



THE BRIGHT PENNY

January 2008

A NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF THE USS BERKELEY (DDG-15) ASSOCIATION

TAPS FOR OUR DIRECTOR

It is a sad note to announce the passing of Lou Clark on the 9th of December following his five month struggle with cancer. His tenure as the Director of the USS Berkeley Association was far too short, only a little over one year; nevertheless, he was a hard charger and he put his heart and soul into building the Association into a bigger and better organization for the entire membership. He took a special interest in publishing a newsletter with interesting stories and informative articles.

Lou took over the Association following the passing of Ray Bartlett in 2006, which was carried on for a few months by his wife, Donna.

Lou served in the U.S. Navy from 1957 to 1975, retiring with eighteen years of Naval service and three years with the U. S. Marine Corps. In 1983 he married Pat and together they have been a driving force in the building and growth of the Association. He will be missed by all.



GMM1 Louis E. Clark, USN (Ret)
1934 — 2007

Farewell and Following Seas

By his choice he requested cremation and that his ashes be scattered at sea from a U.S. Navy ship. On December 15th a memorial service was conducted to celebrate his life with several Berkeley shipmates attending.

Lou was a member of the pre-commissioning crew and a plankowner, serving on board for one year after the ship was commissioned. As a Gunners Mate, Missiles, he went on to serve on three more missile ships, USS Schofield DEG-3, USS Decatur DDG-31 and USS John Paul Jones DDG-32.

Lou found it to be a sad event for him when he attended the decommissioning ceremony of the USS Berkeley in 1992. Thirty years before he was there when the ship was brought to life as her first crew manned her on 15 December 1962.

Lou was predeceased by his first wife of 23 years, Shirley, and together they had five children and six grandchildren. In 1983 he married Pat and they have resided in Long Beach ever since.

IN MEMORY OF LOUIS EDWARD CLARK

14 July 1934 – 9 December 2007

Louis Edward Clark was the fourth of four boys borne to Robert Stanley and Aline Marguerite Clark on the 14th day of July 1934. He was borne at Cecilia KY, a town about 45 miles south of Louisville, KY. He had three brothers, myself, Robert Stanley, Joseph Charles and William Clarence.

Louis was quickly shortened to "Louie", and I believe he grew into his starting school years thinking that his name was Louie instead of Louis. I can remember him coming home from his first day at school saying –Mommy, Mommy, why are the sisters at school calling me Louis? – My name is Louie. But the name Louie stuck to him until his late teens when he entered the service, when he was then tagged as "Lou".

We were living in hard times during the depression years. Dad was lucky to have the family farm. It kept us with food and shelter during these hard years. Louie, being just a baby didn't remember any of this, but he did remember the loss of our father in 1938 when he was just four years old. It hurt him and his brother Bill so bad that they cried for weeks. I can remember their hurt even today.

After Dad's passing away, Mother moved us back to Louisville, where she found work as a receptionist at the State Board of Health. Our Grandmother, Carrie Stapp (Mother's Mother) moved in with us to help raise us children.

Louie was a very bright student in his school years. He was always in the upper portion of his class in all subjects. He was also an Alter Boy in Church at St. Boniface Catholic School where all of us boys attended school. At one time all of us were in the same school at the same time.

Louie was deeply hurt again when we lost our Mother. He was nine years old at the time. Our Grandmother continued to raise us. Since Mother had been in the Tuberculosis Sanatorium for a little over three years, a mother's care was almost forgotten by him and I was more of a father figure to him than that of a brother.

He quickly overcame his hurt of losing his Mother. He finished grade school and went on to high school. At this point I believe he copied my actions. I had quit High School and joined the Marine Corps. He did the same thing. For two years in the Corps he decided that he was not cut out to be a "Mud Marine", he wanted a warm bed each night instead of a fox hole. So when his enlistment was up, he left the Corps, Married his childhood sweetheart, Shirley Ann Walker, joined the Navy and started raising a family.

