

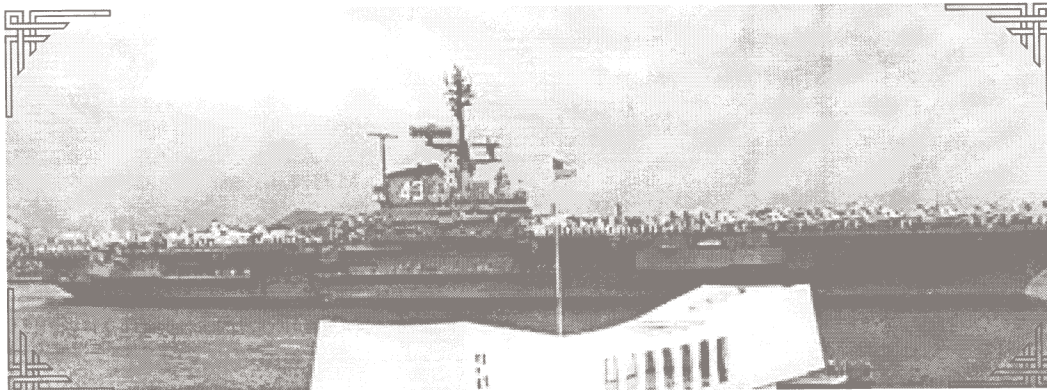
The  
Coral

# Sea Breeze



The Newsletter for all sailors and marines who served aboard the  
USS CORAL SEA (CVB, CV, CVA-43)

VOLUME 7 Issue #4 4th Quarter July - August - September 2002



USS CORAL SEA CVA-43 at Pearl Harbor (1968)

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**EXTRA!! Sea Breeze EXTRA!!!**

The *Coral Sea Breeze*, is the Newsletter for sailors and marines who served aboard the United States Navy vessel the **USS Coral Sea (CVB/CV/CVA-43)**. It is published quarterly by the USS Coral Sea CVA-43 Association in accordance with the Association's ByLaws

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*Chairman:* **John F. Plude, Sr.** (Portsmouth, VA - 2003)

**Scholarship Program:**

*Chairman:* **William G. Williams**  
*Members:* **Frank J. Shivak** (CA)  
**Dr. William J. Wilson** (FL)  
**David Yokley** (AL)

**Support Your Association  
Live the Spirit of the Coral Sea  
God Bless America**





## President's Message



Charles H. Whitcomb  
Association President

Dear Shipmates and Families,

This year sure is going fast. Here it is, already the end of July. The reunion in Branson is just a little over two months away (only one month by the time you receive this). Hopefully, you have already made your reservation for meals, hotel and any shows or tours that you want to participate in. If you haven't, I would suggest that you get on the phone right away and make arrangements for your stay. There are two other navy reunions scheduled at the same time. If you wait until the last minute, it may be difficult to get a room or see the shows or tours that you want.

At our annual meeting in Branson, MO, this year, we will have our election of officers. This year, we will elect a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and one three-year Board member. In addition, for the first time, we will elect three committeemen for the Scholarship Program committee (the chairman is appointed). The scholarship committee is a three-year job. This being our first year, we will elect three members, one for one year, one for two years and one for three years. Then, every year we will elect one member to replace the one whose term has expired.

In this, as with all organizations, it is important to bring in new officers from time to time, in order to get fresh ideas. This gives strength to an association and helps to promote growth. If anyone would like to run for any of these offices, please contact **Mike DiStefano**, chairman of the nomination committee, and let him know what office you would like to be nominated for. Holding office in our association, I feel, is both an honor and a privilege.

We have held our first *USS CORAL SEA ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM* essay contest, and have a winner. The recipient of our first annual scholarship is **Erik Shearer**, grandson of **Dale Shearer** of Lewistown, PA. A copy of Erik's essay is included with this newsletter. Erik is going to attend Penn State. Congratulations to Erik for submitting the winning entry. And thanks also, to **Bill Williams**, the committee chairman and his committee members: **Bill Wilson**, **David Yokley** and **Frank Shivak**, who performed the difficult task of grading some very competitive papers.

Recently, I was on a business trip to Mobile, Alabama and noticed that there was a reunion of the *USS YORKTOWN*. Stopped by and met several of their members. Nice group of very friendly ex-gobs. Of course, when I mentioned **Chaplain Linzey's** name, they ALL knew the "musician" who had been a "whitehat" back then.

Chaplain Linzey has written a book about his experience in the Navy during WWII. Its title is "**GOD WAS AT MIDWAY**". It is a very interesting book about that era, and will be available at Branson, for those of you that haven't already read it.

See you in Branson,

*Charles H. Whitcomb*

President: Coral Sea CVA-43 Association

Support Your Association - Live the Spirit of the Coral Sea  
God Bless America!



## We Have A Scholarship Winner

by William G. Williams, (Chairman: Scholarship Program Committee)

The first winner of **The Annual USS Coral Sea Remembrance Scholarship** of \$2,000 is 19-year-old **Erik Shearer**, who graduated June 7 from Altoona Area High School in central Pennsylvania. Erik is the grandson of Coral Sea Association member **Dale R. Shearer** of Lewistown, PA, and the son of **David and Victoria Shearer**. Erik's grandfather had the honor of giving him the good news.

Scholarship Committee judges **Frank J. Shivak** of California, **David G. Yokley** of Alabama and **Dr. William J. Wilson** of Florida each named Erik as the winner, even though they were not allowed to confer on their decisions. All agreed that his essay -- chosen from three offered by the committee -- on **"Why We Need To Keep Our Armed Forces Strong"** was the best of those entered. (His essay is reprinted in this issue of the *Coral Sea Breeze* on page 8).

In addition, the judges found that his high school and community activities were fine examples for America's high school students. Those activities included raising money for cancer research and participating in a homeless awareness project. Erik was also a member of his school's cross country, track and field, and winter track teams, as well as the Computer Science Club, the Math League and the National Honor Society. In recent years, he has won the *Bausch and Lomb Honorary Science Award* and achieved Commended Student Status in the National Merit Scholarship Program.

In outside activities, he has clerked in a store for the past three years and during summers has performed lawn work at fifteen locations.

Erik has maintained a 3.8 grade point average at Altoona Area High School. He will enter The Pennsylvania State University in September as an honor student in architectural engineering. His grandfather, Dale, served aboard the Coral Sea from 1951 through 1955 in S-1 Division.

Others competing in the initial competition for the annual scholarship and their Coral Sea sponsors (with divisions and years aboard the ship) are:

- **Craig Benner** of Ewing, New Jersey, grandson of Thomas J. Bennis, V-1F-Division, 48-49;
- **Kevin M. Carloni** of Niceville, Florida, grandson of James Freeland, B-Division, 47-48;
- **Amanda High** of Bowie, Maryland, granddaughter of Laurel M. King, F-Division, 47-49;
- **Jordan Leavitt** of Penfield, New York, grandson of William Eannetta, OC(radio) Division, 49-50;
- **Annie Mariea Lewis** of Riley, Kansas, daughter of James K. Lewis, E-Division, 77-81;
- **Kathryn E. Moran** of Moseley, Virginia, granddaughter of William A. Schutte Jr., A-Division, 52-54;
- **Jessica Noe** of Midlothian, Virginia, granddaughter of Melvin R. Tuck, A-Division, 50-52;
- **Stacy Taranto** of Levittown, New York, granddaughter of John P. Taranto, V1-Division, 47-49.

At this year's reunion in Branson, three new members of the Scholarship Committee are to be elected and a new chairman will be appointed by the president.

(Read Erik's essay on page 8 -ed)

In George Washington's days, there were no cameras. One's image was either sculpted or painted. Some paintings of George Washington showed him standing behind a desk with one arm behind his back while others showed both legs and both arms. Prices charged by painters were not based on how many people were to be painted, but by how many limbs were to be painted. Arms and legs are "limbs" therefore painting them would cost the buyer more. Hence the expression "Okay, but it'll cost you an arm and a leg,"

**CAMPGROUND & RV ACCOMMODATIONS**

		<u>Local:</u>	<u>Website:</u>
Acorn Acres	800-338-2504	417-338-2500	www.bestbransonrv.com
America's Best	800-671-4399	417-336-4399	www.abc-branson.com
BlueMountain	800-779-2114	417-338-2114	(none)
Branson KOA	800-562-4177	417-334-7450	www.koa.com
Branson Shenanigans	800-338-7275	417-334-1920	(none)
Branson Stagecoach	800-446-7110	417-335-8185	www.gocampingamerica.com/bransonstagecoach
Chastain's	800-467-7611	417-334-4414	www.woodall.com
Cooper Creek	800-261-8398	417-334-4871	www.coopercreekresort.com
Forsyth KOA	800-562-7560	417-546-5364	(none)
Indian Point's Deer Run	800-901-3337	417-338-2222	www.bransondeerrun.com
Port of Kimberling	800-439-3500	417-739-2315	www.gocampingamerica/kimberling
Silver Dollar City	800-477-5164	417-338-8189	www.campground.silverdollarcity.com
Table Rock Shores	888-739-5450	417-739-5440	(none)
Tall Pines	800-425-2300	417-338-2445	www.tallpinescampground
Taneycomo Lakefront	800-949-9975	417-223-2500	www.taneycomoresort.com
Trails End Resort/RV	800-888-1891	417-338-2633	www.indianpont.com



## From the Vice President . . .



**William A. Johnson**  
Vice President

By the time you receive this newsletter, we will have already celebrated Memorial Day, Flag Day and Independence Day. I hope everyone of you had a great day and that you remembered to give thanks for being able to celebrate these days.

