



T H E B R I G H T P E N N Y

December 1997

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

Reunion in New Orleans June 11-14

Our next reunion is only six months away so start making travel plans now to join your shipmates for a fun weekend. A reunion packet will be mailed out in February with a sign-up form, prices and things to do while in New Orleans. We'll advise you on city transportation, airport shuttles and interesting places to visit.

Music is everywhere in New Orleans and much of it is outdoors and free. And the food! The local Cajun and Creole cuisine is a real experience and can be a joyous social occasion.

New Orleans is the only American city, other than Las Vegas, that is literally open all night. We are looking into tour packages and river cruises which you can sign up for in advance when you mail in your registration. So much information has been received about the city that it would be impossible to list it all in this column. When you arrive we will have available all the literature we can gather in the form of brochures and maps in the hospitality room.

It has recently been learned that the USS New Orleans and also the Swift Boat Sailors Assn. from the Vietnam era will be holding reunions in the city on the same dates as our reunion.

Mark your calendar now for 11-14 June and plan to join your shipmates for a Berkeley weekend in Nawlins. To learn more about New Orleans visit the web site at <http://www.nawlins.com>.

Help get the word out!

Our reunion announcement has been distributed to all the military magazines and associations. To get additional national coverage you can help by sending the following announcement to your local newspaper, if they publish reunions. Other reunion groups use this method of advertising and it works quite well in reaching people who would not otherwise know of the reunion.

USS BERKELEY (DDG-15) ASSN. 11-14 JUNE 1998, NEW ORLEANS, LA. CONTACT JIM BARRETT, P.O. BOX 700715, SAN JOSE, CA 95170-0715. TELE: 408-996-7035

New Roster

The annual roster enclosed with this newsletter has been modified to include e-mail addresses. New e-mail listings may be sent to DDGBerk@aol.com for inclusion in the next issue. In addition to the roster there is an attachment listing the names of new contacts who did not return personal data information. If you recognize any of the names, give the person a call and bring them onboard as a new member.

SKIPPER IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Captain Frost was born in Newport News, VA and raised in Norfolk, where he graduated from Granby High School. In 1949, after two years of service in the U. S. Naval Reserve, Captain Frost received a Secretary of the Navy appointment to the U. S. Naval Academy and graduated, with distinction, in June 1953.

His first duty assignment was in USS BARTON (DD 722) as Communications Officer and CIC Officer. While he served in BARTON, the ship participated in Task Force 77 operations off Korea and completed an "around the world" cruise. Subsequent duty at sea included tours as Commander, LCU Division 23, in operations with the Second and Sixth Fleets; USS HIGBEE (DDR 806) as Weapons Officer; USS GOLDSBOROUGH (DDG 20) as commissioning Executive Officer; and tours as Commanding Officer in BERKELEY from August 1969 to June 1971 and in USS WORDEN (CG-18). Operations in GOLDSBOROUGH and BERKELEY included three deployments to the Vietnam area. Both HIGBEE and WORDEN were "forward-deployed" as units of the Seventh Fleet, homeported in Yokosuka, Japan.

Shore and Staff duty tours included the Naval Postgraduate School at Monterey, where he earned a MSEE degree; Staff, Commander Cruiser-Destroyer Force, Pacific as Anti-Air Warfare/Electronic Warfare Officer; U. S. Navy Nuclear Power School and Reactor Training; the Naval War College, Newport; Bureau of Weapons Naval Ordnance Systems Command as Advanced Missiles Branch Head, SAMID/ASMD Weapons System Manager; 2-D Radar Manager and AAW Readiness Manager; ASMD Project Office, Naval Material Command; Naval Sea Systems Command as Deputy, Surface Warfare Systems; and Staff, Commander Operational Test and Evaluation Force as Assistant Chief of Staff, Surface Warfare.



Captain John F. Frost, III

Captain Frost is a member of the Surface Navy Association and the U. S. Naval Institute. His personal awards include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal and the Bronze Star.

