

# The Coral Sea Breeze

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

VOLUME 8 Issue #2 2nd Quarter January - February - March 2003

USS CORAL SEA



U.S.S. "CORAL SEA" (CV-43)



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### Committees

#### **Reunion Committee:**

*Chairman:* **Robert Locke** (Branson, MO - 2002)  
*Chairman:* **John F. Plude, Sr.** (Portsmouth, VA - 2003)

#### **Scholarship Committee:**

*Chairman:* **William G. Willaims** (Camp Hill, PA - 2004)  
*Members:* **David G. Yokley** (Huntsville, AL - 2005)  
**William J. Wilson** (Palm Springs, FL - 2004)  
**Frank J. Shivak** (Oceanside, CA - 2003)

#### **Retention:**

*Chairman:* **Herman Doernbach** (Milwaukee, WI - 2004)

#### **Liaison:**

**Jams M. Williamson, Jr.** (Chula Vista, CA - 2004)

#### *Publisher:*

**Bob Mackey** (President)

#### *Staff Writers*

**Bill Johnson** (Vice President)  
**Dennis A. Walters** (Treasurer)  
**Stanford E. Linzey** (Chaplain)

**William G. Williams**  
**John F. Plude, Sr.**

#### *Editor:*

**John (Mike) Walker**

### President's Message

Recently I was notified by one of our members of his deep concern for one of our shipmates named O.P. Ryan. Many of us knew O.P. as our Mess Deck Master at Arms. Needless to say, whatever one of us might have thought of O.P., it wasn't till we were safe in our civilian life and acted a few years, quite a few years in fact, did we realize how much O.P.'s influence had affected us as young sailors aboard the "AGELESS WARRIOR". It came as no surprise to me that he received a standing ovation from our membership at our Annual Reunion at the Pioneer Inn held in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

This shipmate's concern came about as a result of him trying to telephone O.P. and also to write to no avail. In fact, he had been advised that O.P.'s telephone had been disconnected and no forwarding number listed.

Being a VFW Life Member, I called Washington, D.C. VFW, who in turn, transferred me to the Florida state service officer who then transferred the inquiry to a local VFW Post, that did a physical visit to O.P.'s residence. They then reported back to me of their appraisal of the situation. O.P.'s health had not been A-1 as we recalled, but a line of communications was set up and family members are in touch for O.P.'s care. I also contacted the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Mississippi. An information package was mailed to O.P. for him to take any action on the program.

Shipmates, this story had a nice ending. What about those who aren't so lucky? Please shipmates, always remember that a man stands his tallest in life when he stoops down to help someone who is in need. It was the shipmate's effort to contact me and my, in turn, contacting the VFW that brought whatever help we could to a shipmate. Who has helped a shipmate lately: I hope it was you.

Let this be a word of advice, "Keep up your membership in the Association, and other Veterans Associations too. Without their help, I never could have tried to even contact O.P."

IMPORTANT NOTICE:-- I received a letter from Small Stores Chairman Henry Kleesman, and he will be "RESIGNING" as of 30 JUNE 2003. WE NEED A NEW CHAIRMAN, PLEASE CONTACT ME IF INTERESTED.

Very Truly Yours,  
*Clarence R. (Bob) Mackey*  
 President

### From the Vice President

By now, you have received your first newsletter since we met in Branson. It has been a time filled with a lot of unforeseen problems, but that is behind us and we are moving forward. Let us give our support to Mike Walker as our new secretary. He is working hard to produce the newsletter, update the member roster, accept new memberships and generally get things organized.

We had our fifth annual Florida Spring Fling, Saturday, March 8 in Venice at Valenti's Restaurant. There were 69 people in attendance and a great time had by all. Several of our shipmates from the FDR and the Midway, as well as the Shangri-La were also present. Our speaker was Captain Fred Merkland, who also spoke last year. He had such great things to say the first time, that we invited him back for more! He gave a great talk about his World War II experiences, especially the Marianna Turkey Shoot as all good carrier sailors have heard the stories about. He went on to say that our Navy pilots from the carriers gave it to the Japanese airmen to the tune of a loss of twice as many airplanes and twice as many pilots. "We broke the back of the Japanese fleet with the defeat at Midway and the Mariannas, and after that we continued our air superiority."

We also had another guest speaker, Eugene Domienik who was on the Yorktown at the Battle of the Coral Sea and was on it at Midway when it was sunk. Domienik is writing a book about the Battle of the Coral

Sea. He knew Chaplain Sanford Linzey. They were on the same battle stations on the Yorktown. He read some of the book to us and we are looking forward to reading the book when it is published.

