



THE BRIGHT PENNY

March 2004

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

FOUNDER OF ASSOCIATION RETIRES

2004 Reunion

The reunion committee has been busy planning the Branson reunion. A block of rooms have been reserved at the Radisson Hotel Branson. There will be a hospitality room assigned to the USS Berkeley (DDG-15) Association from Thursday through Sunday. Friday evening there will be a "Welcome" reception with of course the banquet on Saturday evening. "Party Time."

There is plenty to do in Branson. Shopping, golf, and most of all entertainment. Just to mention a few of the shows; Hits of the 60's, Keepin' it Country, Legends in Concert, Mickey Gilley and the Platters.

You sure don't want to miss this reunion. Mark your calendar now and show up for one of the best turnouts ever beginning 30 September through 3 October. Join us in Branson, Missouri.



Ship's Store

We are still adding items to the ship's store. We will ship most of the items from the ship's store to Branson to make them available at the reunion, but why wait until then? Get your USS Berkeley memorabilia now! Especially a must, before you even leave home, is a USS Berkeley ball cap or anything else that you can wear that reads USS Berkeley DDG-15 on it! Let Branson, Missouri know that we are there and that we are proud of our ship. So start ordering now!

We have on hand a variety of ball caps. Captain and Commander caps with eggs are \$25.00 each. Caps with no eggs are \$25.00 each. You plank owners out there, what shape is your cap in about now? Do you need a new one? We still have them available and they are \$20.00.

If you have any items you would like to see added to the ship's store feel free to let us know and we will see what we can come up with.

We have had some ideas already from current members that sounded great. If there are going to be a lot of requests for a particular item that we don't carry in stock, we will check into it.

FOUNDER OF ASSOCIATION IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Commander James L. Barrett was born in San Pedro, California on 2 May 1933. In 1950, on his 17th birthday, he joined the Naval Reserve and because of the Korean War he was ordered to active duty following graduation from high school.

Commander Barrett's enlisted service was served aboard the USS BADOENG STRAIT (CVE-116) during the Korean War, the USS WEEDEN (DE-797) and the USS HENRY W. TUCKER (DDR-875). In 1958 he reported to Naval Schools Command, Treasure Island, San Francisco as an electronics instructor at the Radarman Class "A" School. Following this tour he received six months of advanced electronics training at Radarman "B" School. He then reported to Commander, Cruiser-Destroyer Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet for duty with the Destroyer Development Group in Long Beach. It was during this tour he attained the grade of Senior Chief Radarman and in December 1964 he was commissioned with the rank of Ensign under the Limited Duty Officer Program.

Following Officer Candidate School at Newport, Rhode Island he was assigned to the USS BERKELEY (DDG-15) and served as the Assistant CIC Officer and Communications Officer. While aboard Berkeley he made two WestPac deployments during the Vietnam War. In 1967 CDR Barrett attended Electronic Officers School at Great Lakes, Illinois and graduated first in his class. He then reported to Naval Communications Station, San Diego, California for duty as the Electronics Material Officer at the Naval Communications Center in Long Beach. In 1970 he was ordered back to sea duty and reported to Commander, Cruiser-Destroyer Flotilla SEVEN. During this staff tour he deployed to Vietnam and served as Electronic Warfare Officer for Commander, Cruiser-Destroyer Group, SEVENTH Fleet aboard the USS HORNE (DLG-30) and the USS SAINT PAUL (CA-73). Upon returning to the U.S. he was temporarily assigned to ComCruDesFlot THREE as the chief observer for electronic warfare and tactical deception during a major fleet exercise. In 1971 the staff was disestablished and he received orders to Naval Telecommunications Center, Long Beach where he served both as assistant and officer in charge. In 1974 he reported to Naval Communications Station, Honolulu, Hawaii for duty as the Officer in Charge of Naval Telecommunications Center, NAS Barbers Point. Following this tour he was ordered to Naval Communications Station, Stockton, California as the prospective officer in charge of the planned consolidation of the ASW Communications Center and Naval Telecommunication Center at Naval Air Station, Moffett Field. In August 1976 CDR Barrett became the first officer in charge of NTCC/ASCOMM Moffett Field. It was during this long tour where he was extended twice that he planned and monitored a major military construction



Commander James L. Barrett

project to build a new and modern telecommunications facility on the air station, a facility that became operational in June 1981. In December 1982 CDR Barrett retired after 32 years of naval service.

