

THE CORAL SEA BREEZE

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Welcome Aboard!

Deadline Here for 41st Annual Reunion Sign-up.

Sign up today so you can attend your

Association's 2019 Annual Reunion in Providence, R.I. You'll find plenty of Shipmate fellowship and lots to do. Here are the tour details, followed by the Plan of the Day!

MYSTIC SEAPORT
Thursday, Oct. 10

1000 board bus, 1600 back at ho-

Discover the fascinating world of 19th century seafaring America. Mystic Seaport is the largest maritime museum in the

United States. It is notable for its collection of sailing ships

(Continued on page 2)



tel—\$75/person includes bus, escort, admission. Lunch on your own.

Richard I. French
BT3, B Div.
1972—1975

Donald L. Logan
RD3, OI Div.
1968—1970

President's Corner

Good Day Shipmates, We are fast approaching the 41th Reunion in Providence, as of today we only have 40 reservations at the hotel, need to get signed up before September 15th or lose the guarantee of 100 guest we make to get the special rates.

This year we will be selecting locations for the 2020 and the 2021 reunions. I will present each location at the general meeting and you will select which city we will attend. I had the great pleasure of driving out to San Diego with Clarence Neander, John Ranson and Larry Pennington. That was two days out and two

days back closed in with these three nuts. Really, we did have a great time and stories to be told. The Tree Sister Reunion in May was a great success, 586 Vets from the three ships attended the banquet on the flight deck of the USS Midway. Eighty-one were members of the USS Coral Sea. I

(Continued on page 6)



TAPS

Robert A. Bastel
 ABE2, V-2 Div.
 1966—1966

Leo P. Collins
 DK3, S-1 Div.
 1948—1952

George E. Copeland, Sr.
 QMSN, N Div.
 1959—1961

Donald R. Grimes
 BT2, B Div.
 1955—1957

Michael D. Halpin
 AD3, V-2 Div.
 1951—1955

Ross R. Holsclaw, Jr.
 BT2, B Div.
 1950—1953

(Continued from page 1)
Rhode Island Annual Reunion...
 and boats and for the re-creation of the crafts and fabric of an entire 19th-century seafaring village. It consists of more than 60 historic buildings, most of them rare commercial structures moved to the 19-acre site and meticulously restored. The recreated village is complete with educators and role players to teach you about the coastal community. Stroll through gardens, wander in buildings, and climb aboard tall ships. Make sure you save time for shopping and lunch on your own. There are numerous restaurants and shops in the village.



BATTLESHIP COVE
Friday, Oct. 11

0900 board bus, 1500 back at hotel—\$70/person includes bus, escort, and admission. Lunch on your own.

Climb aboard, immerse into the past, and discover the future at Battleship Cove. Spend the day touring all nine decks of the USS Massachusetts, otherwise known as the "Big Mamie" and visit the National Destroyermen's Museum aboard the USS Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. which saw live action in both Korea and Vietnam. The only two PT boats from WWII are also on display here. And don't miss the SS Lionfish, a perfectly maintained WWII attack



submarine. Of course, there's a gift shop and snack bar style options for lunch.

WRENTHAM VILLAGE PREMIUM OUTLETS

Saturday, Oct. 12
1000 board bus, 1500 back at hotel—\$50/person includes bus and escort. Lunch on your own.

Wrentham Village Premium Outlets is New England's largest outdoor outlet shopping center, featuring over 170 exciting brand name stores in one location. Wrentham Village Premium Outlets truly features something for everyone, ranging from high end luxury stores to family friendly children's clothing stores. Stores include Kate Spade New York, Burberry, Theory, Nike Factory Store, Lululemon, Vineyard

Vines, Superdry, Tory Burch, and more! Each and every store offers a savings of 25% - 65% off every single day. Join our VIP Club to get access to our Savings Passport and

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

Providence Annual Reunion...

additional savings.

Please plan to be at the bus boarding area (ballroom entrance) at least five minutes prior to the scheduled time.