I also wish to thank my most faithful partner in crime, Bud McKay for manning the telephones and accepting the reservations and checks. I could not do this every year without Bud's help. We even had one of our shipmates from Las Vegas in attendance; Jack and Lorraine Calderone. Jack had heard what fun we have, so he decided to come east and visit.

As we prepare for a possible war with Saddam Hussein and Iraq, let us be much in prayer for our service men and women on duty both on foreign soil and here in the United States. Let's pray that they return home safe and sound.

To the new members, as well as the old, remember to keep wearing your ball caps and put your bumper stickers on your vehicle. That's how we can increase our membership and continue to memorialize the Coral Sea. This is a commission to all members.

Until the next time, smooth sailing and God bless.

Vice President,  
*Bill Johnson*

You are hereby invited to the  
Dedication of the Coral Sea Memorial Plaque  
on the Wall of Honor at the  
U.S. Navy Memorial & Naval Heritage Center in  
Washington, D.C.

The dedication will take place on  
September 30, 2003  
at 1 p.m.

For more information, call or email  
Bill Johnson  
at 941-485-4360 or [cva43bill@hotmail.com](mailto:cva43bill@hotmail.com)  
or  
John Plude  
at 410-836-1040 or [Jpludesr@aol.com](mailto:Jpludesr@aol.com)

We will need to know how many plan  
to attend in order to plan the reception.

This dedication is planned just prior to the  
Portsmouth Reunion scheduled for October 3-5, 2003.

For more information on the  
U.S. Navy Memorial & Naval Heritage Center  
visit their website at  
<http://www.lonesailor.org/>



## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER FADE IN, FADE OUT



Stanford E. Linzey, Jr.

Those who go down to the sea in ships, who do business in great waters, they see the works of the Lord, and His wonders in the deep. For He commands and raises the stormy wind, which lifts up the waves of the sea. They mount up to the heavens, they go down again to the depths; their soul melts because of trouble. They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wits end. Then they cry out to the Lord in their trouble, and He brings them out of their distresses. He calms the storm, so that its waves are still. Then they are glad because they are quiet; so He guides them to their desired have. Oh, that men would give thanks to the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men!

(Psalm 107:23-31)

This is real and symbolic. Navy men and women are religious people due to the nature of their calling. As on the high seas, so on the seas of life. We are reminded of our mortality. We face crisis, pain, suffering, and death. But we can trust the Lord to bring us out of our distress and land us safely on the heavenly shore where peace and calm reign eternally. In memoriam we salute those of our shipmates who have gone on before us. May they rest in peace and may our memories of them be good.

*Stanford E. Linzey, Jr.*



## TAPS

Commander Steven C. Hastings passed away December 31, 2002, after a long battle with cancer. He served two tours aboard the USS Coral Sea, July, 1966 to June, 1967, and June, 1968 to early 1969. He flew A4's and completed 212 missions.

Edwin J. Stablin, a resident of The Soldier's and Sailor's Home in Erie, Pennsylvania, passed away, no dates are available. He served aboard from 1949 to 1952 in the V-2 Division.

Lylis Mattson, wife of Donald W. Mattson, passed away suddenly of a massive heart attack January 12, 2003. Don served aboard the USS Coral Sea from 1951-1955 in the V1-A Division.

## ANNUAL NEW JERSEY AREA SPRING MEETING

**WHEN:** Saturday, 26 April 2003  
11:30 am to 4:00 pm

**WHERE:** Sir John's Restaurant  
230 Washington Place  
North Brunswick, NJ 08902  
(732) 297-3803

For more information, contact John Weber, 273 Crestwood Drive, Milltown, NJ 008850-1805, (732) 828-1234 More information to follow!

### U.S.S. CORAL SEA CVA-43

### 13TH ANNUAL MIDWEST SPRING FLING

Why the Spring Flings?

A majority of our shipmates cannot make the Fall Annual Reunions, so these Flings are an opportunity for crew members to get to know each other and shake the Winter blues.

**WHERE:** QUALITY SUITES  
7401 WALTON AVENUE  
ROCKFORD, IL 61108 PH 815-227-1300  
Identify yourself as USS Coral Sea

**WHEN:** APRIL 24-26, 2003

**RATES:** KING SUITES \$75.00+\$9.00Tax=\$84.00  
DOUBLE SUITES \$85.00+\$10.20Tax=\$95.20

Location - From I-90, MM 63 1/2, just W to Bell School Road, then just S.

