USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.



# *"THE JERSEY BOUNCE"*

**VOLUME XXXI NO. 1** 

Spring 2016

## WWW.USSNEWJERSEY.ORG



**UNDER THE RAINBOW** 

The 30th reunion will be held in Philadelphia Pennsylvania and will be the 5th time that we will be visiting our ship. Phil Rowen and his crew has the ship in tip top condition and they are anxious to have us return to our home away from home. With each visit we are amazed at the improvements being made to keep the ship in such great condition. She has a new coat of paint and work is being done to repair the teak wood deck. The replacement of the teak deck is both expensive and time consuming but steady progress is being made.

Bob Dingman and his reunion crew are working diligently to make the 30th reunion the best and one that everyone will remember. Make your arrangements early to ensure you partake in all the festivities.



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#### NEW MEMBERS

**New Members** 

## OFFICERS, USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS ORGANIZATION, INC.



President/Director Steve Sheehan (Mickie) 215-887-7583 stevebb62@comcast.net



**Treasurer/Director** Phillip Tasker (Helen) 772-321-2237 <u>phillip@ptasker.net</u>



Small Stores/Advisor Bob Dingman (Judy) 603-455-4441 bdingman@metrocast.net



Historian/Advisor Jason Hall 856-966-1652 Ext 201 j.hall@battleshipnewjersey.org



Secretary/Director Danny Fielder (Sheila) 601-955-8233 dfielder@gsenger.com



News Editor/Advisor Nick Rasch (Sylvia) 703-221-5239 triengr@aol.com



Seating Coord./Advisor Bill Myers (Mary) 402-676-0082 williamjmye@msn.com



Vice President/Director Bob Dingman (Judy) 603-455-4441 bdingman@metrocast.net



Liaison/Director Bill Meredith (Donna) 585-225-9210 wam@rochester.rr.com



Master at Arms/Advisor Ray Kehoe (Rita) 540-775-3050 rjk428@yahoo.com



Reunion Coord./Advisor Bob Dingman (Judy) 603-455-4441 bdingman@metrocast.net



Membership/Director Garry Blaylock (Louise) 931-797-4744 garryblaylock@gmail.com



Web Master/Advisor Bob Williams (Merth) 603-819-9808 williams382@comcast.net



Chaplain/Advisor Felix Bautista (Kay) 214-771-7585 fkholyrollers-fk@yahoo.com



## USS New Jersey Veterans Association Statement of Financial Activities For the Year Ending December 31, 2015

Cash Balances on Deposit at January 1, 2015		\$44,127.58
2015 Receipts From Ship Restoration Contributions	:	6,703.50
2015 Disbursements For Ship Restoration:	-	(6,188.50)
2015 Passints From Operations		
2015 Receipts From Operations Dues	12 090 00	
	13,980.00	
2015 Reunion Registrations	12,980.00	
50/50 Proceeds	2,236.00	
Small Stores Sales	2,591.00	
Bank Interest	15.23	
Scholarship Donations	1,102.50	
Miscellaneous	585.00	
Total Receipts		33,489.73
2015 Disbursements For Operations:		
2015 Reunion Expenses	16,654.94	
2016 Reunion Expenses	1,000.00	
50/50 Payments	1,008.00	
Jersey Bounce	8,375.76	
Web Hosting	0.00	
Small Stores Inventory	2,197.08	
Small Stores Postage	149.14	
Postage (General)	766.60	
Scholarships	3,000.00	
Office Supplies	556.94	
Miscellaneous Total Diskursenants	1,224.00	124.022.45
Total Disbursements		(34,932.46)
Cash Balances at December 31, 2015		\$43,199.85

If there are any questions or concerns about this statement, please contact Phil Tasker, Treasurer.

#### **Treasurers Report**

Our net cash position declined \$927.73 (-2.1%) during 2015. However our overall cash reserves remain very strong. We ended the year with \$43,199.85 in cash on hand. It should be noted that the total includes \$515.00 in contributions by the membership for Ship Restoration that have yet to be forwarded the ship.

Contributions for Ship Restoration were one of the more noteworthy financial issues during 2015. The membership contributed a total of \$6,703.50 towards maintaining and restoring the ship. Based upon my research this was considerably higher than the organization contributed in past years.

It is also important to note that dues revenue had declined in 2013 and 2014, but rebounded significantly in 2015. I think we have Garry Blaylock to thank for revamping the solicitation process with obvious positive results. I know it took a lot of work by Garry.

I assumed the Treasurer's position this year due to the passing of Pete Vance. Any transition like this, particularly for a position like Treasurer, is normally difficult and complicated. Our organization is very fortunate not only for Pete's long-time service but for the efforts of Jean Vance and the rest of his family to make the transition as seamless as possible even in their time of grief. I am very indebted to Jean and Vicki for their assistance.



## USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC. 30<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL REUNION

- WHERE: Embassy Suites Philadelphia Airport 9000 Bartram Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19153
- WHEN: August 10th thru 14th, 2016
- COST: Two room Suite (king w/sofa bed or 2 double beds w/sofa bed) 1-4 guests per suite \$119.00 plus tax Check-in Time: 4:00 PM / Check-out Time: 11:00PM
- RESERVATIONS: 1-215-365-4500 (Hotel Direct suggested telephone method) 1-800-362-2779 (Embassy Suites Reservations, toll free) Mention the: USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS 30<sup>TH</sup> REUNION

Online reservations can be made at the <u>Embassy Suites Philadelphia Airport</u> website In the Group Code box, enter text: CESUSS (If you have a problem, there is a link on <u>our</u> website)

# Reservations received after July 12, 2016, may not qualify for the group rate and rooms may not be available. Book early!

Special group rates are available for reservations between Aug. 7th (Check-in) thru Aug. 16th (Check-out) Handicapped rooms available. Free parking. (Normal fee \$7/day) Cancellation Policy - requires notification 72 hours prior to your scheduled arrival date.

## Free made-to-order breakfast buffet for those who stay at the Embassy Suites.

Your room key card is your ticket for breakfast.

## Complimentary drinks daily at the hotels evening reception for guests



30th Annual Reunion – Philadelphia, PA

August 10 – 14, 2016

## Ground Transportation from/to Philadelphia International Airport

Upon arrival at the Philadelphia International Airport, proceed to baggage claim. After you have picked up your bags, call the hotel directly at 215-365-4500 and asked to be picked up. Let the operator know which baggage terminal you are at. Then walk out the doors to Ground Transportation and Hotel Shuttles. Wait for the **Embassy Suites Philadelphia Airport Shuttle.** 

Due to the variation in airline arrivals times there might be a wait. There is no cost for this transportation. Please check with hotel front desk to schedule a shuttle for your departure return to the airport.

## **Driving Directions to the Embassy Suites**

Traveling from the North, follow I-95 South towards the Philadelphia International Airport and use exit #12B, Cargo City. At the stop light, turn right. The hotel will be on your right hand side.

Traveling from the South, follow I-95 North towards the Philadelphia International Airport and use exit #10, Cargo City. Proceed forward and at the first light, turn left onto Bartram Avenue. Travel one mile and the hotel will be on your right hand side.

Traveling on Rt. 476 South or Rt. 76 East, following route to I-95 and then see directions above.

If you are using a GPS, the hotel address is 9000 Bertram Avenue, Philadelphia, PA.



## **INFORMATION FOR SEATING** PLEASE COMPLY WITH THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. Paid meal reservations must be made prior to requesting group seating.
- Banquet seating requests will be accepted between June 1st July 10th. NOTE: Anyone requesting handicapped seating must notify the Seating Chairman prior to July10, 2016
- 3. When requesting group seating, including family members or friends, only ONE PERSON per group should apply. Please list all individuals by name.

Check to ensure that everyone within the group has made and paid for their meal choice prior to make a seating request. This will reduce or eliminate confusion when individuals within the group either have not made reservation or make the reservations at the last minute.

## TABLE ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE MADE UNTIL EVERYONE WITHIN THE GROUP HAS MADE AND PAID FOR THEIR MEAL RESERVATION.

- 4. Seating requests can be made through E-Mail, telephone, or letter. <u>NOTE:</u> Messages left on an answering machine are not always reliable.
- 5. Send the names of all the individuals to the seating coordinator (10 persons per table)
- 6. Please make every effort to submit your reunion reservation and any seating request by the posted date's deadline. We will make every effort to accommodate your request, however we cannot guarantee you will be seated where you requested or even with your era, if your request is received after the deadline.