Following retirement he took a planned year off and then went to work for GTE Sprint Communications as a project manager in the Switch Engineering Department. In 1989 the company merged with an east coast company and he elected to not relocate. He was then hired as the manager of a local medical supply company and continued in this job until he fully retired in 1995.

His wife of 40 years, Eddy, passed away in 1997. In July 2000 he married a former high school classmate, Elaine Baxley, and they reside in Pleasanton, California.

"Among my fondest memories is the time I spent aboard Berkeley. After serving on three World War II ships it was wonderful to make the transition to a new and modern warship. The experience and responsibilities while on board groomed me for the many assignments that followed. Throughout my career I have kept in close contact with my navy friends and shipmates and the camaraderie aboard Berkeley motivated me to launch the USS Berkeley Association 1985. I am so pleased to see how much we have grown over the years." Dieu Avec Nous.

Address Changes

Avoid missing your copy of the 'BRIGHT PENNY' or the crewmember roster. If you plan to move send us a change of address and telephone number.

We might periodically send information by e-mail so make sure we also have your correct e-mail address.

News Articles Wanted

Do you have an interesting story, or a bit of humor to tell while aboard Berkeley? Pictures are always welcome. To be reviewed for the 'BRIGHT PENNY' identify the people or group on the back of the photo. For scanning purposes, please don't use a ball point pen on the back of the photo because it may leave dents on the front of the photo.

Two CFA's Sold for Scrap

On February 19, 2004 the HS THEMESTOKLES, ex-USS BERKELEY (DDG-15) and the HS FORMION, ex-USS JOSEPH STRAUSS (DDG-16) respectively,

Get the Word Out

Our 2004 reunion announcement has been submitted to most of the military magazines and other associations. If your local newspaper publishes military reunions, send them the following announcement:

Organization: USS Berkeley Association

Date: 30 September—3 October

City/State: Branson, Missouri

Contact Person: Ray Bartlett

Address: USS Berkeley Association
P.O. Box 267

Claremont, CA 91711-0267

Phone: (909) 981-7587

E-mail: u.ussberkeley@verizon.net

were sold for scrap. The HS NEARCHOS, ex-USS WADDELL (DDG-24) disposal is pending. The HS KIMON, ex-USS SEMMES (DDG-18) is the last of the C.F. Adams Class destroyers still in service until late summer 2004.

USS BERKELEY ASSOCIATION

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Claremont, CA 91711-0267
(909)-981-7587

E Mail: u.ussberkeley@verizon.net

Website: www.USSBerkeley.com

Annual Dues: \$20.00

Association Director/ Editor



Ray Bartlett

Jack is Back!

The First Navy Jack Flag is back. Bearing a rattlesnake and the warning "Don't Tread On Me," it sends a clear message to America's foes.

The Secretary of the Navy, Gordon R. England, has ordered all U.S. Navy ships to fly the First Navy Jack in place of the Union Jack for the duration of the Global War on Terrorism. In a memo to all ships and stations, England explained, "The temporary substitution of this Jack represents a historic reminder on the nation's and Navy's origin and will to persevere and triumph."

BERKELEY HISTORY MARCH

40 Years Ago, 1964

For the year 1964 the only items of record is a written letter by the Commanding Officer CDR Michael D. Ricinak.

On 13 March, out of Long Beach, California for the first operational deployment with U.S. Seventh Fleet. Berkeley joins carrier task group which included USS Midway (CVA-41).

Also in 1964, Berkeley was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation for the role she played in the Tonkin Gulf PT boat incident, the first attack on U.S. warships operating in the gulf, which made her the first Guided Missile Destroyer to be awarded this commendation.

30 Years Ago, 1974

01-08, Ship Qualification Trials, SOCAL of AREAS; 09-27, Inport at her new homeport, San Diego, CA.; 19, Change of Command; Commander Jonathan T. Howe USN relieved Lieutenant Commander Jerry S. Jones as Commanding Officer; 28-30, Local OPS, SOCAL of AREAS; 30-31, Inport, San Diego, California.

20 Year Ago, 1984

01-02, Inport Subic Bay, R.P.; CDR Robert W. Reighley is the Commanding Officer; 03-14, Enroute Pusan, Korea; 12, SPENCE Memorial; 15-18, Port visit Pusan, Korea; 19-29, Underway "Team Spirit 84"; 30, MISSILE EX 84-3, Poro Point, R.P.; 31, Inport Subic Bay, R.P.