I spoke with Bob Locke the other day and he is planning a great reunion in Branson. Be certain to get your reservations in so Bob can have the most accurate count possible. I look forward to seeing you all there.

I have recently completed one of my projects for our upcoming reunion. I enlisted the help of a curator of Coral Sea memorabilia and he sent me one of the ship's bells. Two great fellas from Venice, FL, Mike Shimshea and Scott Taylor, built a frame and mounted the bell and a piece of brass screw from the Coral Sea. Another great friend, Mike Shrode, was kind enough to engrave the brass. The bell will be on display at Branson and will be used at the memorial service.

The other project I was going to work on (until sidelined by rotator cuff surgery) is a commemorative plaque for the U.S. Navy Memorial Foundation in Washington, D.C. **John Plude** seized the initiative and has been doing the legwork to find out all the details and such. He has information he will be sharing with us in Branson. Many thanks to Plude. I visited the Memorial this past December, 2001 and thought it quite nice to see plaques honoring fellow sailors and their ships. I think it would be quite an honor to see our ship immortalized in this way. You can check out the foundation's website at <http://www.lonesailor.org/> If you have any questions about my projects or anything else, email me at [cva43bill@hotmail.com](mailto:cva43bill@hotmail.com) or call me at 941.485.4360. Until Branson, smooth sailing!

W.A. "Bill" Johnson,  
Vice President

Whatever women must do they must do twice as well as men to be thought half as good. Luckily, this is not difficult.

-Charlotte Whitton

## Chaplain's Corner



### HUGGING IS HEALTHY

(by Chaplain Stanford E. Linzey)

**HUGGING** is healthy: It helps our body's immune system. It keeps you healthier, it cures depression, it induces sleep, it's invigorating, it's rejuvenating, it has no unpleasant side effects, and hugging is nothing less than a miracle drug.

**HUGGING** is all natural: it is organic, naturally set, no pesticides, no preservatives, no artificial ingredients, and 100% wholesome.

**HUGGING** is practically perfect and there are no movable parts, no batteries to wear out, no periodic checkups, low energy consumption, high energy yield, inflation-proof, non-fattening, no monthly payments, no insurance requirements, theft-proof, non-taxable, non-polluting and, of course fully returnable.



In the late 1700's many houses consisted of a large room with only one chair. Commonly, a long wide board was folded down from the wall and used for dining. The "*head of the household*" always sat in the chair while everyone else ate sitting on the floor. Once in a while an invited guest would be offered to sit in this chair during a meal whom was almost always a man. To sit in the chair meant you were important and in charge. Sitting in the chair, one was called the "*chair man*." Today in business we use the expression/title "*Chairman*."

Inside every older person is a younger person wondering what the hell happened.

- Cora Harvey Armstrong



## SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE POSTS OPEN

(by Bill Williams)

**The association's scholarship program, which got underway this year, will be looking for some new hands in October.**

Under the program's rules, association members must elect Scholarship committeemen at the annual meeting in Branson. In addition, the rules call for the president to appoint the committee chairman. Three members will be elected to the committee in Branson: one for a one-year term, one for a two-year term, and one for a three-year term. Beginning with the reunion in 2003, one committeeman will be elected each year for a three-year term thus insuring the opportunity to change the committee by one third every year.

The three elected committeemen, under the direction of the chairman, will study entries submitted for the contest in the Spring of 2003. The chairman does not vote on the selection of a winner.

Any member in good standing this year can run for election to the one-year, two-year or three-year terms. Likewise, any member may apply to the president for the appointment as chairman. Members interested in serving as chairman or for election as a committeeman should make their wishes known to President **Charles Whitcomb** prior to the Branson reunion.

The current committeemen and chairman were all appointed by President Whitcomb last October for one-year terms following approval of the scholarship program by the members at that reunion. There was insufficient time at last year's reunion to call for the election of committeemen.

The idea for a scholarship program was advanced by President Whitcomb after the 1999 reunion. A *Scholarship Formulation Committee* of six men, established in December 1999, studied other scholarship programs through most of 2000 and presented a proposal to the members at the business meeting in Williamsburg that year. Questions and suggestions made at that meeting led to a further study of the proposal. It was revised and offered again at the meeting in Laughlin last October, when it was given final approval.

A report on the selection of the first scholarship winner appears on *page 4* in this newsletter along with a copy of the winning essay on *page 8*.

Earlier this year the association invested \$10,000 as seed money, but welcomes gifts from members to supplement the Scholarship Fund. Last year, association member **Charles Brackin** of San Diego made a \$1,000 contribution to the Fund in honor of a friend, **Master Chief Aviation Ordnanceman H. F. "Sam" Bancroft** of Tampa, FL. In addition, other members contributed more than \$150 toward this year's prize. It is hoped that members will continue to make contributions to the Fund, either out of pocket or in response to association-sponsored fundraisers. This will give the investment of \$10,000 time to grow so that sometime in the future the program might become self-sustaining through dividends.

### Promote Your Association

Every Coral Sea Association member can help find new members by merely sending a press release to his local newspaper(s) each Spring.

Most newspapers occasionally run a list of military reunions. Some newspapers title the list "*Sound Off*" or "*Military Reunions*" or other such headings. They normally wait until they have quite a few before publishing them, which means that many papers only do it a half dozen or so times annually. The best time to submit your press release is between January and May.

Simply type or write something like this:

"The USS Coral Sea CVA-43 Association will hold its annual reunion at (*location*) on (*dates*). For information on the reunion or on membership contact (*your name, address, phone and if you have one, email address*).

Mail it to: "Military Editor, (Your Local Newspaper)" Make a few copies of the membership form which always appears in our Association newsletter and mail one to anyone who responds. Include a note telling the potential new member to request reunion information when he mails the form and his membership check to the Secretary. It's that simple! And it finds new members.

### A Bit of Naval history.

The *USS Constitution* (Old Ironsides) as a combat vessel carried 48,600 gallons of fresh water for her crew of 475 officers and men. This was sufficient to last 6 months of sustained operations. She carried no evaporators. However, let it be noted that according to her log: "On July 1798, the USS Constitution set sail from Boston. She left with 475 officers and men, 48,600 gallons of fresh water, 7,400 cannon shots, 11,600 pounds of black powder and 79,400 gallons of rum. Her mission: To destroy and harass English shipping. Making Jamaica on 6 October, she took on 826 pounds of flour and 68,300 gallons of rum. Then she headed for the Azores, arriving on 12 November. She provisioned with 550 pounds of beef and 64,300 gallons of Portuguese wine. On 18 November she set sail for England. In the ensuing days she defeated five British men-of-war, captured and scuttled 12 English merchantmen salvaging only the rum. By 26 January her powder and shot was exhausted. Unarmed, she made a night raid up the Firth of Clyde. Her landing party captured a whiskey distillery and transferred 40,000 gallons aboard by dawn. Then she headed home. The USS Constitution arrived in Boston on 20 February 1799, with no cannon shot, no food, no powder, no rum, no wine, no whiskey and 38,600 gallons of stagnant water."

THEM WERE THE GOOD OLE DAYS! GO NAVY!



## From the Secretary....



### Alzheimer-Free Test

A number of shipmates actually returned their answers to the "Alzheimer-Free" test from the last issue of the newsletter. Frankly, I didn't think anyone would bother to spend time with this absolutely unscientific memory game. Someone made a comment: "It's funny one can still remember trivial things fifty or sixty years ago, but can't remember what he had for breakfast yesterday." How true.