Bill Myers Reunion Seating Chairman 4021 Vernon Ave., Omaha, NE 68111 Cell Phone 402-676-0082 E-mail williamjmye@msn.com



## PLAN OF THE WEEK

## Wednesday, August 10, 2016

<u>Check-in day – Embassy Suites Philadelphia Airport</u>

- 0900 Registration table, Hospitality Room & Small Stores opens (Colony Room)
- 1400 Board of Directors Meeting (Ben Franklin Suite 121)
- 1630 Registration table, Hospitality Room & Small Stores closes
- 1900 Welcome Aboard Dinner (Liberty Ballroom)

## Thursday, August 11, 2016

- 0900 Hospitality Room, Small Stores opens, Registration at Small Stores (Colony Room)
- 0830 Brandywine River Valley Tour Departs
- 1630 Registration table & Small Store closes
- 2300 Hospitality Room closes

## Friday, August 12. 2016

- 0830 Buses start leaving for the ship (approximately every 15 minutes, or when a bus is full)
- 1000 Memorial Service Commence on the Ship's Fantail under tent
- 1100 Lunch on the Ship's Fantail under tent
- 1330 First bus back to Hotel leaves (Buses will leave every hour, on the hour, or when full)
- 1630 Last bus back to Hotel leaves the pier.
- 1630 Hospitality Room & Small Stores opens (Colony Room)
- 2300 Hospitality Room closes

## Saturday, August 13, 2016

- 1000 General Membership Business Meeting (Liberty Room A)
- 1200 Hospitality Room & Small Stores opens (Colony room)
- 1500 Hospitality Room & Small Stores closes
- 1700-1900 Individual and Group pictures (Location to be announced)
- 1830 Doors open with Cash Bar (Liberty Ballroom)
- 1900 Dinner Dance Banquet (Liberty Ballroom)

## Sunday, August 14, 2016

1100 Hotel checkout time

#### HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME & SEE YOU NEXT YEAR IN THE NORTH CHICAGO AREA



## WELCOME ABOARD RECEPTION

## LIBERTY BALLROOM

## Wednesday, August 10, 2016

1830 Doors open and Cash Bar available1900 Serving of dinner starts2030 Blind Auction (approx. start time)

## <u>Menu</u>

## **Market Salad**

Selected Greens with Marinated Tomatoes, Roasted Red Peppers, Cucumbers Laced with Strawberry Vinaigrette and Tortilla Wisps

Fresh Baked Rolls and Butter

#### <u>Entrée</u>

<u>Grilled Rosemary Chicken Breast</u> with thyme reduction

**Roasted Bliss Potatoes** 

Julienne Vegetables

#### <u>Dessert</u>

Triple Chocolate Cake

Ice Tea, Water, Regular and Decaffeinated Coffee and Tea

## **BLIND AUCTION** All Funds From The Auction Go Directly Into The Scholarship Fund



"Sold to the Gentleman with the Hysterical Wife"

## Wednesday Evening In The Liberty Ballroom Immediately After The Welcome Aboard Reception

## What is a Blind Auction, how does it work, why should I participate?

We could say it's exciting, fun, different, innovative, and raises money for scholarships...

- **<u>The Real Reason:</u>** You are guaranteed an outrageous bargain when you win and provides the organization with additional scholarship funds.
- 1) Initially all items to be auctioned off are individually placed into paper bags and sealed by the auctioneer or his assistant.
- 2) The auctioneer peeks into the bag and gives a generic clue, of the contents, prior to auctioning off the package.
- **3)** The participants bid on the sealed bag.
- 4) The participant that wins the bid, after paying, has the option of:
  - o Taking the unopened bag or trading, this bag, for any item previously auctioned off.
  - o If he/she selects a previously auctioned item, that individual gets the unopened bag and must open it at that time and display the contents.
  - o This item or any previously auctioned item can be claimed by any following participant that wins a bid.
  - After the final item has been auctioned off the winner of the <u>initial</u> sealed package can then choose any item previously auctioned off.

NOTICE; All items must be clearly displayed throughout the auction.

All sealed packages have a value of at least \$25.00.



## THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 2016

#### Brandywine River Valley Tour 8:30AM- 5:00PM

Our tour will begin at the **Art** in Chadds Ford, PA. In 1971, opened the Brandywine River Hoffman's Mill, a former part of the Conservancy's first has an international reputation for dedication to American art with Brandywine region, American landscape painting, and the work



**Brandywine River Museum of** the Brandywine Conservancy Museum of Art in the renovated gristmill built in 1864 that was preservation efforts. The museum its unparalleled collection and its primary emphasis on the art of the illustration, still life and of the Wyeth family.

Howard Pyle's paintings are included along with hundreds of other artists. N. C. Wyeth, Andrew Wyeth, and Jamie Wyeth are several of Pyle's students painting that are also featured. There is work by hundreds of famous illustrators. Landscape, still life, portrait and genre painting includes work by Benjamin West, Gilbert Stuart, Asher Durand, W. T. Richards, William Harnett, John Haberle, J. D. Chalfant, Horace Pippin. The major still life collection includes paintings by William Harnett, John Peto, George Cope, John Haberle, Horace Pippin. Nearly 300 special exhibitions have been shown in the museum's six galleries, along with constant installations of work from the collection. In addition, a variety of educational programs are also offered throughout the year.

Our next stop will be the **Hagley** Take a journey through the powder yards and the garden and family home in America. This makes Hagley unique—the machinery, and the original America. Guests will see century machine shop, watch a iron roll mills to life, and explosion. On the second half of Pont family home, the first



**Museum** in Willington, DE. historic DuPont Company black grounds of the first du Pont tour will show guests what black powder yards, the historic home of the du Pont family in demonstrations of a nineteenthwater turbine bring an eight-ton witness a black powder the tour, guests will visit the du office, and their first garden and

learn about how the family lived, worked, and played at Hagley. A bus will be used to transport the group throughout the property to the different stops.

## Lunch is included in the cost of this tour. Lunch will be at the Hagley Museum.

Deluxe Sandwich Luncheon includes Tuscan vegetable soup, an assortment of homemade gourmet sandwiches on a variety of fresh breads, rolls and wraps. Served with tricolor pasta salad, fruit salad and chips. Chef's choice layer cake.



## Friday, August 12, 2016

#### Visit to the Battleship New Jersey for the Memorial Service, Lunch, Guided Tours, and Reliving Memories

#### Buses will begin to depart from the hotel at 0830

There will be 3 buses that will depart when full. The buses will make a return trip to the hotel for additional pickups as necessary. One bus will be wheelchair accessible. (If you or your guest will be using a wheelchair please note it on your registration form.)

The Memorial Service will commence at 1000. Shipmates that have passed away since the last reunion will be honored. In addition (recently informed) shipmates that have passed away in prior years will also be honored. The names of those who passed will be read and honored with the ringing of our association's bell. A Memorial Wreath will be dropped from the fantail onto the Delaware River to honor all of the USS New Jersey sailors who have passed.

#### The Service will feature a Color Guard, Bag Pipe Band, and Bugler.

#### In addition, Docents will be available to provide information and tours for our group

#### At 1100 a bag lunch will be served on the fantail.

The lunch will consist of:

#### Assorted Sandwiches

Turkey on a seven grain bread with Mustard or Mayo Roast Beef on a seven grain roll with Horseradish Sauce Tuna Salad on a Croissant Roll Chicken Salad Wrap Grilled Vegetable, Hummus Wrap will be available (request must be noted on your registration form)

#### Included in the bag:

Pasta Primavera Salad Chips & Cookie Bottled Water or Soda Napkin & Utensils

#### First bus departs the pier to return to the hotel at 1330

The buses will depart from the pier on the hour (or when full) starting at 1330

#### The last bus departing the pier at 1630



#### DINNER DANCE BANQUET

#### SATURDAY August 13, 2016

1830 Doors Open with Cash Bar

1900 Serving Starts

#### Menu

"Luscious Salad" (Romaine hearts, tomato crowns, and roasted almonds, lemon-pepper vinaigrette)

Fresh Baked Rolls and Butter

#### **Entrée Choices**

Parmesan Crusted Chicken Breast (with balsamic tomatoes and shallot butter)

> Seared Salmon (with orange-ginger sauce)

(grilled skirt steak glazed with papaya chimichurri)