Tina, his first borne, was borne September 4, 1956, Catherine August 28, 1958, twins, Terry and Carrie, May 19, 1962, and Louis Jr., March 17, 1968. As a military man, there were many times that he would not be there to be with his family, to see their first steps, to dry their tears, to tuck them into their beds at night and all the fatherly things that children need. But when he was there for them, there was love and joy to be had.

During his career in the Navy there were many assignments when it was so hard to say goodbye to your family. One such assignment almost sent him AWOL. Louis was shipping out to sea, Shirley and the children were there to see him off. Carrie was standing by and Louie was turning to walk to the gangplank and Carrie said her first words, "Bye Bye, DaDa". Louie said that he couldn't even turn around to kiss or say goodbye to Shirley, at that moment he knew if he did, he would go AWOL.

Louie continued his Navy career and retired in 1975. He moved his family back to Louisville, but things didn't work out for them in Louisville. In just a few weeks they were all very unhappy there and work was almost impossible to find. They were waiting for their furniture to arrive in the moving van and when it did arrive they had decided to move back to California. He had rented a U-Haul truck and was unloading the moving van into the truck. His neighbors not knowing him thought he was stealing the furniture from the van and called the police. He was almost arrested for this.

Upon his arrival back here in California, he moved back into the same apartment that he had just vacated weeks ago. After getting settled, finding work and finally buying their own home in the fall of 1979 in Los Alamitos, California things were looking up for them. However, in November of 1979, Shirley passed away leaving Louie and the family badly broken up. It took quite some

(Continued on page 4)

USS BERKELEY ASSOCIATION

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E Mail: ddg15@ussberkeley.com (new)

Website: www.ussberkeley.com

Biennial Dues: \$20.00

Director: Dale Johnson

Asst. Director: Pending

Secretary: Pat Clark & Tammy Meier

Membership Committee Chairman: Al Meier

Reunion Committee Chairman: Dale Johnson

Bright Penny Editor: Jim Sundahl

Ship's Store Manager: Gerald Hansen

Webmaster: Jim Barrett

Newsletter Publisher: Jim Barrett

Berkeley History December

40 Years Ago, 1967

Continuing QRC 99 test and evaluation project. **11-14** Secretary of the Navy guest cruise, Pacific Missile Range. **15-31** Holiday leave and upkeep, inport Long Beach. CDR Thomas M. Ward, Jr. is the Commanding Officer.

30 Years Ago, 1977

Continuing overhaul at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, Washington. **15** - Celebrated 15th anniversary of commissioning. **16** - Refloated and moved to pier 5. **17-31** Continued overhaul. CDR Jack E. Helmann is the Commanding Officer

20 Years Ago, 1987

Inport San Diego. **7** - Moored alongside USS Acadia for work availability. **11** - commenced holiday leave period. **15** - celebrated 25th anniversary of commissioning. CDR Charles R. Girvin III is the Commanding Officer.

10 Years Ago, 1997

Ex-Berkeley in service with the Hellenic Navy of Greece



From the Quarterdeck by

CDR Jim Barrett (Ret)



More rate mergers halted

The Chief of Naval Personnel has placed on hold the merger of six major ratings that would have affected the careers of 48,600 sailors in thirteen existing ratings.

On hold is the merger of GSM Gas turbine systems technician (mechanical), EN Engineman and MM Machinist's mate into the MM rate. The revamped MM rating would be responsible for maintaining all conventional surface naval propulsion.

Also on hold is the merger of GSE Gas turbine systems technician (electrical) and EM Electrician's mate that was to be combined into the single rate of EM.

Additionally, the merger of DC Damage controlman, MR Machinery repairman and HT Hull maintenance technician are being moved to the HT rate.

Shot down was the plan to merge IC electricians into the ET rate. However, the decision has been made to move the IC rating out of the engineering community and place it in surface combat systems.

The merger of some of the supply ratings is getting another look, which included the PC Postal clerk rate. PC's may be merged into the SK Storekeeper rate.

