

# LEYTE NEWS

Newsletter of the USS LEYTE (CV-32) Association

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

May 2012

A mile stone was reached with our Nashville reunion, it being the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the association. These 25 years have been for me and many of the members, a rich experience. I think it was beyond our wildest dreams that 25 years later we would be still going strong. Over these years many of us formed friendships and were reconnected with shipmates we served with in the LEYTE. Not only have we enjoyed new friendships, but many of our wife's companions, and families had the same opportunity to meet shipmates and also bond with them. Past reunions were held in various cities around the country some with tours aboard ships both active and decommissioned. In San Diego, CA we toured the Kitty Hawk, in Jacksonville, FL it was the Kennedy. We were on board Essex class carriers in Charleston, SC the Yorktown CV-10, and in Corpus Christi, TX the Lexington CV-16 that were the same class as LEYTE. Those tours took us back to a different time in our lives and fond memories.

I would be remiss if I didn't THANK not only the members who attended the reunions over the years, but those members who have stepped forward and served in many official areas, Officers, Committee's, hospitality, Small stores, Memorabilia, etc. Thank you all.

Now for this reunion we have included the hotel reservation information and the LEYTE Registration form and tour information. I urge you to make your hotel reservation as soon as possible and to fill out all the information on the LEYTE Registration form and get it back to Bill McQueary so that we can finalize arrangements. As you can see, the reunion will be held at the Valley Forge Embassy Suites located just 10 minutes from Valley Forge National Park. The hotel features 2 room suites, the bedroom includes a king size bed, the sitting room has a sleeper couch. There are a limited number of rooms that have 2 beds in the bedroom (10) so reserve early if this fits your needs and the hotel will try to accommodate, on available basis. There is a full complimentary breakfast and a Managers reception (Happy Hour) in the late afternoon. A special web site has been set up to

make it easier to register or call the hotel to register and be sure to mention "USS LEYTE CV-32 ASSOCIATION REUNION". For extended stay and additional questions see the hotel information in the Registration package for details.

For those members flying in or arriving by train there is **NO** hotel courtesy transport. You will have to inquire about transport to Valley Forge (Super Shuttle) if planning an extended stay a rental car may be the least expensive. There will be details on driving located elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Other than scheduled tours, eastern PA has a lot to offer, those interested in Civil War history, Gettysburg national Park is about 40 miles west of Valley Forge. For those who wish to visit a Navy ship, the battleship New Jersey is open 7 days a week, and located across the Delaware River at Camden, NJ. You must be able to climb up and down the ladders and there's a fair amount of walking. For those who like to shop I suggest Peddler's market located about an hour's drive north of Philadelphia in Bucks County.

I look forward to seeing you at the Philadelphia/Valley Forge reunion. I wish everyone good health and 'May the Wind Always be at Your Back'. Jack Mitchell

## THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Frank Koeller, Jr.

Just about everything you want has a manual of care instructions. Do you also have a manual of care instructions for your most valued asset – your soul?

It is obvious that if you don't care for your appliances, they will end up in the trash. Don't let your soul end up in Hell. Follow the instructions of the Bible, your manual for care. If you have any questions feel free to call me to talk about a care plan for you, 610-282-1777.

As we prepare for the reunion: "May the Lord fill our sails with fair wind, Support our hulls in inviting seas, Guide our hands upon the tiller toward pleasant places, And then bring us home, O Lord to a safe and loving harbor."

**OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN ON 2012  
AND 2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- President: John E. Mitchell 480-239-9555
- Pres-Elect: Clarkson Farnsworth 518-346-5240
- Vice-Pres: Charles h. Hill 209-754-1022
- Secretary: William D. Carr 586-264-2048
- Treasurer: Angelo R. Masi 239-348-0085
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- Publicity: Le Grande Van Wagenen 732-727-5993
- Registration: John Woods 847-695-6988
- Ship's Store: William A. Crawford 894-737-4673
- Webmaster: Steven Perry 404-324-0852

Please note the members filling the duplicate offices. It is known that we have always been told to "not volunteer" for anything but you are needed to step forward NOW. Contact our President soonest and don't be bashful about your qualifications.

