

THE CORAL SEA BREEZE

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Welcome Aboard!

Lonzo Bennett
ET3, GMTC
1951-54

Joe Hoesley
HM3, X Div.
1962-63

Larry Lamfers
AO2, GM Div.
1964-68

Terry Moore
E3, V4R Div.
1960-63

Perry Noyd
FN, M Div.
1968-71

Ronnie Workman
AN, VA155 Div.
1962-64

Omaha, Site of Our 35th National Reunion.

The site of your Association's 2013 national reunion is Omaha, Neb. You'll find excellent accommodations at the Double Tree Suites by Hilton. Dates for the reunion are Oct. 9 - 13, 2013.

While the details for this year's reunion are still being finalized—including menu options and field trips from which you'll be able



to choose—expect a wide assortment of activities. Local highlights include Rosenblatt Stadium (former home of the College World Series), the Freedom Park Navy Museum, Crossroads Mall,

TD Ameritrade Park, the Henry Doorly Zoo and much, much more.

Look for details in your June *Sea Breeze*.

President's Corner

Good Day Shipmates, Here's hoping that all of you are well and surviving the winter. I'm quite ready for springtime! Speaking of which, make your reservations now for the spring reunion. I hope to see many of you at Grand Rapids the end of April. No doubt Gary & Diane Maddox will once again put on a

good time for all of us. And shipmate Bill Johnson told me that, as usual, the carrier sailors will party hearty in Venice, Fl. on March 9.

We're working on the main reunion in Omaha. Please make your hotel reservations now. Please also review the reunion registration form. Make your dinner selections and forward the form and your payment to

Clarence Neander at the address listed.

Tours are being set up as this goes to press. More information will be available on them in the June issue of "Sea Breeze".

I want to remind all of you of a motion passed at the last Assoc. business meeting regarding dues. Please refer to the

(Continued on page 4)

Association Membership Information Form.

Please return this form by U.S. Mail or email to: **Don Colwell (doncolwell@att.net)**
10658 S Fruit Avenue
Fresno, CA 93706

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St./Zip: _____

Email: _____
 (Please say "none" if you have no email address)

Send My Issue of the "Sea Breeze" by Email: YES or NO

Rate/Rank: _____ Div./Squadron: _____

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



Taps

Walter Reed Dooley
 1956-57, OI Div.
 Maryville, TN

Capt. James D. Ingram
 Age 91
 Nashville, TN
 (non-member)

Daryl Rawson
 Shipmate

Secretary's Corner

Hello Shipmates,
 Hope you and yours are well. Hope everyone enjoyed the holidays. It's amazing it is almost March and our mini-reunions are coming up!
 My Forty-niners almost won the Super Bowl! The only consolation is NAS-CAR starts at Daytona next week!
 Hope to be able to go to Grand Rapids in April. Thanks again to Gary and Diane Maddox for putting this on. It takes a SNIPE to get things done, right Mike?!
 In service, your Secretary,

Don

Don Colwell
 10658 S Fruit Avenue,
 Fresno, CA 93706

Vice President's Corner

Ahoy Shipmates,
 I was sitting here trying to get together this article for the Sea Breeze and realized this year is really moving along.
 President John Ranson has let everyone know the next reunion will be in Omaha, Nebraska, the home of those great steaks I hear about. Information about the reunion and the lottery tickets will be elsewhere in this newsletter. I hope you make your reservations early to make it easier on the reunion committee when they are planning events.
 Lynn and I were in Las Vegas in January to watch our youngest granddaughter play in a college softball tournament. It was great to see her pitch. We stayed

with the late Jack Calderone's wife, Lorraine. We also visited with John and Pat Pritchard and their daughter and son-in-law. We had a really good time with all of them. Lorraine and Jack's daughter, Corey, gave me one of the memorial cards from Jack's funeral and it had a great piece of writing in it. In closing, I'd like to share it with you here:

The Sailor's Psalm
 The Lord is my pilot, I shall not go adrift;
 He lighteth my passage across dark channels;
 He steereth me through the deep waters,
 He keepeth my log.
 He guideth me by the even star
 for my safety's sake.
 Yea, though I sail mid the thunders and the

(Continued on page 12)

Don't Miss This Mini-Reunion in the Midwest!