Answers to the questions:

- |   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. silver bullet                        | 2. drop out                        |
| 3. comb                                 | 4. Chicago 7                       |
| 5. Ed Sullivan                          | 6. bras                            |
| 7. Spot                                 | 8. Sharks and the Jets             |
| 9. beatniks                             | 10. "What a revolting development" |
| 11. shaken, not stirred                 | 12. "the lions sleep tonight"      |
| 13. Tropic of Cancer                    | 14. slide rule                     |
| 15. "put you in the driver's seat"      | 16. limbo                          |
| 17. Twiggy                              | 18. Timex                          |
| 19. Hair                                |                                    |
| 20. Freddie the Freeloader; "God Bless" |                                    |

If you flanked the test, don't feel bad -- you got company. One good reason why we should have reunions and get-together more often, least we forget friends and acquaintances too.

Congratulations to **Max Presnal** for the perfect score. Incredible memory! Max, what kind of dietary supplement are you taking anyway? You might want to share your secrets with us old swabs. I, for one, can use some help. (*See scores below*)

### Re: Newsletter Articles

I'd like to thank everyone who submitted articles for the *SEA BREEZE* in the past as well as those who continue to share materials for all to enjoy. The newsletter is only a medium but an excellent vessel which can carry much desired information to a large group such as ours.

During the past few months I have received tremendous amount of materials but mostly questions and concerns. I try to be responsive as much as possible, but if I seem to be negligent at times, it was not my intent. Because of the amount of workload to get done, sometimes things just slip down the crack without my getting to it on time. If anyone out there has been a victim of my seemingly negligence, I apologize.

For those of you who contributed materials for the *SEA BREEZE* but never saw it appear, let me give you some specific reasons other than my apparent "forgetfulness".

- (1) If you submitted items without any specific instructions

or did not specify that it is for the newsletter, most likely it gets filed into the "round filing tray" after I've read it. The "round filing tray" is that little thing everyone has and usually sits under your desk or by the door and gets collected weekly bound for the city dump or the recycling center.

(2) If you submitted items from someone else, and whoever that someone else's name is not mentioned, it too might have found its way into the round file. (Here's a tip: if you want to publish someone else's work, at least give that person credit by telling me his name). By the way, this applies also to e-mail messages. If you neglect to tell me where or from whom you got the material, usually I become very negligent also and have this habit of dropping things into the round file.

Recently I have received items from shipmates who, I assumed, intended to promote such items commercially; the problem is the owner of the items is not even a member of the Association. Sorry, but no way I can help you on this. I'd be glad to run promo for anyone but it has to be for the benefit of the Association.

### Re: Change of Address

I am still receiving "complaints" from shipmates saying that they're paid up in their membership dues, and asking why they haven't been receiving their copies of the newsletter. Well, fellas I can tell you this much: I have been sending you the newsletter at your address I have on file. But sometimes I wish I took that crystal ball a gypsy offered me for 99 cents years ago, then maybe I'd have something to track you down. Meanwhile, it might help if you'd take the responsibility to notify the Association of your whereabouts whenever you decide to change residence.

### Words out of my mouth.

Recently I received a forwarded email with an attachment, and the sender was explaining that the attached message was written by a 78-year old nun. Upon reading, I recalled that it was a similar message I've read previously from another source. Then after that the same message showed up in my mailbox but the sender claims he clipped it from some newspaper editorial.

I thought it was funny since the message is something that I was thinking to write and give to our local School Board as a comment on their ongoing debate and constant bickering over the implementation of a proposition dealing with the bi-lingual curriculum. After receiving the email three times I realized I'm not alone with the same thought.

Maybe it doesn't matter if the message was written by Mother Angelica, the Union Tribune, or some coin collector, but I thought it was funny how the words got out of my mouth from someone else's. So go ahead, make my day, flip the page and read the message on page 16, and if you feel the same as I do about the message, share it and say Amen.

### Alzheimer-Free Test scores:

RADM H.P. Glindeman, USN (ret)	13/20
Bill Williams	14/20
Larry Bond	6/20
Max Presnal	20/20 (perfect score)



## Why We Need to Keep Our Armed Forces Strong

by Erik Shearer



Erik Shearer

The United States of America has been an unflinching bastion of freedom and liberty since its conception in 1776. It has endured for more than two hundred years and survived many conflicts initiated by oppressive countries to become the most powerful and influential nation in the world. The present status of the United States as a world power is due largely to the efforts of its armed forces in maintaining safe boundaries and repelling tyranny. It is essential, for the welfare of the citizens of America and of other needy countries, that the armed forces are kept strong, vigilant, and ever ready to defend their nation.

Without its armed forces, America would be naked, open to attacks instigated by corrupt and power-hungry rulers disgruntled at the United States for one reason or another. America's fighting men give citizens a great measure of comfort, a feeling of safety that allows them to sleep soundly at night. No facet of our security can afford to be in doubt; all branches of the services must work in conjunction like a well-oiled machine. The Air Force must protect our skies, the Navy and Coast Guard must patrol our waters and shorelines, and the Army and Marines must be ready to guard our lands against assault. Those lobbyists and politicians that would reduce the Armed Forces and sap their strength are living in a false reality where war and conflict do not exist. If anything, cries for more military support should be heard in Washington, D.C., for the defense of our nation should come before all else. The unalienable rights and basic freedoms that many Americans take for granted are theirs only through our nation's ability to defend itself from those who would take away our rights. The people of the United States are strong and resilient; they have survived all number of natural disasters and economic depressions, yet, for the most part, they are helpless when faced with foreign aggression. If our armed forces ever prove too weak to meet and deal with such adversity, then the glorious reign of the United States of America will be at an end.

***Americans should never forget the harsh lesson learned during World War II, that our armed forces must be maintained to fight for the freedoms of Americans and their allies, whether at home or abroad.***

Our military must also be kept strong in case it is ever needed to fight abroad, either in order to protect American interests or aid American allies. Some would say that it is not the business of the United States to get involved with the squabbles of the rest of the world and that such conflicts that do not affect us directly should not concern us. These assessments describe the isolationistic policies of the United States in the past, policies that proved ineffective before and would prove just as ineffective today. During the first few years of the Second World War, America's leaders clung to such a policy. They felt that America's citizens had seen enough fighting in the First World War and that this new war should be left to the European countries to fight out. Our wake-up call during that time period was the attack on Pearl Harbor and the innocents that were killed there. Our military had been unprepared for such an assault, and our country suffered as a result. Yet this mistake allowed the American people to re-evaluate their situation and take decisive actions, and even though our forces joined with their allies late in the conflict, they were the key factor enabled Europe to turn the tide in its losing battle and free itself of oppression.

Americans should never forget the harsh lesson learned during World War II, that our armed forces must be maintained to fight for the freedoms of Americans and their allies, whether at home or abroad. We should remember that the United States is not an invincible entity, immune to the disputes of the rest of the world simply because it is separated from the rest of the world by two great oceans. We should remember and not allow ourselves to become blind to life's harsh realities because of our peaceful society or to become complacent in our security because we dream ourselves invulnerable. Yet even if this great country had begun to forget the lessons learned from history, the terrorist attacks of September 11 are harsh reminders of the need for a strong military to defend our nation and retaliate against those who would seek to harm our lands or our people. We must now, more so than in prior years, present a powerful military front to show our aggressors that the United States will never fall to tyranny and injustice and that, if necessary, we are not afraid to fight in order to preserve freedom and liberty.

Why must we keep our armed forces strong? Our armed forces are the anvil upon which our nation has been forged and the foundation upon which the rights and privileges of its people have been established. Every aspect of its organization, whether Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, or Marines is essential in maintaining America's status as the greatest protector of the free world and in reigning in those who would disrupt peace and liberty for selfish or corrupt ends.

(Erik is the grandson of Coral Sea Association member Dale Shearer, S-1 Division, 1951-1955)

### Understand and remember the Law:

"*The Law of Reality*": Never get into fights with ugly people, they have nothing to lose.

"*The Law of Common Sense*": Never accept a drink from a urologist.

"*Whiner's Law*": Nothing is impossible for the man who doesn't have to do it himself.

"*Law of Probable Dispersal*": Whatever hits the fan will not be evenly distributed.





## The Reunion (a Poem)

(From Julie Windley, Portsmouth Visitor Bureau)



Autumn leaves rustling, together to the appointed place the old warriors come. Pilgrims, drifting across the land they fought to preserve.

Where they meet is not important anymore. They meet and that's enough for now.

Greetings echo across a lobby. Hands reach out and arms draw buddies close. Embraces, that as young men they were too uncomfortable to give, too shy to accept so lovingly.

But deep within these Indian Summer days, they have reached a greater understanding of life and love.

The shells holding their souls are weaker now, but hearts and minds grow vigorous, remembering.