Garlic Duchess Potatoes Almondine Haricot Verts

#### Dessert

Philly style Cheese Cake

Iced Tea, Water, Decaffeinated and Regular Coffee and Tea

## **30th Annual Reunion Events Reservation Form** (Refer to the Plan of the Week for event start times)

Welcome Aboard Dinner (Blind auction following dinner)	Wednesday, August 10	<b>), 2016</b> @ \$35.00/person	\$
Brandywine Region Tour (Cost includes lunch at The Hagley Muse	-	, <b>2016</b> \$69.00/person	\$
USS New Jersey & Memorial Service w/ € Wheelchair accessible bus is re	-		\$
Banquet Dinner	Saturday, August 13, People @	<b>2016</b> \$48.00/person	\$
Chicken Salmon	Steak		
		50/50 TICKETS	\$
Total Enclosed \$	to cover all	items selected	
Please provide the following and please print:			
NAME	SPOUSE/GUEST		
ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP
ERA:	DIVISION:	DATE SERV	/ED
E-MAIL:	PHONE #		
EMERGENCY CONTACT:	РНО	NE #	
MAIL THIS COMPLETE	D FORM, INCLUDING USS New Jersey Veterar c/o Mr. Phillip Tasker, Tr 470 Greystone Court Vero Beach, FL 329	ns, Inc. easurer SW	<u>NE 27, 2016</u> , TO:
Date Received: Chec	ck # Amou	nt: \$	



#### **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

#### Greetings

USS New Jersey Veterans Family:

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday. The warm December turned into a frigid January here in Pennsylvania. Warmer was better.

Continuing my theme of providing news from your Battleship, I would like to list some of the events that were held since the last Bounce, many of which I was able to attend.

The ship hosted a well attended Veterans Day ceremony on November 11<sup>th</sup>. USS New Jersey veterans Captain Walt Urban, Master of Ceremonies, and Russ Collins a World War II veteran, tossed the ceremonial wreath into the Delaware River.

A Thanksgiving Dinner for 60 active duty military personnel had over 600 people waiting to welcome the troops on the pier

December had a Pearl Harbor Day commemoration on the 7<sup>th</sup> with

good attendance from local veterans and some local high schools. There was a 21 gun salute and a wreath presentation.

A Patriots Game Tug of War was held on the 11<sup>th</sup> prior to the Army-Navy Football game in Philadelphia. Both academies bands and spirit squads were present.

Breakfast with Santa was on the 12<sup>th</sup>. A hot breakfast in the Chow Line and a picture with Santa was available to the public.

On New Year's Eve the Battleship opened the decks to visitors to view the Philadelphia Fireworks from the Camden Waterfront.

In December I also had the opportunity to attend the "Volunteers Christmas Luncheon", a favorite time for me to visit with and mostly to thank all the wonderful volunteers who enable the ship to operate and maintain her stunning presence. When you see the ship in August you will notice the hull has been painted, the tents on the fantail have been replaced, and the deck renovation has begun. Our contributions to the deck repair that were sent in along with your dues have been passed on to the ship. They are ordering a delivery of teak with those funds. I have asked Phil Rowan, the CEO of the Battleship to provide us with a picture of the teak we contributed and will share it with you when I get it.

I think everyone will be pleased with the condition of our ship, understanding that the deck restoration will take time to complete.

Come and see her in August!

Sincerely,

Steve Sheehan



#### **MESSAGE FROM THE VICE RESIDENT**

#### **Greetings to All**

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas, a Happy Hanukkah, a Happy New Year and that you're looking forward to a great 2016.

The planning for the 2016 Reunion in Philadelphia is almost complete and you will find the information you need in this issue of the *Jersey Bounce*. If you need any additional information, or have any questions concerning the reunion, please do not hesitate to contact me. This year we made a concerted effort to get our reunion hotel in Philadelphia. The proposals I received from hotels located in the center city area proved to be too expensive for event space, guest rooms and especially parking.

In lieu of being in a hotel in center city, we were successful in getting closer than Cherry Hill. The Embassy Suites – Philadelphia Airport worked hard to get our reunion. The management and staff have been accommodating to all of our needs and desires during the negotiations. There is a free hotel shuttle from the airport and for those who will come by car, there is free parking. There is a sign at the parking lot gate that indicates the parking costs \$7.00, but that will be waived when you check in as a USS New Jersey Veteran Reunion attendee.

As I ask every year in this letter, if you are planning on attending the Philadelphia reunion, please take time to contact your fellow shipmates and encourage them to join you. Renewing old friendships, meeting shipmates from different eras and sharing sea stories are priceless. I look forward to a great turnout from all eras. So far I have been very encouraged by the interest that the 1980's crewmembers have shown toward attending this upcoming reunion. I would like to thank Ronnie Chavez and Tom Tierney for their efforts in getting the 1980's crew interested in the USS New Jersey Veterans Reunion.

This year is election year for our organization. Elections will take place at the General Membership meeting on Saturday. There will be a number of positions available. If you're interested in becoming more involved, please contact Steve Sheehan, President.

Have a great spring and summer. I'll see you in Philly!

Sincerely,

Bob Dingman, Vice President, EM2, Vietnam





#### **MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY**

Hope everyone out there has some patience! Most of you are aware this is a new position for me and that I was put before the firing squad at the last reunion to fill this position until next elections. Kidding aside, it is a pleasure to serve, hoping that we can get some more of the 80's crew involved and help out. This reunion will be my wife Sheila's and my 9<sup>th</sup> reunion. We make this our annual vacation, and always have an adventure. When it comes to the business meeting I have to take minutes, that is why I said I hope you have patience, it can be a little involved but I will do my best. This organization really does a great job and that is because we all work together. We have our Scholarship awards that we give out, the applicants that we receive are really outstanding young people. There are many things that we try to help out with, and hope that some of you want to take part in this. Hope to see everyone back at the ship.

Danny Fielder Secretary



Danny Fielder (Mr. Dance) & Steve Sheehan Cutting Up On The Dance Floor



Hello once again.

Its time to get geared up for another reunion. Yes, and we are going back to the ship this year.

I have been using a LIGHT HOUSE symbol for a while now, with hopes for some of the Lebanon/Persian Gulf Veterans to find there way back. Last fall I made a challenge if we got 30 new members by reunion time I would pay up, still holding to my word.

Last year in Oregon we had a great time. During our time we had more

sailors than the other 3 era's put together and we always had the least showing at the reunions. We really need to change that. There are those that have there own separate reunions, and that is 'ok', but from the first commissioning until the last decommissioning it has always taken the entire crew to accomplish the tasks at hand.

We still need to keep this legacy afloat, this was and still is a mighty ship. We don't have inspections, we don't have to muster, we don't have any watches to stand all we have to do is have a good time and to enjoy the fellowship. Come on crew get aboard and lets set sail for a great time. Hope to see you at the ship.

#### WE ARE BATTLESHIP SAILORS, THE LAST OF A PROUD GROUP

MM3 Daniel(Danny)Fielder e-mail dfielder@gsengr.com (601)955-8233 or (601)892-2469 22011 Hwy 51 Crystal Springs, Ms.39059



Lebanon and Persian Gulf Group



#### **MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER**

Our net cash position declined \$927.73 (or -2.1%) during 2015. However, our overall cash reserves remain very strong. We ended the year with \$43,199.85 in cash on hand. It should be noted that the total includes \$515.00 in contributions by the membership for Ship Restoration that has yet to be forwarded to the ship.

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Phil Tasker

Treasurer



Enjoying A Fabulous Lunch At The Newport Seafood Grill in Portland, Oregon The Newport Seafood Grill Is A Very Unique Floating Restaurant And Can Be Reached By Land Or Sea



#### MESSAGE FROM THE LIAISON DIRECTOR

Hey Shipmates,

#### **Did You Know**?

The National Resource Directory is a federal government website that connects wounded warriors, Service members, Veterans, families and caregivers to thousands of services and programs at the national, state and local levels that support them during recovery, rehabilitation and reintegration. Visitors to the website can find information on topics such as post-traumatic stress disorder, military and Veterans' benefits, health care, educational opportunities, homeless assistance, employment and much more. Throughout the past few months, more than 60 new resources have been added to the NRD, bringing the total number of resources that can be accessed from the site to nearly 15,000. For more information, visit the National Resource Directory website at <u>www.NRD.gov</u>.

Here's hoping you all had a wonderful Christmas and are enjoying the new year. I Hope to see you all at the reunion in Philly this year. It sounds like it is going to be one of the best!

Stay well,

Bill Meredith



Did You Know? The Inboard Screws Had 5 Blades And The Outboard Only 4 ? The ship Had 2 Giant Rudders ?