E-mail: Quarterdeck15@aol.com

A note from Dale Johnson



Thanks to everyone that assisted with the transfer of the duties and assets for our association. From the bottom of my heart I want to offer a special

THANK YOU to Pat Clark for everything she has done and is continuing to do. Pat's familiarity, knowledge, energy and superb attitude made it all possible. Without her help and support we would have never been able to complete the transition in an orderly manner thus allowing me to assume the Director duties. Pat has asked to continue with the Berkeley Association by taking care of the scrapbooks and the Berkeley Beauties column. She will be attending the Boston reunion.

Needless to say this is work in progress. To that end I'll be brief but first I want to convey to you that we are going to sorely miss Lou. Next to his family and friends the Berkeley Association was his life. Pat was his partner and the two of them took this job as seriously as any responsible person would view their job. His work ethic, honesty and business integrity were of the highest caliber. In his short time at the helm he grew the membership by about 50 sailors. He worked everyday, often full days on the association's behalf. Lou, we love you, we will miss you and salute you.

One more short note to let our members know how we are moving forward. The association's bank account was moved from where Lou resided in California to Indiana where I reside. The necessary addresses, email addresses and phone numbers have been up dated on our Web site and all inquires and correspondence has be replied to. The 2008 reunion hotel reservations were negotiated and contracted by Lou and I have reestablished connections with the hotel. Al Meier has completed arrangements for the photographer and DJ. The ships store continues to display an impressive selection of merchandise and is managed by Jerry Hansen. Jim Sundahl, Editor is always looking for news worthy material as evidenced by this publication. Jim Barrett, Publisher

and founder of the association, has always been the pillar and the mortar that keeps everything and everyone pulling in the same direction. David Meier recently volunteered to be our ACVA (Save the C. F. Adams) representative and he is already a member of the ACVA group. David is enthusiastic about this project and will serve us well. Duane LeDoux assisted Lou in identifying and selecting the Sheraton Braintree south of Boston for the next reunion. Thanks Duane and I know I can count on you for additional support, as we get closer to the date. Al Meier is in charge of new membership. Al maintained contact with Lou and worked closely with him locating new members. Thanks to Tammy Meier and Pat Clark for serving as the secretary staff. We hope we can count on both of you to take the minutes at the next business meeting. Last but not least Ed & Sylvia Dertinger put me up for a couple of days and handled packaging and shipping of the Berkeley material from California to Indiana. Thanks to both of you for you hospitality and generously volunteering your services for the Berkeley members.

I will do my best to carry on Lou's legacy and to do so I'll definitely need your continued support. As you can see, Lou surrounded himself with lots of people that were willing to volunteer their time and we have seen the benefits of splitting up the work. Please call me if you can contribute a few hours a month to assist with one of the many tasks. The association is always looking for people to help with the membership committee to locate new members. If you have a few minutes and unlimited telephone time, you could start work immediately. Just get out your cruise book and find a couple of sailors you haven't heard from in years and try to locate them. Just remember that the organization has grown one member at a time. You can help.

The assistant director position is open. Let me know if you are interested. We will get your name on the ballot. Officers will be elected at the business meeting in Boston.

We can use the services of a CPA for taxes and an Attorney for legal to make sure we are compliant regarding the non-profit status, pro bono of course. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sea Tales

By CDR Todd Frazier, USN (Ret)

