

THE CORAL SEA BREEZE

This Issue's Ports of Call:

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Welcome Aboard!

Keith P. Dossey, Jr.
AO3, G4 Div.
1987-90

Richard 'Dickey' Kearney
BT3, B Div.
1972-75

David L. Ziesmer
ABH2, V3 Div.
1969-73

34th Annual Reunion Set for San Antonio.

The Coral Sea Association's 34th annual national reunion is scheduled for October 3-7, 2012 in San Antonio, TX.

Plan now to attend this very special reunion event in one of the most unique areas of the

don't let this opportunity to spend time with your shipmates slip away.

Your discounted



through Oct. 10, so take advantage of this special to extend your stay and enjoy a long vacation in San Antonio.

Room reservation deadline is September 4, 2012. And parking is



country. Riverwalk is a non-stop adventure, waiting for you to discover and explore. So

room rates are just \$100.40 per night, including all taxes! That rate applies from Oct. 1

free!

To make your reservation by phone, call (210) 224-2500. Mention USS Coral Sea to get this reunion rate for your stay. A reservation form can be found on page 2 for our hospitality room and banquets!

President's Corner

Good day Shipmates Here's hoping that all of you had a great Christmas season and that the weather hasn't been too hard on all of you. Spring is coming soon along with our usual Spring Fling reunions. By the

time that you read this the Florida reunion will be over. Here's hoping that all went well there. Many thanks to Bill Johnson and Bud McKay for all that they do to make that event a success.

Gary and Diane Maddox are ready to greet all of us going to Grand Rap-

ids, Mich. on the weekend of April 26, 2012. If you can, please plan to attend this event.

There's plenty to do there from a tourist standpoint, let alone the camaraderie (also known as "sea stories"). See you all there!

(Continued on page 10)

San Antonio 2012 Reunion Reservation Form.

Name: _____ Guest: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St./Zip: _____

Email: _____ Ph.: _____

In order to print your name badge correctly, please complete the following:

Name: _____ Rate/Rank/Rating: _____ Div.: _____

Aboard Coral Sea from: _____ (mo.) _____ (yr.) TO _____ (mo.) _____ (yr.)

Registration Fee (\$25/person): No. Attending: _____ Amount Encl.: \$ _____

(Note: Registration includes hospitality room.)

Friday Buffet (\$45/person): No. Attending: _____ Amount Encl.: \$ _____

Saturday Banquet Options & Cost:

A. Rib Eye Steak (\$45/person): No.: _____ Amount Encl.: \$ _____

B. Chicken Wellington (\$40/person): No.: _____ Amount Encl.: \$ _____

TOTAL Encl.: \$ _____

Please Note: A breakfast buffet is available daily for \$10 (includes tax and tip). No registration required.

Make your Holiday Inn-Riverwalk reservations today by calling (210) 224-2500

Please make out check or money order to **USS Coral Sea Assoc. Reunion** and mail to:

Clarence Neander, 47 Redwood Manor, Pontiac, IL 61764



Taps

Stewart L. Beane
BT3, USS Coral Sea
1948-1952

Harold H. Boyer
USS Coral Sea
1952-1956
Claymont, DE

Walter P. Golema, Jr.
Sgt., USMC
USS Coral Sea
Chicago, IL

George W. Kantz, Sr.
USS Coral Sea
Korean War

James A. Selner
Master Chief, X Div.
USS Coral Sea
1956-1958
Tracey, CA

Vice President's Corner

Ahoy, Mates!

This is the second quarter of our Coral Sea year. Before you know it, Spring Flings or mini-reunions will be coming up. The Florida Spring Fling will be on March 10. We are looking for a good turnout. I hope you will be able to attend one of these mini-reunions somewhere around the country.

Please don't forget the Association's Annual Reunion in San Antonio and try to get your reservations in early; it helps if

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Secretary's Corner

Hope you and yours are well. I am going to be real brief as Sandra and I are in the middle of moving and it is real hectic around here.

Hope everyone can attend their favorite mini-reunions as well as our national in San Antonio, Texas in October. I am leaving my new address with all of you so please make note of it:

Don Colwell
2740 N. Farris Av.
Fresno, CA 93704

The telephone numbers may change but email stays the same.

Thank you!

