

KEAR SAGA^{II}

The Newsletter of the Kearsarge Association

ISSUE 19

CV, CVA, CVS-33, LHD-3

JULY 2000

2000 REUNION, NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

The date for the 2000 reunion has been set! It will take place starting Sunday, October 1st and ending Thursday, October 5. Our headquarters will be at The Mainstay Inn (Best Western), 151 Admiral Kalbfus Rd., Newport, R.I. 02840. The phone number is 401-849-9880 and the Fax number is 401-849-4391. Our room rates are \$68.00, plus 12% taxes, (this includes a continental breakfast). If you wish to arrive before the 1st or stay past the 6th the room rates are \$129.00 plus taxes. Rooms can now be reserved, and seeing how there is a limited numbers of rooms, it's best to make your reservation early! Be sure to say you are with the USS Kearsarge Reunion, to get the discounted rates. Judy O'Connell is our rep at the hotel and it is best to make your reservations with her if possible.

Some of the desk help have said the reunion is sold out but this is not the case.

Ted Eddington, Charlie Shaw, and their wives, have worked up a great tour package, which should prove to provide a wonderful experience for all who attend the reunion. This time of year, the New England area is very scenic and with any luck at all the leaf "peeping" should be spectacular.

All information on the tours is subject to change. Be sure to check your information packet when you sign in at the reunion for the latest changes such as departure times. We will also have changes listed at the Hospitality Room. *Don't be the one waiting for a bus that has already left.*

Sunday evening at 6:00pm we will have a welcome buffet at the hotel and get settled in. Dress in your nautical attire and enjoy Breast of Chicken, Pasta, Vegetables, Carrot cake, coffee and tea. The price for this will be \$15.00 per person.

Monday will be a tour of Newport, the Harbor, and 10 miles of the scenic coastline, including a tour of one of the local Mansions "Marble House". This is a very scenic trip that you won't want to miss. We will be in two groups with one group starting with the Harbor tour and the other starting with the Mansions. There will be time to shop and eat lunch on your own at Old Newport. This tour will end at around 2:00 PM and will cost \$30.00 per person.

Tuesday will be the "Old Fashioned Clambake" that Ted assures us will be one that you will not soon forget. The menu will include Steamers, Mussels with Butter, New England Lobster in the one pound to one and a quarter size, Barbecue Chicken, Sausage, Fresh Fish, Potatoes, Corn on the Cob, Onions, Cole Slaw, Brown Bread and a Seasonal Fruit Platter. A 12oz New York Steak can be ordered instead of the Lobster if desired. We will try to get the Lady Kays to come up

with some games or other fun things to make this a great day. This outing will leave at 2:00 PM and end at 6:00 PM with a cost of \$35.00 per person

Wednesday we will be going to the ship museum, Battleship Cove, in Fall River, Massachusetts, where we will tour the Battleship Massachusetts and have lunch aboard her. There is also a destroyer, submarine, and PT Boat to tour. We will also stop at one of the Mall outlet stores on the way back to Newport. The price is \$35.00 per person and includes lunch.

Thursday

Tour one will be a trip to Mystic Seaport, CT and will leave the hotel at 9:00 AM and tour the whaling port of Mystic. Lunch will be on your own at Mystic. This trip will return at 3:00 PM, to give you time to get ready for the Dinner Dance. The cost is \$30.00 per person

Tour two will be a trip to Foxwoods Casino at Ledyard, CT. Lunch will be on your own and Ted promises he is working on a few free perks for those on this tour. The cost of this tour is \$20.00 per person and will leave the hotel at 9:00 AM and return at 3:00 PM.

Our Dinner Dance will be at the Officers Club in Newport and will start with Cocktail Hour from 6:00 PM until 7:00. Our evening will include a memorial service, welcome talk, great food and a six piece band for your dancing pleasure. The reunion and evening will come to an end at 10:00PM. The price of the dinner dance is \$30.00 and includes transportation to and from the Officers Club. Since this will take place at the Naval Station, this will be a dress up affair.

The Lady Kays will be holding a raffle so don't forget for this event, to bring something with you.

If you are interested in golfing bring your clubs as Chief Don Donnley will try to arrange a golf outing for you. If you know of any good courses contact the Chief at 407-847-5928.

The nearest airport is the T.F. Green Airport in Providence, RI and shuttle service is available for about \$15.00 a person. Motor home parking for 10 motor homes that are self-contained will be available at the hotel. There will be a \$5.00 a person charge that will cover the continental breakfast. For those wishing to stay at a motor home park, Melville Ponds is located about 6 miles from the hotel.

More information pertaining to Newport can be found at the following web site:

<http://www.GoNewport.com>

Taps

Captain L.E. DeCamp Ret.

On December 14, 1998 Captain Decamp passed away and went to join our mom, Dorthy. I remember having dinner with a date in my dad's cabin when the ship was dry docked in

Bremerton Washington – 1960-61. She was a great lady. Carry on gentlemen, may God be with you.

