



# THE BRIGHT PENNY

June 1997

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

## Reunion in New Orleans June 1998

The 1998 reunion in New Orleans will be held from Thursday June 11th through Sunday June 14th. Our reunion planner, LCDR Ron Farris, attended a planning conference in May and has been working with the New Orleans Convention Bureau and negotiating with hotels to obtain rates.

The Hotel Monteleone has been selected as the site for the reunion. A 600 room hotel in the heart of the French Quarter, it is just one block south of Bourbon Street and one block east of Canal Street. All of the popular restaurants and street attractions are well within walking distance.

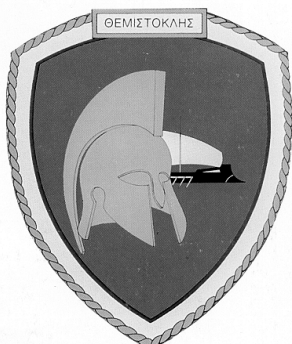
The December newsletter will provide more detailed information. Meanwhile, to learn more about New Orleans and the many attractions and entertainment offered, check out the web page at <http://www.nawlins.com>

### Preserve your naval heritage in a Washington monument

#### Enroll in the Navy Memorial Log

Many of you have had the opportunity to visit the Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C. One of the key attractions of the memorial is the Navy Memorial Log. Veterans of America's sea services are invited to add their names by enrolling in the Navy Memorial Log. The Log is a publicly accessible, interactive video display located in the Naval Heritage Center next to the U.S. Navy Memorial—midway between the White House and the Capitol.

Each Log entry contains the entrant's name, date and place of birth, dates and highest rate or rank attained. Navy Log enrollments help support the Memorial's values-based education programs which honor, preserve and celebrate America's naval heritage. The Association has been offered an enrollment cost of \$20, which is five dollars off the regular cost. Your photo can be added at the same time or later for an additional \$25. All are tax deductible donations. To enroll use the form enclosed with this newsletter.



DDG 221

### SKIPPER IN THE SPOTLIGHT

A 1971 graduate of the Pennsylvania State University, Captain Peterman is a native of New London, Connecticut and attended high school in San Diego, California and Freehold, New Jersey.

Following his initial assignment in the the destroyer USS HOLDER (DD-819) as gunnery officer, main propulsion assistant and weapons officer, Captain Peterman served in a variety of billets including duty in the destroyer USS SPRUANCE, the cruisers USS GRIDLEY and USS TRUXTUN, the frigate USS REASONER and as the seventeenth Commanding Officer of USS BERKELEY from September 1989 to July 1991.

In February 1995, he assumed command of Destroyer Squadron Seventeen, where he served as the undersea and surface warfare Commander for the USS KITTY HAWK Battle Group until the squadron's disestablishment. In September 1995, he assumed command of Destroyer Squadron Eighteen, where he served as the Maritime Interdiction Operations Commander in the Arabia Gulf as part of the GEORGE WASHINGTON Battle Group. During this period, Captain Peterman was responsible for tactical control of nine ships. The units conducted maritime defense operations in the Arabian Gulf in conjunction with the navies of the Gulf Littoral Nations and four allied nations. Responsible for enforcing United Nations sanctions in the Arabian Gulf, Destroyer Squadron Eighteen coordinated the interdiction of sixteen sanctions violators. Destroyer Squadron Eighteen consists of the destroyers COMTE DE GRASSE, NICHOLSON and THORN, the guided missile destroyer STOUT and the guided missile frigate NICHOLAS. Destroyer Squadron Eighteen also participated in the two largest NATO exercises of 1996, as well as predeployment workups which included operations above the Arctic Circle as well as port visits to Canada, Iceland, Germany, Puerto Rico, the American Virgin Islands, Bermuda and England. Captain Peterman recently



**Captain Ronald R. Peterman**

detached from DesRon Eighteen and reported to the Naval Doctrine Command in Norfolk, VA as head of the Concepts and Strategy Division.

Captain Peterman's other assignments included assignment at the office of the Chief of Naval Operations, (Officer Plans and Policies) at the Bureau of Naval Personnel (Enlisted Plans and Policies) and at the Surface Warfare Officer School Pacific, where he served as head of the combat systems department and as the executive officer.

Captain Peterman is a graduate of both the NATO Defense College and the Armed Forces Staff College. His personal decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), the Navy Commendation Medal and the Navy Achievement Medal.

The son of Mary and John Peterman of Nordmont, Pennsylvania, Captain Peterman is married to the former Susan Vrabel of Springfield, Virginia. They have two daughters and two sons. Captain and Mrs. Peterman reside in quarters at the Norfolk Naval Base in Virginia.

## H.S. THEMISTOCLES DDG-221

May 12, 1997

Dear members of the USS BERKELEY ASSOCIATION.

From the beautiful waters of the Aegean Sea where we are patrolling I send you the warm greetings of my crew who is proud of serving on board such a nice ship as HS THEMISTOCLES. I would like to assure you that your ship, our ship, is continuing her proud mission to sail on free seas under democratic flags, to protect human rights and to respect those who deserve it.

Since 2 August 1996 when I assumed command of the ship, we sailed in the Aegean Sea and Eastern Mediterranean,

participated in National exercises, bilateral exercises with other nations and visited international ports showing our flag and took part in several "social events" that only you and we (the men of our ship) know in detail.