On a table someone spreads old photographs, a test of recollection. And friendly laughter echoes at shocks of hair gone gray or white or merely gone. The rugged bodies lost forever. Yet they no longer need to prove their strength. Some are now sustained by one of "medicine's miracles", and even in this fact they manage to find humor.

The women, all those that waited, all those who loved them, have watched the changes take place. Now they observe and listen and smile at each other: as glad to be together as the men.

Talk turns to war and planes and foreign lands. Stories are told and told again, reweaving the threadbare fabric of the past. Mending one more time the banner of their youth.

They hear the vibrations, feel the shudder of metal as engines whine and whirl, and planes come to life. These birds with fractured wings can be seen beyond the mist of clouds, and they are in the air again, chasing the wind, feeling the exhilaration of flight close to the heavens.

Dead comrades, hearing their names spoken, wanting to share in this time, if only in spirit, move silently among them. Their presence is felt and smiles appear beneath misty eyes.

Each, in his own way may wonder who will be absent in another year. The room grows quiet for a time.

Suddenly an ember flames to life. Another memory burns. The talk may turn to other wars and other men, and of futility.

So, this is how it goes. The past is so much present. In their ceremonies, the allegiances, the speeches and the prayers, one cannot help but hear the deep eternal love of country they will forever share.

Finally, it is time to leave, much too soon to set aside this little piece of yesterday, but the past cannot be held too long, for it is fragile.

They say "Farewell". "See you another year, God willing." Each keeps a little of the others with them forever.

## ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT:

**Mike DiStefano** has been appointed to chair the *Nomination Committee*. The purpose of this committee will be to seek out qualified candidates to run for election to the various board positions that are up for election. This will allow our election of officers to proceed smoothly and save time at the annual meetings.

Mike is a plank holder and one of the original members of the Association. He has served as President, Vice President, Treasurer and as an elected board member. He brings to the position a vast knowledge of the association and its members. Anyone who would like to hold an office in the Association should contact Mike. His phone number is: 856-983-6512. His address is: 165 Tuckerton Road, Medford, NJ 08055-8857



## IC GANG GET-TOGETHER

Members of the Coral Sea Association and former crew in the IC gang of E-Division aboard the *USS Coral Sea* will be holding a get-together in San Francisco on September 14.

The group planned to hold their reunion at the **Neptune's Palace Restaurant** on Pier 39 overlooking San Francisco Bay. Pier 39 has many shops and close to many sights and attractions. Later that evening they will meet at the **HA-RA Club** for drinks and shoot pool.

Anyone in the gang who cannot make it to San Francisco on that date is welcome to call in to talk to anyone on September 13, 14, 15 and 16th. Call **Steve R. Neagle** at (415) 661-4412 or e-mail him at [neagle@sbcglobal.net](mailto:neagle@sbcglobal.net).

Steve and his wife Debbie are hosting the get-together. They live in the center of San Francisco and only three blocks from one of the subway stops to downtown.

On September 13th Steve and Debbie will hold an open house between 0900 and 2100 for those who wants to get an early start with meeting old friends and making new ones.

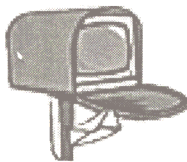
Here's a list of those who indicated they will be attending:

John Hibbs	Larry Schumacher
Shelby Coyle	Larry Fraley
Wayne Quam	Davis Sisk
Johnny Shuman	Mike Horun
Geoff Squier	John Trotter
Vernon Carpenter	Don Snsky
Bill Humes	Richard Stines
Lloyd Murphy	Wes Nye
Lee Neis	Ray Weitbrecht
Ray Boland	Gary Burkhead

Anyone who plans to come may feel free to bring photos, memorabilia and souvenirs to share with all.



# E-mails and...



# Letters

(Forwarded by Chuck Whitcomb)

*The Navy and other branches then and now..... It is true and it is scary!*

*Then* -Rifles were made of wood and steel and fired a 7.62mm bullet that killed the enemy. *Now* -Rifles are made of plastic and aluminum and fire a 22 caliber bullet that wounds the enemy.

*Then* -If you smoked, you had an ashtray on your desk. *Now* -If you smoke, you get sent outside and treated like a leper.

*Then* -Mail took weeks to come to the ship. *Now* -Everytime you get near land, there's a mob topside to see if their cell phone works.

*Then* -If you left the ship it was in Blues or Whites, even in home port.

*Now* - The only time you wear Blues or Whites is for ceremonies.

*Then* -You wore bellbottoms every where on the ship. *Now* -Bellbottoms are gone and 14 year old girls wear them every where.

*Then* -You wore a dixie cup all day, with every uniform. *Now* -It's not required and you have a choice in different hats.

*Then* -If you said "damn," people knew you were annoyed and avoided you.

*Now* -If you say "damn" you'd better be talking about a hydroelectric plant.

*Then* -The Ships Office had a typewriter on his desk for doing daily reports. *Now* -Everyone has a computer with Internet access and the wonder why no work is getting done.

*Then* -We painted pictures of pretty girls on airplanes to remind us of home. *Now* -We put the real thing in the cockpit.

*Then* -Your girlfriend was at home, praying you would return alive.

*Now* -She is on the same ship, praying your condom worked.

*Then* -If you got drunk off duty, your buddies would take you back to the ship so you could sleep it off. *Now* -If you get drunk off duty, the slap you in rehab and ruin your career.

*Then* -Canteens were made out of steel and you could heat coffee or hot chocolate in them. *Now* -Canteens are made of plastic, you can't heat them because they'll melt and anything inside always tastes like plastic.

*Then* -Our top officers were professional sailors first. They commanded respect. *Now* -Our top officers are politicians first. They beg not to be given a wedgie..

*Then* -They collected enemy intelligence and analyzed it. *Now* -They collect our pee and analyze it.

*Then* -A commander would put his butt on the line to protect his people. *Now* -A commander will put all of his people on the line to protect his butt.

*Then* -If you didn't act right, they'd put you on extra duty until you straightened up. *Now* -If you don't act right, they start a paper trail that follows you forever.

*Then* -Medals were awarded to heroes who saved lives at the risk of their own. *Now* -Medals are awarded to people who show up for work most of the time.

*Then* -You slept in a barracks, like a soldier. *Now* -You sleep in a dormitory, like a college kid.

*Then* -You ate in a Mess Hall. It was free and you could have all the food you wanted. *Now* -You eat in a Dining Facility. Every slice of bread or pat of butter costs and you can only have one.

*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.

*Then* -If you wanted a quarter beer and conversation, you could go to the NCO or Officers' Club. *Now* -The beer will cost you two dollars and someone is watching to see how much you drink.

*Then* -The Exchange had bargains for sailors who didn't make much money. *Now* -You can get better merchandise cheaper at Wal-Mart.

*Then* -If an Admiral wanted to make a presentation, he scribbled down some notes and a PN spent an hour preparing a bunch of charts. *Now* -The Admiral has his entire staff spending days preparing a Power Point presentation.

*Then* -We called the enemy things like "Commie Bastards" and "Reds" because we didn't like them. *Now* -We call the enemy things like "Opposing Forces" and "Aggressors" so we won't offend them and Senator Clinton.

*Then* -We declared victory when the enemy was dead and all his things were broken. *Now* -We declare victory when the enemy says he is sorry and won't do it again for a while.

Dear Mr. Cordero,

I accidentally came across the Coral Sea site while I was online. I have never served, but I must tell you how grateful I am to all of you (and all service men and women) who have served on this legendary ship.

As a very proud American, I simply wanted to write a letter of thank you to let you know that you are remembered (by this writer) every day for your sacrifice(s).

And I tell my young sons how fortunate they are to live in this country by flying our flag every day and night possible. For me, (and hopefully for them) it is a reminder of all the sacrifices made on our behalf.

Thank you and God bless you and the USA !

Gregg Boore  
Pitts Grove, NJ

*(I wanted to extend an invitation to Gregg Boore to become an Associate member, unfortunately he did not give his e-mail or mailing address - ed)*

To the USS Coral Sea CVA-43 Association

We wish to thank each and everyone of you who took the time to either write a letter or sign a petition to the California Board of Prison Terms to protest the early parole release of Jeffrey Langnese, the murderer of our daughter Lisa Marie Shivak.

It is with tremendous heart felt relief that we are pleased to write you and say that the letters of objection were received by the Board and the good news is that his parole was denied on July 30, 2002 and he will not be eligible for parole hearing for another three years.

Thank you and thank you again. We can never thank you enough, but we do want you all to know how sincerely we appreciate your help and support.

Sincerely,

Frank & Lucy Shivak and family



## Prayer Line

Around the corner I have a friend,  
In this great city that has no end,  
Yet the days go by, and the weeks rush on,  
And before I know it a year has gone.  
And I never see my old friends face,  
For life is a swift and terrible race.