Driver and Staff gratuities are not included in the tour price.

Your accommodations for this Annual Reunion deployment will be at the Crown Plaza Providence/Warwick near the airport. Our attractive group rate is just \$119 per night (plus tax) and includes a hot breakfast buffet each morning, served in the hospitality room. Rates will be valid for three days before and after the Annual Reunion dates, based on availability.



ion dates, based on availability.

For reservations, please call (401) 732-6000 and mention the Coral Sea reunion.

Our Annual Reunion Plan of the Day is expected to be as follows:

Wednesday, October 9

1400-1900, Reunion Registration Open

1200-2300, Hospitality Room Open

1200-2300, Ship's Store Open

Thursday, October 10

0730-0830, Registration Open

1000-1600, Mystic Seaport Tour

1200-2300, Hospitality Room Open

1200-2300, Ship's Store Open

1400-1800, Reunion Registration Open

1600-1800, Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, October 11

0900-1500, Battleship Cove Tour

1200-2300, Hospitality Room Open

1200-2300, Ship's Store Open

Saturday, October 12

0900-1200, Business Meeting

1000-1500, Wrentham Village Premium Outlets

1300-1700, Hospitality Room Open

1830-1930pm, Cash Bar and Social Hour

1930-2200, Banquet Dinner

Sunday, October 13

Farewells and Departures!

Cancellation and Refund Policy for Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.

For attendees canceling reunion activities prior to the cut-off date, Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. (AFR) shall process a full refund less the non-refundable AFR registration fee (\$10 per person). Attendees canceling reunion activities after the cut-off date will be refunded to the fullest extent that AFR's vendor commitments and guarantees will allow, less the non-refundable AFR registration fee. Cancellations will only be taken Monday through Friday from 9:00am until 5:00pm Eastern Standard Time, excluding holidays. Please call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion. Canceling your hotel reservation does not cancel your reunion activities.

Attendees canceling reunion activities after the cut-off date will be refunded to the fullest extent that AFR's vendor commitments and guarantees will allow, less the non-refundable AFR registration fee. Cancellations will only be taken Monday through Friday from 9:00am until 5:00pm Eastern Standard Time, excluding holidays. Please call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion. Canceling your hotel reservation does not cancel your reunion activities.



TAPS

Ernest A. Howell

RD3, OI Div.
1948—1952

Richard B. McClellan

AMH1, VQ-1
1963—1967

Ivan E. Pettit

FN, A Div.
1950—1951

Milford D. Phillips, Jr.

AD3, V-2 Div.
1955—1956

John E. Stadt

AMSC, V-6 Div.
1960—1963

Thomas E. Turner

AD3, V-2 Div.
1948—1952

Charles E. Wolf

MM3, M Div.
1951—1954

Reprinted from Newsmax.com, January 16, 2008

Chinese Navy Confronted USS Kitty Hawk.

A Chinese attack submarine and destroyer confronted the U.S. carrier Kitty Hawk and its battle group in the Taiwan Strait, sparking a tense 28-hour standoff that brought both sides to a battle-ready position.

The American ships were heading to Japan following China's sudden cancellation of a scheduled Thanksgiving port call in Hong Kong when they encountered the Chinese vessels, according to the Navy Times, which cited a report in a Chinese-language newspaper in Taiwan.

The Times reported that the encounter

caused the carrier group "to halt and ready for battle, as the



Chinese vessels also stopped amid the 28-hour confrontation."

The encounter ended without incident, however, and the U.S. ships continued on to Japan. The two Chinese vessels were also headed for a port call in Japan.

The Chinese destroyer, Shenzhen, is armed with anti-ship missiles, while the Song-class attack sub is equipped with anti-ship missiles and a variety of torpedoes.

China has expressed "grave concern" to the U.S. over the Kitty Hawk's transit through the Taiwan Strait, the Times notes. Beijing claims Taiwan

is Chinese territory.