#### MESSAGE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

#### Hi Shipmates

I hope all of you are doing well. This year's reunion will be at the ship as you already know. Louise and I like that very much because the turnout has always been larger when we've gone to the ship. This means we will be able to visit with more of the shipmates and their families. We enjoy meeting new members as well as visiting with all of the members that may not have had a chance to go to any of the other reunions. We're really looking forward to seeing all of our friends again. The reunions are always so much fun!!

I just received a phone call today from one of our members, Rene Couleman, who was asking for some information. He served during WW II and was on Admiral Halsey's staff. He questioned me about the ship's activity during the Vietnam War. We talked about the one time we got shot at while off the coast of North Vietnam and the action we took. I asked him if he could tell about some of his experiences on the ship during the time he served. His immediate reply was, "you're damn right I can". He said that when they were in the Philippines, planes would attack the fleet three times a day. He said the sky would be black from all the shells exploding. I can't even imagine what that must have been like! Those guys back then were the real heroes of this country!

I told Rene that I hoped he would be able to come to Philly in August. He has so many tales that he can pass on to us younger guys. He talked a little about Admiral Halsey and said he had lots of tales to tell about him and then he laughed.

It is such a joy to get to talk with all my shipmates. Usually, when I get a call from one of you, asking for information, we end up sharing experiences of our times on the Jersey. Sometimes we've talked an hour or more, just reminiscing. I'm so thankful for our association and for the opportunities I've had to talk to so many of you. There are not that many of us "Battleship Sailors" around. Everywhere I go and I happen to have my New Jersey hat on, people stop and shake my hand and thank me for my service. When I see other guys with their Navy hats on, I stop and we start a conversation about what ships we served on.

We have a USS New Jersey BB62 license plate on our car. People in the parking lot sometimes stop and thank me for my service. Louise had a lady stop her in the parking lot one day a while ago and thank her for her husband's service. I'm really proud to have been a part in something so special and I'm so thankful for all of our young men and women who are now serving in our military to help protect our great country.

Sincerely,

Garry Blaylock Membership Chairman

We Have Smart Phones, Lap & Desk Top Computers Have You Ever Wondered Where And How This Started?

This 1946 photograph shows ENIAC (Electronic Numerical Integrator And Computer), the first general purpose electronic computer - a 30-ton machine housed at the University of Pennsylvania . Developed in secret starting in 1943, ENIAC was designed to calculate artillery firing tables for the United States Army's Ballistic Research Laboratory. The completed machine was announced to the public on February 14, 1946. The inventors of ENIAC promoted the spread of the new technologies through a series of influential lectures on the construction of electronic digital computers at the University of Pennsylvania in 1946, known as the Moore School Lectures.

It was rumored that when ENIAC was operational the lights in Philadelphia went dim.





#### **MESSAGE FROM THE NEWS EDITOR**

#### Ladies & Gentlemen:

I hope that 2016 will be an outstanding year and bring you happiness, good health, and financial security.

I have been told many times that all good things must come to an end. Well I'm about to experience this myself.

This is my final issue of the *Bounce*. I have been drafting the publication for the past 8 years. This entailed being closely associated with members of our organization, the ship management, and volunteers who helped to make the effort seem more like pleasure than work.

Strange how time flies! It seems like almost yesterday I assumed responsibility to draft, and publish the *Bounce*.

Initially, I had NO idea what publishing a quality document entailed, but I was to find out very quickly. I reviewed several previous issues to gain an insight into what was important to the membership and management. I then set in place a plan to upgrade each issue and make it something that our members would/could look forward to receiveing. Each issue would provide our members with information concerning the status of our beloved ship in addition to events within our organization. I worked diligently to make this happen and to the best of my ability truly felt I was successful.

Producing the *Bounce* has been a task of both labor and love.

When I assumed this position the organization had over one thousand two hundred members. I have watched our membership decline until we now have just a little over eight hundred members, with the WWII Era membership going from the largest to the smallest.

I want to take advantage of this opportunity to inform our members of improvements, I had observed, made during this time period.

#### 1. Scholarships

The scholarships awarded have been increased from 2 to 3 scholarships, and the value of each scholarship increased from \$800.00 to \$1,000.00.

#### 2. Blind & Silent Auctions

At the 'Welcome Aboard Dinner' this auctions provided our members with entertainment, quality merchandise, and enhanced the scholarship fund.

#### 3. Free Breakfast at the Reunion

Incorporated a free breakfast for all members attending the reunion.

#### 4. Honorary Picture & Plaque

A picture of the USS New Jersey was installed at the Nimitz Museum in Fredericksburg, Texas and an Honorary plaque of the USS New Jersey BB-62 at the United States Naval Memorial, Washington, DC.

#### 5. Board Member

The Battleship New Jersey Museum and Memorial Board of Directors has added a officer from our organization to this board. This was a strategic move and brought the two organization much closer together.

I sure hope that everyone enjoyed receiving the Bounce as much as I did drafting it. I want to thank each and every one of you for providing me the opportunity to serve the organization in this capacity.

I'm confident that my replacement will continue to provide a quality publication that the members will be anxious to receive and cherish.

Eventually the organization will cease to exist but with new members from both the Persian Gulf and Lebanon continuing to join this will not happen for many year into the future.

In the interim all of our members have an opportunity to enjoy every aspect the organization has to offer which include purchasing quality products from the Small Store, receiving the Bounce, and attending the annual reunions.

Looking forward to seeing you at this reunion and many future reunions.

Nickolus O. Rasch

News Editor of the Bounce



#### MESSAGE FROM THE SEATING COORDINATOR/ADVISOR

As I am writing this most of you are still in the throes of Old Man Winter. In some areas winter has been particularly harsh and I hope everyone has survived its clutches. As you are reading this, Spring should have sprung and I hope you are enjoying the warmth and the promise of new life.

With Spring comes the time to start making plans for the coming year. Maybe plans for your lawn or garden, or maybe a project around the house. It is also the time to plan Summer trips and vacations. As part of these plans I hope you are including a trip to Philadelphia for this year's reunion. These reunions provide an opportunity to renew and maintain old friendships, and an opportunity to make new ones.

This year we will once again be able to walk the decks of our beloved ship, the USS New Jersey and relive the days of our service. There are always many "sea stories" that seem to grow with each retelling. If you are not there to defend yourself, you might be the subject of some of these stories.

This year is also the year we elect officers to lead us for the next 4 years. If any of you would like to step up and assume one of the open seats, please don't hesitate to do so. The future of this organization depends on our younger members stepping up. At this time I am still undecided as to whether I am willing to take another term as seating coordinator. If anyone would like to take it over, please throw your hat in the ring. I have enjoyed doing this for the past 7 years and it is not a hard job.

I hope you will plan to attend this year and I am looking forward to serving your seating needs. Children and grandchildren are always welcome. With pride, show them the ship you served on, and there is plenty of History in Philly to absorb. See you in Philadelphia.

Bill Myers

Seating Coordinator/Advisor



Unique Photo Of USS New Jersey's # 3 Turret Firing At Targets In North Korea All Three Projectiles Are Visible Within The Circle

NEVER FORGET ---- NEVER FORGNE!

# Jane Fonda Speaking To Vietnam Veterans At Anti War Rally



Just who Is That Guy Next To Jane? As she said,

"Nothing would give me more pleasure than to shoot down an American fighter plane."

Just who is that guy standing next to "Hanoi Jane" at an anti-war protest?

Why, it is none other than our very own Secretary of State, the "honorable" John Kerry.

## Now ain't that SPECIAL!!!

President Obama trying to have her recognized as one of the greatest women of the past Century

Just wanted to refresh your memory.....and now we're supposed to trust him with an Iranian Nuclear Agreement !!!

## WHAT IS NEW SINCE WE LAST VISITED THE SHIP



CEO Phil Rowen Inspecting The POW - MIA Chair Aboard The USS New Jersey



**Brand New Set Of Signal Flags** 

## Pictures Furnished By Richard Thrash, Author of the 'Jerseyman'



Starboard Side 50 Caliber Machine Gun



Bring Your Camera And Get An Action Picture Simulating Fighting Off Enemy Aircraft

**Docent Rolland Squeezing Off A Few Rounds** 



She Looks Great With Her New Paint

Painting of the Hull. The Battleship teamed with the local painters union to paint the ship's hull. The physical painting was accomplished by the union members, the paint was purchased by the ship for the discounted price of only \$5,000.00



Strong Man, Curator Jason Hall Carries 16 Inch High Explosive Ordinances

### Largest And Most Powerful Fleet Every Assembled

## US Navy 1944 berthing chart for the Northern Anchorage of the Ulithi Atoll Lagoon, Caroline Islands.

Its existence kept secret throughout the war, the US naval base at Ulithi Atoll was for a time the world's largest naval facility.