He knows I like him just as well,  
As in the days when I rang his bell,  
And he rang mine, but we were younger then,  
And now we are busy, tired men.  
Tired of playing a foolish game,  
Tired of trying to make a name.  
Tomorrow, I say, I will call on Jim  
Just to show I am thinking of him.

But tomorrow comes and tomorrow goes,  
And distance between us grows and grows.  
Around the corner! - yet miles away,  
Here's a telegram sir, Jim died today.  
And that's what we get and deserve in the end.  
Around the corner, a vanished friend.

Remember to always say what you mean. If you love someone - tell them. Don't be afraid to express yourself. Reach out and tell someone what they mean to you, because when you decide that it is the right time, it might be too late. Seize the day, never have regrets.

Most importantly stay close to your friends and family,  
for they have helped make you the person you are today.



### The Facts of Life

1. At least 2 people in this world love you so much they would die for you.
2. At least 15 people in this world love you in some way.
3. The only reason anyone would ever hate you is because they want to be just like you.
4. A smile from you can bring happiness to anyone, even if they don't like you.
5. Every night, SOMEONE thinks about you before they go to sleep.
6. You mean the world to someone.
7. If not for you, someone may not be living.
8. You are special and unique.
9. Someone that you don't even know exists, loves you.
10. When you make the biggest mistake ever, something good comes from it.

## Taps



The following is a list of all deceased shipmates on record (both previously and recently reported) with their listed Next-of-Kin in brackets:

### Shipmates

### (NOK)

Philip Gantner	(Roselies)
Michael R. Golob	(Judy)
Edward Hanlon	(Frances)
Jack M. Hudson	(Dorothy)
Duane G. Johnson	(Violet)
Theodore R. Marshall	(Sandra)
William Mauger	(Judi)
John Nici	(Mildred)
Richard T. Noe	(Mary)
Calvin Payne	(Lucille)
Richard E. Perrin	(Eleanor)
Louis Pompei	(Mary)
Charles Starnes	(Judy)
Dennis Terrell	(Elaine)
Harold Vaughn	(Geneva)
Gordon Whetherall	(Ellen)
Roy E. Wheeler	(Shirley)
John Wilkes `	(Katherine)
Kenith Windsor	(Beverly)
George Belden	
John Costello	(Jean)
Harmon Edwards	(Nancy)
James P. Farrey	(Florence)
William Gaughan	
Joan Gaughan	(Kenneth)
Jules B. Houghtaling	
Edith Houghtaling	
James King	
Larry A. Lavin	(Peggy)
Frederick W. Lockwood	(Hester Denure)
Russell R. Mayer, Sr.	(Russell, Jr.)
Edward W. Murphy	
Thomas E. Watts	
Jesse D. Ouzts	(Rachel)

(Editor's Note:)

*If there are any errors in the above listing, please contact me immediately.*

--- editor

At local taverns, pubs and bars, people drank from pint and quart sized containers. A bar maid's job was to keep an eye on the customers and keep the drinks coming. She had to pay close attention and remember who was drinking in "pints" and who was drinking in "quarts." Hence the term "minding your P's and Q's".



## Author Raises Donation Amount for Scholarship Fund From Coral Sea Book Sales

**Heroes Among Us**, a historical novel about life aboard the Coral Sea, is still available but may not be much longer.

Author **Bill Williams**, an Association member, said the book was printed in a limited quantity so when it's gone, it's gone. About 300 copies remain to be sold. The book is not available in retail stores. On July 1st, Williams increased from \$2 to \$3 the amount he will contribute to the *Scholarship Fund* from the sale of each book. The price of \$22 per book includes postage, handling and required state sales taxes.

**Harry Clark**, an association member from Sacramento, CA, a retired Master Chief Boilermaker, wrote to Williams: "*I finished reading your book, Heroes Among Us, and wanted to thank you for allowing me to walk down memory lane.*"

Williams's first book, "**Days of Darkness: The Gettysburg Civilians**", a Civil War novel -- is available from major chain book stores. His third book, "**The Coal King's Slaves**", a novel about a coal-mining family in the 1890s -- was released in July and is available in major chains. A fourth book -- on the rescue of American bomber crews from Romania in 1944 -- has been accepted by his publisher for future publication.

----- Cut along dotted lines -----

Mail Order to:

**Bill Williams**

**100 Fairway Drive**

**Camp Hill, PA 17011-2066**

Make check payable to: **William G. Williams** for \$22.00 per book

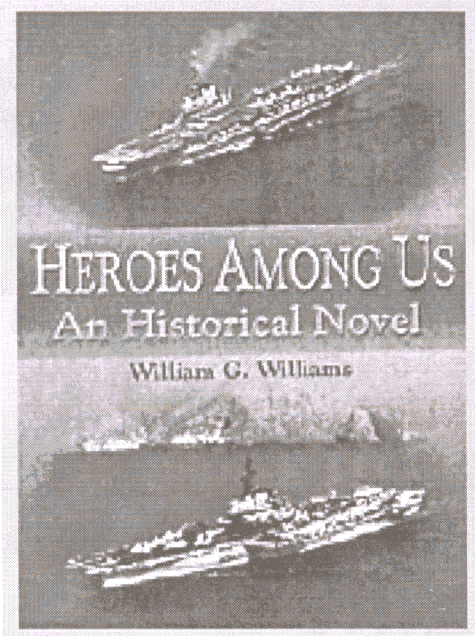
NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ [    ] \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Autograph to: \_\_\_\_\_



A salty Navy Chief and a crusty Marine First Sergeant are at a bar arguing about who had the tougher career.

"I did 30 years in the Recon," the Marine declared proudly, "and fought in three of my country's wars. Fresh out of boot camp, I hit the beach at Okinawa, clawed my way up the blood-soaked sand, and eventually took out an entire enemy machine gun nest with a single grenade. As a sergeant, I fought in Korea alongside General MacArthur. We pushed back the enemy inch by bloody inch all the way up to the Chinese border, always under a barrage of artillery and small arms fire. Finally, as a staff sergeant, I did three consecutive combat tours in Vietnam. We humped through the mud and razor grass for 14 hours a day, plagued by rain and mosquitoes, ducking under sniper fire all day and mortar fire at night. In a firefight, we'd shoot until our arms ached and our guns (this is my rifle, this is my gun, this is for shooting and this is for fun) were empty, then we'd charge the enemy with bayonets!"

Looking straight ahead, the Chief says nothing. Then after a deliberately long, slow drink, the Chief says, "Yeah, it figures...all shore duty."



**JULY**

Ernest A. Akromas	7/5/30
Larry A. Bond	7/13/41
Mary (Mrs. Eugene G. Brown)	7/29/24
Harold J. Canfield	7/4/29
Marge (Mrs. Harold J. Canfield)	7/27/32
Linda (Mrs. Henry W. Crawford)	7/13/43
Lee R. Fuselier	7/26/43
Rolland H. Gier	7/2/30
Adrian (Mrs. George W. Howard)	7/10/32
Ernest A. Howell	7/9/27
Thomas H. Johnson	7/6/40
Sarah (Mrs. Thomas H. Johnson)	7/27/44
James H. Katzenberger	7/23/46
Lee H. Krah	7/10/31
Glenna (Mrs. Gene A Marek)	7/5/44
Pat M. McRae	7/2/42
Michael L. O'Connor	7/9/50
Jane (Mrs. Douglas D. Perry)	7/14/21
Oral J. Poskin	7/13/30
Nancy (Mrs. William D. Raborn)	7/24/44
Sherry (Mrs. Robert E. Skelton)	7/16/46
Gene L. Unangst	7/24/34
James R. Washausen	7/27/44
James L. Weisenburger	7/4/30
Mary Jane (Mrs. Bill G. Williams)	7/25/36
Stephen A. Wegwerth	7/18/50

**Birthdays this Quarter**

**AUGUST:**

David F. Bolt	8/20/46
Robert W. Fennell	8/17/29
Donald Gold	8/2/30
Randolph F. Grabarczyk	8/12/51
Stan Habel	8/2/42
Jean (Mrs. Edward J. Hamilton)	8/3/50
George W. Howard	8/19/26
John J. McCarthy	8/11/30
Jeanne (Mrs. Milton J. Miller)	8/8/29
Polly (Mrs. Granvil D. Moore)	8/22/33
Joan (Mrs. Richard E. O'Bryan)	8/29/60
Mariana (Mrs. Donald H. Paddock)	8/18/57
William D. Raborn	8/29/47
Jeanne (Mrs. James H. Ribbe)	8/5/33
Jack Ryan	8/15/35
Joan (Mrs. Richard J. Schultz)	8/11/32
Howard O. Shull	8/14/35
Kenneth E. Stickel	8/24/30
Ana (Mrs. Ralph O. Taylor)	8/28/53
Barbara (Mrs. Gene L. Unangst)	8/20/33
Frances (Mrs. E.O. Whitmire)	8/6/40
William G. Williams	8/18/35
Wallace R. Baker	8/18/45