But Admiral Timothy Keating, head of the U.S. Pacific Command, told reporters Tuesday: "We don't need China's permission to go through the Taiwan Strait. We will exercise our free right of pas-

(Continued on page 12)



Salty Humor

Shampoo for women: Exclusively for curly, blond, fragile hair. Shampoo for men: 4-in-1 hair, body, dishes and car wash.

Treasurer's Corner

Greeting Shipmates, Summer is almost over and the Annual Reunion in Providence, R.I. is close at hand. If you're planning to attend please get your registration, tour and meal selections into Armed Forces Reunions ASAP. If you haven't already done so, please purchase your raffle tickets and return them to me by 1 Oct. 2019. Returns are fewer

than usual at this time so please participate in this important fund raiser.

It was announced in the June Breeze that past Assoc. President Mil Phillips has passed away. In lieu of a memorial, The Association Board of Directors voted to send a \$500.00 donation to the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corp., Coral Sea division in Mil's Honor. Going forward, this tribute will be afforded to all past presidents.

The Association tax return is being worked on at this time and should have been filed by the time you read this.

I've had a great summer and hope you have as well.

See you in Providence,
Clarence

Clarence

Clarence Neander
CVA-43
Association Treasurer

Dates Set for Midwest Spring Fling in Dayton, Ohio.

The Coral Sea CVA-43 Assoc. Midwest Spring Fling will again be held in Dayton, OH from April 23—26, 2020.

Book your room at the Holiday Inn-Dayton Fairborn, 2800 Presidential Dr. Fairborn, Ohio 45324 (I-675 to N. Fairfield Rd, Exit 17.) Call 1-937-426-7800 for hotel reservations. Mention USS Coral Sea Association when making reservation.

Room rate: \$114.00 per night single or double, plus 12.75% tax (includes breakfast each day). Registration price per person for reunion: \$50.00 includes hospitality room and buffet dinner. Dinner Saturday night will be at the Holiday Inn. (See buffet menu below.) Make reservations by March 23, 2020. We look forward to all Shipmates attend!

Midwest Spring Fling Reservation Form

Name _____ Guest _____
 Street _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone () _____ - _____ Email _____

\$45.00/person x () Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Buffet includes: roast top sirloin, BBQ chicken breast, garden salad, cheesy au gratin potatoes, mixed vegetables & apple pie.

*Make checks payable to USS Coral Sea CVA-43 Assoc.
 (mention Spring Fling-2020)*

Mail check & reservation form to: **Brad Deegan
 C/O HF High School
 999 Kedzie Av.
 Flossmoor, Il. 60422**



Salty Humor

Bathing suits don't shrink in water. They shrink when they're stored in the closet all winter.

Secretary's Corner

Greetings Shipmates, I hope that you all are making your plans to attend the 2019 Reunion in Warwick (Providence), RI. Time is getting short so hopefully you all will get the ball moving. Please check out the 2020 Spring Fling registration form in this issue. There's been a lot of discussion

amongst those who attended this event in 2019 regarding the location for the 2020 fling. After hearing from nearly every attendee at the 2019 fling regarding the vote to go to Branson, MO, most said that they would not go there in 2020. There was a lot of confusion when this vote was taken. Consequently, event Chairman Brad Deegan and I decided

that the best course of action was to hold the 2020 fling in Dayton, OH again. I'm actively looking for sites for the fling in 2021. Brad and I hope to get input from Shipmates regarding good suggestions for the 2021 and future flings. I hope that all of you understand why this decision was made. As always, I like hear-

(Continued on page 12)

