



THE BRIGHT PENNY

Oct. - Dec. 2013

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

Midway Point Between Reunions!

We are at the midway point between reunions. While memories of the San Diego reunion are still replaying, planning for our 2014 reunion in Jacksonville is beginning to take



shape. Jacksonville, like San Diego, has a rich naval history. I will review the Jacksonville naval history in the January 2014 newsletter.

There is a good possibility of the presence of the Charles F. Adams DDG-2 docked as a museum ship on the St. Johns River close to our reunion hotel. Rex McCoy's article in this newsletter will update you on the status of the Charles F. Adams museum ship effort.

We currently are working with Visit Jacksonville, an organization that is assisting us with some of the planning for the reunion. We should have more Jacksonville information available at the web site by mid- to late-October. Visit the web site www.visitjacksonville.com/meetings to learn more about things to do and see in Jacksonville. We anticipate having tour information for our 2014 reunion available at the web site by this November, and in the January 2014 Bright Penny. Please sign up early for tours you are interested in so that we can ensure your participation.

Association Update

Some additional work to expand the number of cruise books available on the web site will take place by year's end.

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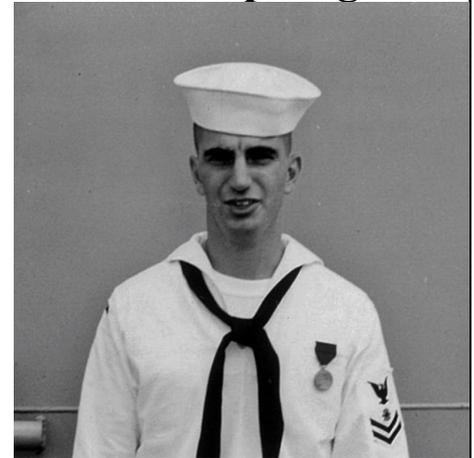
Quartermaster Second Class Ed Codispoti enlisted in the Navy right out of high school. After graduation at Recruit Training Center at Great Lakes, IL. Ed reported to QM class A school in Newport, Rhode Island. His studies were basic navigation and LORAN.

For his first ship assignment, Ed was flown to Gitmo, Cuba where he reported aboard the USS Galveston, CLG-3. He made two Caribbean cruises, and made QMSN in 1961. In 1962 he reported aboard the USS Bearss DD-654, and made QM3. He requested transfer to a new construction on the West Coast. He was puzzled when he reported to the pre-commissioning detail in 1962 after learning that the ship was being built in his home state of New Jersey. The outlook was bright!

Ed completed all of the numerous pre-commissioning schools, PO training and fire fighting (for the 5th time) during this time frame. Ed served proudly, and advanced to QM2 in 1963. Ed became the leading PO, and served with distinction as the assistant to the Navigator on the Berkeley's first WestPac cruise. His enlistment was scheduled to end while the ship was on Yankee Station, but the Secretary of the Navy had extended his enlistment until the ship reached a continental U.S. port. Ed's naval career soon ended.

As a civilian, Ed became a sergeant with the county police. He was honored for distinguished service by the county freeholders. Ed placed 2nd in New Jersey for the VFW

In the Spotlight



Ed Codispoti, QM2

police officer of the year award. Other awards were for valor and police honor legion, and he was also an expert on the pistol team.

Long after leaving the Berkeley, Ed re-enlisted as a UT2 in the Sea Bee Reserves and served for many years. Ed earned numerous medals while in the military, including the Navy Good Conduct, Vietnam Gallantry Cross, Expert Rifle and Expert Pistol. The state of New Jersey honored him with the Vietnam Service Award and the Distinguished Service Medal. His county awarded him the County Distinguished Service Medal.

When not busy with the Navy Reserves or work, Ed has been an active member of the American Legion, P.B.A., Master Mason, Shriner, Fourth Degree Knight of Columbus, U.S. Navy Cruiser

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Al Meier

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We hope to add the 1984 and 1986/87 cruise books before the end of the year. The 1971 and 1988 should be added early next year. In 2013 we saw our paid membership dipped substantially, and this may be due in part to the fact that dues reminder post cards were not sent out in December 2012. We hope to rebound in 2014, and 2014 dues can be paid now.



