

MARCH 2022

Volume 27, 2nd Qtr.

THE CORAL SEA BREEZE

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Welcome Aboard!

Reuben I. Abraham
 CDR, CHC
 Supply Dept.
 7/77-9/79

Norfolk Annual Reunion Plans Confirmed!

The USS Coral Sea Association 2022 annual reunion will take place in Norfolk, Va., from Oct. 5-9. The reunion hotel is the up-scale Sheraton Norfolk Waterside at 777 Waterside Drive Norfolk, Va., 23510



The toll-free reservation number is (800) 325-3535.

hours before arrival.

The discounted USS Coral Sea room rate is \$129 per night, plus 15% sales tax and a \$3 per night occupancy tax.

This rate will be extended to Association members for three

Cancelations will be accepted without penalty up to 24

(Continued on page 12)

President's Corner

Howdy shipmates, Another Breeze ready to publish with all the latest news from your Association.

First, in this issue of the Breeze you will find the details for the upcoming reunion in Norfolk, including the menu for our banquet, available tours, and hotel

information. You'll also find the registration form. The cutoff date is September 15, 2022, so make your reservations ASAP.

One thing I must point out is that we board the Friday night dinner cruise behind the hotel, which is about a 150-yard walk. Be sure and let me know if you want to take

this tour and need assistance. The charge would have been \$125.00 to furnish transportation for this short walk.

As you all know, I have been looking for someone take over the Ship Store but have had no takers as of today. As with the cost of everything else recently, the price list

(Continued on page 12)

Norfolk, Virginia 2022 Annual Reunion Tours!

Thursday, October 6, 2022 Naval Station Norfolk/ Nauticus

The Hampton Roads area is home to military bases from all branches of the military, and Naval Station Norfolk is the world's largest naval facility.

Your visit will begin with a security screening at the visitors center and include a driving tour of Admiral's Row, the Naval

Air Station, and the piers. Following the tour, you will have time to enjoy lunch at Norfolk's MacArthur center which is home to more than 20 restaurants. There will be a wide range of food choices at a broad price range.

After lunch our tour heads downtown to Nauticus, an exciting 120,000 square-foot science and technology center that explores the power of the sea with interactive and educational exhibits. On the second deck of Nauticus is the Hampton Roads Naval Museum, which features a large collection of seafaring artwork, ship models and underwater artifacts.

Also part of Nauticus is the USS Wisconsin. The Wisconsin is one

of the largest and last battleships to be built by the U.S. Navy.

Note: If for any reason the naval base is closed to the public (e.g. security issues), the tour length will be shortened, but refunds can't be issued.



Due to heightened security, participants may be searched and a photo ID is required. Sharp objects such as pocket knives and nail clippers are not permitted on base.

ted on base.

—10:00 a.m., Board Bus
— 5:00 p.m., Back at Hotel
\$70 per person, includes bus, escort and admission. Lunch extra.

Friday, October 7, 2022 Spirit of Norfolk Dinner Cruise

Spirit of Norfolk is the premier cruise boat on Norfolk's waterfront. The walk from the hotel to the ship's berth is about 150 yards and requires navigating some steps. Weather permitting, you'll have the opportunity to

Reunion Tours...

have your picture taken as you board the ship, which will be

(Continued on page 5)



TAPS

William H. Banks
MMCS, M Div.
1961—1965

John R. Clark
ADCS, V-2
Div.
1959—1962

Lawrence S. Dorsa
QM3, O2S
Div.
1952—1954

USS CORAL SEA CVA-43 ASSOCIATION OCTOBER 4-9, 2022, SHERATON NORFOLK WATERSIDE NORFOLK, VA. PLAN OF THE DAY

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5

12:00pm—11:00pm	Hospitality Room Open
12:00pm—11:00pm	Ship's Store Open
2:00pm —7:00pm	Reunion Registration Open

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6

7:00am — 8:00am	Reunion Registration Open
10:00am — 5:00pm	NAVAL STATION NORFOLK / NAUTICUS
12:00pm—11:00pm	Hospitality Room Open
12:00pm—11:00pm	Ship's Store Open
4:00pm — 6:00pm	Reunion Registration Open
5:00pm — 8:00pm	Board of Directors Meeting

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7


12:00pm—11:00pm	Hospitality Room Open
12:00pm—11:00pm	Ship's Store Open
6:00pm—10:00pm	Dinner Cruise on the Spirit of Norfolk

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

9:00am—12:00pm	Business Meeting
1:00pm— 5:00pm	Hospitality Room Open
6:30pm— 7:30pm	Cash Bar and Social Hour
7:30pm—10:00pm	Banquet Dinner

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

Farewells and departures



Salty Humor

When two vegans get into an argument, is it still called a beef?