Fox Division Adventures

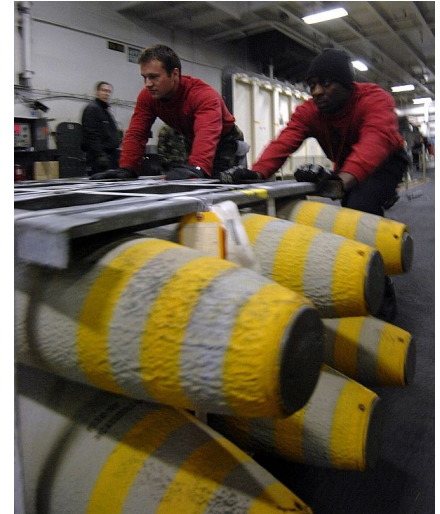
by Rom Braun, FT2
1953-1956

A previous article (See the 5th in a series) discussed loading ammunition on the Coral Sea. Have things changed in today's Navy? In an attempt to answer that question, let us review a segment of the process that you may remember.



Hanger bay two is the site where the loading of munitions begins, as the deck edge elevator is located there. The small munitions ships arrive and the bombs

are the first munitions to be brought aboard. Little bombs, middle size bombs and very large bombs are being put on the deck edge



elevator. Sailors are everywhere, pushing and pulling bomb carts. The carts with the small bombs are preferred, as those carts are easier to

(Continued on page 7)



Salty Humor

The Bartender said, "Sorry, we don't serve time travelers." Two time travelers walked into a bar.

(Continued from page 1)
President's Corner...
I am very proud of to say it was a one in a lifetime reunion and was a part of putting it together with the other two ships. There is some talk of putting another one together soon. I will discuss it at the reunion general meeting. I also talked with the President of the Midway Museum about having a compartment aboard the Midway set up just for the USS Coral Sea and he is more than glad to help us out, I will make a trip to San Diego soon to see what we need to do and get this project started. A foot note at the reunion was that a

91-year-old veteran of WW2, Juanito Dela Cruz, who served aboard the USS Coral Sea in the 1950's was present to his WW2 Victory metal at the reunion. It was a great honor to have him as my guest at the USS Coral Sea table along with Clarence Neander, John Ranson, Larry Pennington, Mil Phillips, and Robert Gaston, along with Juanito wife and grandson. A sad note that soon after the reunion we lost a good friend and an honorable man in Mil Phillips. He was tireless in his ongoing work with the Association and for the Coral Sea Cadets. His wife

Iris appreciates all the good will from everyone in letters, phone call, and donations. All donations will go to the Coral Sea Cadets. He was buried at a military cemetery with full honors in the San Diego area. He will be missed. Final thoughts: get your reservation in and looking forward to seeing all at this year 41st reunion. Good Luck and God speed,

Wayne

Wayne Addkison
President

(Continued from page 6)
Fox Division...

handle as you move the bombs across the hanger bay.

Moving the big bombs was extremely difficult especially when you had to take them into hanger bay one! Getting that bomb, yes, one bomb per bomb cart, up and over the threshold that made up the hanger bay door track was very difficult and, in my opinion, a very dangerous operation. You knew it took a considerable amount of energy to set a bomb off with out the detonator, but none the less you were scared working with this stuff.



The big bomb is brought to a small elevator in the hanger bay. That small elevator takes the bomb down to the storage area. Finally the bombs are loaded and the storage areas are filled to capacity.

What happens today? That question can be answered by a selection of pictures.

Is more ordnance brought aboard today? I would think so as the requirement caused by a change in the style of warfare requires more sorties and the defense for the ship has

changed from three inch and five inch guns to the Phalanx.

Things change, even the way the Navy handles ordnance and the weapons that help in protecting the ship.

Chaplain's Corner

Dear Shipmates,
 As more and more years pass since I last was aboard The Ageless Warrior, the more precious the memories I have.

I remember well the day I departed at the end of my tour, to go to the Armed Forces Staff College (now Joint Forces Staff College) as their Command Chaplain. I was in the hangar bay as we were pier-side at Naval Station Norfolk, preparing to depart

the ship. About that time, our Commanding Officer, Captain Ed "Bulldog" Allen walked over to say farewell. I told him, "Captain, my true regret upon leaving Coral Sea is that I will no longer have the CV-43 sticker on my ID card."