Captain Frost retired from active duty in July 1979. He has served in engineering positions with Delex Systems, Inc.; United Technologies, Norden Service Co.; and DDL Omni Engineering, Inc. in various surface ship combat system studies, developments and technical support tasks. Currently, he is employed as a senior engineer by PRC, Inc. and provides technical and engineering program management support to the Navy's ship defense and theater air defense programs.

Captain Frost, the son of Lt. Colonel (deceased) and Mrs. John F. Frost, Jr. of Norfolk, is married to the former Sue F. Sanderlin, also of Norfolk. Captain and Mrs. Frost have four children, seven grandchildren and are the guardians of an active fourth grade boy. The Frosts reside in Springfield, VA.

Ongoing Projects

Former crewmember search

This project got off to a late start due to other commitments. To date 140 people have been located and the responses are still coming in.

USS Berkeley web page

A web page is being developed and will be activated early in 1998. The ship is currently listed in other web sites (see page 2).

Berkeley history

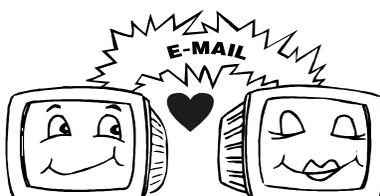
Some of the ship's history from the early years is recorded on ditto paper and quite faded. The plan is to have by reunion time the entire history, year by year, reprinted and in a notebook for reading in the hospitality room.

Decomm photo album

About 100 photos taken at the 1992 decommissioning party were turned over to the Association. If you were there you are probably in one or more of the pictures. The photos will be compiled into an album for display at the reunion.

Major General Randolph C. Berkeley autobiography

We have a copy of the autobiography which is in small print. It will be reproduced in larger type and available for reading in the hospitality room.



**BERKELEY HISTORY
DECEMBER**

30 Years Ago

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.

20 Years Ago

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.

10 Years Ago

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.

Some old Navy history

The following is an excerpt from The Recruit's Handy Book, United States Navy, 1910

SEAMANSHIP

6. The abolition of sails has reduced seamanship in the Navy to the science of handling and navigating steamers under all conditions of sea and weather. In place of "sail-seamanship" we now have "battleship seamanship," which includes everything mentioned previously, as well as general handiness and skill in the management of ships and boats, knowledge of modern mechanical appliances used in the daily routine on board ship, work with tackles, anchors, chains, hawsers, etc., used in mooring, unmooring, towing, handling weights. Sailors are needed as much as ever, although the scope and character of their work have somewhat changed. Ships still float, and we want quick, active, handy men, accustomed to all the emergencies and demands of a seafaring life.

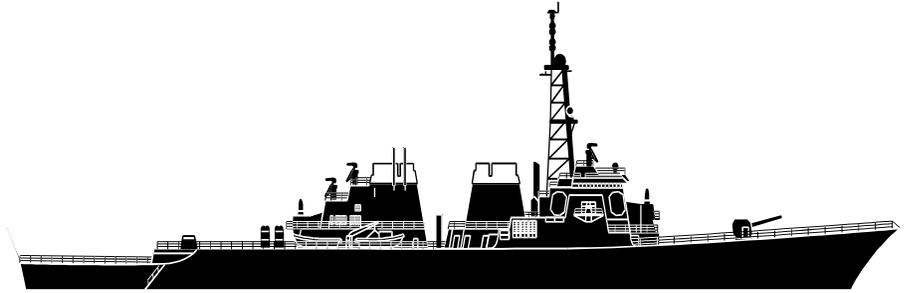
Every bluejacket should take special pride in modern seamanship. He should aim to be a good helmsman, a good leadsman and a good boatman; to be quick with signals, to be active in lowering, hoisting and handling boats and heavy weights, slinging stages, towing and handling targets, etc., and be expert in the use of tackles and in keeping gear clear at all times. Wire rope is used in the modern ships for various purposes and enlisted men should know how to splice wire, and how to work quickly and skillfully with hawsers of all kinds used in towing.

