



# THE BRIGHT PENNY

July - Sept. 2013

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

## Setting Course for Jacksonville!

### Reunion Update

The 2014 reunion will take place September 25-28 at the Crowne Plaza Jacksonville-Riverfront hotel. Room rates start at \$95 + tax per night (single/double occupancy), and those rates are available for one day prior and post reunion. A complimentary hot breakfast buffet is available in the American Grill, and complimentary self parking is available for our attendees. There is also a 20% discount in the American Grill restaurant.



Ruth's Chris Steakhouse (Jacksonville's premier steakhouse), Starbucks and two bars are also in the hotel. There is complimentary internet access, and a 24-hour business center and a fitness center are also available. The hotel is about 20 minutes from the Jacksonville airport. Restaurants and shopping are within walking distance.

Reunion events will include a Bull Session, a Lady's Event, our Welcome Reception, and the Saturday night Banquet. We hope to have tour information and a list of Things to Do in Jacksonville and the surrounding area available prior to the October newsletter. Our biannual business meeting will be held Saturday morning in the Hospitality Room.

We plan to add other events such as the briefings held at the past two reunions. These briefings (mesothelioma at the 2010 and 72 Berkeley Ops at the 2012 reunion) were very informative and well received by the audiences.

Red Cavaney's Navy career was short-lived, but built the leadership and managerial foundation, particularly his service aboard the USS Berkeley, that has served him exceptionally well in his post-Navy career and into retirement. He grew up in the Southern California town of Alhambra; his father having served as a US Navy LT aboard a Destroyer Escort (DE) in the North Atlantic during WWII. Red was an NROTC Regular undergraduate at the University of Southern California (USC), receiving his Ensign bars in June, 1964.

Red's first assignment upon receiving his Commission was as DCA, and later Operations Officer, aboard the Long Beach-based USS Dynamic (MSO 432). After attending the Navy DCA, Engineering, and Minesweeper schools; he returned to the USS Dynamic for underway training prior to WestPac deployment in 1965, as part of the first Squadron of Minesweepers to make the trans-Pacific voyage on their own wooden, flat bottoms. Following the month-long transit, with fuel stops in Hawaii, Johnson Island, Guam and Subic Bay; the USS Dynamic was assigned to Operation Market Time, the multi-force interdiction operation covering the South Vietnamese coast from the North Vietnamese to the Cambodian borders, including the Saigon River and other tributaries in the Delta.

Given that nothing quite like the Market Time operation had been undertaken for decades, and with an onboard crew manning a 170-foot wooden boat with absolutely no magnetic signature; the whole interdiction effort took on a flavor closer to that of McHale's Navy than the spit and polish so often associated with the

### In the Spotlight



#### Ensign Cavaney

U.S. naval warships. The experience did, however, provide invaluable insights--reinforcing ingenuity, resourcefulness, stamina, decision-making on-the-fly and the critical nature of teamwork. After a year-long WestPac deployment, USS Dynamic returned to its Long Beach homeport and, soon thereafter, Red received orders to report to USS Berkeley (DDG 15), as Navigator and CIC Officer.

Following Navy school attendance at FAAWTC and Navigation in San Diego, Red reported aboard Bright Penny, which was on its way home to Long Beach from its WestPac deployment. Red very fondly remembers his experiences and professional growth onboard Bright Penny. In fact, he considers that tour of

*(Continued on page 2)*

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Al Meier



**Chaplain's**

**Corner**

By Chaplain  
Bill Perry

**WHEN YOU ATTEND CHURCH—**

What do you expect from the preaching?

If you expect to come away with intellectual insights, you will find something to satisfy that desire.

If you expect the preacher to say something debatable, you will.

If you expect to judge the quality of the message, you will find something he said wrong or could have said differently.

If you expect to have a to-do-list for moral improvement, you will find opportunity for behavior modification to try harder and do better.

But of course if...

you expect life transformation, you will discover the spirit exposing sin and fostering greater desire for repentance.

you expect to become like Jesus, you will be granted fresh eyes of faith to behold Jesus.

you expect to be used in the service of the Kingdom, you will find the Word empowering and enabling you to bear fruit disproportionate to your abilities.

you expect to meet God, you will find God will not pass by without glimpses of His glory and grace.

The question is...

What are you expecting whenever you come under the authority and power of God's living and active, faith-engendering, sin-exposing, Christ-exalting, Gospel-centered Word?

*(Red Cavaney cont'd from page 1)*

duty to be the turning point in his life. He felt he learned from the very best in the Navy; and he embraced leadership principles and analytical decision-making that proved invaluable, as he moved throughout his career in the years following.

Red counts among his mentors USS Berkeley Commanding Officers CDR Bill Smedberg and CDR Tom Ward, Operations Officer Gordon Monteath, Weapons Officer John Leder, Fire Control Officer Carl Everett, Communications Officer Jim Barrett and many, many other Bright Penny colleagues too numerous to set forth in this article. Red feels as though he got the equivalent of a Master's Degree in Leadership and Management from as talented a group of mentors and colleagues as assembled anywhere. Additionally, Bright Penny's WestPac deployment off the North Vietnamese coast involved various tasks, like North SAR and other assignments as part of Operation Rolling Thunder, and was a literal "living laboratory" of next-generation technology naval warfare.