Protecting the Air.

The U.S.S. Coral Sea was by this time designated CVA-43 and headed back to the states from Mediterranean Waters. During our trip we encountered a hurricane which caused extensive damage to the ship. We had to return to the Portsmouth, Va., Naval Shipyard for repairs.

Some of the crew took leave and those who remained on board maintained routine daily duties and enjoyed Port and Starboard Liberty. The shipyard workers were working everyday around the clock.

One morning, around 02:00 hours, a loud rat-a-tat noise started echoing throughout the ship. No one could sleep, and this went on for quite a while. The crew was really getting angry, and a few hands volunteered to search for the air lines that operated the steel chippers. In about a half-hour, things were nice and quiet again, and we thought that was the end of it. As we all got comfortable in our racks, the steel chippers were

back in action. A few more volunteered to seek and destroy; this time it would be the main supply line. In about twenty minutes the chippers went silent, and all hands thought that would be the end of it. After getting used to the quiet, the barrage began again.

By now the crew was out for blood, so out went the third attack party. This time they were surprised to find the marines from our own ship standing guard. The men were told that anyone caught disrupting this work in any way would be shot! The chippers went at it again, but only for a short time. Ah, peace and quiet. Repairs were finally completed, and the Coral Sea was under way for a shake-down cruise to Guantanamo Bay during March and April of 1954. All's well that ends well.

*Anchors Aweigh
James F. Murray GM3
3rd Gunnery Division
U.S.S. Coral Sea CVA 43
February 1951 – July 1954*



Salty Humor

I didn't realize how bad a driver I am until my navigation app said, "In 400 feet, make a slight right, stop, and let me out!"

Secretary's Corner

Greetings Shipmates, Here's hoping that your holiday season went well.

Not much new to report except that I'm working on organizing a Spring Fling for 2023. I'm looking for a suitable site near the middle of Indiana, closer to those of you who may want to attend this event.

I'm open to suggestions, and I'd like to get a firm commitment from at least 40 Shipmates and their guests before I make a commitment to any facility. Once again, if any of you are interested in attending a Spring Fling next year, please let me know. My contact information is on the Officer's listing in this issue.

As always, I enjoy hearing from you. Also, please don't forget to look at the address label and see if your dues are current. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Godspeed!

John

John H. Ranson
CVA-43
Association Secretary

(Continued from page 2)

Reunion Tours...

available for purchase following the cruise.

The Hampton Roads harbor dinner cruise will include a picturesque view of the ships at the Norfolk Naval Station. You'll enjoy a cruise-worthy buffet while the captain narrates the harbor sites.

—6:00 p.m., Cruise Boat Departs
—10:00 p.m., Cruise Boat Docks
\$75 per person, includes dinner cruise, entertainment and escort



Note: Please be at the bus boarding area at least 15 minutes prior to the scheduled time. All tours require a minimum of 35 people. Driver and Guide gratuities are note included in tour prices.

There is a limit of one hydraulically lifted scooter or wheelchair per handicap accessible bus. If you use a scooter but can climb the steps to board the bus, either

you or person traveling with you must be able to put the scooter in the bus's luggage compartment. Due to liability issues, drivers and tour guides cannot assist with scooters.



Salty Humor

You know you're getting old when you have a party and the next-door neighbors don't realize it!

Treasurer's Corner

Greetings, I'm experiencing winter doldrums. Woke up to 1 deg. outside this morning. There are better things to come, like the annual reunion in Norfolk.

Nothing new financially to report. The annual \$1,000.00 donation to the US Naval Sea Cadets, Coral Sea Division, has been mailed and

dues are coming in. It's raffle ticket time again. You should have received three books of tickets in your Sea Breeze. I hope we have a better return than last year--which was a record year--thanks in no small part to Larry and Ruth Carlson selling more than 100 books! Please consider participating in this fund raiser. If you would like to purchase extra tickets, just include the

extra money and I will fill them out. I have not included any pictures of the memorabilia trailer as health issues and cold weather have delayed having the graphics done. I'll include some in the June issue.

Be Well, stay safe, see you in Norfolk,

Clarence

Clarence Neander
 Association Treasurer

Captain's Mast.