In service, your secretary,

Don

Don Colwell
Secretary

P.S. Please note for all future correspondence that I am dropping the P.O. BOX 4235 and only using our street address:

2740 N. Farris Ave.,
Fresno, CA 93704.

Florida Spring Fling Mini-Reunion: March 10, 2012.

It will soon be time for the Florida Spring Fling Mini-Reunion of the USS Coral Sea Association members. This year we are again inviting local carrier sailors to join us. In the past, we've welcomed sailors from the FDR, the Midway and the Shangri-La. We sure hope you can make it again this year. Any flat-top sailors are invited as well.



tuna or egg salad plate comes with fresh sliced tomatoes, coleslaw and/or hard boiled egg.

- When - March 10, 2012
- Where – American Legion NO-VEL Post 159, 1770 East Venice Ave., Venice, FL 34292
- Cost - Dinner is \$20.00 per person,

Social hour begins at 11 a.m. Lunch will be served between 12 and 12:30 and will be a choice of char-broiled hamburger or cheeseburger, basket of chicken tenders, tuna or egg salad plate w/cottage cheese and chicken salad croissant with fresh fruit garnishes. The burger or tenders basket comes with fries, chips or coleslaw. The

tax included. For more info:

Bud McKay, 151 Hoosier Place, Sarasota, FL 34232; Ph. (941) 371-3790, or

Bill Johnson, 322 N Portia Street, Nokomis, FL 34275; Ph. (941) 485-4360 (leave a message, calls will be returned)

For meal reservations, please complete the form and return it to Bud McKay at the address above.



'Salty' Quotes

"I have never killed a man, but I have read many obituaries with great pleasure."

—Clarence Darrow

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **St./Zip:** _____

Email: _____ **Ph.:** _____

Attending: _____ **# of Reservations @ \$20** _____ **Amount Encl.** _____

Burger Meal: _____ **Chicken Tenders:** _____ **Tuna Salad:** _____

Egg Salad: _____ **Chicken Salad Croissant:** _____

(Please make check payable to USS Coral Sea Reunion.)

I served on the Coral Sea (circle one): **CVB-43** **CV-43** **CVA- 43**

Years Served: _____ **Division:** _____ **Rate:** _____

OR Name Your Ship: _____

USS Chafee CO Thanks Coral Sea Cadets CO.

Dear Mr. Satchell,
It was truly a remarkable story Command Master Chief Paul King shared with me of your visit to *USS Chafee* (DDG 90) on July 29, 2011. We work hard to honor our fine name-

sake, Senator John H. Chafee, by all accounts a wonderful public servant, husband and father. Your gift of the photograph in which you escort Secretary of the Navy Chafee from his helicopter is a treas-

ure, and CMC King already has plans to frame and hang it in the CPO mess.

It was a wonderful opportunity this week for *USS Chafee* to participate in Navy Days-Los Angeles. My first time to

(Continued on page 12)

Midwest Spring Fling Set For April 26-29, 2012.

The well-appointed Grand Rapids Airport Hilton again is the host site for this year's Midwest Spring Fling.

The Hilton Grand Rapids Airport address is:
4747 28th Street SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49512-1915
ph. 616-957-9072

Save the dates April 26-29, 2012, and come join old shipmates and make new friends at this 4-day gathering to renew memories and relive great adventures.

The Spring Fling room rate is a very reasonable \$87 per night, plus tax. A free breakfast is included each day. The hotel has a personalized group web page available for viewing also, but the link is so long you will need to ask



the hotel to email it to you.

If you have other questions about the Midwest Spring Fling, please contact Gary Maddox. His email address is



ut2garymaddox@gmail.com, or phone him at 616-856-8152. Fill out your reservation form below and mail it, along with your check, to Gary today.

If you plan to attend the great banquet Saturday evening, please note that payment is due by April 7. This ensures pre-payment of the food orders in time for the Hilton staff to plan for the correct number of meals. This year's menu includes your choice of Chicken Romano (\$25.25 total cost), or Prime Rib (\$34.50 total cost).



