

KEAR SAGA^{II}

The Newsletter Of The Kearsarge Association

ISSUE 30

CV, CVA, CVS-33, LHD-3

July 2005

Theodore (Ted) S. Edington

A month ago our Vice President Ted had an operation for an aneurism and is still in intensive care. Jones E. Smith sent me the following update on his condition. Please include Ted in your prayers for a speedy recovery.

From: "Jones E. South" <jsouth@pngusa.net>

To: <p.czesak@worldnet.att.net>

Subject: need to know

Date: Mon, 25 Jul 2005 01:06:11 +0000

Paul;

I just talk to Melba, Ted Edington, wife and she ask if I could let you know his condition. which at this time is not all that well, but improving. He is still in intensive care. and is being fed with a tube, can not talk yet, but she said he was awake and listens, and able to wink at the nurses by that she said he is better. He had the operation to prevent an aneurism then they had to go in again to stop bleeding. so its been a long 32 days and counting, so all the help anyone and all can ask a little prayer.

Friend and shipmate

J.E. Smith

MAY 2006 REUNION

Before going in for his operation, Vice President Ted Edington provided the following information about the Charleston Reunion:

Dates: May 1, 2006 through May 4, 2006

Reunion Headquarters:

The Clarion Hotel, Charleston, SC (Exit 209 off Route 26) 843-572-2200
Rate is \$74.00 per room plus 12% tax, includes bedroom up to 4 occupancy, full hot buffet breakfast each day, free airport shuttle, shuttle to restaurants within a 5 mile area, free parking for self-contained campers, 2 pools – 1 indoors and 1 outdoors (State Kearsage Reunion when you call)

Reunion Activities:

May 1st check-in time – 3:00 p.m. Pick up \$8.00 tour package when you register.

May 1st – 6:00 p.m. – Buffet Dinner (at the hotel) – Low-Country Barbeque Chicken Dinner - \$25.00 per person

May 2 – Tour of Charleston – 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with shopping and lunch in town - \$25.00 per person for the tour (not including lunch)

May 3 – Patriot Point and U.S.S. Yorktown – Lunch at the CPO Mess – then tour to Fort Sumter - \$56.00 per person includes lunch

May 4 – 2 plantations tours open – Magnolia with Box
Lunches - \$54 per person or Boone Hall as featured in the North South Movie and Gone With the Wind - \$37.00 per person. Another tour is also available this day. It is a Grand Homes Tour and requires 6 blocks of walking - \$58.00 per person.

May 4 – Dinner Banquet and Dancing (at the hotel) – Patriots Point Prime Rib and Seafood Buffet - \$35.00 per person

A registration application will be included in the December Newsletter for registering for the reunion. Additional information about the reunion will also be included.

NOTE FROM PRESIDENT GEORGE BEAM

Our President, George Beam has recovered from two operations this past year and has started to work on organizing the Ship's Store. (We will have a complete inventory and price list by the time the next issue of the newsletter is printed). Meanwhile he has sent the following information:

Dear Paul.

I have been able to go over our stock and have found the following: a half box of each style hat; Kearsarge 33 lighters; Kearsarge LHD 3 lighters; a lot of white golf shirts - S,M,&L; white sweat shirts - S,M,&L; blue golf shirts -S,M,&L; blue sweat shirts - S,M,&L.

George Beam

TAPS

Captain Willard Nyburg - C.O. 1966-68

We were notified by Arthur Hassard that former KEARSARGE Commanding Officer Willard Nyburg died of Cancer in March 2005. In addition to commanding the KEARSARGE, he also served as Commanding Officer of VA54 in 1948. Among his many accomplishments, he accumulated over 1000 hours flying SB2C dive bombers, as well as flying in ADs with VC33 and VA175.

Frank Stewart Edwards SN 3rd Div - 1946-47

Charles Patton wrote the following:

Just wanted to let you know that a long time family friend, Frank Stewart Edwards, died January 10, 2005 in Gulfport, MS. He was a Plank Owner and served aboard the KEARSARGE from 1946 to 1947. He was a member of the Kearsarge Association and was present at the Commissioning of the new KEARSARGE LHD3.

