

LEYTE NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE USS LEYTE (CV-32) ASSOCIATION

Aug 2014

PRESIDENTS LETTER

From 'A' Division bunk of Frank Hanna. Here we are in August and it is half over, before you know it September 8th will be here and registration will be over with. This reunion in Mobile, AL on the 8th of October will be our 28th and I am looking forward to it because it is my first reunion as your new President. I am excited that I will meet my former shipmates and greet new ones. As you know our membership is getting less and less as the years go by. It is important that we stick together as a team. I fully understand reasons for not coming to the reunions, health, expense and travel are the main reasons, as the numbers drop we will be forced not to have the reunions as you know them.

I am reaching out to all my shipmates and asking you to try and make this reunion which in doing so is your way of supporting us to remain strong. Those who can make it to the reunion will have the honor to see and hear Petty Officer 3rd class James Glison as the guest speaker tell his story of his heroic WWII actions off the island of Okinawa, Japan.

Finally, I would like to express the appreciation of the Association to those special shipmates and family members that have sent in donations to help sustain the Association to provide for the reunions and the Leyte News, thank you! thank you!

FROM THE EVENT COORDINATOR

I want to remind you to bring something from your state, city, home, ship, etc. that can be put up in the auction. Even something you made or a memento. It makes it more interesting if it is something special that can't be picked up at the local Dollar Tree or Walmart. Last year was great and very competitive. See your contribution gather the tickets. Surprise us all.

SEE YOU IN MOBILE IN THE FALL

CHAPLAINS CORNER

Aim for perfection, listen to my appeal, be of one mind, live in peace, and liberty with the Lord.

SECOND NOTICE TO AMMEND THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION OF THE USS LEYTE CV-32 ASSOCIATION

Second notice is hereby given of the intent to change the articles to reduce the number of Officers in the Association in accordance with current efficient business practice subject to approval of at least two thirds vote of the membership attending the scheduled meeting of the Association in Mobile, AL at 9 AM on October 11, 2014. Changes will delete "one or more" Vice Presidents, the "Assistant Secretary", and the "Financial Secretary" whose duties will be assumed by the Treasurer.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN ON 2014 AND 2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President: Frank Hanna 772-475-6977
- Pres Elect: Charles H. Hill 209-754-1022
- Vice-Pres: John E. Mitchell 480-239-9555
- Secretary: William D. Carr 586-264-2048
- Treasurer: Angelo R. Masi 239-348-0085
- Fin. Secty: Vacant
- Asst. Secty: Vacant
- Chaplain: Frank Koeller, Jr. 423-390-1476
- CMAA: Le Grande Van Wagenen 732-727-5993
- Founding President: C. Farnsworth 518-346-5240
- First Past Pres: John E. Mitchell 480-239-9555
- Air Group: W. Carl Jeckel 860-536-6006
- Audit: Frank Koeller, Jr. 423-390-1476
- Historian: Vacant
- Hospitality: As Assigned
- Newsletter: Kenneth McLaurin 757-497-7188
- Nominating: John E. Mitchell 480-946-9555
- Publicity: Le Grande Van Wagenen 732-727-5993
- Registration: James L. Nelligan 207-947-0844
- Ship's Store: Charles H. Hill 209-754-1022
- Webmaster: Steven Perry 302-827-3779

MAIL CALL

It is hoped that you have caught up with the new address to send the dues as well as the registration. Angelo Masi our Treasurer has the honor of taking care of this business in addition to his regular duties.

There are still a number of members that move and not notify the Leyte News of their new address. NLs are returned along with those that are 'temporarily away' for one reason or another. Those that are missing their newsletter while they are away let the Editor know so that it can be sent out. For example you may have missed all the reunion information that comes out with the May newsletter.

Niel Cocker sent in thanks for roster and said that he needed a partner to drive with from Huntsville, AL and is looking forward to being with shipmates at the reunion.

'Young' sent in notification of Philip's passing so that it can be added to the Taps list.

Elizabeth Stahlman sent in notice of the passing of Harold who served in Leyte during the Korean War.

She wanted many of his shipmates to remember him.

Jeffery Gabbert notified us of the passing of his Dad and said that he grew up hearing his stories of working in Leyte. Described being the 'Hot Suit' on the flight deck and helping pilots who crashed. I guess that is why I got into firefighting and emergency medicine. He was my hero and will be forever.

Theresa Freudeman sent in to remember Paul that was a plank owner and retired HTC. Said the last time he went away from home other than the VA was to Leyte reunion in Nashville. (ed. Reunions are important to our shipmates)

Barbara Collier notified us of the passing of Gordon just two hours before the government shutdown in 2013. She couldn't get a death certificate issued which meant that he couldn't be cremated. Got one four weeks later which meant that other things were affected also. Gordon loved his years in service with his fellow Naval aviators and their crew mates. He had wanted to join us at last year's reunion. Thank you for seeing that the Association continues.