### ROCKFORD

Bisected by the Rock River, Rockford is named for the shallow ford used by the Galena-Chicago Stagecoach Line before the area was settled. The city's streets were designed to accommodate the winding river. It's citizens nicknamed Rockford "The Forest City" because of the many trees.

### ROCKFORD AREA CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU

211 N. Main St. Rockford, IL 61101-1010; Phone 815-963-8111 or 800-521-0849

### INFORMATION - QUESTIONS?

Bob Mackey - 300 Webb Street - Calumet City, IL 60409-4716 Phone 708-891-6771

Herman Doernback - 3144 S. 98th Street - Milwaukee, WI 53227-4210

Phone 414-321-0098 E-Mail hermanwd@aol.com

**DO YOU WANT TO REUNION TO BE IN YOUR AREA?  
HERE IS THE LIST OF REQUIREMENTS:**

**USS CORAL SEA CVA-43 ASSOCIATION  
HOTEL/MOTEL and CITY/STATE SITE CRITERIA**

**DATE of REUNION: ---**

Weekend prior to Columbus Day, or as close to 01 October as possible.

**CITY and STATE: ---**

Named city and state where reunion is to be held.

**COMMERCIAL TRANSPORTATION: ---**

Airlines - Amtrak - Bus Lines that serve the area.

**HOTEL/MOTEL: ---**

Hyatt - Sheraton - Marriot - Radisson - Holiday Inns, etc. and must be able to house the complete reunion and all functions.

**HOTEL/MOTEL ROOMS: ---**

200/400 (Plus or Minus) which includes singles - doubles - triples or quads etc. - extra person in room - including handicaps.

Room Rates: \$60.00 to \$85.00, plus city and state taxes. Rates to be in effect three to five days before and after reunion dates.

The number of comp rooms per 40/45/50.

**HOTEL/MOTEL PARKING: ---**

Valet - Self - RV's - Motor Homes.

**HOTEL/MOTEL TRANSPORTATION: ---**

To/From local airport, Amtrak station or bus terminals. Also what is available to handicap people such as mobile scooters and wheel chairs. (Rentals)

**MEALS: ---**

**BREAKFAST:** (02) Saturday and Sunday, buffet style.

**FRIDAY EVENING:** Sit down with social affair following meal.

**SATURDAY EVENING:** (Banquet Night). Dressed affair, short program, music by: (Band or D.J.), Including all State taxes and gratuity taxes. Cash bars Friday and Saturday evening meals.

**RESERVATIONS: ---**

Will be handled by Association Reunion Chairman, with moneys being sent to Hotel/Motel for the individual reservations, with balance paid upon check out.

**CUT OFF DATES: ---**

Twenty-One (21) days prior to reunion.

**MEETING ROOMS: ---**

**THURSDAY** - All day Board of Directors for Twenty (20) people. "T" table with chairs for visitors, (10).

**FRIDAY** - Area for registration, 1300 to 1700 hours. One long table for six (6) people for check-in.

**SATURDAY** - Annual business meeting using same room where Saturday breakfast is held with following requirements:

1. Raised table for officers to use when conducting business meeting.
2. Working "mikes", one (1) at officers' table and two (2) in meeting room with one (1) on the left side and one (1) on the right side of the room.

**HOSPITALITY ROOM:** ---

Large enough to accommodate 100 plus people seated at any one time. Association to be able to supply their own merchandise. (Closed during all meals and meetings, opened by president only.)

**SMALL STORES:** ---

Room provided to association for disbursement of small stores, with the ability to lock room when not in use.

**MEMORABILIA ROOM:** ---

Members to bring their mementos for viewing and sea stories.

**CONTRACTS:** ---

If signed with an agent other than an Association member chairman, the Association will have sole control of program, hospitality room and music cost will be absorbed by contractual agent.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** ---

A person who submits a proposal (will undoubtedly perform as on-site chairman), will have no authority to contract for or authority for expending any funds of the Association in accordance with "Article VII," duties by the President and Treasurer. Contracts shall be approved and signed by the President. Committee Chairman will be guided by "Article XII". Committee Chairman are responsible to the President.

### Military Thanks!

If you are so inclined, visit the Department of Defense web page below and sign a brief message, thanking the men and women of the US MILITARY SERVICES for defending our freedom. The compiled list of names will be sent out to our soldiers. So far, there are 6,258,069 names.  
<http://www.defendamerica.mil/nmam.html>

"God, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. Amen"



## MIDWAY MUSEUM PROGRESS REPORT

### Achievements to date

25 December 2002

### Ship's Report Plus a Look Ahead

A great deal of progress was achieved in 2002 as we steam ahead toward our goal of having Midway in San Diego in 2003! It is an extremely detailed and complex process. Here's a status report on several key aspects:

**CURATORIAL PLAN** -- A detailed system has been developed as the SDACM archives grows. We take our responsibility of preserving documents, memorabilia, cruise records, histories, etc., very seriously. Although we do not yet have facilities to accept large-volume donations, we are putting together the system to accommodate them.