Tony Fedanzo, LCDR VC123 - 0751-07/53

Karla Jenson, Tony's Stepdaughter wrote the following:

Dear Mr. Work,

Enclosed please find a check for dues on ehalf of my late Step-dad, Tony Fedanzo. I will enjoy hearing about his ship mates.

I recently attended a reunion for my own organization. My partner is a Vietnam Veteran. That reunion was an amazing experience, and it gave me a better understanding of what the were like for my parentw while they were alive,

Best regards,

Karla Jensen

Harry Saltsman, AN - VIF - 47-50

Mrs Saltsman notified us that Harry passed away on 11 March 2005.

Quinton Ridenour, HMC H Div - 51-53

Quinton's wife, Rene, wrote that he died from cancer on 9/23/03. He loved the Navy, his KEARSARGE days and the reunions.

Clarence "Mel" Waller IC1 E Div - 54-57

Mrs. Doris Waller wrote:

Dear Sir,

Clarence "Mel" Waller passed away July 2002 after a long bout with leukemia. He was 66 years old.

Sincerely,

Doris J. Waller

Dr. John Normyle, LTJG DC - 46-48

Dr. Normyle died on 12/18/03

We extend our sympathies to the families of our deceased shipmates, and wish to thank those that have let us know about their passing.

MEMORIAL ROOM

We received the following E-mail from Dan Levin, our liaison with the USS HORNET, regarding setting up a KEARSARGE Memorial Room on the HORNET;

Hi Paul,

Lots of stuff has been happening on Hornet lately. The new CEO quit after just a few months and there is currently a reorganization going on. They are also re-thinking the Memorial Room set-up they had, and it looks like the rooms that we had all picked out are going to be used for something else. They are talking about opening up another area on the ship that will be more visitor friendly as far as access is concerned....so, right now we're in a holding pattern until some of those issues are resolved. Some problems have also arisen with the City of Alameda regarding rent that is owed and a different rent structure for the future. Hornet is also beginning to investigate moving the ship across the bay to the San Francisco waterfront where the visibility and access would be much better.

So, as you can see there is a lot of stuff going on, but nothing in the immediate future related to a Kearsarge Memorial Room. I am still talking to people and gathering artifacts and memorabilia, but right now, and until they open up that new area, there isn't anyplace to show it.

I'm still hard on the job and I'll let you know as things progress. A note in the newsletter keeping the project alive with association members would be much appreciated.

Best regards,

Dan

Editor's Note: Our thanks to Dan for his continuing efforts on our behalf with the management of the HORNET. Dan's e-mail is DWLevin@aol.com and his mail address is

LETTERS

1/25/05

Dear John Work:

Enclosed is \$40.00 for my dues to 2008. I served aboard the Kearsarge from 1953 till 1956. Pal Czesak was my officer in "R" Division. I also served with Paul Young who was kind enough to take me on Liberty with him to his home in Los Angeles when we were in the States.

Thank you.

Gary Ludlum (FP3 R Div 53-56)

Jan 27, 2005

John,

Received my Saga today. Enjoyed reading the article about Hornet. My daughter & family live in Sunnyvale, CA, and in 2002 while visiting them they took me to see the Hornet. Since the Mighty K was scrapped, I at least got to be on the original Kearsarge (bottom half). I am glad we are getting a Kearsarge Memorial Room.

Enclosed is my check for another year for the "KearSaga"

Sincerely,

Floyd Jamtz (ME2 R Div 53-56)

Jan. 28, 2005

John Work,

Thanks for the reminder for my dues. A year seems to slip past too quickly anymore. I enjoyed the update news in the Kear Saga. I didn't seem to remember the guys by name, but the dates they served on the "Kay" seem to match with mine

Thanks again,

Asa L. Norwood (EM2 E Div 54-47)

January 29, 2005

John Work, Treasurer

In a recent issue of Kear Saga, mention was made of a day filming aboard Kearsarge of "Caine Mutiny" in June 53. A small after event of that day occurred last year.

Columbia had asked D.O.D. for use of a BB, per the book, but was informed their only chance during their shooting schedule would be the Kearsarge, in ORI enroute to Korea. They accepted. We anchored 4 miles off Waikiki, and Van Johnson, Fred McMurray, and Robert Francis (later killed in a plane crash off Burbank Airport) came aboard with Edward Dmytryk and Stanley Kramer.