In March 1945, 15 battleships, 29 carriers, 23 cruisers, 106 destroyers, and a train of oilers and supply ships were anchored at the Ulithi Atoll Lagoon. The mightiest force of naval Power ever assembled, Ulithi, was the biggest and most active naval base in the world but was unknown. Few civilians had heard of it at all. By the time security released the name, the remarkable base of Ulithi was a ghost.



Ulithi Atoll is 360 miles southwest of Guam, 850 miles east of the Philippines, 1300 miles South of Tokyo. It is a typical volcanic atoll with coral, white sand, and palm trees. The reef runs roughly twenty miles north and south by ten miles across enclosing a vast anchorage with an average depth of 80 to 100 feet - the only suitable anchorage within 800 miles. Three dozen little islands rise slightly above the sea, the largest only half a square mile in area.

#### Information furnished By Ray Kehoe

#### GREAT NEWS!!! 'VETERAN ADMINISTRATION IDENTIFICATION CARD AVAILABILITY'

I have attempted to obtain a Veteran Administration Identification card for well over 4 years with zero success. However, my Congressman from Virginia (Honorable Gerald E. Connolly) provided me with information that both the House and Senate passed

Veterans Identification Card Act 2015 (Public Law 114-31)

July 28, 2015

The Veterans Identification Card Act 2015 (Public Law 114-31) was enacted on July 20, 2015. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is in the process of reviewing the law and has formed a working group to begin the process of implementation. This process will include outreach to Veterans and others to ensure that the law is

#### What does this mean for the Veteran not eligible for retirement nor medical benefits?

A general purpose veteran identification card made available to veterans would be useful to demonstrate the status of the veteran without having to carry and use the official Department of Defense form DD-214 discharge papers. Public Law 114-31 and President Obama signed it into law July 20, 2015.

For the past several months I have been attempting to obtain said card with the same success rate.

implemented in the best way possible. The VA will publish regulations and solicit public comment before finalizing the program.

As these implementation steps are finalized, VA will be reaching out to Veterans to explain how they can obtain an ID card, should they choose to request one.

The Veterans Identification Card Act requires VA to issue veterans an identification card upon their

In addition, it will be positive proof that you were in the military and are eligible for all military related discounts and amenities. This card will be very useful for obtaining discounts at restaurants, hardware supplies, and facilities including organizations that provide a discount to active and retired military personal.

I have been extremely proud of serving in the Military and most

What I cannot understand is that a bill is passed by both houses of congress and signed into law by the President and 6 months later the Veterans Administration has not implemented the law.

request. In many instances, these cards will be able to serve as proof of service in the Armed Forces in place of the standard DD-214 forms. As indicated in the law, these ID cards would not take the place of a health care enrollment card, a Choice Card, or any additional identification card that confers VA benefits upon the cardholder.

VBA has been tasked with implementing this law.

especially of my time aboard the USS New Jersey. However, I never had official proof that I was in the military nor fought in the Korean War other that my DD-214 form which remains in the filling cabinet.

#### What this card will not provide:

This card will not provide the veteran with any health benefits, nor access to commissary, military RV facilities and etc.

Presently, only 19 percent of individuals that have been in the military receive retirement pay, health benefits, and a military Identification Card.

#### Why Is This Important?

This law will provide the other 81 percent with a positive Picture Identification Card confirming their military service. It will not provide retirement pay, health benefits, and etc. In our organization, USS New Jersey Veterans, Org. 672 members would be eligible to obtain the ID card

#### PUBLIC LAW 114-31-JULY 20, 2015

#### **114TH CONGRESS**

#### An Act

July 20, 2915 To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to issue, upon request, veteran identification cards to certain veterans.

(H.R. 91)

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States Of America in Congress assembled.

#### **SECTION 1 SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the "Veterans identification Card Act 2015"

#### SECTION 2. VETERANS IDENTIFICATION CARD.

#### (a) Findings --- Congress makes the following finding :

- (1) Effective on the day before the date of the enactment of this act, veterans identification cards were issued to veterans who have either completed the statutory time-in-service requirement for retirement from the Armed Forces or who have received a medical=related discharge from the Armed Forces.
- (2) Effective on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, a veteran who served a minimum obligated time n service, but who did not meet the criteria described in paragraph (1), did not receive a means of identifying the veteran's status as a veteran other than using the Department of Defense form DD-214 discharge papers of the veteran.
- (3) Goods, service, and promotional activities are often offered by public and private institutions to veterans who demonstrate proof of service in the military but it is impractical for a veteran to always carry Department of Defense discharge papers to demonstrate such proof.
- (4) A general purpose veteran identification card made available to veterans would be useful to demonstrate the status of the veteran without having to carry and use official Department of Defense form DD-214 discharge papers.
- (5) On the day before the date of this enactment of this Act, the Department of Veterans Affairs had the infrastructure in place across the United States to produce photographic identification cards and accept a small payment to cover the cost of these cards.

#### **(B)** Provisions of Veteran Identification Cards

#### Chapter 57 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding after section 5705 the following new section:

#### **5706 Veterans Identification Card**

- (a) In General.---The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall issue an identification card described in subsection (b) to each veteran who ----
- requests such card;
   presents a copy of I
  - presents a copy of Department of Defense form DD-214 discharge papers or other official document from the official military personnel file of the veteran that describes the service of the veteran and pays the fee under subsection (c)(1).
    - (b) IDENTIFICATION CARD.---An identification card described in this subsection is a card issued to a veteran that---
      - (1) displays a photograph of the veteran
      - (2) displays the name of the veteran;
      - (3) explains that such card is not proof of any benefits to which the veteran is entitled to;
      - (4) contains an identification number that is not a social security number: and
      - (5) serves a proof that such veteran ----
        - (A)served in the Armed Forces; and

(B)has a Department of Defense form DD-214 discharge papers or other official document in the official military personnel file of the veteran that describes the service of the veteran.

(c) Cost of Card

(1)The Secretary shall charge a fee to each veteran who receives an identification card issued under this section, including a replacement identification card.

- (2) (A)The fee charged under paragraph (1) shall equal such amount as the Secretary determines is necessary to issue an identification card under this section.
  - (B)In determining the amount of the fee under subparagraph (A) he Secretary shall ensure that the total amount of fees collected under paragraph (1) equals an amount necessary to carry out this section, including costs related to any additional equipment or personnel required to carry out this section.
  - (C)The Secretary shall review and reassess the determination under subparagraph (A) during each five-year period in which the Secretary issues an identification card under this section.
- 3. Amounts collected under this subsection shall be deposited in an account of the Department available to carry out this section.

Amounts so deposited shall be----

(A)merged with amounts in such accounts;

(B)available in such amounts as may be provided in appropriation Acts; and

(C)subject to the same conditions and limitations as amounts otherwise in such account.

- (d)Effect of Card on Benefits.---
  - (1) An identification card issued under this section shall not serve as proof of any benefits that the veteran may be entitled to under this title.
  - (2) A veteran who is issued an identification card under this section shall not be entitled to any benefits under this title by reason of possessing such card.
- (e) Administrative Measures .--
  - (1) The Secretary shall ensure that any information collected or used with respect to an identification card issued under his section is appropriately secured.
  - (2) The Secretary may determine any appropriate procedures with respect to issuing a replacement identification card.
  - (3) In carrying out this section the Secretary shall coordinate with the National Personnel Records Center.
  - (4) The Secretary may conduct such outreach to advertise the identification card under this section as the Secretary considers appropriate.
- (f) Construction.---This section shall not be construed to affect identification cards otherwise provided by the Secretary to veterans enrolled in the health care system established under section 1705 (a) of this title.
- (c) Clerical Amendment.---The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 5705 the following new item:

#### "5705 Veterans identification card"

(d) Effective Date.--- The amendments made by this Act shall take effect on the date that is 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

#### Approved July 20, 2015

I think that this is a very important. I have been trying to get a Veterans Identification Card for several years with zero success. I have been to several Veteran Offices in the Washington, DC area and each time I applied I was denied. However, I continued to apply with the same results.



## SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES, ELIGIBILITY, AND APPLICATION INFORMATION

The organization will continue to award two \$1000.00 scholarships in addition to the \$1000.00 Dick Esser Scholarship. A committee appointed by the President will review the applications and make the selection. This listing will then be forwarded to the Board of Directors for approval. These selections will then be forwarded for final approval by the members at the formal business meeting.

#### Applications for the Scholarship must be received by the President NO later than June 1, 2016

#### **GUIDELINES:**

- a. No Committee member's family or relative is eligible for the award.
- b. Scholarships will be awarded to deserving students who have maintained a 'B' or '3.0' GPA
- c. Students must be a graduating senior, attending an accredited high school/vocational technical institution graduating in the class of 2016.
- d. Applicants must be recommended by their high school guidance counselor.
- e. Awards must be used at an accredited educational/technical institution for undergraduate studies.
- f. Awards are not available for graduate studies.
- g. The award will be paid directly to the institution selected.

#### Additional information and forms are only available on the Internet (reference) <u>WWW.USSNEWJERSEY.ORG</u>

Notification to the Membership, of the Scholarship winners, will be accomplished through the Bounce and the aforementioned Home Page.

#### **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

- a. Any child, or grandchild of a member in good standing, including children of a member in good standing who passed away during the current membership year is eligible.
- b. Must be a high school senior graduating in the class of 2016.
- c Official transcripts for the 11th grade and the marking periods of 12th grades completed by June 1, 2016 must be submitted with the applications.
- d. Must have two (2) academic references.
- e. Student's personal resume.
- f. Student's complete essay.
- g. Name and address of educational/technical institution to be attended.
- h. Graduation picture.

#### **APPLICATION SUBMISSION:**

Eligibility requirements b, c, d, e, f, g, and h must be received by Steve Sheehan, President, by June 1, 2016. Steve Sheehan, 1209 Cumberland Rd., Abington, PA 19001

#### THE PRESIDENT WILL NOTIFY THE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS BY PHONE AND A LETTER OF CONFIRMATION.



The Graphics and Typing Equipment Wasn't The Best, The Letter Has Been Retyped Using Modern Equipment

Dear Ethel and Danny,

Now that the shooting has stopped out here, I would like to give you a quick rundown on the activities of my ship since we left Norfolk, Virginia on the 5th of March 1953.

First of all, we headed south for the Panama Canal and arrived there early in the morning of 9 March, we immediately entered the canal and the arduous task of moving this huge battleship through the lock was commenced. Having only a few inches clearance on each side of the ship and tremendous weight involved, you can well guess that by the time we had gone through all three sets of locks (Gatun, Pedro Miguel, and Miraflores) there was very little paint left on the sides of the ship. We moored the ship at the old coal Docks in Cristobal, Canal Zone over night and liberty was granted to two sections of the crew in order that they might visit Panama City.

The next morning we headed up the west coast of Central America, on our way to Long Beach, California. Extensive drills were held enroute in order to get the crew well trained as a fighting unit for the combat duty ahead of us in Korea. We arrived in Long Beach on the 17th of March and remained for two days in order that all hands could have a final liberty in Continental United States.

Leaving Long Beach early the morning of the 19th of March, we conducted gunnery exercises and continued general drills enroute to Pearl harbor.

We arrived there for a two day stay on 24 March and again headed west on 26 March for a rendezvous in the Far East.

Crossing the International Date Line on 29 March, we arrived in Yokosuka, Japan on April 5th to relieved the USS Missouri, BB63 as Seventh Fleet Flagship. Vice Admiral Joseph J. (Jocko) Clark, Commander Seventh Fleet, and his staff were welcomed aboard on April 6th. Upon arrival in Yokosuka, the Big 'J' had steamed a total of 11,576 miles from home port, Norfolk, Virginia. Our first action against the Communists came on April 13th when we fired our opening salvos of the cruise at a communication center, gun emplacements, and supply buildings in the city of Chongjin, just 50 lies from the Manchurian boarder. Chongjin is an important transportation and supply center located on the Communists' main east coast supply route from Manchuria.

Since that time the *New Jersey's* 16 inch guns have rained destruction on such places as Wonsan, Songjin, Kojo, Hungnam, Hamhung, highway and railroad bridges and tunnels along the east coast supply lines, as well as gun caves and coastal defense positions near the west coast city of Chinnampo. The Ship's secondary battery has come in for a considerable amount of action against the Reds also.

Our first strike on the besieged harbor of Wonsan was on April 20th and since that time we have returned on twelve different occasions to demolish the communist coastal defense guns as they are rebuilt around the perimeter of the harbor. The siege of Wonsan is the longest Naval siege in history lasting for some 30 months.

One of our longest sustained attacks was at Songjin, about 70 miles from Chongjin. The *New Jersey* guns razed the area for eight hours before we again stood out to sea. May Day, traditionally a big day for the Reds was spent bombarding harbor installations at Wonsan in concentrated attacks by Naval gun fire from four ships led by the *New Jersey* and backed up by repeated air attacks from Task Force 77 planes. We feel that this was one 'May Day' that the Communists of Wonsan will not soon forget.

Our most recent action has been on the east coast bomb-line near Kosong in support of United Nations front line troops. We furnished close gun fire support for the ground troops periodically from June 7th until the end of hostilities.

In our more recent actions, we made return calls on Kojo, Hungnam, and Wonsan between strikes at the bomb-line. Bad weather has kept our action to a minimum, however, we have kept our vigil, waiting for clear skies to return to the battle front. The last five days before the signing of the truce brought clear weather and resulted in the ship's gunners holding a field day on Commy targets all along the east coast.

On 20 July, the *New Jersey Honor Guard* disembarked for the truce negotiations, 12 men in the charge of Ltjg. Spencer, which was the first real sign to us that something was about to happen at Panmunjom.

One of the outstanding events of the cruise took pace on May 23rd at the west coast port of Inchon, only 18 miles from the front lines when the ship celebrated its 10th anniversary. A blue and yellow cake, measuring three and one half feet in length, an exact replica of the ship was prepared by the ship's bakers. A cake cutting ceremony was held on the forward quarterdeck and later in the day, the crew was served cake and ice cream.

Among the long list of guests the New Jersey has had the honor of receiving aboard since arrival in the Far East has been such personalities as Madame and President Syngman Rhee of South Korea: Ambassador and Mrs. Ellis O. Briggs, Korean ambassador for the Untied states; Honorable John F. Floberg. Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Air: Ambassador William C. Bullitt; Admiral; Arthur W. Radford, Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific fleet: Lieutenant General Maxwell Taylor, Commander Eighth Army; Vice Admiral Robert P. Briscoe, Commander Naval Forces Far East, and Vice Admiral Sir Charles E. Lambe, Royal Navy Commander Far East Station.

The ship's pitometer indicates that the *New Jersey* has traveled in excess of 37,000 miles since leaving Norfolk, Virginia.

The shooting is over, however, we still expect to finish our normal tour of duty out here before returning home as there is still the business of maintaining security.



The New Jersey Traveling Through The Panama Canal On Our Way To War In Korea
# WE ARE THE LAST

# THERE WILL BE NO BATTLESHIP SAILORS WHEN WE ARE GONE THERE WILL BE NO ONE TO PASS THE BATON TO THERE WILL NEVER BE ANOTHER BATTLESHIP SAILOR ARE WE UNIQUE? YES WE ARE UNIQUE

# To the sailors on battleships

e are the last. After we are gone there will be no more. No one will follow in our wake. For over 100 years we

were the pride of the Navy. We were battleship sailors.

We were with Dewey at Manila. We died on the Maine in Havana. We manned the dreadnaughts and sailed around the world in Teddy Roosevelt's Great White Fleet. We patrolled the Atlantic during the "War To End All Wars" as the 6th Battle Squadron in the British Grand Fleet.

As the battleships grew larger we grew with them, becoming more technically skilled as improvements in atmament, engineering and communications advanced. As technology progressed, we progressed to be the finest sailors in the world: battleship sailors.

Then came Pearl Harbor. We galantly fought off the sneak attack. We saved what we could to fight another day, but our losses were devastating. Every battleship sustained damage. The Arizona became a watery mausoleum for her ghostly heroic crew.

Fittingly, when the end came, the surrender instruments were signed aboard a battleship.

Extended life was given battleships with Korea, Vietnam, the Mideast and Desert Storm, and now they are needed no more. The last were removed from the Naval Registry in August 1995.