Take a spring-fling trip back in time with you Navy shipmates at the Midwest Spring Fling reunion in Grand Rapids, MI.

The reunion will be held April 25-28 at the Grand Rapids Airport Hilton Hotel, 4747 28th Street SE. It is located just two miles from the airport and complimentary airport transportation is available.

Guest room rates are only \$89 for a single/double, plus tax. Rates include a full American breakfast buffet in the Spinnaker Restaurant for each person, each morning.

You can make your reservations by calling 1-800-HILTONS. Mention you are part of the USS Coral Sea reunion to ensure your special rates.

Some great area attractions are worth put-



ting on your 'to do' list while participating in the reunion: The Gerald Ford Presidential Museum, USS Silversides Museum, Grand Rapids Art Museum and Frederick Meijer Gardens, to mention a few.

A Saturday evening banquet buffet will be served for \$32.28, including tax and gratuity. Please mail your payment for the buffet by April 12, 2013 to **Garry Maddox, 2366 Riley, Hudsonville, MI 49426.**

Also, please note that your hotel reservations should be confirmed by April 12, as well.

If the longer travel keeps you from attending your Association's annual reunion each year, here's your chance to 'meet and greet' old shipmates in a convenient, more centrally located region. Don't miss out!



The U.S. Navy. Then and Now...

Then: If you wanted to relax, you went to the Rec Center, played pool, smoked and drank beer.

Now: You go to the Community Center and can still play pool, maybe.

Sea Cadet Unit Welcomes New Commanding Officer.

The Sea Cadet's Coral Sea Div. held a change of command ceremony Jan. 13, 2013 in Upland, CA prior to commencing duties at the annual Cable Air Show.

LCDR Bob Dickson was relieved of his duties as CO of the division. He was replaced by LT Brad Webster who has been the Unit Operations Officer for the past five years.

After the ceremony was completed, the new CO's first order to the Sea Cadets and Navy League Cadets was to man their assigned posts at the Cable Airport complex.

There were over 30 Sea Cadets in attendance, most of whom had just returned from various winter trainings over Christmas vacation at mili-

tary bases along the West Coast.

LCDR Dickson will continue his affiliation with the Sea Cadets by becoming a member of the Regional Staff.



LT Webster is quite familiar with the Sea Cadet Program and is a former Active Coast Guardsman and a member of the Coast Guard Reserve. He has a daughter who is an active duty 2nd Class Hospital Corpsman currently attached to the USS Nimitz, and

who was a former Sea Cadet herself.

LT Webster will be focusing unit cadet training on getting ready for the Southern California Flagship Competition which will be conducted in May. That training involves firefighting, semaphore, knot tying, competition drill, swimming, line heaving, color guard, stretcher and first aid.

I Am a GOLDEN SHELLBACK.

Shipmates,
After reading the article in the *Sea Breeze* "Polliwog to Shellback", it brought back memories of my own traumatic initiation, and a question. On the 23rd or 25th of April 1963, while in route to Sydney, Australia from Hawaii for their annual Coral Sea celebration, we crossed the equator at the International Date Line. This crossing made all 3200 (plus) of us "Golden Shellbacks."

The books *USS Coral Sea (CV-43)* published by Turner Publishing and *Wings and Warriors, My Life as a Naval Aviator*, by Donald Engen both make mention of this special event.

I realize that the Coral Sea crossed the equator many times, but how many times was it also at the international date line?

Am I part of an exclusive Golden Shellback group in the history of our ship?

(Continued from page 1)

President's Corner...

December 2012 issue of "Sea Breeze" regarding this matter. The needed change to the Association by-laws will be published in the June 2013 issue of "Sea Breeze" for all to see.

Shipmates, if we want to keep having reunions—and I'm sure that all of you want to do this—we need bids from you. The best place to start is your convention and visitors bureau. They'll help in many ways to get good prices from hotels. In addition, they'll work with you when it comes to arranging tours and visits to local attractions, restaurants, etc. Please contact me or any member of the board of directors. We'll be more than happy to work with you to get a bid package for a reunion. As of now, no proposals have been received for any reunions beyond 2013. Your help is needed now.