**Birthdays this Quarter**

**SEPTEMBER:**

Mildred (Mrs. Ellis L. Anders)	9/25/34
Barbara (Mrs. William H. Black)	9/12/32
Mary (Mrs. Joseph W. Blandford)	9/1/30
Walter H. Bracken	9/3/31
Eugene G. Brown	9/29/25
Regina (Mrs. Rufus D. Campbell)	9/29/46
Lois (Mrs. Clinton M. Cox)	9/14/39
Lorene (Mrs. John L. Fox)	9/8/24
Ben Galan	9/13/33
Loretta (Mrs. Jack H. Gillespie)	9/3/35
Sarah Jo (Mrs. William R. Glovan)	9/4/36
Dennis C. Holiman	9/2/41
Mary Louise (Mrs. Vic Lamontagne)	9/30/39
Patricia (Mrs. Lowell Marsolek)	9/4/44
Josephine (Mrs. James McLoud)	9/8/38
Jacqueline (Mrs. Henry J. Reidinger)	9/9/27
Manuel J. Silvia	9/6/29
Ralph O. Taylor	9/1/39
Hanan J. Thompson	9/21/32
Connie (Mrs. Hanan J. Thompson)	9/28/33
John H. Weber, III	9/5/31
Julie (Mrs. James L. Weisenburger)	9/22/25
James D. Wellington	9/3/48
Thomas Zmijewski	9/17/44
Robert Karish	9/20/32
Pola (Mrs. Robert Karish)	9/18/55
William J. Wilson	9/18/32
Vernon L. Parmerlee	9/14/30
Violet (Mrs. Joseph McKay)	9/17/24
Fern (Mrs. Neil Schultz)	9/6/43

*Happy Anniversary!*



*Happy Anniversary!*

**JULY:**

Larry & Nona Bond	7/17/65	(37th)
Rolland & Ella Gier	7/30/50	(52nd)
Thomas & Sara Johnson	7/30/62	(40th)
James & Joan Katzenberger	7/3/93	(9th)
Lee & Madelin Krah	7/10/54	(48th)
James & Julie Weisenburger	7/7/51	(51st)
Robert & Pola Karish	7/7/91	(11th)
Stan & Verna May Linzey	7/13/41	(61st)

**AUGUST:**

Robert & Patricia Fennell	8/15/53	(49th)
Edward & Jean Hamilton	8/16/75	(27th)
Donald & Mariana Paddock	8/18/57	(45th)
Kenneth & Sharon Boyer	8/24/96	(6th)
Calvin & Cheryl Allison	8/26/72	(30th)
Stephen & Miriam Wegwerth	8/16/69	(33rd)

**SEPTEMBER:**

William & Barbara Black	9/22/50	(52nd)
William & Sarah Glovan	9/12/86	(16th)
Dennis & Sherry Holiman	9/4/94	(8th)

**BENEFACTORS:**

<b>Eugene G. Brown</b>	<b>\$25.</b>	<b>Scholarship</b>
<b>Edward J. Hamilton</b>	<b>\$25</b>	<b>Scholarship</b>
<b>E.O. Whitmire</b>	<b>\$5</b>	<b>Scholarship</b>
<b>Harry T. Kelley, Jr.</b>	<b>\$5</b>	<b>Scholarship</b>

You know you're living in the year 2002 when...

1. Your reason for not staying in touch with family is because they do not have an e-mail address.
2. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of three.
3. Your grandmother asks you to send her a JPEG file of your newborn so she can create "wallpaper" for her computer.
4. You pull up in your own driveway and use your cell phone to see if anyone is home.
5. Every commercial on television has a web site address at the bottom of the screen.
6. You buy a PC computer and 3 months later it is out of date and now sells for half the price you paid.
8. Using real money, instead of credit or debit, to make a purchase would be a hassle and takes planning.
9. You just tried to enter your password on the microwave.
10. You consider second-day air delivery painfully slow.
11. Your dining room table is now your flat filing cabinet.
12. Your idea of being organized is multiple-colored Post-It Notes.
13. You hear most of your jokes via e-mail instead of in person.
14. You get an extra phone line so you can get phone calls.
15. You disconnect from the Internet and get this awful feeling, as if you just pulled the plug on a loved one.
16. You get up in the morning and go online before doing anything else.
17. You wake up at 2 AM to go to the bathroom and check your E-mail on your way back to bed.
18. You start tilting your head sideways to smile. :)
19. You're reading this. Even worse; you're going to forward it to someone else.





**USS CORAL SEA ASSOCIATION  
Small Stores Order Form**

The Small Stores is operated for the convenience of our members. When ordering, please make sure to include your phone number.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

ITEM	Size or Description	Color	Qty	Price each	\$Total
Ladies Shirt	One size fits most: Bears/Hearts design	White		\$21.00	\$
Coral Sea Jacket	M - Lg - Xlg - 2Xlg - 3Xlg	Navy blue		\$42.00	\$
Sweatpants	S - M - Lg - XLg - XXLg	Birch		\$21.00	\$
Sweatpants	M - Lg - XLg - XXLg	Navy		\$21.00	\$
Sweatshirts	S - M - Lg - XLg - XXLg	Birch or Navy		\$21.00	\$
Golf Shirts	M - Lg - XLg - XXLg	Light blue		\$21.00	\$
T-Shirts	S - M - Lg - XLg - XXLg	White with navy trim		\$12.00	\$
T-Shirts	M - Lg - SLg - XXLg	Navy with gold logo		\$12.00	\$
Caps	Mesh back with scrambled eggs (CV-43), (CVB-43), (CVA-43) - Circle one			\$14.00	\$
Caps	Regulation cap (CV-43), (CVB-43), (CVA-43) - Circle one			\$12.00	\$
Caps (Red)	USS Coral Sea U.S. Marine Det.			\$12.00	\$
Pin	Marine (First to fight)			\$ 9.00	\$
Pin	USS Coral Sea CV-43 [made of oxidized metal (bronze) dye struck and silver-plated, the finish is hand-rubbed]			\$ 9.00	\$
Pin	United States Navy (Fouled gold anchor)			\$12.00	\$
Pin	Navy wife (Fouled gold anchor)			\$12.00	\$
Pin	USN (silver)			\$ 9.00	\$
Coral Sea Buckle & Belt		Navy or Tan		\$15.00	\$
Marine Buckle & Belt		Navy or Tan		\$15.00	\$
Patch	Coral Sea (3-inch)			\$ 4.00	\$
Patch	Coral Sea (4.5-inch)			\$ 6.00	\$
Vanity License Plate	USS Coral Sea CV-43 (Ideal for those with one license plate)			\$23.00	\$
Chrome Lic. Plate Frame	USS Coral Sea CV-43			\$15.00	\$
Photographs	USS Coral Sea (8 x 10 Straight Deck)			\$ 4.00	\$
Photographs	USS Coral Sea (8 x 10 Angled Deck)			\$ 4.00	\$
				Shipping & handling . . . . .	\$ 4.00
				<b>TOTAL . . . . .</b>	<b>\$</b>



Make check payable to: **USS CORAL SEA ASSOCIATION**  
 Mail Order Form to:  
**HENRY KLEEMAN** (Storekeeper)  
 336 Cottage Place  
 Lewistown, PA 17044-1217



## E-mails & Letters..... continued



**From TMCS John F. Plude, Sr. (USN-Retired), Board Member:**

A lot of thought has gone into this message and it has taken me a while to get this down on paper without expressing the anger I feel at the present time. There are too many good things going on in this Association and too many great people in this organization to let a few cry-babies cause a disruption in the fellowship and respect we have for each other

Since Chuck Whitcomb has been President, he has worked untiringly for the betterment of this Association and made tremendous progress in the way we do business. From an outfit with very little money and no financial record eight years ago, we now have over \$40,000 in the bank and have an *Audit Committees* to make sure the funds are used properly. We now have a Scholarship program running successfully which will give certain benefit and encouragement in the education of our children and grandchildren. In my opinion, he must be doing something right. But instead of praise for all he has done, he is being badmouthed by a few "shipmates" who couldn't carry the load themselves when they had the opportunity.

It is a sorry state of affairs when good people are forced to justify the good things they have accomplished and continue to accomplish for this Association, only to be maligned by rumors spread by a few discontented and small-minded individuals who are bitter because they no longer have a free hand in the operation of this Association. These are the same people who took their bat and ball and went home when they were confronted with questions on the financial situation of this Association.

