

# Now Hear This!!

The Unofficial Newsletter of the  
USS Richard S. Edwards (DD950)



USS Richard S. Edwards DD950 Association  
P.O. Box 287  
Basye, VA.  
22810

President: Robert "Tut" Tuttle  
Vice President: Tom Bernard  
Secretary: John (Jack) Turley  
Treasurer: Jim Kress  
"Now Hear This" Edited by Don Stine

## Introduction

This newsletter is provided to share the accomplishments of the crew and membership of the Richard S. Edwards DD950 Association.

Aside from the organized bi-annual reunions which are covered in the photo album section of this website, there are numerous "Mini-Reunions". These are usually occasions where a small number (as few as 2), shipmates get together. Sometime they are local, and sometimes they can cross great distances to reunite. Sometimes the wives accompany them and sometimes not.

Although the ship has been decommissioned and retired to Davy Jones Locker, her crew is still active within the Naval Community. They work on many projects with a number of purposes. They work hard to reunite shipmates who have been separated by time and distance. They work to help preserve not only the history of the Richard S. Edwards, but other ships and veterans organizations as well.

This newsletter is open for all of our shipmates. We welcome any appropriate news. If you have a story you would like to share regarding a mini-reunion, work group, visitors group, or other interesting anecdote's concerning a former shipmate or their family, please send it to us, either by email or regular mail..

Article	Page
Introduction	1
New Assoc. Members	2
New MousePad Added to Ships Gear!	2
Plaque Dedication in Washington DC.	2
USS Utah Memorialized	5

## New Association Members

Jack Turley and the rest of the Association folks have been working real hard to get folks to Join the Association. Becoming a member is absolutely free and when you do you become navigable to receive the Officialdom Ready Eddie Newsletter "The Ready Eddie Reader"

More importantly you are providing us with current information which can help you shipmates who want to contact you do so. Any information which you provide is kept confidential and will not be shared with anyone without your consent. If someone wishes to contact you we do not give them your contact information, unless of course you have given us consent to do so, we ask how they can be contacted and then pass that information

- BT2 Mike Bowman, 70-71
- BM1 Ralford Pierce, 70-72
- SN Donald Floyd, 67-68
- STG2 Howard S. Ito, 73-77
- YN3 James Quick, 71-73
- MM2 Leroy Harland, 62-66
- OS1 Norman Hungerford, 79-82

onto you if they so desire. That way all personal information is kept confidential.

### **New Mouse Pad is Added To the Ready Eddie Gear Inventory!**



After much hard work by Jim Kress, and discussion with his vendor, the ships store has added a new item to its listing. It is a mouse pad with a photo of the Ready Eddie on a background of the flag of the United States.

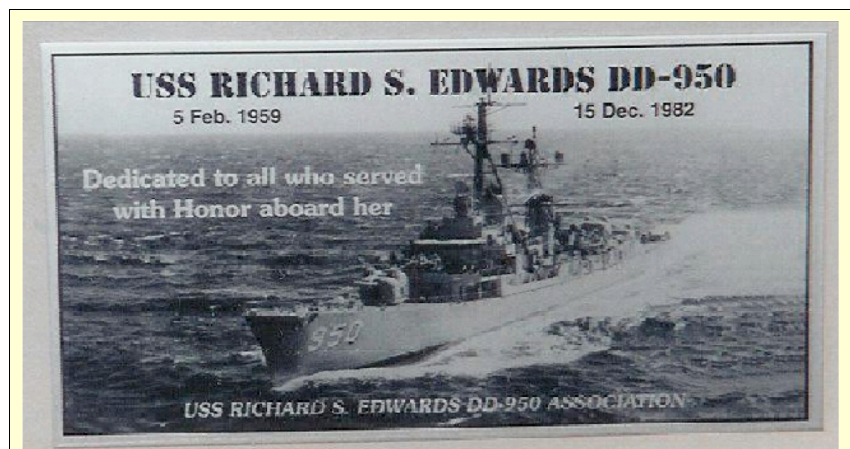
You won't find this item in any store, or even as an As Seen on TV item. There were only 250 ordered and we don't know how fast they will sell, so if you want one, get your order in soon!

The mouse pads will officially debut at the 2006 reunion this August, and will be on sale in the ships store after that.