**MOORING PLAN** -- We have worked closely with the Navy to develop a mooring plan at Navy Pier 11A for Midway. It largely is completed as the Navy reviews some of the details.

**FINANCIAL PLAN** -- We have provided some additional detail in response to questions from the Navy.

**MAINTENANCE PLAN** -- It is vital we keep Midway ship-shape. The Navy has our extremely detailed maintenance plan and maintenance budget to assure all parties Midway will always be a ship of pride and beauty.

**ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN** -- We won't even try to explain all that is required to permanently moor a ship in San Diego Bay. It spans a create deal of detail, including the creation of new wildlife habitat elsewhere in the bay.

**TOWING PLAN** -- It's not easy towing an aircraft carrier nearly more than 1,000 miles down the West Coast with an intermediate stop for initial maintainence and preparation. The plan, however, is complete and is looking good from the Navy's perspective.

**IN SHORT, AS WE HEAD INTO 2003**, we are focusing on providing some details to the Navy regarding mooring and finances. We remain optimistic we'll get the final go-ahead soon and will be able to announce a timetable for Midway's arrival in San Diego in 2003. We continue to work closely with and salute the Navy for its collaborative approach to working the process of ship donation!

This article was taken from the [www.midway.org](http://www.midway.org).

For more info look at:

- ["http://members.tripod.com/Cymru\\_Am\\_Byth/midway/index.html"](http://members.tripod.com/Cymru_Am_Byth/midway/index.html)
- ["http://www-personal.umich.edu/%7Ebuzznau/"](http://www-personal.umich.edu/%7Ebuzznau/)
- ["http://midwayjoesnavy.myqth.com"](http://midwayjoesnavy.myqth.com)
- ["http://www.nvr.navy.mil/nvrships/details/CV41.htm"](http://www.nvr.navy.mil/nvrships/details/CV41.htm)
- ["http://members.cox.net/midwayhangar/"](http://members.cox.net/midwayhangar/)



**Welcome Aboard  
to our  
New Members!**

## E-Mails of Interest

### From Moe Wadle:

To the Editor of The Coral Sea Breeze: I have been a member of the Association for perhaps 3 years. I would have been a member a lot longer but I did not realize such an Association existed until right before I joined. I was in Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron(VAW-11), Detachment Delta, as an AT3 then AT2, during the first combat deployment of Coral Sea in 1964-65. It was a part of my life that I will certainly never forget.

I am writing today to tell my shipmates that I have an original copy of a special issue of the Sea Breeze which was published in March 1965 and was 24 pages including the covers. It was designated as a supplement and the its subject was the 50 days we spent at sea and the events of those days including, of course, the beginning of Coral Sea's involvement in the Vietnam War.

I have scanned this complete issue on my computer system so have it saved in my documents. I am offering, on a limited basis, to attach this to emails to a few members who request it. I cannot say that I will do it on an unlimited basis because I have to attach 3 pages at a time to 8 emails to get this done. So, it does take some time. It is saved via Acrobat Reader so anyone requesting this should have Acrobat Reader capabilities. I am not offering to print it and mail by snail mail because the printing is somewhat extensive with all the photos. So, please publish this in the Coral Sea Breeze. My email address is "<mailto:moewadle@yahoo.com>" It is on a first come, first served basis. Note that I had this professionally photocopied a few years ago and sent a copy to the Association Historian.

I am also taking this opportunity to highly recommend that anyone interested in Coral Sea history, particularly the Vietnam era find the excellent book, Tonkin Gulf Yacht Club(US Carrier Operations off Vietnam). This is a detailed history and order of battle for all the carriers. There are loads of photos with detailed information from everything to days each carrier spent on the line to aircraft markings, etc. What is such a big bonus for Coral Sea veterans is that the author, Rene Francillon, did a monograph on one of the carriers. Guess what, he did the Coral Sea because of the time it spent on Yankee Station. He gives an account of each combat deployment. This is must reading for anyone interested in this subject matter.

