



THE BRIGHT PENNY

December 1996

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

98' Reunion in New Orleans

The votes are in and New Orleans has been selected as the location for our next reunion. New Orleans is a great entertainment city with a variety of attractions and plenty of fun places to visit, day and night. We're continuing to gather information about the city and a reunion packet will be developed for distribution towards reunion time.

Our reunion planner and coordinator for this next event is LCDR Ron Farris (Ret) and he will be attending a planning conference in May. The exact date for the reunion has not yet been determined, but will probably be in the Spring or early Summer to avoid the hurricane season.

Crewmember Search Project

This has been a very comprehensive project with plenty of work still ahead. For the period 1976-1992 we have the names of 3,000 to locate and this phase of the project will begin in January. A combination of mailing and telephone search will be employed. Of the initial 309 postcards mailed out, 102 were returned by either the recipients or the post office. It must be assumed that the remainder were received, but there was no interest. A few straggler cards are still coming in each week.

As an ongoing project the next step is to acquire the names for the period 1962-1975, which are in Washington, D.C. This time period will be more difficult because of the method of documentation.

A hundred people are behind in dues. Payment would add \$1,000 to our coffers and provide additional monetary support for the search effort. If the date on your mailing label is less than 97, or no number, you are behind.

SKIPPER IN THE SPOTLIGHT

A 1966 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Captain Farrell is a native of Brooklyn, New York, and attended secondary school in Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Following his initial assignment as Main Propulsion Assistant and Assistant Navigator in the destroyer USS EATON, Captain Farrell served in a variety of billets including duty in the guided missile destroyers USS MITSCHER and USS COCHRANE, the guided missile cruiser USS ENGLAND, and as the fifteenth Commanding Officer of USS BERKELEY from June 1985 to July 1987.

In January 1990, he assumed command of Destroyer Squadron 17, where he served as the Anti-Submarine Warfare Commander in Battle Group Sierra, which participated in the major Pacific Ocean multi-national naval exercise, RIMPAC. Destroyer Squadron 17 staff was the first unit ordered to the Persian Gulf for Operation Desert Shield. During this period, Captain Farrell was responsible for tactical control of the initial seven ships assigned to Desert Shield. The units conducted maritime defense operations in the Persian Gulf in cooperation with the navies of Gulf littoral nations and seven allied nations. Responsible for initiating maritime intervention operations in the Persian Gulf, Destroyer Squadron 17 coordinated the interception of over 3,000 vessels.

Captain Farrell's other assignments include duty with the Naval Advisory Group, Republic of Vietnam; as an instructor at the U.S. Naval Academy; in the office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Director for Operations Division; and on the staffs of the Chief of Naval Operations and Commander Naval Surface Group, Western Pacific. Captain Farrell served as Director, Surface Officer Distribution Division and Surface Captain Detailer in the Bureau of Naval



Captain Richard K. Farrell

Personnel from March 1992 to March 1994, when he relieved as Commander, Naval Education and Training Center, Newport, RI. He completed thirty years' active duty in June 1996.

Captain Farrell is a graduate of both the Armed Forces Staff College and the National War College.

Captain Farrell's personal decorations include the Legion of Merit (four awards), the Bronze Star Medal with combat distinguishing device, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal and various unit, campaign, and foreign awards.

The son of Marie and the late F. Kenneth Farrell of Chula Vista, California, Captain Farrell is married to the former Mary Ann Gennaro of Laurel Springs, New Jersey. They have one daughter, Judith Marie, a graduate of the University of Arizona. Captain and Mrs. Farrell reside in Falls Church, Virginia.

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The voice of the Association and the former call sign of our ship.

Correspondence may be sent to:

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Biennial Dues: \$10.00

Ball Caps

We have on hand a quantity of decommissioning ball caps (no eggs) with the ship's name, crest and the years 1962-1992. Adjustable, one size fits all. They are \$5.00 each plus \$3.00 shipping. No additional shipping charge for more than one cap. Send check payable to USS Berkeley Association.

Berkeley History

December

30 Years Ago

12 Sep - 15 December Test Phase CNO Project D/S 368. Underway Monday to Friday for missile test firings at Pacific Missile Range. 15 December entered the Long Beach Naval Shipyard for instrumentation removal. CDR William R. Smedberg IV is the C.O.

