



T H E

BRIGHT PENNY

July—September 2018

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

Last Call for Long Beach!!!

Director's Update



We are quickly approaching the Long Beach reunion, and registrations are looking good! There are approximately five weeks remaining before the cutoff date for reunion pricing on the Queen Mary. The registration deadline for rooms on the Queen Mary is August 20th, and the registration deadline for the reunion and banquet will be August 30th. The registration phone number for the Queen Mary is (877) 342-0742, and remember to tell them you are with the USS Berkeley Association group.

As a reminder, please remember to bring photos and videos of days aboard the Berkeley, and of Long Beach circa the 1960's. These are always great additions for our Thursday night's Bull Session.

I recently found my gabardines and white hat from my days aboard the Berkeley, and thought it might be fun if we had a contest the night of our Bull Session. Bring your old Navy uniform, and wear it to the Bull Session. We will dream up some categories for awarding prizes. Our switch over to the new web

site had been completed. Take a look, and let us know if you experience any problems or see any errors. See Gerry Hansen's "New Web Site Ship's Store" article in this edition of the newsletter.

At our reunion Business Meeting, we will be looking to fill three of our Regional Chairmen positions (North West, South Central, and South East). We will also be nominating cities for our 2020 reunion host city. The 2020 reunion is to be held in the North East sector.

That's it for now, and look forward to seeing many of you in Long Beach in September!

We Need Your Support!

We greatly appreciate the support of our shipmates that have paid association dues for 2018 and beyond! However, the association could sure use some additional paid memberships.

As many of you may be aware, we had to switch to a new web site this year because the software for the old web site was no longer supported. We attempted to solicit assistance from our membership when switching to the WordPress software used on the new web

Site, but we were unable to find help. As a result, we have paid over \$5,000 to GoDaddy to help setup the new web site. Therefore, our association's funds are extremely low. We fund all our operating expenses with paid memberships and a small profit on Ship's Store sales, and we have experienced fewer paid memberships in 2018 than at any time in the past 14+ years.

New paid memberships of \$10 for the duration of 2018 will help, and you will receive the 2018 master roster and quarterly newsletters. A payment of \$30 will pay dues through 2019, and you will receive the master rosters for 2018 and 2019 in addition to the quarterly Bright Penny newsletters.

Ship's Store on the New Web Site

The ship's store on the new USS Berkeley Web Site is a much needed improvement over the old site.

Now to make a purchase, you use your credit card or a PayPal account to make that purchase.

This improves the whole process because it eliminates the need to send me the selections of items you would like to purchase, and then me having to

USS BERKELEY ASSOCIATION

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Director: Al Meier

Asst. Director: Dale Johnson

Secretary: Pat Clark & Tammy Meier

Treasurer: Gerald Hansen

Membership Committee Chairman: Al Meier

Regional Chairmen:

Northeast: Duane LeDoux

Southeast: **Vacant**

North Central: Larry Norris

South Central: **Vacant**

Northwest: **Vacant**

Southwest: John "Todd" Frazier

Ship's Store Mgr: Gerald Hansen

Bright Penny Editor & Publisher: Al Meier

Webmaster: Jim Barrett

ACVA Representative: Vacant

Newsletter Distribution: to current (paid)

dues members e-mail in pdf form and to non-

e-mail members via U.S. Mail.



Al Meier

Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act

The House Veterans Affairs Committee approved the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act (H.R.299). This bill would clarify that servicemen serving off the coast of Vietnam during the Vietnam War have a presumption for filing disability claims with the VA for ailments associated with exposure to Agent Orange. The Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act has now been sent to the full House of Representatives for consideration. Members of FRA (Fleet Reserve Association) are urged to go online and use the FRA Action Center to ask their representative to support

this important bill.

As of July 13, 2018, the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee has scheduled a hearing on the House's version of the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act. We will continue to monitor the movement of this legislation through Congress, and report on its progress in future newsletters.

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send you an email with the total cost including shipping. You then have to mail me a check for the purchase, then my shipping the items when I receive your check.

Now when you select items and place them in the cart, the site will figure out the cost plus the shipping charges. Shipping costs are based on the weight of the items plus the zip code (or shipping zone) the purchase is being shipped to. All purchases are shipped by US Postal Service, and are shipped Priority mail. This method provides insurance and a tracking number.

Once an order is shipped, I will provide PayPal with a tracking number and indicate that the order was shipped. You will receive a notice from PayPal that the order was shipped, and they will provide you with the tracking number. I will send you an email to let you know the order was shipped, and when to expect arrival.

When placing an order, please make sure to properly fill out all information requested. Email address and phone number are important in case I need to contact you.

Orders are generally completed and shipped the same day I receive them. There may be times it might take a couple days, if this happens I will send you an email to let you know of the delay.

The web site automatically keeps track of the stock on hand. If an item is not in stock, it will let you know when you try to purchase it.

Please check out the new ship's store. New items will be added after the reunion in September. Reunion attendees will be given the first shot at the new items.

Gerald K. Hansen

FTM2 1967-72

Ship's Store Manager

**Berkeley History
July 2018**

50 Year Ago, 1968

- 01 - 04 Upkeep Long Beach
- 05 - 10 Enroute Pearl Harbor
- 11 - 12 Inport Pearl Harbor
- 13 - 27 Enroute WESTPAC
- 28 - 31 Inport Subic Bay

40 Years Ago, 1978

- 01 - 11 Inport San Diego
- 12 - 14 U/W SOCAL Ops
- 15 - 16 Inport San Diego
- 17 - 23 Inport San Diego (CSQAT)
- 24 - 28 U/W SOCAL (CSQAT and FORACS)
- 29 - 31 Inport San Diego

30 Years Ago, 1988

- 01 - 05 Inport San Diego
- 05 Underway - Dependent's Cruise
- 05 - 07 Inport San Diego
- 07 - 24 Underway WESTPAC 88
- 19 INCHOP - 7th Fleet
- 24 - 29 Inport Pusan, Republic of Korea
- 29 - 31 Underway - NGFS

20 Years Ago, 1998

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