'Salty' Quotes

"I feel so miserable without you; it's almost like having you here."
—Stephen Bishop

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St./Zip: _____

Email: _____ Ph.: _____

No. Attending: _____ No. of Reservations _____ Amount Encl. _____

Chicken Romano (\$25.25 ea.): _____ Prime Rib (\$34.50 ea.): _____

Please make check or money order payable to:

Gary Maddox, 2366 Riley Street, Hudsonville, MI 49426

(payment must be received by April 7, 2012)

I served on the Coral Sea (circle one): CVB-43 CV-43 CVA-43

Years Served: _____ Division: _____ Rate: _____

OR Name Your Ship: _____

Naval History You May Not Know...The USS William D. Porter

—Ed. Note: Part 1 of a 2-part article

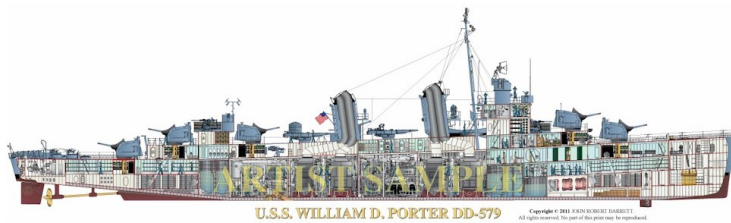
From November 1943, until her demise in June 1945, the American destroyer 'William D. Porter' was often hailed - whenever she entered port or joined other Naval ships - with the

greetings:

"Don't shoot, we're Republicans!"

For a half a century, the US Navy kept a lid on the

details of the incident that prompted this salutation. A Miami news reporter made the first public disclosure in 1958 after he stumbled upon the truth while covering a reunion of the destroyer's crew. The Pentagon reluctantly and tersely confirmed his story, but only a smattering of newspapers took notice.



U.S.S. WILLIAM D. PORTER DD-579

In 1943, the Willie D as the Porter was nicknamed, accidentally fired a live torpedo at the battleship Iowa during a practice exercise. As if this weren't bad enough, the Iowa was carrying President Franklin D. Roosevelt at the time, along with Secretary of State

Cordell Hull, and all of the country's W.W.II military brass. They were headed for the Big

Three Conference in Tehran, where Roosevelt was to meet Stalin and Churchill.

Had the Porter's torpedo struck the Iowa at the aiming point, the last 60 years of world history might have been quite different. The USS William D Porter (DD-579) was one of

(Continued on page 10)



'Salty' Quotes

"I didn't attend the funeral, but I sent a nice letter saying I approved of it."

—Mark Twain

Chaplain's Corner

Dear Shipmates,

Like many of you, I often find myself re-living my days onboard our Ageless Warrior. I still remember the first time I heard that I was receiving orders to USS CORAL SEA, and I still remember walking up the brow for the first time. For that matter, I also remember when I walked down the brow for the last time!

In between are memories that I would not trade for anything. The ship itself was at times cranky and hard to please . . . and for that matter, so was I at times! But it was my ship-

mates who made it all worthwhile. As a chaplain, I was amazed every day at the professionalism and the dedication and the skills of those who "got 'er done" every day. Although there were too many shipmates to personally know each one, I loved and cared for them all and felt like we were part of a large and historic family.

One January--probably 1986--I got a call from the AIRLANT chaplain. He wanted to see me. "Oh, what have I done now??" I asked myself. Well, it was not bad news at all. He told me that CORAL SEA had been chosen to host

the annual Easter Sunrise Service. I felt honored, yet I knew it was going to be a lot of hard work by a lot of shipmates to pull this off.

We did it! After heroic efforts by all hands, we were ready for that service. Retired Chief of Chaplains, RADM Francis Garrett, came to town and gave a stirring sermon, the choir from one of our great African American churches in downtown Norfolk sang a resounding rendition of the "Hallelujah Chorus, and the beautifully-decorated (with signal flags) hanger bay was

(Continued on page 7)

USS Coral Sea Association Membership Application/Renewal Form

Membership in the USS CORAL SEA (CVA-43) ASSOCIATION is open to all Navy, Marine Corp and Air Force personnel who served aboard the ship (CVB/CVA/CV-43) for a period of at least 90 days. Also, any person who was assigned to the commissioning crew (plank owners), even if fewer than 90 days were spent aboard, shall be eligible for membership. **DUES:** Association membership dues are \$15 per year. Dues for membership are not limited to one year. The Association is a Non-Profit Organization formed by former crew members.