Rowena (Hebert) Pontiff writes that she is still trying to stay-in-touch with the Leyte Reunion Group even though she has not attended any reunions since shipmate Carroll Hebert passed in 2009. She has enjoyed the newsletter all along. She still lives in the same place and last year remarried a Korean War vet and American Legion Post Commander. Carroll had worked for his brother for 36 years. Still stays in contact with Leyte friends from many years ago. Carroll and she always enjoyed the camaraderie and activities and were always glad to connect with many of his navy friends from the 1948 – 1952 time he served in the Navy. Another happy occasion for them was seeing their grandson graduate from the Naval Academy in 2005.

Bill Ford sent along some Pictorial History brochures for those that may not have received one at prior reunions. They are really neat.

Van said that he was in contact with John Woods and that he is back in Maryland and doing well. He will try and make the reunion next year in Myrtle Beach, SC. He also sent in the names, etc. of the new members he has rounded up.

Richard Hand 1/14
Kenneth A Herbert
Bartholomew McMahon 6/14
Frank J Neil 8/14
Fred B Redmann 6/14
Allen L Satterfield 4/14
Ronald w Sheaffer 8/14
Harold R Stahlman 1/14
William Yankey
Philip M Young 1/13

REUNION HOTEL

Holiday Inn Mobile West, 5465 Hwy 90W, Mobile, AL 36619 located at I-10 exit 15B, just east on US-90, then just south on Coca Cola road. Facilities include 5th Avenue Restaurant and Lounge; outdoor pool; exercise room; in-room microwave and fridge; Wireless; coin laundry; and complementary airport transportation. Your room rate includes hot breakfast. For those driving from the north east you will be coming down I-65 from Montgomery as will those coming there on I-85. From the Florida area come over on I-10. From the west like on I-20 shift over at Meridian, MS to US-45. For airlines depending on your origination and transfer point: Delta, US Air, and American are three of the largest. Don't forget free transport from the airport to hotel.

Welcome to the Mobile Area

Make the most of your time mixing with your shipmates at the Holiday Inn Mobile West hotel. A hospitality room will be open and we are allowed to bring in our own beverages and snacks. There will also be various Leyte items for sale and a Memorabilia display.

Mobile was founded in 1702 and was named after the Mauvilla Indians who had a settlement on the site. Alabama's only seaport is on the west side of the Mobile River near the mouth of Mobile Bay. The city's river channel can accommodate oceangoing vessels. The discovery of large natural gas deposits has brought drilling rigs to the Bay. Moderate climate allows for year-round golfing at a number of championship courses with scenic views. Fort Conde served as an administrative and military center of the Louisiana Territory and was occupied at times by French, English and Spanish troops. As the official welcome center for the city of Mobile. Maps and brochures for self-guided and driving tours are available there. Located throughout the city are a number of museums, mansions, historical sites and gardens. Of interest may be the Carnival Museum of Mobiles Mardi Gras celebration and Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception built in

TAPS

Gordon T Collier 9/13
Corwin Gabbert 8/14
Brian Hahn 7/14

1835-50 shamrocks and fleurs-de-lis emblems adorn the vaulted ceiling.

Of course we have arranged for tour and events at the USS Alabama Battleship Memorial Park including lunch and our memorial service an event you don't want to forget. Also on the schedule in addition to our Membership meeting is the Mobile Own Ghost Stories tour and the Ladies special tour of the Eastern Shore of Mobile Bay.

is located on the Naval Air Station Pensacola where positive picture ID is required for entry. It is located @ 76 miles east on I-10 and @ one hour and 25 minutes drive from the hotel. It traces the development of American Naval aviation from its beginnings to the present through exhibits and more than 150 restored historic aircraft representing Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard aviation.

FRIENDS AND SHIPMATES AWAIT YOU!

ADVENTURESOME

For those arriving early with their own transportation the national Naval Aviation Museum

***** USS LEYTE (CV-32) ASSOCIATION RENEWAL/APPLICATION *****

I Mbr#____ apply to renew () **or** for membership () in the USS LEYTE (CV-32) Association and forward in consideration a gift of \$ 15.00. **or** Life membership () 59 years or less = \$150; 60-69= \$100; 70 up = \$50.

Name: _____ () Wife's Name: _____ ** 2013 DUES**

Info Change() first/mi/last nickname

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ + _____

Phone: Home () _____ - _____ e-mail Address _____

Crewmember: From ____ - ____ to ____ - ____ Division(s): _____ Rank/Rate: _____
mo yr mo yr

Mil. Retired? No ___ Yes ___ If yes, Rank/Rate _____ USN/US _____ [Mbr# _____ Paid \$ _____]

Return Form to: **Angelo R. Masi, 127 Glen Eagle Cir., Naples, FL 34104**

Please make checks payable to USS LEYTE CV-32 ASSOCIATION

***** A Non-Profit Organization of former crew members *****