We are the last. After we are gone there will be no more. No one will follow in our wake. For over 100 years we were the pride of the Navy. We were battleship sailors.

> Harold J. Loeffler TOMS RIVER

#### **Information Provided by Joe Rodgers**

Mr. Rodgers was recalled into the active Navy on October 1950. He helped to put the ship back into Commission at the Bayonne Navy Yard, New Jersey in November 1950.

He remained with the ship until July 1952 and was a Gunners Mate 3rd class and served in turret Number 1 (first division).

Mr. Rodgers failed to mention that he was aboard the ship for it's first Korean Cruise, 17 May 1951 to 20 December 1951.



#### **Bear Hunting in Wisconsin**

The Pope went on vacation for a few days to visit the north woods of Wisconsin. He was driving along near the campground when he heard a frantic commotion just at the edge of the woods. He found a helpless Environmental Activist wearing shorts, sandals, and a 'Save the Trees' shirt. The man was screaming and struggling frantically, thrashing all about and trying to free himself from the grasp of a 10-foot grizzly bear.

As the Pope watched in horror, a group of Loggers came racing up. One quickly fired a .44 magnum slug right into the bear's chest. The two other men pulled the semiconscious Activist from the bear's grasp. Then using baseball bats, the three loggers finished off the bear. Two of the men dragged the dead grizzly onto the bed of their pickup truck while the other tenderly placed the injured Environmental Activist in the back seat.

As they began to leave, the Pope summoned all of them over to him. "I give you my blessing for your brave actions!" he proudly proclaimed. "I have heard there was bitter hatred between Environmentalist Activist and Loggers, but now I've seen with my own eyes that this is not true."

As the Pope drove off, one logger asked his buddies, "Who was that guy?"

"Dude, that was the Pope," another replied. "He's in direct contact with Heaven and has access to all wisdom."

"Well," the logger said, "he may have access to all wisdom, but he don't know squat about bear hunting. By the way, is the bait still alive or do we need to go back to Madison and get a fresh one?"



#### Joke of the Year

Three men - a Canadian farmer, a Muslim fanatic and a White Trash Biker are all walking together one day They come across a lantern and a Genie pops out of it.

'I will give each of you one wish, which is three wishes in total', says the Genie.

The Canadian says, 'I am a farmer and my son will also farm. I want the land to be forever fertile in Canada.'

POOF! With the blink of the Genie's eye, the land in Canada was forever fertile for farming.

The Muslim was amazed, so he said, 'I want a wall around Afghanistan, Palestine, Iraq and Iran so that no infidels, Americans or Canadians can come into our precious land.' POOF! Again, with the blink of the Genie's eye, there was a huge wall around those countries.

The Biker says, 'I am very curious. Please tell me more about this wall.'

The Genie explains, 'Well, it's about 1,000 feet high, 500 feet thick and completely surrounds the countries. Nothing can get in or out: it's virtually impenetrable.'

The Biker sits down on his Harley, cracks a beer, lights a cigar,

smiles and says, 'Fill it with water.'

I pretty much vote this my favorite joke of the year!



**New Jersey Battleship Sailor** 

Working Out In The Gym

# MYSTERIOUS WW II GERMAN SUBMARINE DISCOVERED IN THE GREAT LAKES



German U Boat UX-791 Recovered In Lake Ontario

Niagara Falls: Divers from the U.S Coast Guard took part this morning, in a delicate wreck recovery operation to bring to the surface a Nazi submarine discovered two weeks ago at the bottom of Lake Ontario.

The U-boat was spotted by amateur scuba divers in late January and they had contacted the authorities. Archaeologists associated with Niagara University and Master Divers from the U.S Coast Guard were mobilized on site to determine what it was. They soon realized that they were dealing with a German submarine sunk during World War II.

A wreck recovery vessel of the Great Lakes Shipwreck Historical Society was mandated to refloat the ship and bring it back to Niagara Falls. It would be restored prior to becoming a museum ship. The delicate recovery operation took nearly 30 hours to complete, but the submarine was finally brought to the surface with relative ease.

The divers of the U.S. Coast Guard braved the frigid water temperature to attach cables to the wreck for the recovery operation. The submarine was identified as the UX-791,

Unique experimental German subm arine, of the U-1200 design. This boat was known to have participated in the "Battle of St. Lawrence." It was reported missing in 1943 and was believed to have been sunk near the Canadian coast.

Professor Mark Carpenter, who lead the team of archaeologists, believes that the U-boat could have traveled up the St-Lawrence River, all the way to the Great Lakes, where it intended to disturb American shipping.

A report dated from February 1943 suggests, that the U boat could have attacked and destroyed three cargo ships and two fishing vessels, even damaging the USS Sable (IX-81), before finally being sunk by depth charges from a Canadian frigate.

"We have known for a long time that the Nazis had some U-boats in the St-Lawrence River, but this is the first proof that they actually reached the Great Lakes," Professor Carpenter told reporters.

This could explain the mysterious ships disappearances that took place in the region in 1943, and the reported "Battle of Niagara Falls" which had always been dismissed as a collective hallucination caused by fear."

The restoration of the submarine could take more than two years, but once completed, the U boat is expected to become one of the major tourist attractions of the region.

#### The Rest Of The Story

As with all of **World News Daily Report's** content, the Nazi sub story was entirely fabricated. The article used an unrelated image of a rusting, decommissioned Russian submarine from the Cold War era to illustrate the claim,. Not a picture of a genuine World War II-era German U-boat.

# **REUNION NAME PLATE ORDER FORM**

Complete this section by selecting the designated Name Plate for Crew Member, Associate, Spouse, or Guest.

Crew Member Plate 2.0 X 3.0 inches (white with blue letters)

Associate Member, Spouse, or Guest Plate 1.0 X 3.0 inches (white with blue letters)



Please print desired text as you wish it displayed on the lines above. We reserve the right to rearrange text for clarity and to minimize disorder. Pricing

At this time prices have not been finalized. Contact Bob Dingman for prices.

Mail the complete order form and check to:

**Bob Dingman** 

1215 Old North Main Street Laconia, NH 03246

Make check payable to

USS New Jersey Veterans, Org.

**NOTE:** Name Plate will be attached to your envelope at the Welcome Aboard Table

# **IMPORTATION INFORMATION**

In an effort to provide our members information concerning available merchandise in the small store the information will only be available on our web page (<u>WWW.USSNEWJERSEY.ORG</u>). This change provides our members the latest information on all items handled in the store. In addition, this change provides the Small Store Manager the opportunity to make new items available at any time throughout the year, minimizing delays in providing information on these items to our members.

Items can be purchase via Email, regular mail or telephone:

Email: bdingman@metrocast.netregular mail:Mr. Bob Dingman, 1215 Old North Main Street, Laconia, NH 03246,telephone:603-455-4441 603-630-1941



#### **REUNION CITY HISTORY STRING**

#### Mark Your Required History String (s)

Indicate your required reunion history badge by placing an 'X' in the appropriate column next to the Reunion City

<u>CITY</u>	YEAR	<u>CREW</u>	ASSOCIATE	<u>GUEST</u>	PLANK-OWNER
Long Beach, CA	1982				
Atlantic City, NJ	1984				
Indianapolis, IN	1986				
New Orleans, LA	1988				
Dayton, OH	1990				
Nashville, TN	1992				
Cherry Hill, NJ	1993				
San Diego, CA	1994				
Norfolk, VA	1995				
Fort Mitchell, KY	1996				
Danvers, MA	1997				
Colorado Springs, CO	1998				
Seattle, WA	1999				
Daytona Beach, FL	2000				
Branson, MO	2001				
Cherry Hill, NJ	2002				
Las Vegas, NV	2003				
Washington, DC	2004				
Valley Forge, PA	2005				
San Antonio, TX	2006				
San Diego, CA	2007				
Cherry Hill, NJ	2008				
Jacksonville, FL	2009				
Nashville, TN	2010				
Hilton Head, SC	2011				
Cherry Hill, NJ	2012				
Virginia Beach, VA	2013				
St. Louis, MO	20114				
Portland, OR	2015				
Philadelphia, PA	2016				

NOTE; Prices are not final at this time, Contact Bob Dingman for prices.

Total Badges Selected \_\_\_\_\_ X Cost = Total Cost

Make checks to USS New Jersey Veterans, Org. and send form and check to: Bob Dingman, 1215 Old North Main St., Laconia NH, 03246

Telephone # 603-455-4441 Email: <u>bdingman@metrocast.net</u>

#### A challenge coin is a small coin or medallion (usually military, bearing an organization's insignia or emblem) carried by the organization's members.