As a member of the Board of Directors for the past two years, I have been involved in the Association business and can assure you that most of the current elected officers are doing their best for the Association. I hope you will keep an open mind and not be swayed by unsubstantiated rumors and gossip.

Be informed and get involved in your Association business so you can make your own decisions and choices for the good of the **USS Coral Sea CVA-43 Association**, one of the best Navy associations in the country. Let your elected officers know how you feel about the job they are doing. A little word of encouragement and support can go a long way to ease the tension and stress of this present situation.

Remember, none of us are getting any younger and we should use these remaining years to the fullest by having compassion for our fellow man and to have as many good times as we can. Hope to see you all in Branson, as I really look forward to seeing my old buddies at the reunions each year.

Respectfully,

JOHN F. PLUDE, Sr.  
Board Member

A major research institution has recently announced the discovery of the heaviest element yet known to science. This new element has been tentatively named "*Administratium*."

*Administratium* has 1 neutron, 12 assistant neutrons, 75 deputy neutrons, and 111 assistant deputy neutrons, giving it an atomic mass of 312. These 312 particles are held together by a force called morons, which are surrounded by vast quantities of lepton-like particles called peons. Since *Administratium* has no electrons, it is inert. However, it can be detected as it impedes every reaction with which it comes into contact. A minute amount of *Administratium* causes one reaction to take over 4 days to complete when it would normally take less than a second.

*Administratium* has a normal half-life of 3 years; it does not decay but instead undergoes a reorganization in which a portion of the assistant neutrons and deputy neutrons exchange places. In fact, *Administratium*'s mass will actually increase over time, since each reorganization causes some morons to become neutrons, forming *isodopes*. This characteristic of moron-promotion leads some scientists to speculate that *Administratium* is formed whenever morons reach a certain quantity in concentration. This hypothetical quantity is referred to as "Critical Morass." You will know it when you see it.



E-mails & Letters continued  
to page 17 ....



E-mail &amp; Letters . . . continued

## You're on My Turf . . .

There are a few things that those who have recently come to our country, and apparently some native Americans, need to understand: First of all, it is not our responsibility to continually try not to offend you in any way. This idea of America being a multicultural community has served only to dilute our sovereignty and our national identity.

As Americans, we have our own culture, our own society, our own language, and our own lifestyle. This culture, called the "American Way" has been developed over centuries of struggles, trials, and victories by millions of men and women who have sought freedom. Our forefathers fought, bled, and died at places such as Bunker Hill, Antietam, San Juan, Iwo Jima, Normandy, Korea, Vietnam... We speak English, not Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Russian, or any other language. Therefore, if you wish to become part of our society - learn our language! I did.

"In God We Trust" is our national motto. This is not some off-the-wall, Christian, Right Wing, political slogan - it is our national motto. It is engraved in stone in the House of Representatives in our Capitol and it is printed on our currency. We adopted this motto because Christian men and women, on Christian principles, founded this nation and this is clearly documented throughout our history. If it is appropriate for our motto to be inscribed in the halls of our highest level of Government, then it is certainly appropriate to display it on the walls of our schools. God is in our pledge, in our National Anthem, in nearly every patriotic song, and in our founding documents. We honor His birth, death, and resurrection as holidays, and we turn to Him in prayer in times of crisis. If God offends you, then I suggest you consider another part of the world as your new home, because God is part of our culture and we are proud to have Him.

We are proud of our heritage and those who have so honorably defended our freedoms. We celebrate Independence Day, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Flag Day. We have parades, picnics, and barbecues where we proudly wave our flag. As an American, I have the right to wave my flag, sing my national anthem, quote my national motto, and cite my pledge whenever and wherever I choose. If the Stars and Stripes offend you, or you don't like Uncle Sam, then you should seriously consider a move to another part of this planet. The American culture is our way of life, our heritage, and we are proud of it. We are happy with our culture and have no desire to change, and we really don't care how you did things where you came from. Like it or not, this is our country, our land, and our lifestyle. Our First Amendment gives every citizen the right to express his opinion about our government, culture, or society, and we will allow you every opportunity to do so. But, once you are done complaining, whining, and griping about our flag, our pledge, our national motto, our language, or our way of life, I highly encourage you take advantage of one other great American freedom: **THE RIGHT TO LEAVE!**

Another thing: To those who do complain about the usage of words like "God" and "American" and speaking the language of our great nation, **TRY GOING TO ANOTHER COUNTRY AND SPEAK AGAINST WHAT YOU DON'T LIKE. YOU WILL MORE THAN LIKELY END UP JAILED OR EVEN KILLED.** In America, you take your right to complain for granted. The more patriotism that is removed from where our children are taught, the less our children will learn about what it is to be an American and our nation's spirit will slowly be killed. Keep patriotism alive. **GOD BLESS AMERICA.**

### USS CORAL SEA MEMORIAL PLAQUE - US NAVY MEMORIAL, WASHINGTON DC.

Acting on a suggestion made by Bill Johnson regarding the Memorial plaque wall at the Navy Memorial, on Tuesday, 16 July 2002, I made a trip to Washington, DC to check it out and to reserve a spot for a Coral Sea plaque (if the membership approves). I talked with a Ms. Cathy Masson-Bel, who is the person responsible for plaque installation and came up with the following:

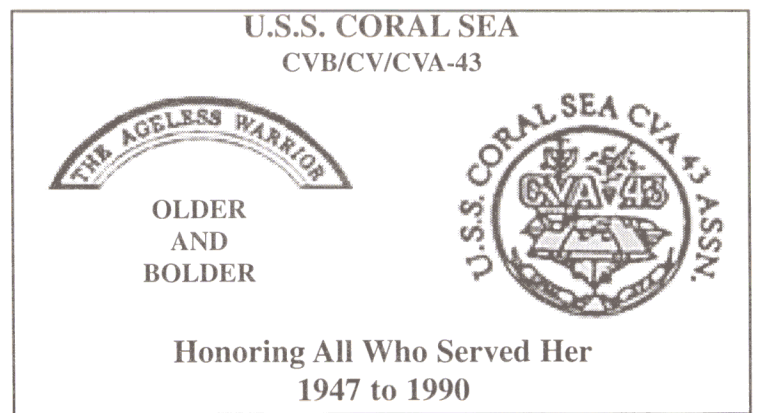
The cost to have a plaque placed on the wall is \$2,500 of which the majority of the money goes to the Navy Memorial Foundation in the form of a donation. The plaque itself is not all that impressive, but there are quite a few ships and outfits already represented. Personally, I think it is a good idea. The Association needs to make some donation anyway, so why not to the Navy Memorial Fund.

I took the liberty of designing a plaque (shown on the right). Some of the plaques on the wall have so much information on them that you can hardly make out what is written on it because of the small print. Remember, this is a memorial to the ship and the crew who served her, not an historical record.

Each plaque is a silver-alloy plate, 7 X 3 inches, engraved with a black-filled inscription of the donor's choice, of six to seven lines. The tax-deductible donation for a plaque is \$2,500, with a special package, which includes a dedication ceremony, free showing of the movie "At Sea", a group rate on Navy Log enrollments, and the use of the facilities at the time of the dedication.

John F. Plude, Sr.  
Board Member

(Illustration below not to scale.)







**E-mails & Letters . . . . continued**

Date: July 29, 2002  
 From: Samuel G. Gorsline, Captain USN (ret), (Former CO - USS Coral Sea CVA-43)  
 To: Secretary: USS Coral Sea CVA-43 Association.

Dear Sir:

On July 11th, 2002, a "mini" Coral Sea reunion was held in Columbus, Ohio. In attendance were the below listed shipmates who served on Coral Sea during my command tour i.e. May, 1969 - October 1970. The location was chosen by **Roger Cheever** because Father **Tom Kuhn**, Captain USN (ret) is not in good health and is retired living in nearby Tiffin, Ohio.

While we were telling sea stories I encouraged all in attendance to join the Coral Sea Association. They all agreed so I am sending the names and address for both their snail mail and email, so you can send them applications.

Incidentally, I have changed my email address to [gorsline45@tfb.com](mailto:gorsline45@tfb.com)

I should get a commendation ribbon for recruiting this fairly large number of new members! It is now up to you to convince them to sign up.