Louis E. DeCamp Jr. USMC, Viet Nam 1967-68

Ross Short

I thought you would like to know that my father, Ross Edward Short passed away June 28, 1998. I know my dad had many friends from this time on the Kearsarge and he thoroughly enjoyed the last reunion he attended. I have two young sons (ages 4 and 7) that have fond memories of "Gramps" but will never know him as adults. Because of this I have been compiling a scrapbook of stories and memories from Dad's friends to give to my sons when they are adults. One of your members, John Bishop, has been extremely helpful with this. I would appreciate any written stories or memories of my dad that other Kearsarge members might care to offer for the scrapbook.

Karen Mock
PO Box 3691
Prescott, AZ 86302

Kem3@dana.ucc.nau.edu

Robert Hanson

Bob Hanson passed away March 15, 2000 after having a heart attack. Bob was in Fox Division and was aboard the Kearsarge from 1952 to 1956. Bob and his wife Evelyn were always there to help at the reunions in any way they could. At Corpus Christi they helped out at the last minute to make the dinner dance a success. Bob will be missed by all his former shipmates and members of the Kearsarge Association.

WANTED

Does anyone have a picture of the Kearsarge refueling a destroyer? I would like to get hold of one to frame and hang in my den.

Robert Wixon
5655 Dyke St.
Onkama, Michigan 49675

Does anyone have a 1952 Cruise Book that they would be willing to part with. Will pay a reasonable price

David Armijo
PO Box 7790
Alhambra, CA 91802

I am trying to find Nicholas Henderson Parry last seen in Kobe, Japan, on July 4, 1963. He was in a Marine Detachment aboard the USS Kearsarge. Contact Noriko Nagai, 650-2 Satoyama-cho Hyogo-ku, Kobe Japan 652-0051, Phone 81-78-621-8121

This is an inquiry that I hope you can assist me with or furnish information on my uncle William King who served on the Kearsarge. He along with two officers and eight men were killed April 13, 1906 when an explosion of gun powder was accidentally set off during or after gun practice. His mother was Alice Cox of Appleton City, Missouri.

As a child I remember a memento of his burial at sea program and am interested in finding any information about him.

We would be ever so grateful to you for your assistance.

Irene Jefferson
325 Coelho St
Milpitas, CA 95035

WHAT IS A SAILOR

Between the security of childhood and the insecurity of second childhood we find a fascinating group of humanity called a SAILOR. He can be found anywhere on ships, at shore stations, in bars, on leave, in love, and always in debt. A Sailor is lazy with a deck of cards, brave with tattooed arms and a protector of the seas with a copy of "Playboy".

He has the energy of a turtle, the slyness of a fox, the brains of a idiot, the stories of a sea captain, the sincerity of a liar, the aspiration of Casanova and when he wants something it is usually connected with a liberty card. Some of his likes are women, girls, females, dames, and the opposite sex. He dislikes answering letters, wearing his uniform, superior officers, the chow and getting up on time.

No one else can cram into one jumper pocket a little black book, a comb, pack of Lucks, a photo of Marilyn Monroe, church key, and what's left of last month's paycheck. He likes to spend his money on girls, some on poker and the rest foolishly. A sailor is a magic creature you can lock out of your home but not out of your heart. You might scratch him off your mailing list but not off your mind. You might as well give up he's your long away from home lover and your one and only blearily eyed good for nothing bundle of worry. All your shattered dreams become insignificant when your sailor knocks and looks at you with those blearily blood shot eyes and say's HI YA HONEY....!

Sent in by Dan Boyle BMCM (Ret) USN
2nd Division, 1958-1961

MEMORIES

On November 1951, as a nineteen year old, I was assigned to the USS Kearsarge located at Bremerton Washington. I was a third class aviation ordnanceman who's duties included: Loading ordnance into ammo lockers from replenishment ships, belting 20mm ammunition,

installing the fins on 500 pound bombs and 5 inch rockets, and making napalm using Japanese's Zeros belly tanks. Most of the time while operating off Korea we worked 12 hours on and 12 hours off. The main mission of our planes was to provide close air support and we had prop planes and jets to accomplish this. I remember one time when one of the jet's bomb racks had been damaged and as the plane approached to land a piece of the bomb rack broke off and almost hit the landing officer who was located at the end of the flight deck directing the planes approach. His comment about the experience was described as "Only God and the laundryman knew how scared I was".

Another exciting moment during my tour of duty was when our jet pilots had a dogfight with some North Koreans Migs over our task force. The planes were mere specs in the sky but the captain of the ship put the pilot's radio output on the loud speakers of the ship. Needless to say it was exciting listening to it and filled with a lot of descriptive colorful expressions about the North Koreans.

I guess the most vivid memories I had was how damn cold it was during the winter months, ambient temperatures were well below zero with a wind chill factor of even lower. On the flight deck you had to wear a facemask to keep from getting frost bitten, however the mask would freeze to your lips. When you went inside you had to rub your lips before you could take the mask off.