New Member: I apply for membership for _____ year(s). Enclosed is a check/money order \$ _____
Renewal: Renew my membership for _____ year(s). Enclosed is a check/money order \$ _____

NAME _____ **BIRTH DATE** _____
 (Please PRINT First name, middle initial, last name)

ADDRESS _____ **CITY** _____ **STATE** _____

ZIP+4 _____ **PHONE:** _____ **E-MAIL** _____

NEXT OF KIN _____

ON BOARD SHIP AS CREW MEMBER:

From _____ to _____ Division _____ Rank/Rate on Board _____
 (Month/Year) (Month/Year) (Lt/RD/FN/SN/Sgt)
 Military Retirement: No Yes Retired as: _____ USN USMC SCG
 (Rank/Rate) USNR USAF USA

I do do not want my complete mailing address printed on the Published roster.

Please make check payable to: **USS CORAL SEA CVA-43 ASSOCIATION**
 Mail application to:

Secretary, USS CORAL SEA CVA-43 ASSOCIATION
651 E. Saginaw Way
Fresno, CA 93704

Office Use Only

Received: _____
 Check: _____
 Amount: _____
 Expires: _____



'Salty' Quotes

“He is a self-made man and worships his creator.”
 —John Bright

(Continued from page 2)
Vice President's Corner...

the host knows the approximate number of people so he can more accurately plan. President Ranson will have more about this year's reunion in this newsletter.

In the last newsletter, I read with sadness the passing of our shipmates Bill Thayer and Mike DiStefano. Both men did much for the association and served in various capacities: president, vice-president, treasurer. Bill was the vice-president before I was elected vice-president. Smooth sailing to Bill and Mike and other

members on the list. We will miss you.

As the vice president, I am also the nominating chairman. We are always looking for a few good men to step forward to run for office. This year we are electing president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, an executive board member and one scholarship committee member. I hope to have some people step forward. Please send me your names and I will put them onto the nominations list.

In this newsletter period, we will have a number of holidays: Easter, Memorial Day, Flag Day as well as

our country's birthday, July 4. Let's remember these days and honor veterans in the proper ways. I hope to see each of you in San Antonio for the Big Texas-style reunion. Until I see you again, smooth sailing.

Bill

Bill Johnson
 Vice President

Koh Tang/Mayaguez Veterans Semi-Annual Reunion.

Ed. Note—I was aboard the Coral Sea while she steamed to a much-anticipated port call in Perth, Australia in May 1975, only to be ordered “hard about” to assist in the Mayaguez rescue operation.

Every two years, the “Mayaguez Recovery Group” holds a reunion to commemorate that operation.

The ships that participated in the recovery were USS Coral Sea, USS Harold E.

Holt (FF-1074), and USS Henry B. Wilson (DDG-7).

This year’s gathering takes place at the Camden Hotel and Conference Center in Branson, MO, from May 16-20, 2012. Be sure to mention you are with the Koh Tang/Mayaguez Veterans reunion group to get the special rate of \$75 plus tax. That rate is good for three days prior and after the reunion, based on hotel availability.

Since Hank Rausch (CMAA, CVA-43, May ’75) is visiting his daughter at this time, the best contacts are:

Fred Morris: jmorris@kohtang.com

Bob Bough: 423-886-5026

Al Bailey: trbailley@comcast.net

You can find the reunion website and guest list at www.reunionproregistration.com/ktmvorg.htm

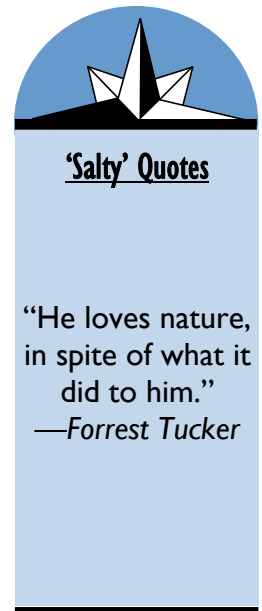
Name: _____ **Guest:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **St./Zip:** _____