I happen to own the book as my wife found it via internet search and gave it to me for a gift as it was on my wish list. It is out of print having first been published in Great Britain in 1988 and then published in the US by the Naval Institute Press. This is a hard book to find and the last one I saw listed on the internet was by an Australian dealer who wanted \$75 U.S. for it. However, be aware that your local library system likely has a book search service which will search libraries for the book and then get it and check it out to you. That is the way I first found a copy to read. Ironically, I live about two miles from the University of Iowa and my local library in Coralville, Iowa found the book there, procured it for my use for about two weeks and then I returned it. So, find this book and enjoy the historical information. I am sure I am prejudiced because I was an "Airdale" and the book deals with the air operations. Perhaps the ships company, snipes, blackshoes, etc would not be as interested in this as I am because of the focus of the book.

**From Charles White:**

Each year I am hired to go to Washington, DC, with the eighth grade class from Clinton, WI, where I grew up, to videotape their trip. I greatly enjoy visiting our nation's capitol, and each year I take some special memories back with me. This fall's trip was especially memorable.

On the last night of our trip we stopped at the Iwo Jima Memorial. This memorial is the largest bronze statue in the world and depicts one of the most famous photographs in history-that of the six brave soldiers raising the American Flag at the top of a rocky hill on the island of Iwo Jima, Japan, during WW II. Over one hundred students and chaperones piled off the buses and headed towards the memorial. I noticed a solitary figure at the base of the statue, and as I got closer he asked, "Where are you guys from?" I told him that we were from Wisconsin. "Hey, I'm a cheesehead, too! Come gather around Cheeseheads, and I will tell you a story."

James Bradley just happened to be in Washington, DC, to speak at the memorial the following day. He was there that night to say good night to his dad, who has since passed away. He was just about to leave when he saw the buses pull up. I videotaped him as he spoke to us, and received his permission to share what he said from my videotape. It is one thing to tour the incredible monuments filled with history in Washington, D.C., but it is quite another to get the kind of insight we received that night. When all had gathered around he reverently began to speak. Here are his words that night.

"My name is James Bradley and I'm from Antigo, Wisconsin. My dad is on that statue, and I just wrote a book called "Flags of Our Fathers" which is # 5 on the New York Times Best Seller list right now. It is the story of the six boys you see behind me. Six boys raised the flag.

The first guy putting the pole in the ground is Harlon Block. Harlon was an all-state football player. He enlisted in the Marine Corps with all the senior members of his football team. They were off to play another type of game. A game called "War." But it didn't turn out to be a game. Harlon, at the age of 21, died with his intestines in his hands. I don't say that to gross you out, I say that because there are generals who stand in front of this statue and talk about the glory of war. You guys need to know that most of the boys in Iwo Jima were 17, 18, and 19 years old.

(He pointed to the statue) You see this next guy? That's Rene Gagnon from New Hampshire. If you took Rene's helmet off at the moment this photo was taken, and looked in the webbing of that helmet, you would find a photograph --- a photograph of his girlfriend. Rene put that in there for protection, because he was scared. He was 18 years old. Boys won the battle of Iwo Jima. Boys. Not old men.

The next guy here, the third guy in this tableau, was Sgt. Mike Strank. Mike is my hero. He was the hero of all these guys. They called him the "old man" because he was so old. He was already 24. When Mike would motivate his boys in training camp, he didn't say, "Let's go kill some Japanese" or "Let's die for our country." He knew he was talking to little boys. Instead he would say, "You do what I say, and I'll get you home to your mothers."

The last guy on this side of the statue is Ira Hayes, a Pima Indian from Arizona. Ira Hayes walked off Iwo Jima. He went into the White House with my dad. President Truman told him, "You're a hero." He told reporters, "How can I feel like a hero when 250 of my buddies hit the island with me and only 27 of us walked off alive?" So you take your class at school. 250 of you spending a year together having fun, doing everything together. Then all 250 of you hit the beach, but only 27 of your classmates walk off alive. That was Ira Hayes. He had images of horror in his mind. Ira Hayes died dead drunk, face down at the age of 32...ten years after this picture was taken.

The next guy, going around the statue, is Franklin Sousley from Hilltop, Kentucky. A fun-lovin' hillbilly boy. His best friend, who is now 70, told me, "Yeah, you know, we took two cows up on the porch of the Hilltop General Store. Then we strung wire across the stairs so the cows couldn't get down. Then we fed them Epsom salts. Those cows crapped all night." Yes he was a fun-lovin' hillbilly boy. Franklin died on Iwo Jima at the age of 19. When the telegram came to tell his

mother that he was dead, it went to the Hilltop General Store. A barefoot boy ran that telegram up to his mother's farm. The neighbors could hear her scream all night and into the morning. The neighbors lived a quarter of a mile away.

