

THE CORAL SEA BREEZE

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Welcome Aboard!

Alan B. Clemmons
CDR, CHC
Supply Dept.
7/77-9/79

Elmer L. White
LI3, X Div.
8/69-1/72

Jeffrey B. Widmann
AQB2, VAH-2

Norfolk Annual Reunion Oct. 5-9, 2022

As you read this today, we are only a little more than three months away from our 2022 annual reunion. The USS Coral Sea Association annual reunion will take place in Norfolk, Va., from Oct. 5-9. Sign up today to enjoy all

the amenities of the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside, our reun-

Norfolk, Va., 23510, the toll-free reservation number is

(800) 325-3535. Cancellations will be accepted without penalty up to 24 hours before arrival.

The discounted USS Coral

Sea room rate is

(Continued on page 12)



President's Corner

Greetings Shipmates, A little less than four months until Norfolk, so get your reservation in as soon as possible. We're expecting a good attendance for this reunion.

I have had a few calls regarding this hotel, mostly on the parking and free breakfast. Sorry to say that is no free

breakfast or free parking. Needless to say, I am not pleased about that. The hotel will just not give up any free benefits.

It seems like we are getting a lot of new members from what I have seen on Facebook. Hopefully, this is the case. We need new blood in our Association.

As an honorary member of the USS Franklin D. Roose-

velt (CVA-42), I have been invited again this year to attend their reunion. I'm looking forward to reconnecting with the friends we made last year.

I am really disappointed in the non-response for items to put in the compartment aboard the USS Lexington. I will get into more detail at this year's reunion. I do hope that

(Continued on page 12)

Norfolk, Virginia 2022 Annual Reunion Tours!



TAPS

Steve Bachus
MM3, M Div.

James D. Francico
FT3, Fox Div.

Gregory D. Howell
QMS2, OS Div.

Richard E. Satchell
EMC, E Div.,
CMAA

Kenneth E. Stickel
FT2, Fox Div.

Frank E. White, Jr.
PN2, X Div.

Robert M. Winzler
YN3, Flag

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.

— **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 available for purchase following the cruise.

The Hampton Roads harbor dinner cruise will include a picturesque view of the ships at the

(Continued on page 5)

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

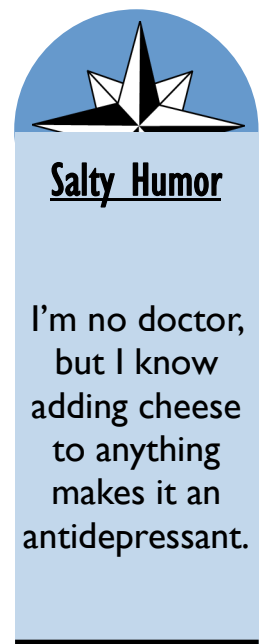
12:00pm—11:00pm Hospitality Room Open
12:00pm—11:00pm Ship's Store Open
7:30pm—10:00pm Dinner Cruise on the Spirit of Norfolk

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



Captain Peck's Radio.

As usual, when a sailor hears a "sea story" he tends to come up with one of his own. I found James F. Murray's account about his CO interesting and decided to write about one of my own.

My CO was Captain Paul Peck, aboard from November 72 until January 74. When he assumed command, I was a first-class PO in charge of the IM3 Comm/Nav shop. One of our responsibilities was to maintain the Flight Deck Communication System, commonly referred to as the Mickey Mouse system. One day I was in my shop when the captain called. He wanted to know if I oversaw the system and if I had any hand-held radios. I told him

that yes, I did have an extra radio in my shop. Then he instructed me to bring it to the bridge because he would like to have it. Needless to say, I took it up to the bridge for him.

A couple months later I got a call from the Air Boss telling me the system was down and he wanted me to come to Pri Fly to look at the problem. When I got there, I found out that the complete system was locked out and nobody could communicate with it.