"Sea Breeze" editor Ed Williams can use your submissions for publication. Any good tidbits of Navy history, especially Coral Sea history, are welcome. Several of you have done this. However, I need to especially recognize shipmate George Irvin

Anyone have any clue?

Thanks,

Roger Pinel, Westwood, MA,

rgpinel@msn.com

AK3, S6 Aviation Supply Div., 1963-1965

I am a GOLDEN SHELLBACK...

I reported aboard the Coral Sea in early February 1963 for duty, just days after the incident of the ship running aground in San Francisco Harbor. In a matter of days, we had a change of command ceremony and our replacement, Captain Charles Roemer, took command. Little damage having been done to the ship, we continued with "Carrier Quals" off the California coast before departing in April for Hawaii and the dreaded Operational Readiness

(Continued on page 10)

for his stories. Shipmate George, I always enjoy your stories. Please keep them coming our way.

No doubt there's a growing interest in having a future aircraft carrier or maybe another type of ship named Coral Sea. I'll admit that for a time I was lukewarm to this idea, but it's become apparent to me that many Shipmates want to see this happen. Therefore, I'll be glad to spearhead this effort. As a member of the VFW National Legislative Committee, I'll be in Wash., D.C. the week of March 4, 2013. I've got meetings scheduled with all of the Congressional delegation representing my home state of Kentucky. Among them is Senate majority leader Mitch McConnell. I've already mentioned this matter to his staff member who handles such matters. There'll be more on this matter later. We **WILL** get this ball rolling one way or the other.

Godspeed!

John

John H. Ranson

CVA-43 Assoc. President



The U.S. Navy, Then and Now...

Then: You wore bell bottoms everywhere on the ship.

Now: Bell bottoms are gone and 14-year-old girls wear them everywhere.

*Shipmates,**I was assigned to the USS Coral Sea right after boot camp.**My four years on the Coral Sea, as ship's company, gave me many stories to proudly tell my family and friends.**One day in the summer of 2011, my grandson came to me with a wonderful surprise. He told me he wanted to join the navy. He was to begin his senior year of high school. After taking all his tests, turning 18 and graduating, he left for boot camp at Great Lakes August 1, 2012.**After boot camp he was assigned to medic classes in San Antonio, Texas. After graduation in February he will be stationed at the National Hospital in Bethesda, Maryland.**I am hoping my navy stories had a small part in his decision.**Sincerely,**John (Jack) Weber**(Association Treasurer, 1997-2002)***The U.S. Navy, Then and Now...**

Then: The ship's office yeoman had a typewriter for doing daily reports.

Now: Everyone has a laptop with internet access and they wonder why no work gets done.

Chaplain's Corner

Dear Shipmates,

With Easter approaching at the end of this month, I well remember one memorable Easter onboard our Ageless Warrior.

It was early in the year of 1987 or 1988 that I got a call from the AirLant chaplain asking me to come to see him at his office. I could not think of any major screw-ups I had done recently, so I figured this would probably be a routine visit. I was very wrong about that!

When I arrived at his office, Chaplain Larry Boyette informed me that Coral Sea had been chosen to host the AirLant's annual Easter Sunrise Service! At once I recognized this as a great honor for our ship, but at the same time I knew it was going to be one of the most com-

plex projects I had ever undertaken. Fortunately, the 3 stars of AirLant were behind this effort, so I knew we could do it. And, when I briefed our CO, CAPT Bruce B. Bremner, he was enthusiastically onboard as well.

The next weeks are a blur in my memory . . . trying to sort out all the different evolutions and convolutions that would have to mesh together was probably the most challenging. From the CO on down, however, cooperation was great. Every department turned-to and gave it their all. We secured a great choir from a downtown Norfolk church and our speaker was to be a retired Chief of Chaplains, Rear Admiral Francis L. Garrett.

Easter Sunday came, and I am proud to say that all went without a hitch -- or

at least that is the "official" version of the day! When our guest choir started the "Hallelujah Chorus", I knew we were only a benediction away from putting this great community worship service into the history book of USS Coral Sea.

