Clayton Winters	S-1	Korean War Era	Appomattox, VA
Alfred "Al" J. Wood	M	Korean War Era	Hingham, MA
James Beckett Wood	M	Korean War Era	Redding, CA
Howard "Woodie" Wotring	FA	Korean War Era	Mechanicsburg, PA



USS New Jersey BB-62 Welcome Aboard New Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Era</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Gary Knapp	E	80's	Jacksonville, IL
Robert Tunstall	R	80's	Aurora, MO
Kevin Murphy	Member	Assoc	Yonkers, NY
Doreen Breckel	Member	Assoc	West Palm Beach, FL
Michael Zaspal	R	V	El Cajon, CA
Earl Duhon	C	K	Port Neches, TX
Raymond Russas	G1	80's	Attleboro, MA
Joel Sermeno	A	80's	El Paso, TX
Rick Black	A	80's	Montgomery, MN
John Fotopoulos	Member	Assoc	Munster, IN
G. Bruce Suckow	G1	80's	Carmel, CA
Paul J. Avalos	M	80's	San Antonio, TX
Shawn Dalton	Member	Assoc	Eagan, MN
Eugene F. Pace	4th	V	Austin, TX
Ethan A. Scott	2nd	80's	Braintree, MA
Rickey L. Hicks	2nd	80's	Ridgway, PA
Garrett Green	4th	V	Boxborough, MA
James H. Shepardson	M	80's	Carlingford Sydney, AUS
James Pagel	Member	Assoc	Grand Rapids, MN
Junie Hobbs	Member	Assoc	Crossville, TN
David Black	Member	Assoc	Ruckersville, VA
Frank Duncan	E	V	Frederick, MD

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DIV</u>	<u>ERA</u>	<u>HOMETOWN</u>
Richard D. Hammer	4th	80's	Sequim, WA
John Turner	Ops	V	Laughlin, NV
Manuel Angel Dieguez	Member	Assoc	Kearny, NJ
Jimmie R. Wright	S-3	80's	Raeford, NC
John Dugas	G-2	80's	Parks, LA
John Baker	OPS	80's	Lawrenceville, NJ
Chad Athey	M	80's	Pawnee, IL
John O'Brien	M	80's	Arnold, MO

SHIPS STORE MERCHANDISE

The complete Ships Store inventory and an order form can be viewed on the web site,
www.ussnewjersey.org



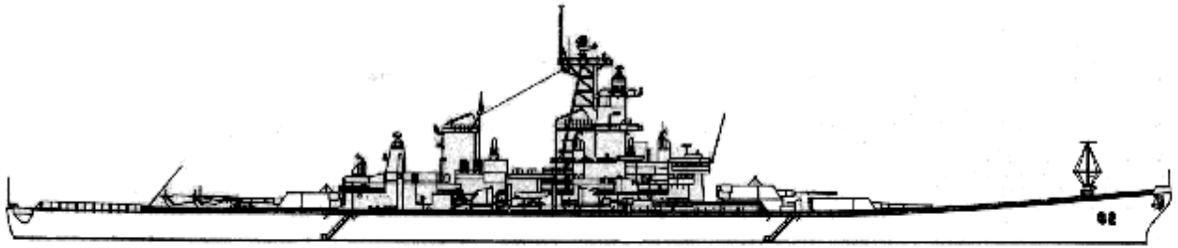
Battleship Hat Pin
(Gold Plated)
\$12.00



USS New Jersey Belt Buckle
\$10.00



USS New Jersey Challenge Coin
\$10.00



USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS ORGANIZATION, INC.

36th ANNUAL REUNION

WHERE: TOWN & COUNTRY INN and SUITES
2008 Savannah Highway
Charleston, SC 29407

WHEN: September 18-Thru-22 – 2023

(YES, Registration on Monday and Banquet on Thursday Evening)

RESERVATIONS: Call 1-843-571-1000 (Hotel Direct)

Mention the: USS NEW JERSEY 2023 REUNION

“Reservations can be made -Now - September 18, 2023”

Handicapped rooms available

Parking is free.

Complimentary WIFI

Service Pets Only

Cancellation Policy requires notification 24 hours prior to scheduled arrival

COST: One King or Two Queen \$109.00 Plus 14% Tax

NOTE: Room Rate for Friday and Saturday stay is \$179.00 Plus 14% Tax Per Night

Check In Time: 3:00 PM
Check Out Time: 12:00PM



UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN SHIPMATES