Communication on the flight deck during operations was highly important. As I was looking at the system I found that if you listened very carefully you

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Salty Humor

A census taker knocked on a soman's door. She answered all his questions but refused to state her age. "Did my neighbor say her age?" she asked. "Yes, she did!" "Well then, I'm the same age," she snapped. "As old as the Hills," he wrote on his form.

Secretary's Corner

Greetings Shipmates, Not much new to report for this issue. Of course, the 2022 reunion is coming soon. As always, I hope to see many of you there this year. I strongly suggest that any reunion attendees take the harbor tour. We did that in 2003 and thoroughly enjoyed it. I received virtually no response form Shipmates regarding a 2023 Spring Fling. I'll be glad to put one together for next year but only if there's a significant response to have one. Please let me know asap as it takes some time to get this done.

At this year's reunion we will be electing Officers for the Association. Surely there will be several open positions on the Board. Please attend the business meeting on Saturday this year. I for one will be glad to serve another two years as your Association Secretary. I enjoy the job as I get to talk to many Shipmates.

As usual, please check the dues expiration date on the mailing label of this issue of "Sea Breeze". Don't hesitate to contact me regarding your membership status.

The results of the Scholarship Program will be posted in the September issue of the *Sea Breeze*.

We all mourn the passing of all Shipmates, but I want to make special note of the passing of EMC Richard Satchell, USN Ret. Shipmate Richard worked for many years with the USS Coral Sea Assoc. Sea Cadets Division in Up-land, Calif. He was instrumental in the success of the Sea Cadet Div. Fair winds and following seas Shipmate Richard. We now have the watch. See you all in Norfolk! Godspeed!

John

John H. Ranson
CVA-43
Association Secretary

(Continued from page 2)

Reunion Tours...

Norfolk Naval Station. You'll enjoy a cruise-worthy buffet while the captain narrates the harbor sites.

—7:30 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, driv-

ers and tour guides cannot assist with scooters.



Salty Humor

“I think the serving size for ice cream is when you hear the spoon hit the bottom of the container.”

—Brian Regan

Treasurer's Corner

Hello Shipmates: The memorabilia trailer is entering service. It will be in Norfolk, bringing items most have never seen before. This year is election year for officers and Board members. I will not be running for Treasurer; I believe it's time to step away to allow someone new with new ideas to serve our

Association. Bob Gaston, for health reasons, has decided to retire from the office of Vice President and two Board of Directors positions are up for election. Please consider stepping up and

running for one of these offices.



(Continued on page 12)

A Liberty Earned A Liberty Wasted.

Guantanamo Bay, Cuba was our destination from home port, Norfolk, VA. April through May 1954 was to be a standard shakedown cruise due to some repairs and upgrading in certain areas.

As I was Gun Captain of Mount #53, starboard side forward, I expected a lot of fire exercising to be included in the daily routine of training in all departments. I had my gun crew go through all exercises as often as possible so as not to be a little rusty when the shooting started. Things were going well, and the captain was pleased

with the way all the exercises were taken seriously by the crew.

After the first two weeks the crew got an unexpected notice of liberty announcement. The best part of this announcement was that the ship was upping anchor the next day and would drop anchor in Port-Au-Prince, Haiti. The reason for the port change was the crew was able to go ashore and enjoy this opportunity. Liberty in Guantanamo was strictly for the base, as the Port of Havana was not available for the

(Continued on page 7)



Salty Humor

I told my grandpa that Amazon is the best place for holiday shopping. He just called me from Brazil.

Chaplain's Corner

Dear Shipmates,
The story is told of a man who had great faith in God. He lived alone in a nice house, but the house was located in an area prone to flooding. However, he did not fear the floods because of his great faith in God.

As expected, one Spring day, after a torrential rain, the water started rising. A National Guard truck came down his street, stopped, and the soldier asked the man if they could take him to a safe higher ground. "No thanks," he replied, "I have faith in God to save me."

Later that day, the water had risen up to his front porch. This

time, a sheriff's deputy came by in a rowboat and asked if he could take the man to safety. Once again, his reply: "No thanks, I have faith in God to save me."