I know that I thanked everyone at that time, but let me say it again, now 28 or so years later: Thanks to all who helped make that one a great Coral Sea day!

Blessings to all of you as you celebrate your religious holidays and holy days this spring!

From your CORAL SEA chaplain,

Michael

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

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 (CV/CVB/CVA-43) for a period of at least 90 days. Also, any person who was assigned to the commissioning crew (plank owners), even if they spent fewer than 90 days aboard, shall be eligible for membership. **DUES:** Association membership dues is \$15 per year. Dues for membership are not limited to one year. When submitted for renewal or first-time application. Any amount submitted over the annual dues will be automatically earmarked for the Association's Scholarship Fund program.



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) (mo/day/year)

Address _____ **CITY** _____ **STATE** _____

ZIP+4 _____ **PHONE:** (____) _____ **Email** _____

Spouse's Name _____ **Birthdate** _____ **Anniversary** _____

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 USCG
 (Rank/Rate) USNR Air Force Army

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

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

Don Colwell, Secretary, USS CORAL SEA CVA-43 ASSOC.
10658 S Fruit Avenue
Fresno, CA 93706 Email: doncolwell@att.net

Office Use Only

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

Bill Johnson Donates Challenge Coins to Armed Forces Museum.



The U.S. Navy, Then and Now...

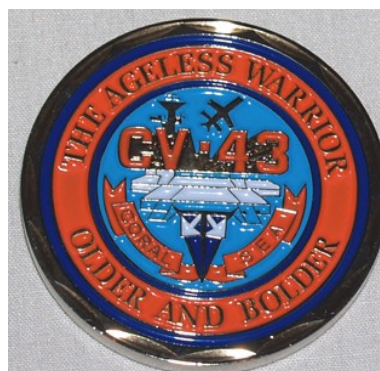
Then: If you didn't act right, you got extra duty.
 Now: If you don't act right, they start a 'paper trail' that follows you forever.

Our Association's vice president (and past president), Bill Johnson, recently donated his 'Challenge Coins' from the USS Coral Sea and the Shangri-La to the Armed Forces History Museum in Largo, FL.

Bill's donation was acknowledged with a letter from the museum's president, John J. Piazza, Sr. He thanked Bill for his contribution in preserving our military history and said, "The coins have been placed in our display case located in the Salute to Service Gallery."

You can learn more about this impressive military museum online at www.armedforcesmuseum.com.

armedforcesmuseum.com. The museum was founded in 1996 by Piazza, a local



businessman and history buff. Housed in a 35,000 sq. ft. building, The Armed Forces History Museum is one of the largest, non-

government funded, museums in the State of Florida. The Armed Forces History Museum is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit IRS approved charitable organization dedicated to preserving history and providing education to the public of the many sacrifices made to protect our freedom. The museum is committed, through its collections and outreach, to being a vital partner in the cultural life of the Tampa Bay and Central Florida communities and strives to achieve this goal through the highest professional standards in keeping with military tradition.

The USS Coral Sea by Daniel Parks.

'Tis midnight on the flight deck
of the Carrier, Coral Sea.
War's sorties flown, the day is done,
out on the China Sea.
The night is black, no moon or stars,
I walk the deck alone.
I've got the watch, the mid' to four,
and wish I could be home.

Flight op's secured, the flight deck's cleared,
all hands have gone below.
The only lights are running lights,
I feel so all alone.
With planes chained down, the only sound,
ship's angry engines groan.
The cold wind blows, the ocean's cold,
my thoughts drift back to home.

Far off away, the distant blaze
of lightning lights the sky.
Off to the west in Vietnam,
so many men have died.
I pause to hear the sound, if near,
of distant thunder's moan.
But there's no sound but blowing wind,
across the ocean's foam.

It's zero-one, an hour's gone,
my watch is slipping by.
I think about their loved ones,
and how they must have cried.
In this land so far away,
what purpose could there be?
And are we really doing this,
to keep our homeland free?

In the darkness, watch your step,
the deck's edge could be close.
Watch for chains, arresting gear,
and aircraft catapults.
Ship changes course and heels to port,
a wide turn in the sea.
I wonder if back home tonight,
my love still waits for me?