As Red reached the end of his four-year NROTC obligation, he left Bright Penny and headed for San Francisco to muster out of the service and join his wife, Vicki, and son in Balboa; only to be informed that President Johnson had extended for an additional year all ROTC/NROTC Regular Officers to "meet the needs of the service". His new orders were to report to the USS Leader (MSO 490) as Executive Officer and Squadron Navigator, as the squadron prepared to leave for WestPac deployment to Market Time operations. Needless to say, it proved to be a long, additional year; and he mustered out in June 1969 to join his family and yet-to-be-seen, new daughter.

Upon leaving the Navy, Red joined Security Pacific Bank in Irvine CA and quickly rose to AVP/Branch Manager. As part of a national effort by the Nixon White House to identify 50 top young leaders, Red was selected as one and joined President Nixon's White House staff; subsequently also serving on the White House Senior Staffs of Presidents Ford and Reagan as well. In February 1983, he left government and joined the

**Berkeley History  
July 2013**

**50 Year Ago, 1963**

Dates not specified in Command History log. The ship did visit Portland for the Rose Festival. The ship also spent a few days in the Shipyard at San Francisco.

**40 Years Ago, 1973**

- 01 - 31 Inport, PSNS
- 02 - 03 Light-off Examination, Fwd Engine Room

**30 Years Ago, 1983**

- 01 - 04 Inport San Diego
- 05 - 08 Underway SOCAL (REFTRA Phase I)
- 09 - 10 Inport San Diego
- 11 - 15 Underway SOCAL (REFTRA Phase I)
- 16 - 17 Inport San Diego
- 18 - 22 Underway SOCAL (REFTRA Phase I)
- 23 - 31 Inport San Diego

**20 Years Ago, 1993**

In service with the Hellenic Navy of Greece as the H.S. Themistokles

**Ahoy Berkeley Beauties**

By Pat Clark



Ahoy Berkeley Beauties (aka BBs),

Well, 2013 is moving right along isn't it. I'm sure the Christmas sales will start soon. LOL!

BTW, I'm wearing another hat. I'm VP Membership of the Crazy Quilters Guild of Laguna Woods. No grass grows under these feet!

Well it looks like our 2014 reunion will be held at the Crowne Plaza hotel in Jacksonville Sept. 25-28. Bring your dancin' shoes as our very own Leland (Lee) Peters will be DJ at our Saturday night banquet! We will also be having our Ladies Tea which I'm sure by now has become a USS Berkeley Assoc. reunion tradition. Anyone with any suggestions for the tea or an activity you think we ladies might enjoy, please e-mail me at [ult2003d@yahoo.com](mailto:ult2003d@yahoo.com) with your thoughts. I have already started burning rubber on my sewing machine for raffle items. Along this same thought, I know there are many of you that are quite creative and would like to ask that you give some thought to making something for the raffle at our Jacksonville reunion. Remember all proceeds from the sale of tickets go to support the Association. Also, our very talented afghan maker, Francine Hansen, has come up with something you might want to consider doing:

Hi Berkeley Beauties,

Now that we have an official reunion date and location, it is time for the Berkeley Beauties to start making their plans to attend with their Navy men. One of my favorite pre-reunion activities is gathering and creating raffle prizes. The raffle, an exciting portion of the Banquet, helps to supplement the Association treasury and defray some of the reunion expenses, and also provide attendees with unique prizes to take home.

This year I would like to invite the Berkeley Beauties (and any creative crew members) to join me in creating raffle

prizes. From conversations in San Diego and on Facebook I know we have more than a few creative Berkeley Beauties who quilt, sew, scrapbook etc. I am proposing a "block challenge", I will provide a cotton "fabric photo" 4" X 6" of the USS Berkeley underway and a cotton "fabric photo" 4" X 5" of the ship's crest to anyone who would like to participate.

The challenge would be to express your creativity by using this photo or photos to make a raffle prize in any form that best displays your talents. Then bring your creation to the reunion to be added to the raffle prize display and eventually the raffle at the Banquet. I am hoping for some enthusiastic participants. If interested, contact me through Gerry Hansen and I will mail your fabric photos to you.

As noted in the last issue of the Bright Penny, Dale Nielsen, PlankOwner, was laid to rest in Ft Rosecrans, San Diego, CA. His daughter, Michiko Agnew, sent me this recent collage of pictures that were taken on Memorial Day. Seeing as there is so much red, white and blue I thought it would be appropriate to share in this July edition:



His daughter, Michiko Agnew, sent me this recent collage of pictures that were  
*(Cont'd on page 4)*

*(Red Cavaney cont'd from page 2)*

private sector to serve as President & CEO of three successive major trade associations—American Forest & Paper Association, American Plastics Council, and American Petroleum Institute (API). During his time at API, Red lost his first wife to a series of strokes. However, good fortune later smiled on him, and Red married his current wife, Sheri, who shares an interest similar to his own in public policy, earlier serving on Capitol Hill and later for the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, retiring after 20 years of service with AICPA. Following his 2008 API retirement, Red was invited to join the Executive Leadership Team of ConocoPhillips (COP) as Senior Vice President, Government Affairs. COP is the world's largest publicly held independent oil & natural gas exploration and production company, from which he retired in January of this year.