During the winter we conducted a number of patrols, like we are doing today as this letter is written, in the unique Aegean waters, visiting some of the 2,500 Greek islands lying the in Aegean Sea waiting visitors (and why not members of the Berkeley Association?) in order to provide them the beauty and the philoxenia that the twelve Gods of the

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Mini-reunion in San Diego

In March, Captain "Mike" Ricinak put out a call for the officers under his command (1964-66) to muster in San Diego the weekend of 10 May for a mini-reunion. A highlight of the event was an informative tour aboard the USS STETHEM (DDG-63), one of the new Arleigh Burke Class DDG's. Following dinner on Saturday evening everyone retreated to the Captain's suite for the usual sea stories.

## BERKELEY HISTORY JUNE

### 30 Years Ago

At sea in the Tonkin Gulf in company with the USS BOSTON. **14 June** - destroyed 5 and damaged 5 waterborne logistics craft (wiblics) and obtained one secondary explosion. **18 June** - destroyed 3 and damaged 11 wiblics. **19 June** - Destroyed 18 and damaged 6 wiblics and destroyed 13 structures believed to be warehouses. In addition, aircraft under BERKELEY control destroyed 2 and damaged 2 wiblics and destroyed 7 structures in a transshipment point. **20 June** - while in lifeguard station recovered the C.O. of BOSTON when the hi-line carried away during a transfer between BOSTON and ST. PAUL. **23 June** - inport Subic Bay. CDR William R. Smedberg IV is the Commanding Officer.

### 20 Years Ago

**1 June** underway, enroute to Seal Beach. **2**, Offload ammo, Seal Beach. **3-5**, underway, enroute to Bremerton, WA. **6-30**, pre-overhaul, Bremerton, WA. CDR Jack E. Helmann is the Commanding Officer.

### 10 Years Ago

**1 June** inport San Diego. **8**, commence DSRA. **15**, began combat systems reorganization. **24**, ship moved to USS Steadfast (AFDM-14). CDR Richard K. Farrell is the Commanding Officer.

## E-Mail Directory

The number of members using e-mail continues to grow. To further expand our methods of communicating with each other, a directory will be created.

Depending on the response the directory will either be distributed separately, or incorporated into the roster. Since many members have more than one e-mail address it will be necessary for you to send an e-mail to DDGBerk@aol.com using the mail box address you want published. E-mail addresses currently on file will not be used, so you must acknowledge this call to be included.

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L to R. Rose Ricinak, Halle Downey, Mike Ricinak, Ted Petersen, "Bud" Schiff, Jim Barrett, Norman Wight, Kathleen Wight, Art Osborne, Judith McKenna, Chuck McKenna, Barbara Bennett, Pat Osborne, Blanche Petersen, Paul Downey and Frank Bennett.

## ■ H.S. THEMISTOCLES

Ancient Greece have spread so generously on them.

As you better know the ship as such is a 34 year-old vessel. Time has marked it as an old ship which might be considered outdated by some people.

Regardless the aforementioned and being honest I would like to inform you that HS THEMISTOCLES before leaving the States had been imposed an outstanding upgrading so as to be able to overcome today's challenges. In addition to that is worth mentioning that our people professors already maintaining former USN ships do not face any problem with ships like this even with the 1200 PSI that the engines require, but need to find an appropriate way to faster receive some critical spare parts from the States.

This year we missed twice the opportunity to conduct ASROC and SM-1 firing tests due to some other commitments that appeared at the last moment thanks to our "friends" from the other side of the Aegean Sea, namely Turks. Though I would like to highlight once more last year's successful firing

tests you are already aware of and which proved the working stage of our ship's systems.

In accordance with the schedule we recently received and until 8 August when I am going to pass over the command of the ship to CDR Tsitonakis, we are going to participate in a National exercise "KATEGIS 97" at the end of May 97, as well as in an International Partnership for Peace Exercise in Bulgaria in Black Sea (21 June-6 July) and aftermath to conduct another two weeks patrolling in the Aegean Sea.

Ending this letter I want to underline that I consider myself as a lucky man and simultaneously proud of being Commanding Officer of HS THEMISTOCLES. I believe that only the crew of this ship, your ship, is able to estimate and appreciate the capabilities and virtue of her. Last but not least I would like to thank CDR James L. Barrett, USN (Ret) who finds the time and the courage to communicate with us and keep us informed with the activities of the USS BERKELEY ASSOCIATION, the proud crews of your ship and our ship.

Sincerely yours,  
CDR S. Mihaleros HN



The officers of HS Themistocles (DDG-221)

## Roster Updates

The nation seems to be going through a lot of area code changes. If yours has changed or is about to be changed, call, mail or e-mail the information. The next roster will be distributed in December.

## New telephone number

The new number for Association business is 408-996-7035. This number will remain in effect until after the reunion. An answering machine monitors the phone 24 hours a day.

## TAPS

### GMG1 ALPHEUS STEWART

Alpheus Stewart passed away on the 24th of June, 1993 following surgery at Fitzsimmons Army Medical Center. He served on board 1967-1971.

### RD2 LARRY L. KILANDER

Larry Kilander passed away at home on the 16th of December, 1996 following three months of treatment for lung cancer and a brain tumor. He served on board 1964-1966.