We lost two men just yesterday,
their crippled plane went down.
No hope of rescue from the sea,
it's sure they both had drown.
I spoke to one before his flight,
he said he had no fear.
But then again, how could he know,
his death would be so near.

It's zero-two, I'm half way done,
I pull my arms in tight.
And brace myself against the wind,
it feels so cold tonight.
When I get home, I'll hold her close,
that girl who waits for me.
And maybe then I'll soon forget,
about this troubled sea.

The darkness swallows up our wake,
cold, misty clouds eclipse.
Horizon scanned for distant lights,
strained eyes can see no ships.
It seems we've sailed so far away,
no other ships allied.
My thoughts, once more of Vietnam,
and of the men who've died.

The carrier sails forever on,
it's like we're far at sea.
Unnerving thoughts of fear and death,
are watching here with me.
Trying to dispel their dreadful hold,
I think again of home.
But they persist, won't give me rest,
while watching here alone.

It's zero-three, an hour more,
and then my watch is done.
Ship's stacks are belching acrid smoke,
the sulfur burns your lungs.
I inward weep for those in war,
that had to give so much.
And thankful be, out on this sea,
away from death's cold clutch.

Brave men have died in Vietnam,
and on this troubled sea.
And for their country, sacrificed,
so others can live free.
The war has taken from our best,
young men who'll never know,
Of love and peace and happiness,
the things they wanted so.

It's zero-four, my watch relieved,
another takes my place.
I turn to go, but looking back,
it's written on his face.
He's seen the dark, forbidding forms,
the ghosts of fear and dread.
He walks alone...the cold wind blows,
thoughts swirling in his head.



The U.S. Navy, Then and Now...

Then: The Exchange had bargains for sailors who didn't make much money.
Now: You get cheaper, better stuff at Walmart!

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

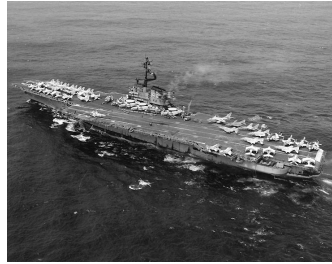
Please Note: Additional embroidery of your choosing is available on any item. Add \$.50 per additional letter.

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

Method of Payment

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

Merchandise Total \$ _____

Shipping Charge** \$ _____

Total Amount \$ _____

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Name as it Appears on Card _____

Signature _____



Association Logo



Ship's Logo
CVB, CVA, CV

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 4)
Golden Shellback...

Inspection that all ships are obligated to pass before heading for Westpac to join the 7th Fleet.

Having passed the ORI, we left Hawaii for our first port of call some 5000 miles away in Sydney, Australia. We were to participate in the 21st commemoration of the Battle of the Coral Sea.

Coral Sea week or Australian-American Friendship Week is akin to our 4th of

days, garbage from the mess decks was collected and stored, rather than being dumped over the fantail as was the normal procedure. A 'swimming pool' was built on the flight deck complete with a 'diving board'.

Some 200 or so shellback crewmembers were fully engaged in the superstition, secrecy, and crowd control tactics for the ceremony. Our XO, CMDR Jeff Davis was the first polliwog to be initiated. We all walked the

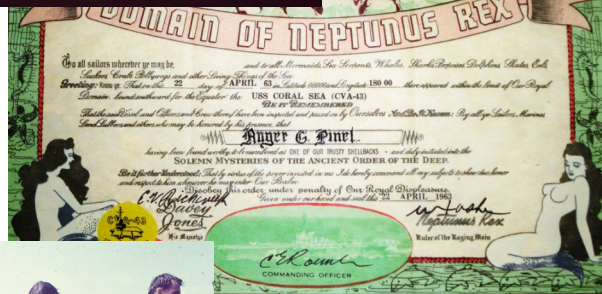
plank, ran the gauntlet, and kissed the belly of the royal baby. Finally, covered with garbage, oil and grease, we achieved the exalted status of GOLDEN

SHELLBACKS and GOLDEN DRAGONS and were allowed to hit the showers. It took an entire day to get the ship's company and air group through the harrowing initiation process.