Captain Allen immediately turned to a sailor walking by and ordered him to go to the ship's office to get a Coral Sea sticker for my ID card. When he returned with the sticker, I was once again a happy sailor! I truly appreciated the

CO doing a kind act for a departing shipmate.


It is stories like this that make it all worthwhile. I know you have stories as well. Tell those stories! Write them down! Let's not let the great heritage of our ship fade away.

Blessings to you all!

Your chaplain,

Michael

Michael D. Halley
 Association Chaplain
 USS Coral Sea



Salty Humor

What kind of exercise do lazy people do? Diddy-squats.

USS CORAL SEA CVA-43 ASSOCIATION – OCTOBER 8-12, 2019

Listed below are registration, tour, and meal costs for the reunion. Send the total amount payable to ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC. in the form of check or money order. If a valid email address is provided, a receipt will be sent electronically. Otherwise, your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. Returned checks will be charged a \$20 fee. You may also register online and pay by credit card at www.afr-reg.com/coralsea2019 (3.5% will be added for credit card charges). All forms and payments must be received by September 10, 2019. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing. Please do not staple or tape your payment to this form. For cancellation policy, refer to program page. Call 757-625-6401 to cancel and obtain a cancellation code.

Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.

**322 Madison Mews
Norfolk, VA 23510**

ATTN: USS Coral Sea CV-43 Assn

OFFICE USE ONLY	
Check # _____	Date Received _____

<i>CUT-OFF DATE IS 9/10/19</i>	Price Per	# of People	Total
MANDATORY PER PERSON REGISTRATION FEE Includes Hospitality Room and reunion expenses.	\$ 20		\$
TOURS			
THURSDAY, 10/10: Mystic Seaport Tour	\$ 75		\$
FRIDAY, 10/11: Battleship Cove Tour	\$ 70		\$
SATURDAY, 10/12: Wrentham Village Premium Outlets	\$ 50		\$
MEALS			
SATURDAY, 10/12: Banquet Dinner – <i>Please choose your entrée below</i>			
Grilled NY Sirloin	\$ 48		\$
Boneless Chicken with Sage and Apple Stuffing	\$ 48		\$
Baked New England Scrod	\$ 48		\$
Pasta Primavera	\$ 48		\$
TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE TO ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC			\$

PLEASE PRINT NAME AS YOU WOULD LIKE IT TO APPEAR ON YOUR NAME TAG

FIRST _____ LAST _____

YEARS ON BOARD 19 to 19 _____ DIV/SQDN _____ RATE/RANK _____

SPOUSE/GUEST ATTENDING _____

MEMB. ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PH. (____) _____ - _____ EMAIL _____ @ _____

DISABILITY/DIET RESTRICTIONS _____

(Sleeping room requirements must be conveyed by attendee directly with hotel)
MUST YOU BE LIFTED HYDRAULICALLY ONTO THE BUS WHILE SEATED IN YOUR WHEELCHAIR IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN BUS TRIPS? YES NO (PLEASE NOTE THAT WE CANNOT GUARANTEE AVAILABILITY).

CROWN PLAZA PROVIDENCE/WARWICK

The group rate is \$119/night (plus tax) and includes a hot breakfast buffet each morning, served in the hospitality room. Rates valid for three days before and after the reunion dates (based on availability)