Humphrey Bogart was not in these scenes, but the Captain and FLAG sent an invitation for lunch to him and Lauren Bacall. They accepted and arrived by Copter along with their 5 year old son, Stephen. Of all the activities on the flight deck that day, the sight of a 5 year old boy in short pants among 3200 adults became one of the most fascinating. Thousands of pictures were shot that day, many of Stephen. A lot of the crew had just left kids of their own in San Diego, and he became a reminder of home.

In later years when showing photos, my shots would trigger memories, and a nagging wonder if anyone bothered to get copies of the day to him. In (my) a career as a professional flight engineer on a number of commercial air lines, including 7 years with JAL in Tokyo, I would recall and randomly check phone books, and inquire, attempting to get a mailing address. I got rumors in L.A. that he had become an attorney. Never any success and I had let it pass.

Walnut Creek has become a "destination" town recently for the monied crowd, as in La Jolla, Sausalito, Monterey, Newport Beach, etc. In October 2003 two new stores opened. One was "Willie McCoveys", and attached a new Thomasville furniture store. They replaced the old theater, which was torn down.

I opened the Contra Costa Times to find a full page ad announcing the formal black-tie 2 night opening of the new Thomasville store featuring their Humphrey Bogart Collection with Stephen Bogart as special guest. Janet and I immediately selected 2 nice shots, had them copied to 5X7, and mounded in black cardboard frames. We had clients to tend, so did not join the cocktail (open bar) crowd but entered among them. Mr. Bogart was seated on a couch behind a coffee table with folks waiting to speak to him, lined up. The only personal photo displayed was a 2X3 triptych in color of Stephen, and his little sister, Leslie.

When our turn came, I knelt on the floor to his right with our photos and asked if he remembered being in Hawaii when dad was filming "Caine Mutiny" in 1953. He replied that he knew he was there from family conversations, but did not remember it. I gave him the photos and he asked if we wanted them signed, and I told him "no, they are for you" He asked what ship, and I told him the Kearsarge, and some of the events of the day. Both of our shots were made with him and his parents, with the Ship's Exec and the Operations Officer standing at the edge of the safety rail of the #1 Elevator with Elevator down. One had our island in the background and the other shows Diamond Head. I explained the 50 year search for him, and asked if he was an attorney. He answered "Hell, no."

A total of 4 minutes of small talk and Janet and I had to leave. As we exited to leave I heard him summoning a Thomasville rep, we assume to have the Kearsarge photos put into proper silver frames for display. It really is a small world.

Bill Corkran (AD3 VF-112 53-54)

154 Greenwood Circle

Walnut Creek, CA 94596-2123

925-939-4760 email TOMCATGC@aol.com

USS Kearsarge Association

Hi,

Sorry I'm late on my dues payment. Enclosed is my check for the 2005 dues. I have also enclosed an article from the February 2005 issue of the sinking of the Confederate ship Alabama by the world famous Union's Kearsarge off the coast of France.

Sincerely,

Cas Welch (AO3 V-6 51-53)

Editor's Note: The Smithsonian article is very interesting. If you would like to read the article you can probably find it at your local library.

4/28/05

Dear John,

Thanks for the KEARSARGE 'packet' you sent me! In the list of Fox Division names was my favorite Chief, Andy Bergeson! He was (is) a great guy. I'm writing to him - haven't had any contact with him for over 30 years.

It so happens that my eldest son, Lance, is a Continental pilot based in Houston. (He flew P-3 Orions for his 20 year Navy career)

Hope I can make th '06 reunion in Charleston.

Thanks again,

John Tucker (LCPL MD 67-69)

11 May 2005

Mr. Paul Czesak

An update on my trip to the New England states. While motoring the entire area, we were very fortunate to get to visit several "sea going" places, such as shipyards, ports, memorials and sailing ships. Being interested in "Kearsarge" memorabilia, we visited the mountain in New Hampshire where the wood to build the first Kearsarge came from. There are two towns by the name of Kearsarge. On the mountain, we were unable to drive to the summit; it would have taken a "four wheel driver" vehicle.