Red and Sheri live in Alexandria VA and remain active in the community. Red serves on the Boards of Buckeye Technologies (BKI), the US Chamber of Commerce, Resources for the Future, and the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, serving the latter as President. I know he would welcome hearing from you. His email is [redcavaney@gmail.com](mailto:redcavaney@gmail.com).

**Rolf Johnson  
Plankowner Obituary**

Rolf Johnson, Carson City, NV, born May 1941, died Oct. 18, 2012, after a 14 year battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife, Gloria, daughter Kerstine and son Erik.

Born and raised in Mass., he joined the Navy in 1960 as an RD2 on the Newman K. Perry, and transferred to the U.S. S. Berkeley as a member of the commissioning crew in 1962-1964. He was discharged to the Naval Reserves in Long Beach, CA. He was proud of his Naval service and maintained a life-long friendship with two of his fellow radarmen. His love of the sea, sailing and "clam chowdah" stayed with him all

*(Continued on page 4)*

*(Continued Berkeley Beauty Article)*

taken Memorial Day. Seeing as there is so much red, white and blue I thought it would be appropriate to share in this July edition:

This quarter we are hearing from Shari Peters, wife of Lee, FTCS, 65-72.



Hello fellow Berkeley Beauties, my name is Shari Peters and I am married to Leland, Lee or Pete Peters. We met in Hawaii where I was finishing up my Master's Degree in Social Work and he was stationed at Pearl Harbor. We married in 1982 and he retired from the Navy in 1984, so I wasn't a Navy wife very long.

We met on the dance floor and dancing has been a big part of our lives ever since. We had a country dance troupe and taught dancing both in Oklahoma and Hawaii. Lee is still teaching, but I have had to "sit this one out" because of my COPD.

I am a Social worker. I worked 20 years with the homeless mentally ill. I retired in 2000 as Asst. Director of the Salvation Army because of my health. I still enjoy working with people!

Lee converted our garage into a studio for me to play with paint, clay and fabric. I enjoy making greeting cards and teach a class once a month at the Broadmoor Retirement center. I volunteer when needed as an interviewer at Broken Arrow Neighbors, assisting those in need with food, clothing and utilities among

other things. I also help interview for food assistance once a week at my son's church. My mother moved here from Hawaii several years ago and I spend a lot of time with her (She is 89) and taking her to the doctors.

Our first reunion was in Branson MO in 2004. Lee didn't think he would know anyone. Boy was he wrong!. We also attended the reunion in Denver and just last year in San Diego. I really enjoy the reunions and the Berkeley Beauties and I am proud to be a BB. We are looking forward to Jacksonville in 2014. It will be so much fun! See you there.

Here is a nice light 'summer' dessert recipe courtesy of Mary Hudson, wife of Jerry, BTC, 69-71:

### Pig Pickin' Cake

#### Cake:

- 1 box yellow cake mix
- 1 small box of vanilla instant pudding
- 4 eggs
- 1 can of mandarin oranges, juice too(11 oz.)
- ½ cup oil

#### Icing:

- 1 large box of instant vanilla pudding
- 1 container Cool Whip
- 1 can crushed pineapple (15 or 20 oz.)

Prepare cake mix with pudding, eggs, oranges, and oil. Pour into 9" x 13" or 2 -9" round pans. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Allow to cool before applying icing: mix pudding with pineapple. Fold in Cool Whip. Frost cake and keep in refrigerator. Can be made several days ahead and kept in freezer until needed.

Till next time,

*Pat*

his life.

He worked for Sears for 35 years in management and repair in Santa Ana, CA and Reno/Carson City NV. Rolf enjoyed music and many enjoyed listening to his sweet trumpet style; he was also a tenor in the Carson Chamber Singers. A beautiful life has come to an end. He died as he lived, everyone's friend.

*Article provided by Dave & Jean Rave*

## ACVA Update

Adams class news:

On April 14-17 2013 a triple ship's reunion was held in Jacksonville Fla (would that make it a "tri-union"?). Over 150 crewmembers and friends from Charles F Adams, Waddell, and Tattnell gathered at the Crown Plaza hotel. They toured the Naval Station Mayport and USS Farragut (DDG-99). See the Adams Class Vets Association website [www.adamsclassvets.org](http://www.adamsclassvets.org) for photos.

The Jacksonville City Council is addressing a new public ordinance that will support providing the Old Navy Piers on the North Bank as a home for the former Charles F Adams as a museum. New council support is moving the ordinance forward, and public hearings will have been held by the time you read this.

Also, the Jacksonville Historic Naval Ships Association is hosting a gala October 11-12, 2013, to support the Adams museum project. For information on the gala, current status of the project, photos and artist's conception of the museum site, see their website at [www.adamsclassmuseum.org](http://www.adamsclassmuseum.org).

**And don't forget to join and support the ACVA!**