After completing a tour of duty in the Mediterranean, the USS Coral Sea CVB43 was sent to the Portsmouth, Va., Navy Shipyard for a few minor repairs. This situation allowed eligible crewmen to take leave for a week or two, leaving the ship with a skeleton crew. I was not in service long enough to have leave, so I had to stay onboard.

Since the Marine detachment also left the ship, some of their usual obligations had to be covered, including "Captain's Orderly". As the luck of the Irish would have it, I was selected and after about two weeks I adapted to my new duties.

One afternoon I was informed

there was going to be a "Captain's Mast" and I would be accompanying him to this event. I reported to the Captain's Cabin, and we went to a meeting room where five sailors were lined up. The captain read off the charges so all could hear. He then walked up to the five sailors and asked each man if he was gambling. The first four men said yes. But he asked the fifth sailor, whose name the captain knew, "Willie Jones, don't tell me you were gambling?" Willie responded, "No sir, Captain sir, not me. I was just fad-ing."

Well, the Captain almost busted a gut to keep from laughing. His punishment dealt out to the five men

(Continued on page 10)



Salty Humor

What did the Navy dentist put on his license plate?
TOP GUM

Chaplain's Corner

Dear Shipmates,
I don't know about you, but as I grow older - and it seems like "older" is coming way sooner than I would like - I more and more reminisce about my experiences earlier in my life. Many of those memories come from my days onboard our "Ageless Warrior," USS CORAL SEA (1986-1989).

I remember, for one, our General Quarters drills. As a chaplain, of course, I did not have a Repair Locker assignment, but, rather, my station was the Battle Dressing

Station just below the flight deck. Our manning included corpsmen, a flight surgeon, a dental officer, and me. We got to be very good friends as the minutes lengthened to hours spent together in that rather small space.

It was hot in there. Air did not seem to be moving and, of course, as sailors like to have something to complain about, we grumbled constantly about how uncomfortable we were.

However, the next time GQ was called, we entered our Battle Dressing Station and immediately no-

ticed that the air was much cooler and we actually had air circulating. I asked one of the corpsmen who was assigned there what happened and he replied that they had decided to actually perform the PMS on the ventilation system. What they discovered was a seriously clogged air filter in the hangar bay which was blocking the cool air from getting to us. Problem solved!

Now, in the grand scheme of things, our complaints about being hot and uncomfortable were very minor. But on the other hand,

(Continued on page 7)

Remembering April 30, 1990.



From Commissioning to Decommissioning

"Coral Sea carries on a centuries old tradition..."

During the Middle Ages the mark of knights and other nobles was a "coach whip pennant" called a pennon. The size of these pennons as well as their diverse splendor usually signified the relative rank and importance of the noble it heralded. During the infancy of modern naval seapower these nobles rarely embarked upon seagoing vessels, but when they did, they flew their pennons from the most visible place on the ship, usually the foremast or main mast.

Perhaps the first time the commission pennant was used independent of feudal heraldry dates back to the 17th century during a conflict between the Dutch and English. Admiral Maarten Harpertzoon Tromp of the Dutch fleet hoisted a broom at his masthead to indicate his intention to "sweep the English navy from the sea."

The gesture was soon answered by British Admiral William Blake who hoisted a horse whip, to indicate his intentions to

chastise the Dutch. The British carried out their boast and ever since a narrow coach whip pennant (to symbolize the original horse whip), has been the distinctive mark of a vessel of war and has been adopted by all nations.

The commissioning pennant, as it is called today, is blue at the hoist, with a union of seven white stars; it is red and white at the fly, in two horizontal stripes. (The number of stars is arbitrary). The pennant is flown at the main by vessels not carrying flag officers. In lieu of the commission pennant, a vessel with a high ranking officer or official embarked flies his own personal flag or command pennant.

Today's ceremony and its participants are enacting an age old tradition handed down from century to century. When the commissioning pennant is finally lowered from the main and handed over to the commanding officer, the ship is officially retired.



Salty Humor

A clean house
is a sign of NO
internet
connection!

(Continued from page 6)
equipment should be able to operate as it was designed and constructed. A life lesson is in there somewhere, don't you think? Operating at optimal efficiency is not only good for machines but for us humans, too.

And once again, I discover that

you can, in fact, teach an old dog new tricks!

God bless you and stay safe and well!

Michael

Michael D. Halley
Association Chaplain

USS CORAL SEA CVA-43 ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REUNION – OCTOBER 4-9, 2022

Listed below are all registration, tour, and meal costs for the reunion. Please enter how many people will be participating in each event and total the amount. Send that amount payable to ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC. in the form of check or money order. 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/coralsea2022 (a convenience fee of 3.5% will be added to online registrations). All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before **September 3, 2022**. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis.

Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.
322 Madison Mews
Norfolk, VA 23510
ATTN: USS Coral Sea CV-43 Assn.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Check # _____ Date Received _____
 Inputted _____ Nametag Completed _____

<i>CUT-OFF DATE IS 9/3/22</i>	Price Per	# of People	Total
<u>MANDATORY PER PERSON REGISTRATION FEE</u> Includes Hospitality Room and reunion expenses	\$ 25	#	\$
<u>TOURS</u>			
Thursday, October 6, 2022: Naval Base/Nauticus	\$70	#	\$
Friday, October 7, 2022: Dinner Cruise on the Spirit	\$80	#	\$
<u>MEALS</u>			
Saturday, October 8: Banquet Dinner – <i>Please choose your entrée below</i>			
Roast Sliced Sirloin of Beef with Peppercorn Cognac Cream Sauce	\$ 52	#	\$
Chicken Piccata with Lemon Caper Sauce	\$ 52	#	\$
Vegetarian Option—Mushroom Ravioli with Boursin Cheese Sauce	\$ 52	#	\$
Total Amount Payable to Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.			\$

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

FIRST _____ LAST _____

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

SPOUSE NAME/GUEST NAME (IF ATTENDING) _____

MEMBER ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER (_____) _____ - _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

DISABILITY/DIETARY 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).**


For refunds and cancellations please refer to our policies outlined at the bottom of the reunion program.

CANCELLATIONS WILL ONLY BE TAKEN MONDAY- FRIDAY 9:00am-5:00pm EASTERN TIME (excluding holidays). Call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion.

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



Salty Humor

Just once I want a username/password prompt to say, "Close Enough!"

(Continued from page 6)
Captain's Mast...

was a two-day restriction aboard the ship. Captain's Mast concluded and the Captain and I headed back to his cabin. He was chuckling all the way back. When we arrived at the Captain's Cabin, he turned to me and said he wouldn't need me for the rest of the day. So, I was free to go ashore if I wanted and would report to him after morning chow.

When I reported for duty the next day, the captain greeted me with,



"Good morning, Jim. Any reports on fading today?" We both shared a good laugh together.

It's been a long time since this tale was told and I don't recall the captain's name. However, I never forgot him as the finest

est commanding officer under whom, I ever served.
Note: All names were changed to protect the innocent. Smooth sailing to all.
James F. Murray GM-3
3rd Gunnery Division
February 2, 1951 - July 8, 1954

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 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** _____

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: _____

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John Ranson & Clarence Neander

By-Laws Committee

Chairman:

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Members:

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Scholarship Committee

Chairman:

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jr3843@fuse.net

859.250.3727 (cell)

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Robert Gaston

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Parliamentarian:

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The Sea Breeze—Official Coral Sea Newsletter

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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 June issue of *The Coral Sea Breeze* is due in to the publisher or copy editor by May 3, 2022.

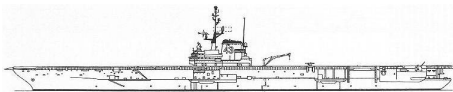
USS Coral Sea CVA-43 Association

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Please Note: Send Address
Corrections to Association Sec.
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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 1)

President's Corner...

in the Breeze will be updated soon to reflect the increasing costs we have incurred. But if you want to order, just give me a call and I will give you the new prices.

In the follow up with the compartment aboard the Lexington, I have not received enough pictures of Coral Sea memorabilia that you want to contribute to make an offer to the Lexington. I have been in contact with them, and they will give us as much time as needed. However, time remains important as they may not want to help out if too much time passes. So, send me any pictures of items you wish to donate. I have had one conference

call with the Midway and FDR about our 2024 Three Sisters Reunion. It is too early to know details, but it is set for the last week of September. As I find out more information, I will pass it on. I plan on going to both ships' reunions this year.

Not that it matters, but I have more free time now. As of February 1, I sold all my other interests and retired. It's been a long time coming, and I hope to enjoy every minute.

That is all I have for this period, have a good day and be careful,

Wayne

Wayne Addkison
President

(Continued from page 1)

2022 Reunion Plans...

days prior and three days after the reunion dates. You'll find all of this year's



tour options described on page two of this issue. With the hotel's very liberal cancellation policy, don't wait to get your reservation confirmed as soon as possible!