Well, the flooding got so bad the water rose to the second floor of his house. By now, the man had crawled out on the roof. This time it was an amphibious vehicle which came by with the same offer of rescue. Stubbornly, the man stuck to his earlier statement: "No thanks, I have faith in God to save me."

As you might have expected, the waters finally came over the entire house and the man was drowned. He then found himself at the Pearly Gates seeking entrance into

heaven. He asked Saint Peter for an immediate audience with God, for, as he said, "I have a bone to pick with God!" Being ushered into the sacred presence of God, he made his complaint: "I had faith and I fully expected You to rescue me from the flood!"

The Heavenly Father calmly replied, "I did. I sent a rowboat and an amphibious vehicle to save you but you refused My help."

Shipmates, let's not make life any more complicated than it already is.

Many blessings to you and your family,

Michael

Michael D. Halley
Association Chaplain

(Continued from page 6)

A Liberty Wasted...

enlisted men. This would be a real treat for the crew!

The following morning it was in our Plan of the Day "The Coral Sea Breeze": Liberty will commence at 0900 for port and starboard liberty. Starboard side was highlighted so there would be no mistake of who goes first. Caution Notice was also given to the choice of beverages: "To be safe: Do not drink any rum that has lower than 4 stars on the label."

I went ashore around 1000 with a few mates from my division (3rd). We didn't go too far into the town as the temperature was in the 90's.

After a couple of hours, I decided to return to the ship. My buddies felt the same as I did. On the way back the road was blocked with open trucks carrying sailors who were either handcuffed or tied up with rope. They were all dead drunk. The Shore Patrol was keeping this caravan in an orderly fashion and making sure no one would escape. We had a good time watching this small caravan crawling down the road, but our entertainment wasn't over yet.

As we got aboard there was a Swap Team (3 or 4) lowering a work shirt or an old pair of shoes or some other item from the fantail of the ship down to a small rowboat. In return a bottle of rum was pulled up. Scuttlebutt had it that it was "a good day for trading". The Master at Arms caught them all red handed with about 4 cases of rum and it wasn't the 4-star variety.

On the aft-starboard side, young boys were diving for coins. They were expecting at least a 25-cent coin and got mad to find out some

wise guy was tossing washers into the water. When a boy came up with a washer, he would throw it back at the coin thrower club.

In the meantime, word was put out to those still on shore:

"Liberty canceled. All personnel report back to the ship immediately." When all the crew were accounted for the captain's announcement was made. "Make ready for getting underway".

So, it was back to Guantanamo Bay and more training. As it was my last cruise, I was hoping all would go back to normal. My enlistment time was going to be up in a few months. What a surprise I got!

Thinking back on this episode in my life I thought that maybe the "Four Star Rum" wasn't really Four Star, maybe it was only One star! After all, who could tell after having a few shots of rum too many; no matter how many stars were on the label. Maybe the Captain was thinking along those lines too because a couple of weeks later, the Coral Sea Breeze posted some good news. We were going to Pier 87 in N.Y.C. at the end of our Cuban maneuvers.

This is not the end of my story. In my next and final last installment of all those sea stories you will see why I saved the best for last. A real-life experience which I cannot forget, ever. Until then, smooth sailing and God's blessings on us all, fellow shipmates. Fair winds and calm seas to all.

—Submitted by
James F. Murray GM-3
3rd Gunnery Division
Feb. 2, 1951 – July 8, 1954



Salty Humor

I know a farmer with a pig named Shakespeare. At least that's his pen name.