For Reservations Call: (401) 732-6000

CORAL SEA ASSOCIATION SMALL STORES ORDER FORM #1

ITEM #	QTY.	SIZE NOTE: CAPS - ONE SIZE FITS MOST FOR LARGER HEADS ADD \$3.00 FOR LG/XLG FLEX- FIT CAPS	COLOR	PRICE	ADDITIONAL INFO FOR ITEM # - HULL DESIGNATION CVB, CVA, CV, JOB RATE(BT,MM,AB,...etc.) OFFICER RANK/PAY RATE (CAPT,LTCDR,EN/E4,E5,E6,E7,...etc.) USMC DESIGNS - (A,B,C, OR D) THREAD COLOR FOR WATCH CAP DESIGN
#1					
<p>Place Ship Store Orders Here! Wayne Addkison 12856 FM 1391, Kemp, TX 75143 Ph: 903.288.4455 Fx: 903.675.0086 Email: nijarm2@yahoo.com</p>					
				\$ _____	** USPS PRIORITY MAIL - S/H CHARGES**
SALES TOTAL				\$ _____	UP TO \$24.99\$7.00
SHIPPING CHARGES				\$ _____	\$25.00 TO \$50.00\$9.00
TOTAL CHARGE				\$ _____	\$51 TO \$75 \$12.00
					\$76 & UP \$15.00

All Credit Cards Will Be Processed Through The Ship Store
All Credit Cards Accepted: Visa, Master Card, Discover, American Express
Make Checks Payable To The Ship Store

Assistance with Shipmate's Asbestos-Related Legal Research.

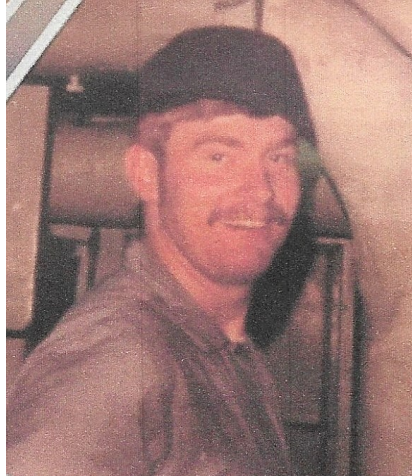


Salty Humor

"All I've ever wanted was an honest week's pay for an honest day's work."

—Steve Martin

Dear Mr. Addkison,
I am an Asbestos Investigator and I work with attorneys that represent the family of a gentleman that has passed away as a result of asbestos-related disease. Our client's lived one, Joseph A. App, served aboard the USS Coral Sea between 1972-1975 as a Boiler Technician. We are looking for other gentlemen that may have served with him during that time period. I am enclosing a copy of a photo of Mr. App for your refer-



ence. I would like to speak with you about reaching Boiler Technicians that served aboard the USS Coral Sea between 1972-1975. I can be reached at (734) 878-5236 or email sherry@LSDinvestigations.com
Thank you in advance for your time and attention in this matter; it is greatly appreciated. I look forward to hearing from you.

Very truly yours,
Sherry L. Day
SLD Investigations

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 original commissioning crew (plank owner), even if they spent fewer than 90 days aboard, shall be eligible for membership. **DUES:** Association membership is \$20 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 _____ Birthday _____ 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.

I do [] do not [] want an Association bumper sticker.

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

Mail application to:

John Ranson, Secretary, USS CORAL SEA CVA-43 ASSOC.
52 Woodland Pl.
Ft. Thomas, KY 41075-1605 Email: jrsr3843@fuse.net

Office Use Only

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

USS Coral Sea (CVA-43) Association.

Officers

President:

Wayne Addkison
12856 FM 1391
Kemp, TX 75143
nijarm2@yahoo.com
(903) 288-4455 (home)

Vice President:

Robert L. Gaston
4407 S. Lanier Drive
Tampa, FL 33616
rgaston3@tampabay.rr.com
(813)298-9774

Secretary:

John H. Ranson
52 Woodland Pl.
Ft. Thomas, KY 41075-1605
jr3843@fuse.net
(859) 781-2536 (home)
(859) 250-3727 (cell)

Treasurer:

Clarence Neander
27684 N 725 E Road
Cornell, IL 61319
accrane@msn.com
(815) 341-5928 (cell)

Immediate Past President:

Mil Phillips (Deceased)
4995 Maynard Street
San Diego, CA 92122
milphillip@aol.com
(858) 452-0161 (home)
(858) 401-3402 (cell)