20 Years Ago

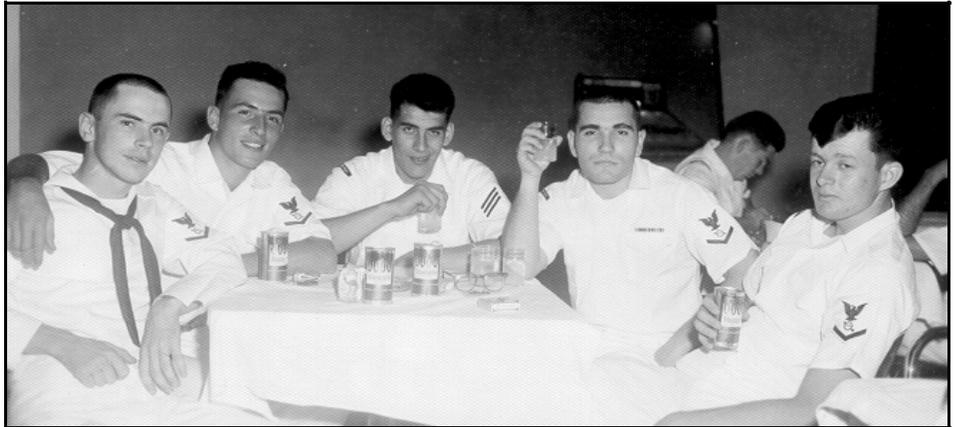
1-13 December underway, SoCal OpArea as plane guard for USS Constellation (CV-64). 14-31 inport San Diego. CDR Clifford F. Homan is the C.O.

10 Years Ago

1-4 December underway. 4-10 inport Hong Kong. 11-12 underway. 12-29 inport Subic Bay, R.P. 30-31 underway. CDR Richard K. Farrell is the C.O.

Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year

Rehearsing for the 1998 Reunion



OI Division Radarmen at the Subic Bay EM Club, December 1965

David Fitzgerald, Richard Cody, Grant, Lloyd Ragland and Edward Dertinger

Some Old Navy History

The following is an excerpt from the Blue-jacket's Manual, United States Navy, 1916

3. **What the Navy Offers.** *The Navy offers you a good position for life.* Few men realize the value of a "position for life." If you are an enlisted man in the service, you have your lodging and board free. The average pay in the Navy is \$39.00 per month; this means that the average of the enlisted men have \$39.00 cash each month for their own use; the only part of that amount that is absolutely necessary for current expenses is the slight outlay for uniform. Inasmuch as the government furnishes a complete outfit of uniform when you enlist, all you have to do is keep your bag replenished. The average age of enlisted men in the service is just 24; and there are very few young men of 24 in civil life who, at the end of each month, can show anything like \$39.00 in cash for the month's work, after their living expenses are all paid. So far then as actual pay is concerned, a man who behaves himself, obeys orders,

and tries to get ahead, is much better off in the service than out of it.

4. In considering employment, every young man of ambition very properly looks ahead to see what the opportunity for advancement may be. When you look at the Navy from this point of view, you can see all around you men who have entered the service in the lowest grade and have now risen to the rank of warrant officer, chief warrant officer, or that of a commission officer; the pay of such men varies from \$1500 to \$4000 per year. While everyone cannot work up to a commission, nearly every intelligent man who *really tries hard all of the time* gets a warrant, and, in time, is commissioned a chief warrant officer.

5. While you are serving in the Navy, your doctor's bills are paid; and if you get sick, you are cared for in a hospital without cost to yourself; meanwhile your full pay continues in the same way as if you had been on duty. If you are killed, or die from any accident or illness not resulting from your own misconduct, your people receive six months pay, less \$35.00 for funeral expenses; and, if you are killed

Rosters

A new roster has been included with this newsletter for members who's dues are current. Review the information adjacent to your name for accuracy or missing data and advise of any necessary corrections. The current plan is to publish rosters once a year in November.

Wanted! News Articles

Do you have an interesting story, experience or bit of humor to tell of your time aboard Berkeley? If so, send it in to the Bright Penny and pictures always enhance articles. Or, if you just have a picture of your group, identify the people