Email: _____ **Ph.:** _____

50% Deposit Required by 3/16/12—Balance Due by 4/16/12
Please make check or money order payable to:
Gatherings Plus, PO Box 1023, Branson West, MO 65737
 (10% cancellation fee by 5/11/12—Refunds after that date are case-by-case)
Reunion Activity Package—\$157.00 per person
 Activity Packages: _____ # attending x \$157 = \$ _____
Optional Activity: \$10.00 per person
 Shopping & Winery Tour _____ # attending x \$10 per person = \$ _____
Optional Activity: \$69.00 per person
 Princess Dinner & Cruise _____ # attending x \$ 69 per person = \$ _____
Registration Fee: \$35.00 per person
 Registration Fee: _____ # attending x \$35 per person = \$ _____
TOTAL DUE: \$ _____



(Continued from page 5)

President’s Corner...

packed with shipmates, family, and friends.

Thank God for memories! Let’s keep them alive!

Those of you who can put words on paper (or on a computer!) should sit down and write about

your own time onboard our beloved ship. If you forget someone’s name, leave a blank until it come to you; if dates escape you, estimate as best you can.

Thanks, shipmates. You have enriched my life beyond what I deserve. God bless you all!

Your shipmate and chaplain,

Michael

Michael D. Halley
 CDR, CHC, USN,
 Retired
 Association Chaplain

Coral Sea Association Small Stores Product & Price List



Association Logo



Ship's Logo—CVB, CVA, CV

| <u>Item No.</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Price</u> |
|-----------------|--|--------------|
| 1001 | Reg. Style Cap (Blue or White), CVB/CVA/CV | \$12.00 |
| 1002 | Mesh Back Cap (Scrambled Eggs) CVB/CVA/CV | \$14.00 |
| 1003 | Marine Cap (Red) Marine Det., CV | \$14.00 |
| 1004 | Windbreaker Jacket (Blue), all sizes** | \$42.00 |
| 1005 | Micro Poly Casual Jacket (Blk, Dk Grn, Maroon, Navy, Red, Royal or Stone) all sizes** | \$46.00 |
| 1006 | Sweatshirt (Blue or White), all sizes** | \$25.00 |
| 1007 | T-Shirt (Blue or White), all sizes** | \$17.00 |
| 1008 | Denim Shirt (SS or LS), all sizes** | \$32.00 |
| 1009 | Titan Twill Shirt (SS or LS), (Navy, Dutch Blue, French Blue, Khaki, Black, Butter, Crimson, new Olive, Smoke or White), all sizes** | \$32.00 |
| 1010 | Polo Shirt (Blue or White); all sizes | \$28.00 |
| 1011 | Pin, CV-43 (Hat/Lapel) | \$ 5.00 |
| 1012 | 3-inch Patch (Older Bolder, CVA-43, Decomm) | \$ 4.00 |
| 1013 | 4.5-inch Patch (Older Bolder, CVA-43) | \$ 6.00 |
| 1014 | License Plate Frame (Chrome-Plastic), CVA-43 | \$12.00 |
| 1015 | Photo, Coral Sea Straight Deck (8" x 10") | \$ 4.00 |
| 1016 | Photo, Coral Sea Angle Deck (8" x 10") | \$ 4.00 |
| 1017 | Coral Sea Mouse Pad | \$ 6.00 |
| 1018 | Coral Sea Coffee Mug | \$ 8.00 |
| 1019 | Watch Cap, CVB/CVA/CV | \$12.00 |
| 1020 | Coral Sea Decals | \$ 2.00 |
| 1021-1 | Optional Embroidery (Name, Div, Year, etc.) | \$.50/ltr. |
| 1021-2 | Full Back Logo for Jackets | \$30.00 |
| 1022 | Coral Sea Challenge Coin | \$12.00 |
| 1023 | Coral Sea Pin (CV-43 or CVA-43) | \$ 3.00 |

** These are embroidered items; please choose either the Association Logo or Ship's Logo

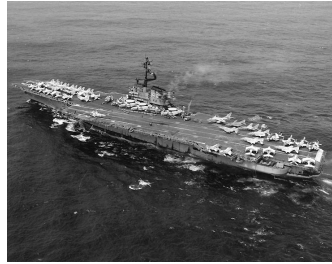
Please Note: Additional embroidery of your choosing is available on any item. Add \$.50 per additional letter.