**AIR GROUP**

By Carl Jeckel

Hi to all! The Nashville reunion was super! I met more shipmates than I had at any other reunion. I could have met many more if more of you had attended. Would you believe, Ken, our Editor, sent out six hundred and forty newsletters to our paid up and active members? I found it difficult to believe that of that group only fifty members attended the reunion. What is the problem? Are we getting to old? Are we all in poor health? Is it too costly to attend? Is it too far to travel? This is your Association and a small dedicated group do their very best to provide you with a superb program each year. You would show your appreciation of their efforts by attending. At eighty one I am blessed with reasonable good health. I have to plan ahead to attend these functions and so I budget the expense to attend. As Air Group Liaison, I have an implied obligation to show up. I have been the only member out of the 5 squadrons in CAG-3 who attended the two previous reunions. This year I was joined by another VF-33 squadron member. The Earl of Chesterfield once said "WHAT EVER IS WORTH DOING, IS WORTH DOING WELL". I hope you all feel that belonging to this Association is worth your time and effort. At the reunion you

have the opportunity to meet new shipmates and many of you are acquainted with other crew members and officers of the USS LEYTE. Pilots of CAG-3 and other squadrons now have the opportunity to gather with your crews whom have always had great respect and admiration for each of you. You have a treasure trove of experiences that you could share with us. It would be great for you to eat, drink, and share your experiences with members of this great Association. You might even make new friends. Your reunion committee works hard to provide shipmates with an enjoyable experience at a different city each year. Make a commitment to attend in 2012. In 1500 BC, Jobe said the following "HOW FORCIBLE ARE THE RIGHT WORDS". I hope I have written a few of them.

**EMAIL TO VAN WAGENEN**

I am the granddaughter of Paul Freudeman. I believe that he saved every bit of energy he had to go from bedridden and on hospice to the Nashville reunion. It was truly amazing the strength and attitude he put into being there. After the reunion, he was ready to relax and let time take its course. Thank you for all that you did for him that night. He wanted everyone to see his plank, his photo of the LEYTE, and what we called his wall of fame. We put several of his certificates and pictures on a wall in front of him. Both Poppa and Gram cherished the fact that you came up to our room after the reunion to talk. You may not realize what a great thing that was to them. Please let the group know this year how much the reunion meant to Poppa (and us!). It was moving and I'll not forget it. Thanks for all you did. Lisa Ware (Ed. Paul passed on 12 May 2012 to his final tour of duty)

**MAIL CALL**

The following from Jacob [k74n8@netscape.net](mailto:k74n8@netscape.net). Received the July 2011 issue of the Newsletter, and it was missing the Postage Stamp. Assume it had not been cancelled or was some special stamp. I did not have to pay postage due. I am sure this goes on all the time in our good Postal System. I was on the 32 when she was a CVS back in the 50s.

From the network, Clarkson B. Farnsworth – 90 years old. On Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup> 2012, U.S. Navy Chief Petty Officer (retired but not inactive) birthday was celebrated at the Schenectady Yacht Club where he has been active for many years. He has also been the Leyte Association President twice and is the current President Elect. He joined the Navy following the attack on Pearl Harbor and was

assigned to NAS Norfolk following boot camp in order to use his metal working skills at an aircraft assembly and rework facility. Following his active service in LEYTE Clarkson married Edith Taylor a former first class Storekeeper from NAS days. He was instrumental in formation of the LEYTE Association in 1987. In 1999 he started his volunteer work to help restore USS Slater (DE-766) and where he continues today. We join the many in saying congratulations to Clarkson for his many years of volunteer service and especially to the LEYTE Association.

### **I WAS A SAILOR ONCE**

Author, Unknown, submitted by Katherine Kersten  
\*\* I liked the sounds of the Navy – the piercing trill of the boatswain’s pipe, the syncopated clangor of the ship’s bell on the quarterdeck, the harsh squawk of the IMC, and the strong language and laughter of sailors at work.

\*\* I liked sailors, officers and enlisted men from all parts of the land, farms of the Midwest, small towns of New England, from the cities, the mountains and the prairies, from all walks of life. I trusted and depended on them as they trusted and depended on me – for professional competence, for comradeship, for strength and courage. In a word they were “shipmates”; then and forever.

\*\* The work was hard and dangerous the going rough at times; the parting from loved ones painful, but the companionship of robust navy laughter, the “all for one and one for all” philosophy of the sea was ever present.