### **Ready Eddie Plaque Adorns US Naval Museum in Washington DC**

During the ships last reunion in Washington, D.C., the Edwards Association had a very impressive and lasting Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Navy Memorial on Friday, July 23, 2005. The Memorial's exhibits brought back long forgotten memories about our years aboard the USS Richard S. Edwards (DD0950) and the Navy Log got shipmates searching for some of our long lost shipmates. That day, after the ceremony, it was decided by all attendees that the Edwards Association would sponsor a Commemorative Plaque to be hung on the COMMEMORATIVE WALL of the Navy Memorial. At the reunion \$1,900 was raised towards the \$2,500. The \$600 remaining was pledged within 30 days of the reunion.

The plaque is a silvaloy plate, 7 X 3-3/4 inches and is engraved with a photo of the Richard S. Edwards and the inscription "Dedicated to all who served with Honor aboard her". The Association officers would like to thank all those who contributed to the plaque for our continuing effort to honor, preserve and celebrate the Richard S. Edwards enduring naval heritage.



**USS Richard S. Edwards (DD950) Plaque on the Navy Memorial Commemorative Wall.**

The USS Richard S. Edwards Plaque Dedication Ceremony was held Tuesday morning, April

26, 2005 at 11AM at the Navy Memorial on Pennsylvania Ave. in Washington, DC. RADM Richard A. Buchanan, President and CEO had a great message and spoke highly of the "Ready Eddie". CDR John Walker, Commanding Officer of the USS Richard S. Edwards from 1976-1978 was the keynote speaker for the ship and gave the history of the Edwards. Our Association President Bob Tuttle also made some comments. BTFA Cal De Knikker, Association Chaplin, gave the Invocation and Benediction and honored the deaths onboard of SN Louis Garcia and LTJG Burr Johnson. The

ceremony also included the playing of the National Anthem, a showing of the 17 minute film of, "The Sinking of the USS Richard S. Edwards" followed by TAPS as the bow of the ship went under. The group then proceeded to the COMMEMORATIVE WALL for the first official viewing of the plaque.

In addition to the above mentioned participants, the following shipmates/crew attended the ceremony:



**BTFA Cal De Knikker, Pat Turley and LT Jack Turley at the US Navy Memorial for the USS Richard S. Edwards Plaque Dedication Ceremony.**

Bud Orcutt - LTJG,

'76-'78, Marc Coleman - SN, '75-'78. Bill Newman - SN, '68-'69, Dick Pariseau - LTJG, '60-'62, Nick Koreisha - LT, '76-'78, Don & Connie Kruger - STG2, '66-'69, Bill Escott - RD3, '66-'67, Joel Leckron - OS2, '71-'74, Roy & Betty Hoffman - EM3, '62-'63, Pat Tracy - LTJG, '77-'78, John L. Jones - LTJG, '76-'79, Glen Porter - LTJG, '75-'78, Sherie Walker, wife of CDR John Walker, Jack & Pat Turley - LT, '69-'72.

LTJG Orcutt, LT Koreisha, LTJG Tracy, LTJG Jones and LTJG Porter were all members of CDR Walker's wardroom.

The images pictured here were taken by LTJG Jack Turley and by LTJG Pat Tracy.



**CDR Johnny Walker (CO., 1976-1978) addresses crowd gathered to dedicate Readdy Eddie Memorial Plaque at the United States Navy Memorial, 26, Apr. 05.**





**Close-up of plaque, while Tut and RADM Rich Buchanan (CEO, Navy Memorial Foundation) shake hands, 26, Apr. 05.**



**Tut and RADM Buchanan, just prior to unveiling, 26, Apr. 05.**



**USS Richard S. Edwards 1975-1978 wardroom a the US Navy Memorial Plaque Dedication Ceremony - Commanding Officer, CDR John Walker, LTJG Bud Orcutt, LTJG Pat Tracy, LTJG John Jones, LTJG Glenn Porter, LT Nick Koriesha.**