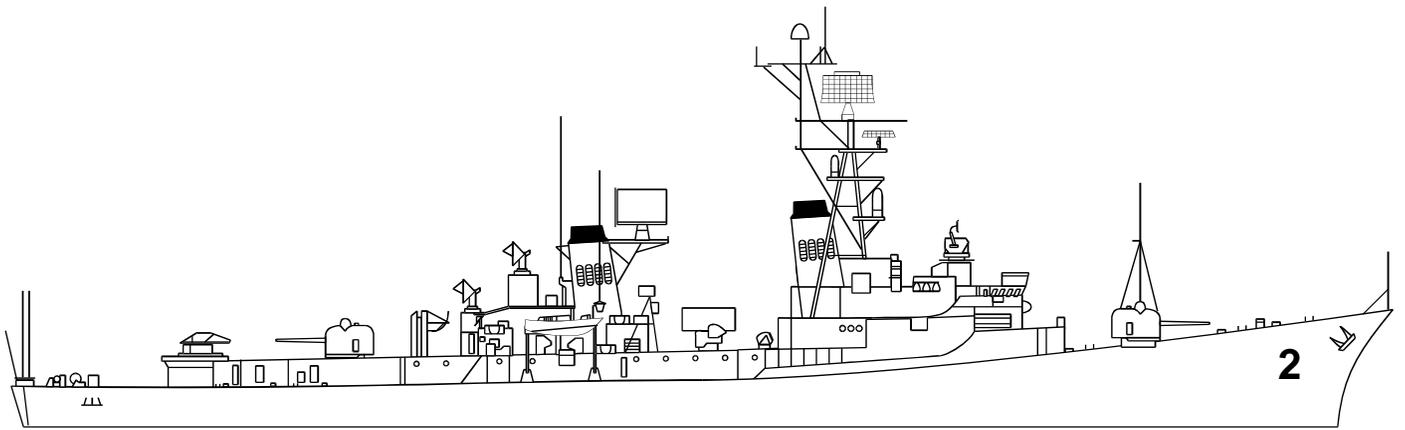
In June 1965 I was assigned as Comm Officer on USS NAVARRO (APA-215). We picked up Marines in Okinawa to make the first landing at DaNang. After that Navarro was assigned station ship duty at DaNang until I Corps headquarters were established ashore. For security the rule was noting nothing moved in the harbor from sunset until sunrise. One night I had the 2000 to 2400 picket boat duty watch. About 2200 CIC detected a boat coming into the harbor and vectored me to it. I turned my spot light on and followed it to where it dropped anchor. Not knowing how well armed

they might be I kept my distance since all we had in the boat was a 45 caliber pistol and a rifle. In the meantime the ARVN was called. They came out and took over the investigation and I was relieved. The next morning the whole ship knew of my adventure and I never lived down the fact that I had captured a boat load of BEER for the officers club at the DaNang air base.

Todd Frazier

Comm Officer 1967-1969

Do you need a USS BERKELEY ball cap, or maybe a shirt? Many items are available from the ship's store and you can order on-line. Visit our Web site at www.ussberkeley.com.



Preserving Our Past By Dave Meier

There is a mighty ongoing movement by the Adams Class Veterans Association (ACVA) to save the USS Charles F. Adams DDG-2 from a similar fate of our beloved USS Berkeley. As we all know, the Berkeley was transferred to The Hellenic Navy after thirty years of valiant service to our country. Following ten years in the Mediterranean Sea she was decommissioned and sold for scrap.

Of all the Adams Class DDG's built, the Charles F. Adams is the only one surviving and intact in the United States. The Adams was decommissioned in 1990, retired to the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard and is awaiting final disposition. As you can imagine, her fate may ultimately be similar to the Berkeley, or she just may go down to Davy Jones Locker as target practice.

The ACVA are a dedicated group of former DDG sailors working diligently to save the Charles F. Adams. Our hope and expectation is to create a maritime museum to be located on the waterfront of downtown Jacksonville, Florida. The Adams' homeport was in Mayport, Florida for 23 years and the idea of an Adams Class DDG museum is being well received in Jacksonville. As most of you know, there are many successful ship's museums throughout the country but none to honor of the DDG's and those that served on them.

A nation-wide effort is underway to collect the funds necessary to complete the Ship Donation Application. The cost to bring this project to completion is staggering. The ACVA is soliciting corporate defense sponsors that participated in the design and construction of the Adams Class DDG's. They are also asking those that have served aboard the Adams class DDG's and those with a common bond to the DDG's to make a monetary contribution as well. The Ship Donation Application must be submitted no later than 31 March 2008. It is imperative that all of us should act now. Every reader of this newsletter should visit the Berkeley Web site and thoroughly read the content of the 'Save the C.F. Adams' page and the 'Urgent News page'. Click on the links for more ACVA information. If every active member on our roster were to donate \$25.00 it would add up to \$5,200. Let's pull together by doing our part to save this ship. Your name, donation and ship hull number will appear on the Donor's page of the ACVA Web site. Make sure to mark **donation from DDG-15** on your check so that it will go into the proper fund.