It's hard to believe that it has been almost 50 years since my Korean War experience.

From part of a e-mail from
Cas Welch

E-MAIL

Cal Waterbury keeps a list of the e-mail addresses of our members and sends the list out to those on the list. If you have e-mail and have not sent him your e-mail address please do so you will be included on the next list. Cal can be reached at: PURVIS13@aol.com.

THE FIVE MOST DANGEROUS THINGS IN THE NAVY

1. A Seaman saying "I learned this stuff in Boot Camp".
2. A Petty Officer saying "Trust me, Sir".
3. An Ensign saying, "Well based on my experience".
4. A Lt. Saying, "I was just saying".
5. And the most dangerous thing is an old Chief Petty Officer saying, "Watch this shit".

Sent in by Julian Quandahl, VF112, 1954-55

SHIPS STORE

Blue Watch Caps	CV, CVA, CVS 33	\$12.00
USS Kearsarge Hats, White	CV, CVA, CVS 33	\$14.00
USS Kearsarge Hats, Blue	CV, CVA, CVS 33	\$14.00
USS Kearsarge Hats, Blue with "The Mighty Kay"	CV, CVA, CVS 33	\$14.00
USS Kearsarge Hats, with "50th Anniversary"	CV 33	\$14.00
USS Kearsarge Hats, Red with "Marines"		\$14.00
USS Kearsarge Hats, Blue with Gater and Ship	LHD 3	\$14.00
USS Kearsarge Hats, Blue with Ship	LHD 3	\$14.00
USS Kearsarge Hats, Blue with Ship Crest	LHD 3	\$14.00
USS Kearsarge United Nations Task Force 77 Patch, 5 1/2"		\$06.50
Magnetic Ships Crest 3" (for you refrigerator, etc.)	CV, CVA, CVS 33	\$03.00
Ships Crest Patches Cloth, 4 1/2"	CV, CVA, CVS 33	\$05.00
USS Kearsarge Tie Bars		\$10.00
Ships Lighters (Zippo) 3 color, straight and round design		\$21.00
USS Kearsarge Golf Shirt, White, M-L-XL	CV, CVA, CVS 33	\$29.00
USS Kearsarge Golf Shirt, Navy Blue, M-L-XL	CV, CVA, CVS 33	\$29.00
USS Kearsarge Sweat Shirt, White, M-L-XL	CV, CVA, CVS 33	\$35.00
USS Kearsarge Sweat Shirt, Navy Blue, M-L-XL	CV, CVA, CVS 33	\$35.00

ALL PRICES INCLUDE SHIPPING AND HANDLING

Make checks payable to the Kearsarge Association and order from Art Killian,
3632 Springhill Lake, Tuscaloosa, AL 34305, Phone (205) 553-2710

**USS Kearsarge Association, Reunion Registration
Newport, Rhode Island**

Member Name _____
Guest Name _____
Guest Name _____
Guest Name _____

Total _____

Sunday Evening Buffet	– Number of Tickets _____	x \$15.00	_____
Newport and Harbor Tour	– Number of Tickets _____	x \$30.00	_____
Clambake	– Number of Tickets _____	x \$35.00	_____
Battleship Cove	– Number of Tickets _____	x \$35.00	_____
Mystic Seaport	– Number of Tickets _____	x \$30.00	_____
Foxwoods Casino	– Number of Tickets _____	x \$20.00	_____
Dinner Dance	– Number of Tickets _____	x \$30.00	_____
		Total	_____

Clambake (Select Choice) _____ **Steak** _____ **Lobster**

Guest _____
 Guest _____
 Guest _____

Dinner Dance (Select Choice) _____ **Prime Rib** _____ **Baked Chicken Breast**

Guest _____
 Guest _____
 Guest _____

Mail to Pam Parfitt, 1506 Marsdale Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43223
Make Checks Payable to the Kearsarge Association
Return registrations by September 1, 2000

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USS Kearsarge Association
815 Savannah Drive
Columbus, Ohio 43228

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL FOR YOUR DUES EXPIRATION DATE

DUES & MEMBERSHIP

The yearly dues for the Kearsarge Association is \$10.00. Check your label to see when your dues expire. To pay your dues send a check made payable to the Kearsarge Association: To John Bennett, address below

To sign up a new member send information to John Bennett: Address below

FIND A NEW MEMBER FOR THE 2000 REUNION

John Bennett, President, Kear Saga Editor, 815 Savannah Dr., Columbus, OH 43228-2944 614-272-6842
TW Smith, V-President, 1172 DeLeon Court, Clarkston, GA 30021 404-296-3317
Art Killian, Ships Store, 3632 Spring Hill Lake, Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-553-2710
Steve Udell, Historian, 211 Northwest First St., Young America, MN 55397 612-467-3943
Kenneth McDaniel, Honorary President (Deceased)