# WHAT IS A CHALLENGE COIN ?

Traditionally, they are given to prove membership when challenged and to enhance morale. In addition, they are also collected by service members. In practice, challenge coins are normally presented by unit commanders in recognition of special achievement by a member of the unit. The coins are also exchanged in recognition of visits to an organization.

This beautifully crafted challenge coin depicts the USS New Jersey firing her 16 -inch guns on the front side. The four star represent the ships four periods of combat.

On the reverse side, the ship is depicted as she sits today, as a museum and memorial, in the Delaware River on the Camden, New Jersey Waterfront. It also features the 19 Battle Stars (within the band) awarded to the ship.

The Challenge Coin are available for a \$10.00 donation plus \$3.00 for shipping and handling. (NOTE: If purchasing more than one coin the Shipping and Handling is only \$3.00 per order )



Challenge coins originated during World War I. American volunteers from all parts of the country filled the newly formed flying squadrons. Some were wealthy, attending colleges such as Yale and Harvard, who quit college in midterm to join the war.

In one squadron, a wealthy lieutenant ordered medallions struck in solid bronze and presented them to his unit.

One young pilot placed the medallion in a small leather pouch that he wore about his neck. Shortly after acquiring the medallion, the pilots' aircraft was severely damaged by ground fire. He was forced to land behind enemy lines and was immediately captured by a German patrol.

In order to discourage his escape, the Germans took all of his personal identification except for the small leather pouch around his neck. In the meantime, he was taken to a small French town near the front. Taking advantage of a bombardment that night, he escaped.

However, he was without personal identification. He succeeded in avoiding German patrols by donning civilian attire and reached the front lines. With great difficulty, he crossed no-man's land. Eventually, he stumbled onto a French outpost. Unfortunately,

saboteurs had plagued the French in the sector. They sometimes masqueraded as civilians and wore civilian clothes. Not recognizing the young pilot's American accent, the French thought him to be a saboteur and made ready to execute him. He had no identification to prove his allegiance, but he did have his leather pouch containing the medallion. He showed the medallion to his would-be executioners and one of his French captors recognized the squadron insignia on the medallion. They delayed his execution long enough for him to confirm his identity. Instead of shooting him they gave him a bottle of wine.

Challenge Coins are available by contacting: Bob Dingman: 1215 Old North Main St., Laconia, NH 03246, Phone 603-455-4441, or Email: <u>bdingman@metrocast.net</u>

# SMALL STORES SPECIAL INFORMATION

#### Hello to all,

As was reported in the last issue of the Jersey Bounce, John Chase had to resign his position as Small Stores Advisor due to medical issues. Unfortunately that is happening more often in our organization.

Since John lives near me, up here in New Hampshire, he brought the small stores inventory to my home. Since then I have been taking care of inventory and orders. John did a wonderful job of stocking up the store with great apparel. The store is in pretty good shape right now.

Since the 2016 reunion will be in Philadelphia, and we will be driving, I'm bringing the entire inventory to the reunion. Our full stock will be for sale and available at the reunion.

Since John resigned, I have been looking for a member to take over

the small stores. It looks like I have been able to find a member to take over. Mike Schappaugh, of St. Petersburg, FL, has indicated that he would be interested. Mike served on the ship during Vietnam. Thank you Mike!

See you in Philadelphia and remember, BRING CASH, as we do not take credit cards.

Bob Dingman EM2, '67-'69



#### What did Strawberry 5 do that was important

Strawberry 5 was one of 3,300 long range Patrol Bomber built by Consolidated Aircraft Company and had a crew of 10 men.

During the early part of World War II the PBYs and Boeing B-17 were the only long ranged aircraft the

#### **Strawberry 5 Completely Restored**

United States had available in the Pacific Theater.

Strawberry 5, piloted by Howard Andy was credited with being the first aircraft to spot and report the location of the Japanese Armada as it approached the Midway Island on June 3, 1942.

This battle was considered the turning point in the war as 4

Japanese Fleet (front line) carriers and a heavy cruiser were sunk.

#### Why was Strawberry 5 restored?

It was the only remaining intact PBY-5 Catalina remaining in the World, and was discovered in South Africa. After restoration the aircraft was delivered to the US Navy museum in San Diego where it is on display.

# THE JERSEYMAN (Tom Helvig)



To all my brothers, friends and shipmates of the USS New Jersey BB-62, Vietnam and other BB-62 Veterans of other era's that knew Tom Helvig. I know Tom's passing is a very sad day for all of us, because Tom was much more to us, than just another brother - crew member and also as a leader in the USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.

He was a kind and soft spoken man, who served as a mentor/teacher to us, younger than himself and lived his life with respect and pride, generously giving from the heart and being there for all those in need.

I know he will be missed very much by his family, loved ones, friends, BB-62 crew members and everyone who's life, that Tom touched.... always in a positive way.

My deepest heartfelt sympathy and condolences go out to his whole family and to all of you. He is in my thoughts and prayers..... And with his last mooring line, being cast free from the pier, I say to Tom; Fair Winds and Following Seas, my brother and friend.

May God be with you,

Frank A. LaRosa Jr.



**During Better Times** 

Tom Loved The Ship and Provided Shipmates and Friends With Insights And Information Concerning His Beloved Ship Through 'The Jerseyman'

# USS New Jersey BB 62 Taps Listing



11 A			
Zy	Lass services	Camera Curr	No con
Name	<u>Division</u>	ERA	Address
W. B. Anderson	5th	WWII	Oheechobee, FL.
John Bishop		WW II	Bremerton, WA.
William Brookhouse		WW II	Wichita, KS.
Thomas Bruce	E	Korea	Hewitt, NJ.
Clyde Burton	AV	WW II	Green Valley, AZ.
Eugene Carrick			Orlando, FL.
Albert Chapman	В	Korea	Marlborough, MA.
Albert Corey		WW II	Niantic, CT.
George Duey	С	Korea	Morgana, CA.
William Hagen	EX	WW II	N. Chester, VA.
Joseph Heeney		WW II	Aliso Viejo, CA.
Tom Helvig		Cold War	Mount Laurel, NJ.
Jack Herman	5th	WW II	Buffalo Grove, IL.
Douglas Hinson	M	Korea	Swansboro, NC.
Ronald Hoke	E	Korea	Whitehall, PA.
Jerry Kirkman	S-2	Korea	Wingate, NC.
George Lloyd		Korea	
Paul Marlett	L	WW II	W. Mifflin, PA.
Joan McDowell	Assoc.		Port Orange, FL.
Henry Pieczynski	5th	Korea	Cheektowaga, NY.
George Poznich	R	Korea	Houston, TX.
William Pringle	S-2	Korea	Delmar, NY.
Frank Rahn	1st	Korea	Deltona, FL.
Bob Rinehart	4th	WW II	Welling, OK.
Louis Ritacco	K	WW II	Carol Stream, IL.
Louis Rizzo	${oldsymbol E}$	Korea	Lewis Run, PA.
Kenneth Rodgers	4th	WW II	Las Vega, NV.
Richard Rudd	${oldsymbol E}$	WW II	Estero, FL.
Fred Selm	M	WW II	Indianapolis, IN.
Stanley Smith	${oldsymbol E}$	Korea	Chesaning, MI
Ruth Tkachenko	Assoc.		Colorado Springs, CO.
Art Toman			Ocala, FL.
Thomas Wilson	6th	Korea	Essex Junction, VT.
<b>Ronald Worthington</b>		Korea	New Hope, PA.

# WELCOME ABOARD NEW MEMBERS

# to the

# USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS ORGANIZATION, INC.



# Join the Navy and Party All The Time Or As We Gain Maturity Join the USS New Jersey Veterans Organization and Party At The Annual Reunion

Name	Division	ERA	Home Town
Bill Buckner	FM	80 ies	Wimberly, TX.
Kenneth Conklin	FCO	80 ies	Pinellas Park, FL
Timothy W. Cooper	Aux	80 ies	Florence, AL.
Peter Fuller	FA	80 ies	Waverly, IA.
David Garcia	5th	80 ies	Corsicana, TX.
Leo Glasheen	Ε	Korea	New Hampton, NH.
Kerry Martin	S	Vietnam	Newago, MI.
Marvin Minor	В	Vietnam	Tuolumne, CA
John Spero	FA	80 ies	Downers Grove, IL.









8/23/0