10 Years Ago, 1994

Ex-Berkeley in service with the Hellenic Navy of Greece.

Stolen Sword Returned

A sword presented to a Navy captain who participated in the first battle between ironclad ship's was returned to the Naval Academy, almost 73 years after it was stolen from the Annapolis school. The FBI recovered the sword from a collector who was not aware that it had been stolen.

The 37-inch-long ceremonial sword was designed by Tiffany & Co.

The sword originally belonged to John L. Worden, the commander of the Monitor when it battled the Confederate warship Virginia, also called the Merrimack, on March 9, 1862.



(Sword with belt and scabbard)

Sailor viewpoint

This is how the military works as related to me by a former Berkeley sailor:

First you've got the Air Force that flies in and bombs the hill.

Next are the Marines who charge the hill and kill anything that moves.

After that the Army comes in puts up the flag and stands there on the hill like they've done something special.

All the while, the Navy sits back and rules the world.

New Medals

Last month, President Bush established two new medals for American troops helping to fight the U.S. worldwide war on terrorism.

With an executive order, President Bush created the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

Recipients of either of the new medals cannot also receive the existing Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal or Armed Forces Service Medal for actions in the war on terror.

They also cannot receive either of the new medals more than once.

Mysterious Pallets

Last year I received a picture of a pallet from a retired New Jersey policeman now working part time as a truck driver for a local firm in his area. The picture showed a pallet standing on it's edge and stenciled on the side of it was the inscription; USS BERKELEY 7/97. I showed the photo to Jim Barrett and we both thought because of the stenciled date on it, that maybe it was a fluke, since the Berkeley was decommissioned in 1992.

Guess what? Low and behold I just received another picture of a pallet from the west coast from a current member of the USS Berkeley Association; BT3 John Carmichael. John currently works at a J.C. Penny distribution center in Buena Park, CA. The pallet caught John's eye and he took a picture of it and sent it to me. The stencil on the pallet reads USS Berkeley 5/01. Turn the numbers around and the magic number 15 comes up.

So, if anyone out there comes up with a theory as to why these pallets keep showing up mysteriously from coast to coast, please clue the rest of us in on it.

Pallet from the East Coast (above).



Pallet from the West Coast (below).



John included his USS Berkeley ball cap in his photo for authentication. Good advertising for the ship's store.

Former USS Berkeley Officer



Commander David A. Schnell (85-89) C.O. of the USS FORD (FFG-54) is underway this month off the coast of Southern California to participate in a major war game called Joint Task force Exercise (JTFEX)

with the JOHN C. STENNIS Aircraft Carrier Strike Group.

USS COLE (DDG-67)



Souda Bay, Crete, Greece (Jan. 21, 2004) the guided missile destroyer arrived for a short port visit. This is the Cole's first

deployment since a terrorist attack on the ship that killed 17 crewmembers and injured 39 others while refueling in the port of Aden, Yemen.

Cost of repair and conversion was estimated at \$250 million.

USS MIDWAY(CV-41)

The Midway has been decommissioned for the better part of ten years and is going to be a museum part in downtown San Diego, CA.



TAPS

John "Jack" F. Frost III, 5th Commanding Officer of the USS BERKELEY (DDG-15) passed away from a bone marrow disease on December 5, 2003.



Captain John Frederick Frost, III
September 8, 1929 - December 5, 2003

TAPS

Admiral Moorer, born in Alabama in 1912, died February 5th, 2004 at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. He was 91 years of age.

Admiral Thomas H. Moorer (ret) a graduate of the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, his military career began in 1933 with an ensign's rank. In 1941, as member of the Pacific Air Fleet 10, he survived the attack on Pearl Harbor.

He was Commander in Chief of the Pacific Fleet during the disputed Tonkin Gulf Clash between U.S. and North Vietnamese sea forces in 1964. The incident led Congress to authorize President Johnson to take all measures to protect U.S. forces and "to prevent further aggression." This gave Johnson free rein to bomb North Vietnam and commit U.S. ground forces to South Vietnam.

USS CHARLES F. ADAMS

After voting between the USS Barney and the USS Adams. The Charles F. Adams Class DDG Veterans by a 4-1 vote and a 10-3 ships rep vote, decided to proceed with putting all of their resources into saving the USS CHARLES F. ADAMS DDG-2.