Board of Directors:

Bill Johnson—2019
cva43bill@hotmail.com
Larry Pennington—2020
nija6063@gmail.com

Al Ching—2021
al_ching@yahoo.com

Chaplain:

Rev. Michael D. Halley
U.S. Navy Chaplain Ret.
mhalley43@gmail.com

Storekeeper:

Wayne Addkison
12856 FM 1391
Kemp, TX 75143
nijarm2@yahoo.com
(903) 288-4455, Fax 675-0086

Master-at-Arms:

Mike Pfeffer
5311 N Manila Avenue
Chicago, IL 60630
mpfeff53@aol.com
(773) 612-7107 (cell)

Historian:

Mike Pfeffer
mpfeff53@aol.com

Retention Chairman:

Jon Lickey (309) 688-3939 (home)
jjlickey47@yahoo.com

Committees

Reunion Committee

Members:

2019 Reunion, Providence, RI
Mil Phillips, John Ranson & Clarence Neander

By-Laws Committee

Chairman:

John Ranson,
Bob Nerbetski
Bill Eanetta

Members:

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

Scholarship Committee

Chairman:

Guy Dunbar

godunbar@outlook.com
(405) 820-5302 (cell)

Audit Committee

Chairman:

Robert Gaston

Nominating Chair:

Bill Johnson

cva43bill@hotmail.com

Parliamentarian:

John H. Ranson

(859) 781-2536

The Sea Breeze—Official Coral Sea Newsletter

Publisher: **Wayne Addkison**

Copy Edit/Layout: **Ed Williams**, edwscsm@comcast.net

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

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

NOTE: Please send all mailing address changes to John Ranson at the address shown top right.



Copy Submission Deadline:

Material for the December issue of *The Coral Sea Breeze* is due in to the publisher or copy editor by Nov. 5, 2019.

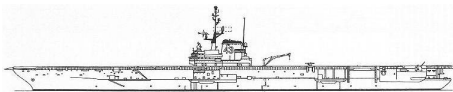
USS Coral Sea CVA-43 Association

Wayne Addkison, Publisher
12856 FM 1391
Kemp, TX 75143

Email: nijarm2@yahoo.com

Please Note: Send Address
Corrections to Association Sec.
John Ranson

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US POSTAGE
PAID
JOLIET IL
PERMIT #349



THE AGELESS WARRIOR

Enjoy Your Association Online at
www.usscoralsea.org and see
this issue of the *Sea Breeze* in
full color!

(Continued from page 5)
Secretary's Corner...

ing from Shipmates. If there's any mistakes on your "Sea Breeze" address label regarding your membership expiration date, please contact me. I want to keep the roster accurate. Also, if any of you learn of the passing of a Coral Sea Assoc. member, please contact me with the information.

Steam well and have a great rest of Summer!

John

John H. Ranson
CVA-43
Association Secretary

(Continued from page 4)
Chinese Navy Confronts....

sage whenever and wherever we choose."

Shortly before the Kitty Hawk battle group was denied entry to Hong Kong, China had refused safe harbor for two U.S. Navy minesweepers seeking refuge from a storm.

As Newsmax has reported, some U.S. politicians have rung alarm bells about China's increased military spending and technological revamping of its armed forces.

China's military budget had an average annual growth rate of nearly 16 percent from 1994 to 2004, and China's reported 2006 military budget is about \$35 billion, according to Beijing. But Pentagon sources have said these numbers fail to demon-

strate the true scope of the growth, and the real 2006 figure could be as much as \$105 billion.

In recent years China has upgraded its nuclear-tipped intercontinental ballistic missiles; bought state-of-the-art warships, fighter planes and submarines from Russia; and begun development of a number of so-called "asymmetrical" weapons, including informational warfare and anti-satellite systems.

In November, Japanese Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda warned that China's continuing military buildup could eventually pose a "major threat" if the Chinese government decides to exercise its power.

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