Biennial Dues

Dues for 1998-99 (\$10.00) are now being accepted. Note the date on the mailing label to determine your paid up status. Other coding is **HM**, honorary member; **XX**, never have participated in dues.

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New DDG's Five Years Later



In October 1992 the last of the Adams Class DDG's were decommissioned, stricken and scrapped or sold to a foreign country. At the same time the new Burke class DDG's were entering service. Since then the Navy has pursued an aggressive ship-building program commissioning three to four new ships each year. A total of 32 have been authorized. Visiting one of these ship's can be an enlightening experience and is recommended for anyone living near where one is homeported. The following list illustrates the progress to date and where the new ships are located.

NR	NAME	HOMEPORT	NR	NAME	HOMEPORT
51	Arleigh Burke	Norfolk, VA	66	Gonzales	Norfolk, VA
52	Barry	Norfolk, VA	67	Cole	Norfolk, VA
53	John Paul Jones	San Diego, CA	68	The Sullivans	Mayport, FL
54	Curtis Wilbur	Yokosuka, JA	69	Milius	San Diego, CA
55	Stout	Norfolk, VA	70	Hopper	Pearl Harbor, HI
56	John S. McCain	Yokosuka, JA	71	Ross	Norfolk, VA
57	Mitscher	Norfolk, VA	72	Mahan	Norfolk, VA
58	Laboon	Norfolk, VA	73	Decatur	San Diego, CA
59	Russell	Pearl Harbor, HI	74	McFaul	Norfolk, VA
60	Paul Hamilton	Pearl Harbor, HI	75	Donald Cook	Pending PacFlt
61	Ramage	Norfolk, VA	76	Higgins	Launched Sep 97
62	Fitzgerald	San Diego, CA	77	O'Kane	Launch Feb 98
63	Stethem	San Diego, CA	78	Porter	Launch Nov 97
64	Carney	Mayport, FL	79	Oscar Austin	Launch Sep 98
65	Benfold	San Diego, CA	8?	Winston Churchill	

In April 1974 the Association submitted a letter to the Secretary of the Navy with copies to the Chief of Naval Operations and the Commandant of the Marine Corps nominating USS BERKELEY as the name of a new Arleigh Burke Class DDG. A followup letter supporting our nomination was submitted by U.S. Senator John McCain of Arizona. Thirty of the new DDG's now have names assigned. Nevertheless, our letter remains on file with SecNav for consideration of future ship names.

Interesting web sites

<http://www.charlesfadamsclass.com>

Every Adams Class DDG is listed on this web page. Sign the guest log.

<http://www.navy.mil>

This is one you can explore for hours. A lot of good information on almost any subject. For example, select index, click on [S] for ships and find information on any ship in commission including mailing addresses. Click on [B] and go to the Bureau of Naval Personnel. All detailers are listed by name and e-mail address.

<http://www.destroyers.org/abouttin.htm>

Organization of the Tin Can Sailors, Assn. Very large organization (18,000 members), newsletters, reunions, etc.

<http://www.caiss.net/fra/reunions.html>

The Fleet Reserve Assn. bulletin board which lists reunions published in their Naval Affairs magazine,

<http://www.teleport.com/~jgriffin>

This is the web page for the Destroyer Squadron Association. Many reunions listed plus a multitude of other subjects to choose from.



<http://www.militarycity.com>

Military City Online. Look up Navy Times articles, archive information, participate in web chat, people looking for people, reunions and much more.

<http://www.shipmates.com>

Good source for finding reunions and people.

<http://www.navy.mil/homepage/bupers/locator.html>

The Bureau of Naval Personnel web page lists several avenues to pursue in locating former navy personnel.

<http://www.cnet.navy.mil/>

Chief of Naval Education & Training. Check out info on your old boot camp at Great Lakes or look up info about the Naval Post Graduate School. Also, information resources at USNA.