There is a Kearsarge closed gate community on the lower hillside. Very nice! Some of the locals have stories about the ship that have been passed down, all different.

At Mystic Seaport, Connecticut we toured "Seaport Museum". In one of the buildings there is an exhibit of the Kearsarge, crew and a story about the sinking of the CSS Alabama. Ironically, the captains of both ships were Naval Academy classmates. A placard on the wall contained the "Welcome Song" of the Kearsarge dated 7 November 1864. Also, a picture of the Captain and the crew of the Kearsarge taken 11 days after the sinking of the CSS Alabama.

In another town, Port London, there is an obelisk with many nautical names engraved; Kearsarge at the top. All in all, our trip was very interesting and educational, not only the sea aspects, but also the New England states which are very pretty to motor through, and there is a lot to see and do.

Have contacted Bill Lewis of the Kearsarge Memorial section of USS Hornet in Frisco area, and am sending to him all of my material covering "plank owners" of the first Marine Detachment circa 1945.

Semper Fi!

Harvey E. Danielson (PFC MD 45-46)

June 1, 2005

John work,

Hi, I'm Don Rasmussen. I have enclosed a money order for 2004, 2005, and 2006 dues. My health has been bad and I am just getting to where I can now do my things. I enjoy the newsletter very much, so thanks for the good work you do. I've just sent Bill Lewis a few items for the Kearsarge Room and hope to get where I can go to the Hornet Museum and see the ship.

In closing, I guess you need my name and email address: Don JR Rasmussen, 3322 W 1975 N, Ogden, Utah. I was on the Kearsarge 1953 to 1955 in #1 fireroom. I was a BT3 and my email is Drasmul1441@aol.com. I was in B Div. Thanks again,
Don

June 13, 2005

Dear John,

I'm a little confused about the membership period of our Kearsarge Association. Does it run from January 1 to December 31 each year, or a year from when you pay your annual dues?

Best

Dick (Richard Barnett EM3 E Div 44-46)

John Work answers: The Association membership period is based on the date printed in the right hand corner of the newsletter mailing label. This date was originally established when a member joined the Association and dues should be renewed based on that anniversary.

OTHER MEMBER NEWS

A Bravo Zulu (Well Done) to Captain Charlie "Red Dog" Crookshanks for having served as the Naval Academy Blue and Gold Program coordinator in Montana. He is being relieved by Captain Mel Waters, a retired submariner with 26 years of active service. Charlie (LTJG V7 Div 53-56) continues to be active in Montana military and veteran affairs, serving on the Korean War Memorial Committee and the Veterans Cemetery Committee. Charlie also reports that the work on the Western Montana State Veterans' Cemetery, which started four years ago, is within two years of completion

From: "Ralph V. Kelch" <ralph7@usachoice.net>

To: <p.czesak@worldnet.att.net>

Subject: NTC

Date: Tue, 28 Jun 2005

A few months back, Paul Young had given me your address because he mentioned something that sounded as though part of the old NTC grounds had been sold, and that you possibly knew more particulars. Since I was one of the first East coast enlistees to go to San Diego in Nov '55, I was curious if the base is still there. When my wife and I were in San Diego about 10 years ago, I wrote for permission to go aboard North Island, as I was in a squadron there, after the Kearsarge, but they said they didn't allow visitors. Do you know if there is any special way a person can apply, in the event we get back to Diego or is it totally secured?

Thanks.

Ralph V. Kelch, Franklin, Pa, USS Kearsarge CVA-33, V-4 Div, 1952.

Editor's Note: I have no up to date information on the Naval Training Center. About a year ago a group was soliciting funds to establish a visitors' center there.

Getting permission to visit the North Island Naval Air Station depends on the policies established by the Navy and the Station Commanding Officer. At this time it is highly unlikely that casual visiting is approved. It is possible that if you know someone who is stationed there he or she might be able to take you aboard.

FLIGHT DECK PLANKING

Past President John Bennett was contacted by Chief Yeoman Varilla of the Naval Historic Center. She told him that the Center had a pallet consisting of 48 pieces of 3X5X48" salvaged flight deck planking from the KEARSARGE. I have arranged with Chief Varilla to have it shipped to the Naval Reserve Training Center in Albany, NY. I picked it up last week and it is in my garage. The wood is not the traditional teak laminated decking of the 1940s and 50s. I haven't identified the wood as yet, but can report that it has a coating of skid resistant gray mastic on it. I will find out the mailing costs for one foot lengths to various parts of the country and will publish the information in the next news letter. Plank owners will have first priority, followed by all crew members. Meanwhile, I will respond to requests on a case by case bases.