6/09

Mail: USS Coral Sea Association
Small Stores Account
PO Box 1697
Powder Springs, GA 30127

Fax: 770-222-4833
E-mail: georgerogers@bellsouth.net
For more information: 770-943-3818

Coral Sea Association Small Stores Order Form



Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

| Item # | Qty. | Description (Color, Logo, Sleeve Length) | Size | Price Ea. | Total Price |
|--------|------|--|------|-----------|-------------|
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

Merchandise Total \$ _____

Shipping Charge** \$ _____

Total Amount \$ _____

Method of Payment

- Check (make payable to USS Coral Sea Assoc.)
- Visa
- MasterCard
- American Express



Association Logo



Ship's Logo
CVB, CVA, CV

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Name as it Appears on Card _____

Signature _____

Fax: 770-222-4833
 E-mail: georgerogers@bellsouth.net
 Mail: USS Coral Sea Association
 Small Stores Account
 PO Box 1697
 Powder Springs, GA 30127

****Priority Mail S/H Cost**

Up to \$24.99.....\$ 7.00
 \$25—\$50.....\$ 9.00
 \$51—\$75.....\$12.00
 \$76—Up.....\$15.00

Credit card orders will appear on your statement as "ICU Stitching."

(Continued from page 5)

Naval History You May Not Know...

hundreds of assembly line destroyers built during the war. They mounted several heavy and light guns, but their main armament consisted of 10 fast-running and accurate torpedoes that carried 500-pound warheads. This destroyer was placed in commission on July 1943 under the command of Wilfred Walker, a man on the Navy's fast career track. In the months before she was detailed to accompany the Iowa across the Atlantic in November 1943, the Porter and her crew learned their trade, experiencing the normal problems that always beset a new ship and a novice crew.

The mishaps grew more serious when she became an escort for the pride of the fleet, the big new battleship Iowa. The night before they left Norfolk, bound for North Africa, the Porter accidentally damaged a nearby sister ship when she backed down

along the other ship's side and her anchor tore down the other ship's railings, life rafts, ship's boat and various other formerly valuable pieces of equipment. The Willie D merely had a scraped anchor, but her career of mayhem and mishaps had begun.

Just twenty four hours later, the four-ship convoy, consisting of Iowa and her secret passengers, the Willie D, and two other destroyers, was under strict instructions to maintain complete radio silence. Since they were going through a known U-boat feeding ground, speed and silence were the best defense. Suddenly, a tremendous explosion rocked the convoy. All of the ships commenced anti-submarine maneuvers. This continued until the Porter sheepishly admitted that one of her depth charges had fallen off her stern and exploded. The 'safety' had not been set as instructed. Captain Walker was watching his fast track career become side-tracked. —to be continued.....



'Salty' Quotes

“Some cause happiness whenever they go; others, whenever they go.”
—Oscar Wilde

(Continued from page 1)

President's Corner...

Please note that the annual raffle tickets are in this issue. The proceeds from this raffle help greatly to defray some of the main reunion costs, especially the hospitality room. All payments are to be made to Association Treasurer Clarence Neander, as per the enclosed envelope. If you wish to buy more than the 12 tickets, please include the extra payment in the check covering the cost of 12 tickets along with any instructions. Also, include some of your return address mailing labels that you may have so that shipmate Clarence can affix them to the additional tickets purchased with your extra payment. Re-

member that tickets are \$1.00 each or \$5.00 for 6 tickets. The extra income will be greatly appreciated.

There's a lot going on now with your Association. Several of you have asked about the scholarship program for this year. Bear with us as we're trying to get this program running for this year.

Omaha, Nebraska is working to get our 2013 annual reunion there. I've received several bids from hotels there. If anyone of you are interested in hosting a reunion or at least getting a bid from a city near you, please get in touch with me and I'll give you all the needed info. The Association by-laws also list the requirements for a reunion. Look at the Association website under

the Association tab and click on 'By-laws.' Let's get more participation in this reunion process.

As you shipmates know, the main activities of this Association are the scholarship program and reunions. Many hands make light work. Please pitch in wherever you can. Lastly, we're trying our best to fix any address mistakes. If any corrections are needed to your mailing address, please send them to Association Secretary Don Colwell.

See you all soon!
Godspeed!