The next guy, as we continue to go around the statue is my dad, John Bradley from Antigo, Wisconsin, where I was raised. My dad lived until 1994, but he would never give interviews. When Walter Cronkite's producers or the New York Times would call, we were trained as little kids to say, "No, I'm sorry sir, my dad's not here. He is in Canada fishing. No, there is no phone there, sir. No, we don't know when he is coming back." My dad never fished or even went to Canada. Usually, he was sitting there right at the table eating his Campbell's soup. But we had to tell the press that he was out fishing. He didn't want to talk to the press. You see, my dad didn't see himself as a hero. Everyone thinks these guys are heroes, 'cause they are in a photo and a monument. My dad knew better. He was a medic. John Bradley from Wisconsin was a caregiver. On Iwo Jima he probably held over 200 boys as they died. And when boys died in Iwo Jima, they writhed and screamed in pain. When I was a little boy, my third grade teacher told me that my dad was a hero. When I went home and told my dad that, he looked at me and said, "I want you always to remember that the heroes of Iwo Jima are the guys who did not come back. Did NOT come back."

So that's the story about six nice young boys. Three died on Iwo Jima, and three came back as national heroes. Overall 7000 boys died on Iwo Jima in the worst battle in the history of the Marine Corps. My voice is giving out, so I will end here. Thank you for your time."

Suddenly, the monument wasn't just a big old piece of metal with a flag sticking out of the top. It came to life before our eyes with the heartfelt words of a son who did indeed have a father who was a hero. Maybe not a hero for the reasons most people would believe, but a hero none-the-less.

We need to remember that God created this vast and glorious world for us to live in, freely, but also at great sacrifice. Let us never forget from the Revolutionary War to the Gulf War and all the wars in-between that sacrifice was made for our freedom. Remember to pray praises for this great country of ours and also pray for those still in murderous unrest around the world.

STOP, and thank God for being alive at someone else's sacrifice. God Bless

#### **From Dudley Stouch:**

What is an American?

You probably missed it in the rush of news last week, but there was actually a report that someone in Pakistan had published in a newspaper an offer of a reward to anyone who killed an American, any American. So an Australian dentist wrote the following to let everyone know what an American is, so they would know when they found one.

An American is English, or French, or Italian, Irish, German, Spanish, Polish, Russian or Greek. An American may also be Canadian, Mexican, African, Indian, Chinese, Japanese, Australian, Iranian, Asian, or Arab, Pakistani, or Afghan.

An American may also be Cherokee, Osage, Blackfoot, Navajo, Apache, or one of the many other tribes known as Native Americans. An American is Christian, or he could be Jewish, or Budist, or Muslim. In fact, there are more Muslims in American than in Afghanistan. The only difference is that in America, they are free to worship as each of them chooses.

An American is also free to believe in no religion. For that, he will answer only to God, not to the government or to armed thugs claiming to speak for the government and for God. An American is from the most prosperous land in the history of the world. The root of that prosperity can be found in the Declaration of Independence, which recognizes the God-given right of each man and woman to the pursuit of happiness.

An American is generous. Americans have helped out just about every other nation in the world in their time of need. When Afghanistan was over-run by the Soviet Army 20 years ago,

Americans came with arms and supplies to enable the people to win back their country. As of the morning of September 11, 2001, Americans have given more than any other nation to the poor in Afghanistan. Americans welcome the best, the best products, the best books, the best music, the best food, the best athletes. But they also welcome the least. The national symbol of America, the Statue of Liberty, welcomes your tired and your poor, the wretched refuse of your teeming shores, the homeless tempest tossed.

These in fact are the people who built America. Some of them working in the twin towers the morning of September 11, earning a better life for their families. I have been told that the World Trade Center victims were from at least 30 other countries, cultures and first languages, including those that aided and abetted the terrorists.

So, you can try to kill an American if you must. Hitler did! So did General Tojo, and Stalin, and Mao Tse-Tung, and every bloodthirsty tyrant in the world. But, in doing so you would just be killing yourself because Americans are not a particular people from a particular place.

They are the embodiment of the human spirit of freedom! Everyone who holds to that spirit, everywhere, is an American.

#### **From Dudley Stouch:**

After hearing that the state of Florida changed its opinion and let a Muslim woman have her picture on her driver's license with her face covered, this is an editorial written by an American citizen, published in a Tampa newspaper. He did quite a job; didn't he? Read on, please!