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>					
			SALES TOTAL	\$ _____	** USPS PRIORITY MAIL - S/H CHARGES** UP TO \$24.99\$7.00
			SHIPPING CHARGES	\$ _____	\$25.00 TO \$50.00\$9.00 \$51 TO \$75 \$12.00 \$76 & UP \$15.00
			TOTAL CHARGE	\$ _____	

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

From a church bulletin: The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

(Continued from page 4)

Captain's radio...

could hear people talking in the background. At one point I heard a comment to turn a few degrees to port and I noticed the ship made a slight turn to port. I listened for a couple more minutes and then told the Air Boss that I thought I knew what the problem was, and I would go check it out. I went to the bridge and asked where the captain's hand radio set was. He pointed it out to me. I quickly realized that it had been laid down in such a way as to actuate the transmit button. This radio system had about 20 radios in it, and designed so that when one person transmitted, everybody else was locked out. When I picked up the captain's hand set the system reset and it was fully operational.

I contacted the Air Boss and informed him that the system was up and operational. He told me that he would see me NOW. I explained to the captain what had happened and then went to see the Air Boss. He wanted to know why I had given the captain a radio handset. I explained that I was in no position to tell the captain that he could not have one of them. While the Air Boss agreed with me, he was still not pleased. During the time Captain Peck was aboard I was able to establish a good relationship with him and have always considered him to be the best Captain I served under during my 22 years.

—Submitted by
Gregory Womeldorff AEC
IM3 Division 1973-1974

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: _____

USS Coral Sea (CVA-43) Association.

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Committees

Reunion Committee

Members:

2022 Reunion, Norfolk, Va.
John Ranson & Clarence Neander

By-Laws Committee

Chairman:

John Ranson,

jr3843@fuse.net

Members:

Bob Nerbetski

cvb4312@verizon.net

Scholarship Committee

Chairman:

John Ranson

jr3843@fuse.net

859.250.3727 (cell)

Audit Committee

Chairman:

Robert Gaston

Nominating Chair:

Bill Johnson

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Parliamentarian:

John H. Ranson

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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 Sept. issue
of *The Coral
Sea Breeze*
is due in to the
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copy editor by
August 5,
2022.

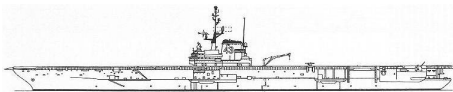
USS Coral Sea CVA-43 Association

Wayne Addkison, Publisher
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Email: nijarm2@yahoo.com

Please Note: Send Address
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John Ranson

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THE AGELESS WARRIOR

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www.usscoralsea.org and see
this issue of the *Sea Breeze* in
full color!

(Continued from page 1)

President's Corner...

we can get this accom-
plished before the 2025 re-
union.

Have talked again with Os-
car (USS Midway) and Bob
(USS Roosevelt) about the
2024 joint reunion in San
Diego. We've made a little
headway but will really get
into details after each of
our reunions this year.

Not much else to report at
this time. I am still looking
for someone to assume the
Ship Store if anyone would
like to volunteer for that
role.

Have a safe summer, until
the next time,

Wayne

Wayne Addkison, President

(Continued from page 5)

Treasurer's Corner...

Our finances are stable alt-
hough our scholarship in-
vestment is probably taking
a hit with the stock market
dropping. The April state-
ment will tell the tale.

Raffle ticket sales are slow,
so if you haven't already
done so, please participate
in this important fund rais-
er.

Hope all is well with you
and yours. Enjoy the com-
ing Summer.

See you in Norfolk,

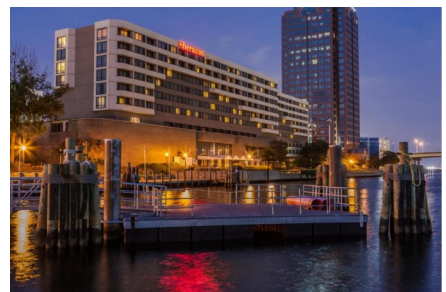
Clarence

Clarence Neander
Association Treasurer

(Continued from page 1)

2022 Reunion Plans...

\$129 per night, plus 15%
sales tax and a \$3 per night
occupancy tax.



This rate will be extended to
Association members for
three days prior and three
days after the reunion dates.

Reunion tour details are on
page two of this issue. With
the hotel's very liberal can-
celation policy, don't wait to
get your reservation con-
firmed as soon as possible!