John

John Ranson
President

USS Coral Sea (CVA-43) Association

Officers

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John Ranson (859-781-2536)
52 Woodland Place
Ft. Thomas, KY 41075-1605
jr3843@fuse.net

Vice President:

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322 N Portia Street
Nokomis, FL 34275-2342
cva43bill@hotmail.com

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Fresno, CA 93704
dcolwell@att.net

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Pontiac, IL 61764
accrane@msn.com
805-341-5928

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milphillip@aol.com

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jjlickey47@yahoo.com
George Haase—2014
ghaase@msn.com
Andy Wright—2015
andrewwright08@comcast.net

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U.S. Navy Chaplain Ret.
mhalley43@gmail.com

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Powder Springs, GA 30127
GeorgeRogers@bellsouth.net

Master-at-Arms:

Mike Pfeffer
mpfeff53@aol.com

Historian:

Mike Pfeffer
mpfeff53@aol.com

Retention Committee:

Frank White, Chairman
thewhitehouse@cox.net

Locator:

Hubbard Glassett
hglassett@cs.com

Committees

Reunion Committee

John Ranson, Chairman—2012 Reunion in San Antonio, TX

By-Laws Committee

Chairman:
Members:

John Ranson,
Bob Nerbetski
Bill Eanetta

jr3843@fuse.net
cvb4312@verizon.net
cvb43@rochester.rr.com

Scholarship Committee

Chairman:
Members:

Mike Perry
Bill Williams

coralmaru7475@gmail.com
welsh877@comcast.net

Audit Committee

Chairman:

Chuck Whitcomb

cwhitcomb1877@charter.net

Nominating Chair:

Bill Johnson

cva43bill@hotmail.com

Parliamentarian:

Bob Mackey

708-891-6771

The Sea Breeze—Official Coral Sea Newsletter

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Check out the Coral Sea website: www.usscoralsea.org

Webmaster: **Bob Dorais**, cv43@usscoralsea.net



Copy Submission Deadline:

Material for the June issue of *The Coral Sea Breeze* is due in to the publisher or copy editor by May 21, 2012.

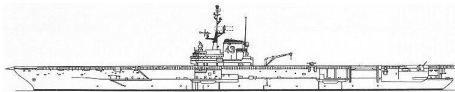
(Please send all address changes to Don Colwell at the address shown above right.)

The Coral Sea Breeze

John Ranson, Publisher
52 Woodland Place
Ft. Thomas, KY 41075-1605

Email: jrsr3843@fuse.net

Please Note: Send Address
Corrections to Association
Sec. Don Colwell



THE AGELESS WARRIOR

Enjoy Your Association Online at
www.usscoralsea.org and see this issue
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USS Chafee CO Letter...

the L.A. area, I found the outpouring of support and welcome from our fellow citizens extraordinary and heartwarming. The generous hospitality extended to the sailors and officers of *USS Chafee* was greater than one could have asked.

We have some of the greatest sailors aboard, and I know they truly enjoyed their brief visit in L.A. I hope it can be repeated again one day.

Thank you and your wife for your service to our country. Mahalo nui loa! Fair winds and following seas.

Sincerely,

Chase D. Patrick

Chase D. Patrick
Commanding Officer
USS CHAFEE (DDG 90)
"Commanding the Seas"

Who Recalls the Big-Time Craps Games on the Coral Sea?

How many can remember the famous craps game on the *Coral Sea* in the early 1950s?

The stakes were close to \$4,500 (about \$40,000 in today's dollars!) when two crew members entered the battery with masks and .45s and stole the money.

You would think the crew at sea would be a captive group, but the Navy had other priorities than depriving men their liberty while in port. The men were never caught. If you have more details about this infamous bit of *Coral Sea* history, pass it along to the *Sea Breeze* editor for a future update.

—Submitted by
Len Prtzline, EM1

A Shipmate's Note of Thanks....

To the USS Coral Sea Association and the Heavy's:

I would like to thank all my shipmates and friends for their kindness and sympathy they showed me during the loss of my wife of 46 years. She was a Navy and Vietnam wife, a true member of our navy back home. I lost my love, but have a lifetime of memories to treasure. Thank you once again and I will see you all next reunion.

PN2 David R. Eastman
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