Checks should be made payable to "The ACVA, Inc." and sent to:

ACVA Executive Secretary
c/o Dave Myerly
5 Bush Road
Denville, New Jersey 07834-2906

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration and any monetary contribution you may be able to provide.

Dave Meier
ACVA/Berkeley Representative

Ahoy Berkeley Beauties



Well, a New Year is upon us all and I'm hoping that you all will be able to keep those New Year resolutions that we all tend to make and promise to keep. But atlas, it seems I've tried this before and hope to have better luck this year!

Regarding the planned USS Berkeley Family Cookbook, I've not had the response that I had hoped following a random query for interest in such a cookbook. Based on this, I have made a decision to publish a recipe in this column quarterly, varying the recipe category. I'll acknowledge the Berkeley family member who submitted the recipe.

I want to express my sincere expression of sympathy at the passing of Elaine Barrett's father. Our Karen Zilverberg also lost her father to a stroke and I'm sure all of us share in her loss as well.

On behalf of the Berkeley Association, I

made and mailed eight Christmas stockings to be delivered through Santa Soldiers to troops stationed abroad.

Like the New Year, I've another Berkeley family member to introduce. She is Anita Cody, wife of Richard Cody, RD3, 65-67:

"Hello, my name is Anita Cody and I became an 'official' member of the Berkeley family in 1966. It was between WestPac cruises that Richard and I married in Huntington Park, California. We first met while he was attending Radarman "A" school at Great Lakes, Illinois. We have been married 41 years and have two children Regina, 38 and Richie, 33. I was a flight attendant employed by United Airlines and retired from United in July of 2002. My hobbies include gardening, reading and cataloguing on our computer the many pictures that tell our life story. In 2006, Richard and I purchased a winter home



in The Villages, Florida. The warmth of the south prompted me to add a few new hobbies to the list and I am looking forward to becoming involved in new projects and getting Richard to join me in a couple as well. I am looking forward to the next Berkeley reunion and hope to see many of you there."

Family Traditions

CDR Robert Cepek (USNA 89) assumed command of the USS Kauffman FFG-59 on 15 November in Norfolk, Virginia. He is the son of Captain Robert Cepek (Ret) (USNA 64) ASW Officer on Berkeley 64-66. CDR Cepek's XO is LCDR Andrew C. Ehlers, son of CDR Ted Ehlers (D) who served on Berkeley as Missiles Officer 64-66.



(Continued from page 1)

MEMORY OF LOU CLARK

time for everyone to come to terms with their loss.

I remember when he and Louie Jr. made a motorcycle trip cross country and spent a few days with us in Chattanooga TN. He told me that this trip had helped him a lot. He told me that he had met a lady and was dating her. Indirectly I believe he was asking me of my approval. Upon his completion of this trip and back to work and his companionship with Pat led to their marriage in May of 1983. A marriage that has been a blessing ever since. These two wonderful people have enjoyed and shared so much of their life with their family, their friends and in many cases, strangers that they had just met and had become friends for life.

Tina, Louie's first borne, passed away in 2005, which hurt him badly. Louie was loved by all who knew him. The children of his neighborhood all sent him homemade greetings and drawings of their love for him. One example is from a young boy who attends St. Josephs' who sent this Thanksgiving card:

Dear Lou Clark – This poem is for you.

“Thanksgiving is a day so great
To family and friends
Food disappears
Family and friends don't
Cherish the moments
For love means the most.”

Sincerely
Eric Brown

This was just one of the many sent to their good friend Lou Clark.