Chaplain's Corner

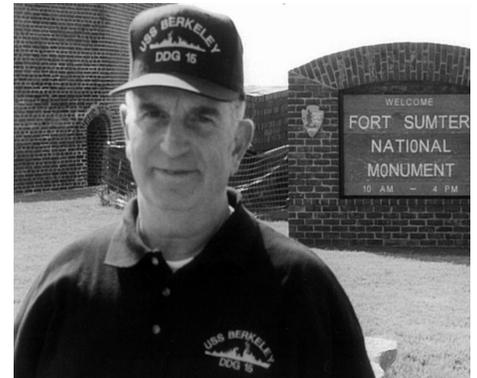
By Bill Perry

BIBLE STUDY:

As we get involved with attempting to read, or study our Bible, there are two very important viewpoints to be aware of, and ponder. One consideration is to study the Bible mostly as an indictment of the human race. In other words, as we are, sinful rebels, who are bent on finding life apart from God. The other is to study scripture as an invitation from a loving God. Yes, we are sinners who have turned away from our creator God and His design for our lives. (Romans 3:23) Yes, we've rebelled, but God longs to forgive and restore us so we can declare to the world His Story of rescue and renewal. 1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us of all unrighteousness." Amen

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Association, Tin Can Sailors, and life member of the VFW. He is also a member of four ship associations, but says the most notable is the USS Berkeley Association. The Bright Penny became his home and the crew his family.



Ed Codispoti, QM2

ACVA Update

The Adams Class Veteran's Association continues to support the installation of the original ship of the class as a museum at Jacksonville Florida. The Jacksonville City Council and Mayor all support the project. The City has passed an ordinance which authorized the mooring of the former USS Charles F. Adams on the north bank of the St John's River in the grounds of the old shipyard. The project has attracted some large corporate sponsors such as IBM and Siemen's. The goal now is to open the museum in late 2014 or early 2015. Remember that the next Berkeley Association reunion will be in Jacksonville in 2014. So even if the museum is not yet open, we should be able to see a lot of activity, and perhaps even get a tour of the work in progress.

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**Berkeley History
October 2013**

50 Year Ago, 1963

Dates not specified in Command History log. The ship did move to San Diego for a seven-week Underway Training period.

40 Years Ago, 1973

Underway for the first time in over nine months on 26 September, Berkeley conducted three separate sea trials to test machinery, weapons and electronics equipment. She made and held full power on her first attempt on 23 October, 1973.

30 Years Ago, 1983

- 01 – 12 Underway READIEX 83-7
- 13 – 16 Port visit San Francisco Fleet Week 83
- 17 Enroute Concord Weapon Station
- 18 Onload Concord/underway en route San Diego
- 19 Underway en route San Diego
- 20 Underway SSRNM
- 21 – 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



For those of us that enjoy the beauty and coolness of fall, it is now upon us. This also means ‘football’! I’m

not much of a game aficionado, but eating good food is something else J Football couch potatoes love to snack and here’s an easy, tasty appetizer to please them:



First Down Reuben Round Recipe

- 1 pastry sheet, thawed
- 1 tsp caraway seeds
- 1/2 c sauerkraut, well drained
- 4 slices Swiss cheese
- 3 slices deli corned beef
- 1/4 c thousand island dressing

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees and unroll pastry sheet onto large baking sheet that has been sprayed with cooking spray.
2. Lay Swiss cheese on pastry sheet then top with corned beef and then sauerkraut.

3. Roll up starting with the long sides.

4. Cut into 1/4" rounds and place 2" apart on the baking sheet.

5. Bake for 10 minutes, remove, sprinkle with caraway seeds and return to the oven baking another 5 minutes. Serve with Thousand Island dressing as a dipping sauce.

OK, now that we have our tummies taken care of, let me introduce our Berkeley Beauty for this quarter,

Elaine Barrett



Elaine is married to James L. Barrett, CDR, ACICO/COMM, 1965-1967.

Hi, my name is Elaine Barrett. I am married to James L. Barrett, CDR., USN, (Ret). The Berkeley people know him as “Jim,” but I know him as Lyall as I met him in high school and that is the name he went by at that time.

I was born in Lubbock, Texas, but after a brief time in Seligman, Arizona we moved to Southern California and I lived there from the ages of 4 to 20 when I moved to Northern California. I am rooted in California, but absolutely love Hawaii
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Please support this effort by joining the ACVA.