TRYING SOMETHING NEW

We have had several requests to print pictures in the newsletter. This will be our first attempt while I am serving as the Editor. I thought that it would be fitting to start our experiment with the following:

HONORARY PRESIDENT KENNETH McDANIEL (DECEASED)

From: Janet Keener
To: 'Paul Czesak'
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2005 6:00 PM
Subject: photo

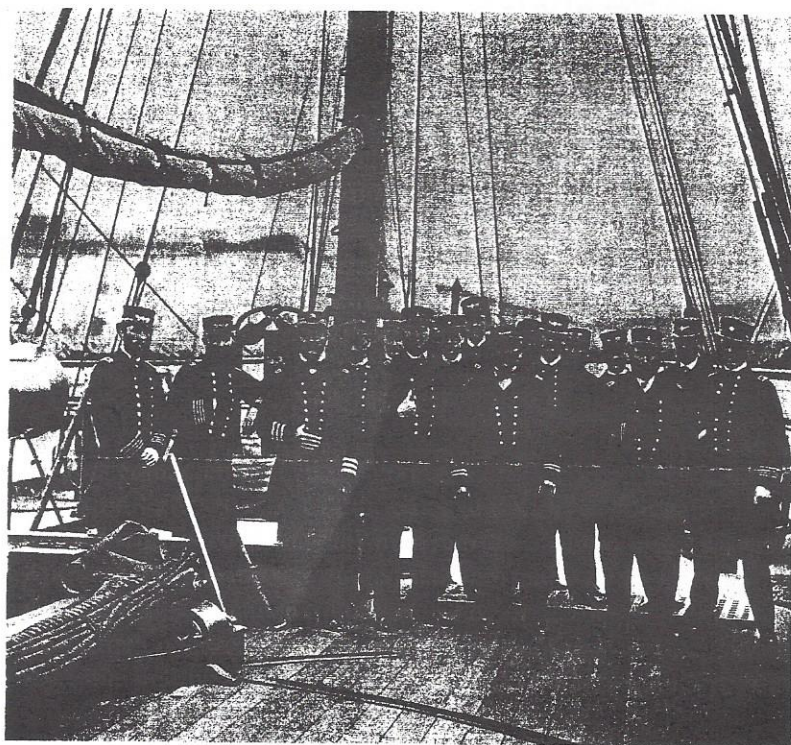
Dear. Mr. Czesak,

Attached is a photo that I have scanned. My dad, Kenneth McDaniel, is the one on the back left. There was nothing written on the back of the picture for me to identify any of the others. Since the Kearsarge was the only ship Daddy served aboard, I am assuming that some of these other men were also aboard with him. If you could help me identify them, I would be happy to send a copy to them, also. Do you think it is possible to reprint it in the next issue of the Kear-Saga?

Respectfully,
Dr. Janet McDaniel Keener, Associate Member

Janet's email address is: keener@chartertn.net, and her mail address is: 145 Parkview St., Church Hill, TN 37642-4122.

Harvey Danielson sent this picture of the first KEARSARGE officers that he obtained on his trip through New England



The picture was taken eleven days after the KEARSARGE sank the ALABAMA by French photographer Francois Rendin. The KEARSARGE'S Captain was John A. Winslow, third from left in the picture.