**IMMIGRANTS, NOT AMERICANS, MUST ADAPT.** I am tired of this nation worrying about whether we are offending some individual or their culture. Since the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, we have experienced a surge in patriotism by the majority of Americans. However, the dust from the attacks had barely settled when the "politically correct" crowd began complaining about the possibility that our patriotism was offending others.

I am not against immigration, nor do I hold a grudge against anyone who is seeking a better life by coming to America. Our population is almost entirely made up of descendants of immigrants. However, there are a few things that those who have recently come to our country, and apparently some born here, need to understand. 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 has been developed over centuries of struggles, trials, and victories by millions of men and women who have sought freedom.

We speak **ENGLISH**, not Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Russian, or any other language. Therefore, if you wish to become part of our society, learn the language!

"In God We Trust" is our national motto. This is not some Christian, right wing, political slogan. We adopted this motto because Christian men and women, on Christian principles, founded this nation, and this is clearly documented. It is certainly appropriate to display it on the walls of our schools. 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.

If 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. 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. This is **OUR COUNTRY**, our land, and our lifestyle. Our First Amendment gives every citizen the right to express his opinion 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, or our way of life, I highly encourage you take advantage of one other American freedom, **THE RIGHT TO LEAVE**.

### **A.A.A.D.D. - Age Activated Attention Deficit Disorder**

Recently, I was diagnosed with A.A.A.D.D. - Age Activated Attention Deficit Disorder. This is how it manifests:

I decided to wash my car. As I start toward the garage, I notice that there is mail on the hall table. I decide to go through the mail before I wash the car. I lay my car keys down on the table, put the junk mail in the trashcan under the table, and notice that the trashcan is full.

So, I decide to put the bills back on the table and take out the trash first. But then I think, since I'm going to be near the mailbox when I take the trash out anyway, I may as well pay the bills first.

I take my checkbook off the table, and see that there is only one check left. My extra checks are in my desk in the study, so I go to my desk where I find the bottle of coke that I had been drinking.

I'm going to look for my checks, but first I need to push the coke aside so that I don't accidentally knock it over, I see that the coke is getting warm, and I decide I should put it in the refrigerator to keep it cold.

As I head toward the kitchen with the coke, a vase of flowers on the counter catches my eye - they need to be watered. I set the coke down on the counter, and I discover my reading glasses that I've been searching for all morning.

I decide I better put them back on my desk, but first I'm going to water the flowers. I set the glasses back down on the counter, fill a container with water and suddenly I spot the TV remote. Someone left it on the kitchen table. I realize that tonight when we go o watch TV, we will be looking for the remote, but nobody will remember that it's on the kitchen table, so I decide to put it back in the den where it belongs, but first I'll water the flowers.

I splash some water on the flowers, but most of it spills on the floor. So, I set the remote back down on the table, get some towels and wipe up the spill.

Then I head down the hall, trying to remember what I was planning to do.

At the end of the day; the car isn't washed, the bills aren't paid, there is a warm bottle of coke sitting on the counter, the flowers aren't watered, there is still only one check in my checkbook, I can't find the remote, I can't find my glasses, and I don't remember what I did with the car keys.

Then when I try to figure out why nothing got done today, I'm really baffled because I know I was busy all day long, and I'm really tired. I realize this is a serious problem, and I'll try to get some help for it, but first I'll check my e-mail.

#### **NEED HELP!**

I received an E-Mail from Patrick Shimko, an Association member who is looking for a patch or design he saw on the ECM shop door in 1975. It said "CORAL SEA COMMIE CONFUSERS" and had a graphic of a hand with the middle finger extended and the atomic symbol rotating around it. Any help? - email [eshimko@onemail.com](mailto:eshimko@onemail.com)

Anyone with information regarding the Vietnam Service Award during the Mar09-Nov 08 '73 Westpac cruise, please contact [daddeo51@attbi.com](mailto:daddeo51@attbi.com).

**Humor common thread to quotes by teh Rev. Wilmer L. Todd:**

“Living on earth is expensive, but it does include a free trip around the sun every year!”

“Politicians and diapers have one thing in common - they should both be changed regularly and for the same reasons.”

“Time may be a great healer, but it’s a lousy beautician.”

Rev Todd is a pastor of St. Genevieve Church in Thibodaux, LA.

Military Terminology:

The meaning of the term “Secure to the different branches of the Armed Forces:

If you tell the Army to “Secure” a building, they will surround the building and lay down suppressing fire.

If you tell the Marines to “Secure” a building, they will storm the building and kill everyone inside.

If you tell the Navy to “Secure” a building, they will turn out the lights, lock the doors, and go home.