\*\* I liked the sudden electricity of “General Quarters, general quarters, all hands man your battle stations,” followed by the hurried clamor of running feet on ladders and the resounding thump of watertight doors as the ship transformed herself in a few brief seconds from a peaceful workplace to a weapon of war – ready for anything.

\*\* I liked the bugle call to flight quarters, the rush of colored shirts to stations and the pilots in their special suits and helmets running to man their planes. The swoosh and thud as catapults sent each aircraft on their way and the welcome trap after each successful flight.

\*\* I liked the traditions of the Navy and the men and women who made them. I liked the proud names of Navy heroes: Halsey, Nimitz, Perry, Farragut, John Paul Jones and Burke. A sailor could find much in the Navy: comrades in arms, pride in self and country, mastery of the seaman’s trade. An adolescent could find adulthood.

\*\* In years to come, when sailors are home from the sea they will still remember with fondness and respect the ocean in all its moods – the impossible shimmering mirror calm sea and the storm-tossed green water surging over the bow. And then there will come again a faint whiff of stack gas, a faint echo of engine and rudder orders, a vision of the bright bunting of signal flags snapping at the yardarm, a refrain of hearty laughter in the wardroom and chief’s quarters and mess decks.

\*\* Gone ashore for good they will grow wistful about their navy days, when the seas belonged to them and a new port of call was ever over the horizon.

\*\* Remembering this, they will stand taller and say **“I was a sailor once and I would do it again”**

You may reach the Editor to make comments or submit articles at [kmclaurin3@cox.net](mailto:kmclaurin3@cox.net) or 757-497-7188. Your articles are always welcome. Please bear with me for the tardiness of this Newsletter as we are changing back to our own reunion planning and that took a little more time than expected. Please read the enclosure regarding the reunion as it contains all the information you will need to reserve your hotel room and make reservations for the various events the reunion staff has planned. We have some travel information at the end of this Newsletter. See YOU in Valley Forge.

### **GETTING TO THE HOTEL**

Arriving by Air: There is a Super Shuttle by the name of ‘Tropiano’ 215-616-5370 that can be contacted for reservations, approximately \$29.00 per person or if using rental car there is all the major car companies. Suggest if you can coordinate with other shipmates arriving at the same time.

If you are driving: Please refer to Map!

(a) You will want to get on I-76 West and go to exit 328A, Valley Forge/West Chester/US-202 South for approximately 3 miles to Chesterbrook Blvd. exit. At the top of the exit ramp make a right, the hotel entrance is on the right.

To get to Interstate 76 from:

(b) Delaware and Southern Points: Take I-95 North to I-476 North. Go approximately 17 miles to exit 16B Valley Forge/I-76 West. Go to (a).

(c) Philadelphia and Airport: Take I-95 South (toward Delaware) approximately 4 miles to I-476 North and go approximately 17 miles to exit 16B Valley Forge/I-76 West. Go to (a).

(d) From Schulykill Expressway (route I-76) and center city Philadelphia: Take I-76 West to exit 328A. Go to (a).

(e) From Pennsylvania Turnpike: Take exit 326 Valley Forge/King of Prussia. After toll booth take exit 328A. Go to (a).

You will be arriving at Embassy Suites Valley Forge/Philadelphia 888 Chesterbrook Blvd, Wayne, PA. 19087, (610)647-6700.

## **TAPS**

Raymond Bock 10/11  
Donald E. Busser 5/10  
William J. Callahan 10/10  
Paul E. Freudeman 5/12  
Richard L Hall 4/12  
Robert J. Jirousek 12/11  
John R. Kincer 9/11  
Jeremy King 1/12  
James Lasher unk  
Raymond Lasher unk  
William K Lawson 12/11  
Donald M. Lynam 12/06  
Joseph Mistekevic 4/12  
Kenny Morris 11/75  
Ralph Olsen 9/11  
Julius H. Pahl unk  
Huyler C. Perry 5/12  
Harris N. Powell 9/86  
John W. Russell, Jr 3/12  
Daniel P. Scott 4/12  
Edwin A. Voynik 1/12  
Daye E. Wilkins 4/12  
Austin Williams 8/91  
Maney Zell unk

\*\*\*\*\* 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: \_\_\_\_\_ \*\* 2012 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: **William I. McQueary, 14519 WCR 16, Ft. Lupton, CO 80621**

**Please make checks payable to USS LEYTE CV-32 ASSOCIATION**

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