<http://www.adamsclassddgvets.org/>

Here is an image of the proposed site:



And here are some “fast facts” from the Jacksonville Historical Naval Ship Association.

<http://www.adamsclassmuseum.org/>

* The USS Charles F. Adams (DDG-2) would be the youngest Navy warship on display in the United States;

* The annual operating budget would be approximately \$1,000,000 and revenues are projected over \$1,500,000 with 150,000 visitors annually at \$10 per head;

* 25 plus full time jobs, over 75 indirect jobs and a \$4,000,000 annual economic impact on Downtown hotels, restaurants, event planners and transportation;

* Baltimore built its Inner Harbor around its three warships and has over 200,000 visitors annually;

* Los Angeles, Baton Rouge, Norfolk, San Diego, Mobile, etc., are all profitable examples of warship museums with robust and community-centric activities and event programs;

* The IBM Smarter Cities study suggested the USS Adams project was

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Continued Berkeley Beauty Article

and all things Hawaiian. Even to the point of learning to hula a bit a few years ago.

Growing up in Southern California I attended Narbonne High School. Jim was two years ahead of me in my brother's class. Jim and I met again at a high school reunion in 1998 and married in 2000. He was living in San Jose and I lived in Oakland, California. Marriage became a real imperative as we both realized we were too old and tired to keep up the courting commute.

We honeymooned in Hawaii and one of the highlights of our visit was that Captain Dennis O'Meara (Berkeley 82-86), Commanding Officer of the USS Paul Hamilton DDG-60, invited us as his guests for a family cruise to Maui. Our VIP treatment was overwhelming. We left on a Thursday morning from Pearl Harbor and returned the following Sunday. Highlights of the cruise included the firing of the missile defense system, the five-inch gun and small weapons. A full power run was most exciting with the sudden backing down to a full stop. The Navy calls it "Crash Back." Jim and I received special tours of the engineering spaces and the Combat Information Center. As a former Radarman Jim felt right at home in CIC. The ship anchored off Lahaina and we were boated ashore to connect with our hotel. At the conclusion of the trip I felt qualified to say I had earned my sea legs.

Between us we have nine children. (I contributed six of those.) When God said, "Go forth and multiply" I guess I took it seriously. We have twenty grandchildren (16 from me) and are expecting our ninth great-grandchild in January. For many years our swimming pool was a grandchild magnet, but they are growing older and are attending college and working. Jim's grandson, Jimmy, is just ten and

fortunately lives in Tracy which is not too far away. Also, we now have my great-grandchildren to fuss over.

For ten years I worked for Aid to Adoption of Special Kids (AASK) and in the mid 1980's I entered the legal field first as a legal secretary, and after taking classes at California State University, Hayward, as a paralegal. I really liked being a paralegal. The work was challenging and never boring. I also taught the California State, Hayward Paralegal Internship class for a number of years. I retired in 2001.

We currently live in Pleasanton, California. It is a lovely little town east of Oakland. I raised my children in Danville, California, which is just north of Pleasanton. In my younger days I was active in Diablo Light Opera Company, first as a chorus member and later I worked back stage, produced and also worked as a stage manager. I still love theater, but now strictly as a spectator.

I love to read and believe it or not, I have always liked going to school. I've taken a few courses since our marriage, but now I confine those to the internet.

We enjoy dining out, traveling and of course, attending those wonderful Berkeley reunions. When we were honeymooning in Hawaii, Jim was adamant about my obtaining my military identification card. Truthfully, at the time I did not understand why it was so important. I know now.

I have always enjoyed the Berkeley reunions and the wonderful people I have met there. Hopefully we will see you next year in Jacksonville, Florida.

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uniquely suited to engage and celebrate northeast Florida's two most notable assets, the St. Johns River and Jacksonville's military heritage;

* The warship museum is "mobile" and JHNSA has purchased a tow package in case the warship is not successful so it can be moved without cost to the city.

Special Request

A Special request from Francine Hansen to please request 'free' USS Berkeley' fabric-photos to create an item to be included in the raffle of prizes at the Jacksonville 2014 reunion.

Contact Francine Hansen:
ghansen19@wi.rr.com

Also, anyone wishing to make or provide an item for the reunion raffle is welcome to do so. Something patriotic or reflects the area of the country you live in, etc. would be terrific.

Reader Feedback

If you would like to comment on a newsletter article please send them in. Feedback will be published in the next edition.