If the KEARSARGE had not engaged and defeated the ALABAMA, the Confederate Raider would have continued to prey on Union shipping

Another Captain Winslow was Commanding Officer of the Battleship KEARSARGE, which had taken part in around the world cruise of President Theodore Roosevelt's Great White Fleet



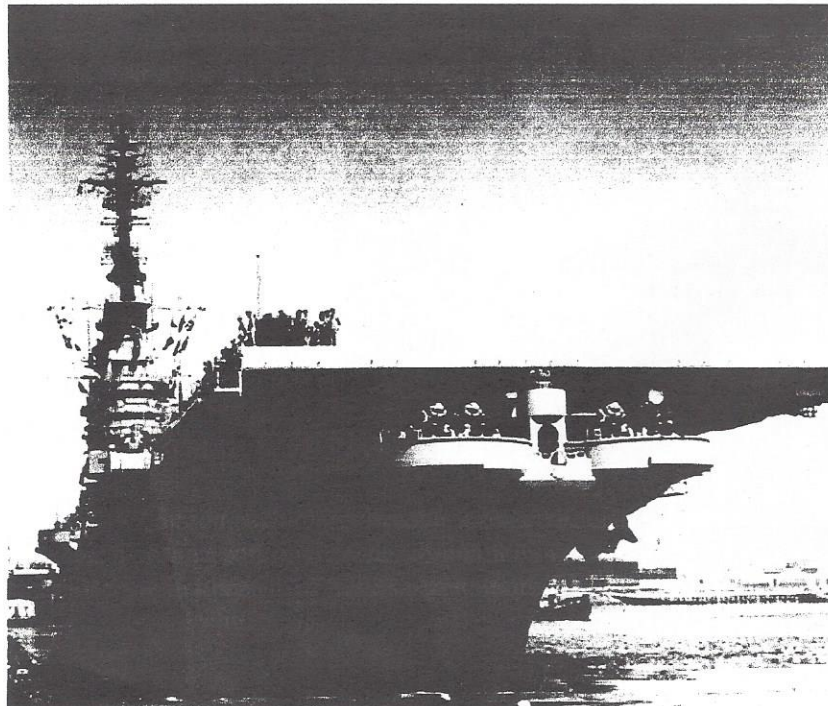
SHIPS STORE

Blue Watch Caps CV, CVA 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
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 ANT) HANDLING

Make checks payable to the Kearsarge Association and order from President George Beam, 1902 Edmund St., St. Joseph, MO 64501 - Phone 816-364-0602

The USS KEARSARGE at North Island Naval Air Station, Summer 1954



Kearsarge E-mail List
Compiled And Maintained By Allen Rollins

First Name	Last Name	Initial/Name	Div.	Yrs Aboard	E-Mail Address
Paul	Ackerman		M	'56 - '59	paulrackerman@email.msn.com
Greg	Alabado		E	'68 - '70	gregalabado@cox.net
Tom	Andersen		E	'52 - '55	tandersen35@cox.net
Ed	Armstrong		VA 702/145	'52 - '53	earmstrong@interconnect.net
William (Bill)	Armstrong		E		billmstrng3@aol.com
Bob	Arthur		X	'67 - '69	cobrabob@cox.net
Kevin	Barry	D.	O.R.	'55 - '57	kdb2119@aol.com
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Frank	Ingram	L.		OI & 4th	'56 - '57	ingramfe@yahoo.com
Tony	Kall					leepfrog112@yahoo.com
Ralph	Kelch	V.		V4	'52 - '53	ralph7@usachoice.net
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Wayne	Pallen			3rd	'65 - '69	sealeqqs@aol.com
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Joe	Pfeifer			OP	'57 - '60	pfeiferioepatti@peoplepc.com
Charles(Chuck)	Phillips	N.		S-1	'53 - '55	maxnchuck@mlode.com
J.	Quandahl	L. (Mickey)		VF 112	'54 - '54	iquandahl@aol.com
Duane	Race			5th	'61 - '66	grammma@aol.com
Jim	Reberitish			?	'62 - '66	wingles@aol.com

Jim	Reigle			HS 6	'64 - '68	jimreigle@verizon.net
Richard	Rice	M.		S-3	'54 -'56	poorrice@fox.net
Sonny	Richardson			R	'67 - '68	hsrric@insightb.com
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KEAR SAGA^{II}

The Newsletter Of The Kearsarge Association

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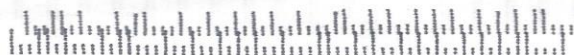
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Dues & Membership

The yearly dues for the Kearsarge Association is \$10.

Check your label to see when your dues expire.

To pay your dues, send a check payable to ***The Kearsarge Association*** to John Work.

To sign up a new member, send information to John Work.

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Honorary President Kenneth McDaniel (Deceased)

Past President - John Bennett