Now fifty years later, I still have crystal-clear memories that occasionally haunt me. Words alone cannot adequately express the entire sequence of events; you have to live the experience to fully appreciate what it means to be able to say that you are a GOLDEN SHELLBACK.

Question: Was this 1963 Westpac Deployment the only occasion that the USS Coral Sea initiated 3200 some odd sailors to be GOLDEN SHELLBACKS?

rgpinel@msn.com



The U.S. Navy, Then and Now...

Then: You ate in the galley for free and as much as you wanted. Now: You eat in a 'dining facility' where they 'monitor' how much you eat.

July celebration. The festivities are held the first week in May in most cities and towns in Australia. Having the USS Coral Sea berthed adjacent to the famous Sydney Harbor Bridge and Sydney Opera House became the best two week liberty of our entire eight month deployment. (At the end of our deployment, and our return to Alameda, we were NOT met with the usual aerial display from the fireboats in San Francisco harbor as our arrival coincided with the funeral of President John F. Kennedy.)

To get to Sydney, our course took us to cross the Equator and the 180th Meridian, International Date Line at the same time. Preparations for the highly secretive ceremony started just after leaving Pearl Harbor. Lengths of old fire hose were soaked in salt water for

USS Coral Sea (CVA-43) Association.

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Committees

Reunion Committee

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

By-Laws Committee

Chairman:
Members:

John Ranson,
Bob Nerbetski
Bill Eanetta

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cvb43@rochester.rr.com

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Chairman:

Jon Lickey

jjlickey47@yahoo.com
309-688-3939

Audit Committee

Chairman:

Chuck Whitcomb

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cva43bill@hotmail.com

Parliamentarian:

Bob Mackey

708-891-6771


The Sea Breeze—Official Coral Sea Newsletter

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Read this issue in color on the Coral Sea website: www.usscoralsea.org

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

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

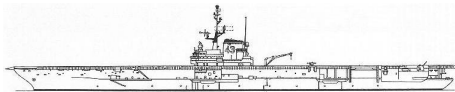


**Copy Submission
Deadline:**
Material for the
June issue of *The
Coral Sea Breeze*
is due in to the
publisher or copy
editor by
May 20, 2013.

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 of the *Sea Breeze* in full color!

Daniel Parks was motivated to write the poem you will see on page 7 while walking the dark flight deck of the Coral Sea some 48 years ago. Parks writes that he still vividly remembers that night, and it still brings tears to his eyes.

“The Coral Sea is still a precious memory from my past and I can’t help but feel very grateful to have had the privilege to be aboard her on the longest cruise in the annals of Naval Aircraft Carriers,” he said.

This poem, along with about 80 other poems he has written, will soon be in a book entitled, “Poetic Scenes and Mystic Dreams.” Look for it on Amazon—as well as in bookstores—where Parks has available his four other published books. *Ed. Note—The Coral Sea Assoc. thanks Daniel for his submission and wishes him continued success.*

Continued from page 2
Vice President’s Corner...

Tempests of life, I shall fear no peril,
for though art with me,
Thy stars and heavens, they comfort me.

The vastness of thy sea upholds me.
Surely fair winds and safe harbors
shall be
found all the days of my life; And I
shall Moor, fast and secure, forever.
Amen.

Until the next newsletter...smooth sailing.

Your shipmate,

Bill

Bill Johnson
Vice President

35th Annual Reunion in Omaha, Nebraska.

Your Association has selected Omaha, Neb. as the site of our 35th annual reunion.

Our 2013 reunion will be held October 9-13, at the Double Tree Suites by Hilton, 7270 Cedar St., Omaha, Neb. 68124.

Room rates will be \$105.16 per night, including all current taxes. And this rate applies from Oct. 7-13.

The room reservation deadline for this rate is Sept. 9, 2013. Call 402-255-9147 to reserve your room. Please mention ‘USS Cora Sea’ when making your reservation. The hotel provides arrival/departure transportation at peak travel times with prior arrangements. Call 402-397-5141 with details after booking your flight. Look for more reunion details in the June issue of *Sea Breeze*.