In his last days Louie and Pat were talking of their belief in the afterlife. Pat asked Louie to give her a sign so she would know he is with her. His answer was: “All you have to do is look up to the blue sky and know that I am looking down at you, knowing that someday you will join me.”

Louis—Louie—Lou—Pops—Daddy—Dad—Grandpa—Bunny—Little Brother—We will miss you and we love you.

Eulogy prepared and delivered by Robert Clark, Lou's brother.

The April issue of the Bright Penny will address the upcoming ninth reunion in Boston 31 July to 2 August. For those that will be flying to Boston now would be a good time to lock in some air fares. With the unpredictable market on oil prices you could save some money by making reservations before the summer months.

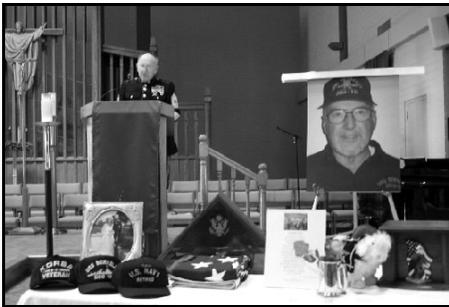
Kaohsiung Taiwan September 1967

Submitted by: RD3 Richard Cody



Front: CDR Tom Ward & LCDR Dick Avrit.
Back: Ens. Bill Abuehl, LTJG Red Cavaney, LCDR Gordon Monteath, RD3 Ed Dertinger & RD3 Richard Cody.

Lou Clark's Memorial Service Saturday, December 15, 2007 with full military honors. His ashes will be scattered at sea Spring of 2008.



Robert Clark delivering Eulogy



Lou's daughters Cathy, Carrie, wife Pat and granddaughter Ashley



Lou's brother Robert, daughters Carrie and Cathy, and sons Terry and Lou, Jr.

TAPS

GMCS Clinton Perry (Ret), 64-67. The following is from a letter from his wife Diane Perry dated 31 October: “Clinton was diagnosed with cancer in January 2007. He put up a great fight for seven months, but since the cancer was throughout his whole body he lost his battle on 9 July 2007. Clint was in the Navy for 20 years. He always talked about the Navy as his one and only love. At the end, I knew he was back on the Berkeley. His ashes are to be buried at sea in Honolulu in January 2008. This will be his last voyage, but he will be so happy. Clinton loved all his former crewmates and really enjoyed receiving his Bright Penny newsletter.”

RM2 Steve C Wintrode. Born: 13 August 1949. Died: 28 October 2007. Survived by his wife, Pat, son Stuart and daughter Stephanie

Steve served aboard USS Berkeley from 1969 (not sure of month) to December 1972, made three WestPac cruises, attained the rate of RM2. Steve died in a car crash, but, his family tells me that he died of an apparent heart attack.

Submitted by Roger Worley STG2 69/73

GMM1 Louis Edward Clark (Ret), 62-65 Plank Owner

Lou passed away peacefully on Sunday morning, 9 December 2007. Lou was diagnosed with stomach cancer on 16 July 2007. He fought a valiant battle and was hopeful until the end. I know that he regretted his inability to work on the duties required of him as Director of the USS Berkeley Association during his last couple of months. Lou is survived by his loving wife Patricia, four of his five children and six grandchildren. Lou was the light of my life and I will miss him more than I can express. *Pat Clark*

TRIVIA

“Well, today is that day I remind you of our mutual Navy discharges of 39 years ago.” Dave Meier and I were discharged on 12/20/68. Dave was transferred from the Berkeley to another command some time ago before this date. We had not seen each other since Dave left the Berkeley. We met again by chance on the 20th.

Dale Johnson

Medals & Decorations

Have you lost some or all of the decorations you earned while in the service? Or, maybe you would like to assemble your awards into a display case as a wall mount? A good source is Medals of America at www.usmedals.com

Web site

A new page has been added for members to update information listed in the roster. New area codes, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses seem to be the most often changed. Please keep us informed. www.ussberkeley.com