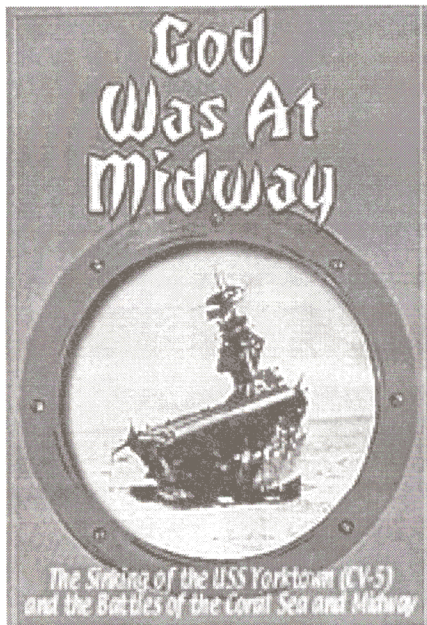
Sincerely,

**Samuel G. Gorsline**, Captain USN (ret)

In Attendance:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Captain Thomas Kuhn, CHC USN (ret) (Tiffin, OH)     | Hugh Saracino (Deidre) S-Div (Del Mar, CA) |
| Roger Cheever (Jane) COM DIV (Dedham, MA)           | George Malone Marine Div (Clinton, MD)     |
| Jack Wade (Joy) COM DIV (Colorado Springs, CO)      | David M. Ellis Legal Off (Dallas, TX)      |
| Capt Ed Laney, USN (ret) (Marge) XO (Hollywood, MD) | David Hayford S-Div (Oshkosh, WI)          |

----- cut along dotted lines -----



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(Author) Stanford E. Linzey, Jr.

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## END OF YEAR NOTICES

### 25th ANNUAL USS CORAL SEA CVA-43 REUNION: OCTOBER 2-3-4-5, 2003 PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

#### Just a few reminders for the 2003 Reunion in Portsmouth, VA

I have a feeling that this will be one of the larger attended reunions, due to the location. As usual, it will be "First Come, First Served" with hotel reservations and meals. Plans are being made for the overflow (if needed) at nearby facilities. We should be able to seat 500 at the Saturday night banquet. Make your reservations early so we can plan the seating arrangements and make room for some dancing.

If you decide to attend the reunion business meeting or any planned function provided by the reunion Committee, but do not wish to register at the Holiday Inn or purchase the food package, notification must be given in advance to the Committee Chairman so that arrangements can be made with the Hotel staff. In the past there has been as many as 30 or 40 people walk in on Saturday afternoon, expecting to attend the banquet. This places everyone in an awkward position. So make your plans well in advance and help us to provide you with an outstanding reunion. A late registration fee of \$10.00 will be imposed on walk-ins to cover the cost of the reunion package materials and hospitality room refreshments.

There will be some advance information on tours and local attractions displayed at the reunion in Branson, so you can get an idea of the recreation available in the Portsmouth/Norfolk area. If you have any specific questions or needs, Eva and I will do our best to get an answer for you. See you in Branson.

Respectfully,

JOHN F. PLUDE, Sr  
2003 Reunion Committee Chairman

#### Annual New Jersey Area Spring Meeting

**When:** Saturday, 26 April 2003 11:30 am - 4:30 pm

**Where:** Sir John's Restaurant  
North Brunswick, NJ

It will be the 12th annual reunion. More information will follow in the next *BREEZE*.

Jack Weber

#### MEMBERSHIP

According to the Association's established fiscal calendar, membership dues end on **30 September**. Therefore, if you are receiving this newsletter, take note of what is shown on the address label. Right beside your name you should see numbers or code letters in brackets like [9/02], or [9/03], [LTM], or [wdo], etc. That is your date (month/year) of membership dues expiration. If there is no number or code showing at all, most likely you have not renewed your membership, and you're past due. Please contact the Secretary immediately.

If the number shown is [9/02], it means it's time for you to renew your membership for next year(s). Therefore, please clip the *Application/Renewal* form (next page), fill it out and return it with your remittance to the Secretary.

If you are planning to do the renewal process at the reunion, that's fine too -- but why not avoid the rush and do it now.

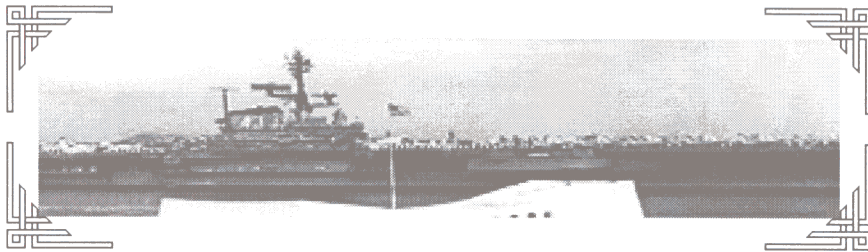
Consider it a grace period -- but this copy you are reading now is the last issue of the newsletter which mailing has been made to those in arrear with their membership dues. Due to the increase in cost of printing and mailing this publication, future editions will no longer be mailed to those who are not current in their dues.

**Shipmates,  
Support Your Association  
Live the Spirit of the Coral Sea !**

*In  
Memory*

*God  
Bless  
America!*





**MEMBERSHIP**

Membership to the USS CORAL SEA CVA-43 ASSOCIATION is open to all Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force personnell who served aboard the U.S.Navy vessel USS CORAL SEA (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 less than 90 days aboard shall be eligible for membership.

**DUES**

Association membership dues is \$10 per year. Dues for membership is not pro-rated but not limited to one year when submitted for renewal or first-time application. Any amount submitted over the annual dues and not specified, will be automatically earmarked to the Association's Scholarship Fund program.

--- The Association is a non-profit organization formed by former crew member with U.S. mailing permit #403. Vista, CA ---

**USS CORAL SEA (CVA-43) ASSOCIATION  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM**

[X] Please mark which applies to you:

- I apply for membership for \_\_\_ year(s). Enclosed is a check/Money Order = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ [ ]- New member
- Renew my membership for \_\_\_ year(s). Enclosed is a check/Money Order = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ [ ]- Renewal

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Birthday:** \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_  
(PLEASE PRINT) (First Name - Middle Initial - Last Name) Mo Day Year

**SPOUSE or NOK \*** \_\_\_\_\_ **Birthday:** \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ **Anniversary:** \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_  
\* A name is required of Next-of-Kin (NOK) DO NOT LEAVE THIS LINE BLANK--- (Spouse only): Mo Day Year Mo Day Year

**Street Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone No. ( )** \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip + 4:** \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Radio Call Sign:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ON BOARD SHIP AS CREW MEMBER:**

**From:** \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ **to** \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ **Division:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rank/Rate on board:** \_\_\_\_\_  
month - year month - year (i.e. LU/RD1/FN/SN/Sgt)

**Military Retirement:** No  Yes  Retired as: \_\_\_\_\_ USN  USCG   
(Rank/Rate) USNR  AIR FORCE   
USMC  ARMY

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature

**Please make check payable to: USS CORAL SEA CVA-43 ASSOCIATION.**  
**Mail application to:**  
M.G. CORDERO (Secretary)  
1803 Goodwin Drive  
Vista, CA 92084-3036  
To contact the Secretary by e-mail: [mgcordero@nctimes.net](mailto:mgcordero@nctimes.net)

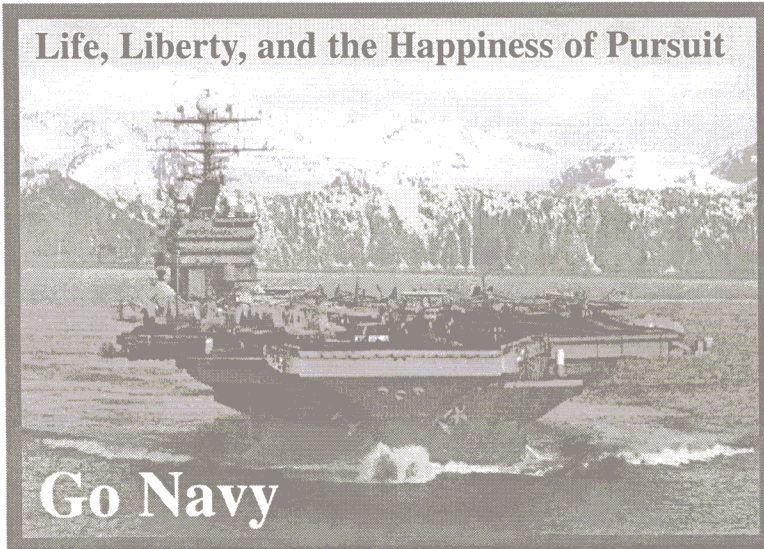
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Newsletter Online supplement Website: [www.geocities.com/cva43seabreeze/index.html](http://www.geocities.com/cva43seabreeze/index.html)



**God Bless America**

**Life, Liberty, and the Happiness of Pursuit**



**Live the Spirit of the Coral Sea - Support Your Association**

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