If you tell the Air Force to “Secure” a building, they sign a 3 year lease with an option to buy.

**IMPORTANT ADDRESSES FOR CONTACTS TO OBTAIN USN HISTORICAL INFORMATION:**

Public Affairs Officer  
Chief of Naval Education and Training  
Naval Air Station  
Pensacola, Florida 32508-5100

Mr. Hill Goodspeed  
Emil Beuhler Library  
National Museum of Naval Aviation  
1750 Radford Blvd, Suite C  
Naval Air Station  
Pensacola, Florida 32508  
850-452-8451 (voice)  
850-452-3296 (fax)  
Email: hill.goodspeed@smtp.cnet.navy.mil

Mr. Roy Grossnick  
Naval Aviation History  
Naval Historical Center  
Washington Navy Yard  
Washington, D. C. 23074-5060  
202-433-4355/4358

This information obtained from:  
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2062 General HWY  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
Email: Tmarfiak@usni.org  
and  
Mr. Paul Stillwell  
Director, History Division  
Same address





**MEMBERSHIP**

Membership to the USS CORAL SEA CVA-43 ASSOCIATION is open to all Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force personnel who served aboard the ship 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 limited to one year.

**---The Association is a Non-Profit Organization formed by former crew members.---**

**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

SSN \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE or NOK\* \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

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. Lt/RD1/FN/SN/Sgt.)

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

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

Mail application to:  
USS CORAL SEA ASSOCIATION  
P O BOX 850690  
YUKON OK 73085-0690

To contact Secretary by e-mail: mikewalker4@aol.com  
Toll free number: 1-866-206-9392 or 405-350-7043

**Office Use Only**

Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Check: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Expires: \_\_\_\_\_



USS CORAL SEA CVA-43 ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL ENTRY FOR  
THE ANNUAL USS CORAL SEA REMEMBRANCE SCHOLARSHIP



Applicant's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Area code and telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents or legal guardians' names: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of high school you attend: \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Date(m/y): \_\_\_\_\_

Principal's name: \_\_\_\_\_

School address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Association member or non-member as allowed under the rules: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of sponsor if member is deceased (parent or legal guardian): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_ Division: \_\_\_\_\_ Years served: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's relationship to sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

College, University or School you are planning to attend: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Major field or area of study: \_\_\_\_\_ Starting date: \_\_\_\_\_

*"I hereby certify that the essay submitted by me is totally my own work and that all of the information on this entry form is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. If I am judged the winner of this scholarship I agree to use the entire amount for my personal education at a two-year or four-year United States college, university or post-secondary technical-vocational school."*

Applicant's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail this entry form accompanied by your (1) essay, (2) two letters of recommendations, and (3) a high school transcript. Page 2 of this form must be on a separate sheet. All material required must be mailed in one envelope and received by the Chairman of the Scholarship Program no later than APRIL 15. Mail all material to:**

**WILLIAM G. WILLIAMS**  
Chairman: Scholarship Program  
100 Fairway Drive  
Camp Hill, PA 17011-2066



### USS Coral Sea Scholarship Entry

**APPLICANT NOTE:** Do not put your name or address on this sheet. Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe community services or work activities you have undertaken in the past two years:

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Please list your school activities (clubs, sports, special events, projects, etc.) for the past two years:

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Please list honors or recognition you have won (both in and out of school) in the past two years:

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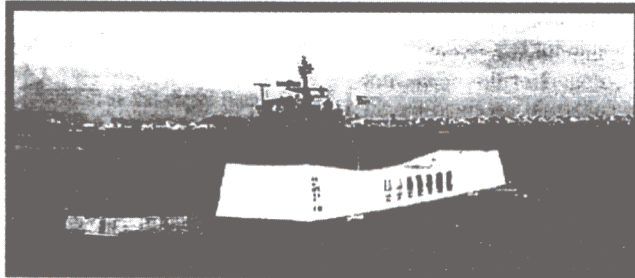
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**Thank you from the men of the USS Coral Sea for your entry.  
We wish you the best of luck in this program and in your future endeavors.**



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



The Ship's Store is operated for the convenience of our members. **WHEN ORDERING PLEASE MAKE SURE TO INCLUDE YOUR PHONE NUMBER**

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

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

All items have Coral Sea logo. Please circle your choice of size, color, etc.

ITEM	Size or Description	Color	Quantity	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 or 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 - XLg - XXLg	Navy with gold logo		\$12.00	
Caps	* Mesh back with sreambled 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. logo			\$14.00	
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
				TOTAL.....	