## USS Utah Is Memorialized In Woodland California

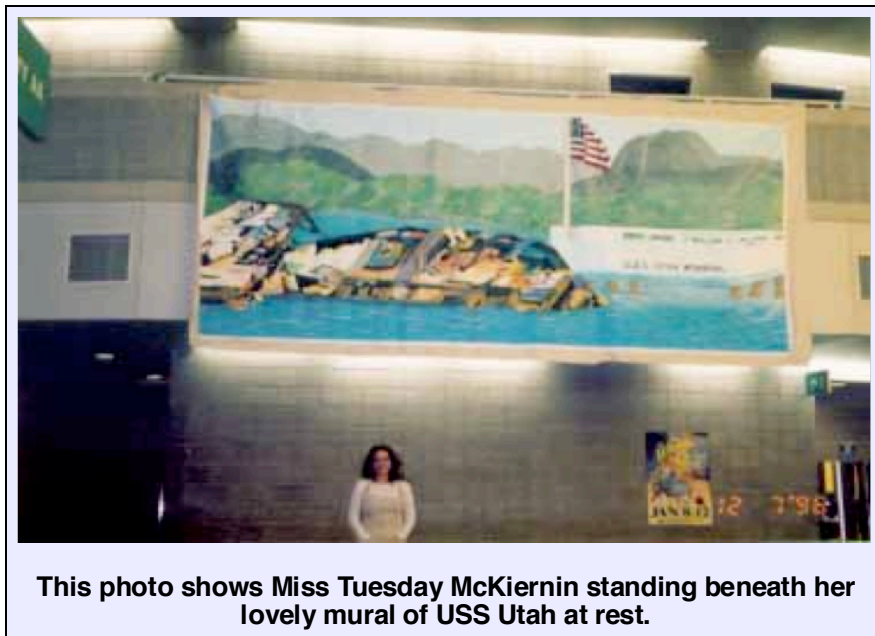
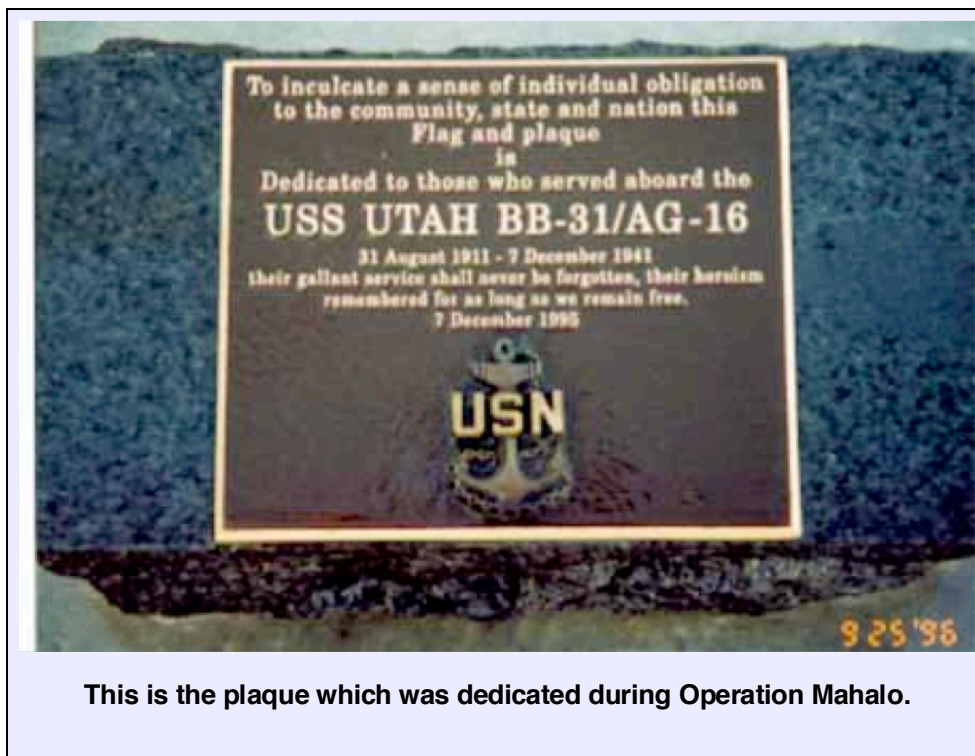
On December 7th, 1995, a very special ceremony was held in the city of Woodland, California to honor crew members of the USS Utah, both living and deceased.

The name of the program was "Operation Mahalo".

The project was the brainchild of Navy Veteran and American Legionnaire - Mr. Cal De Knikker. Cal, assisted by his lovely wife Christine, who added to the occasion by singing "*Amazing Grace*" and "*The Star Spangled Banner*."

The De Knickers live on Utah Avenue in Woodland, California.

There was a great turnout at the event, which included former crew members of the USS Utah, Naval Officers, and some of our elected officials. The 10' X 12' plaque, chiseled on a 10.5' X 21' black granite headstone now adorns the De Knickers front yard.



For those of us with access to the internet, there is an Operation Mahalo website. Just go to "[http://www.ussutah.org/operation\\_mahalo.htm](http://www.ussutah.org/operation_mahalo.htm)"

Also, the event has been entered into the "Registry of California Veterans Memorials". Go to - "<http://www.cdva.ca.gov/registry/MemorialDetail.asp?Item=393>" To view this site.

And finally, Cal has a website where where you can view a relic from the USS Utah. To get more information and view more

photos. Go to "[http://www.christianjames.com/USS UTAH.htm](http://www.christianjames.com/USS_UTAH.htm)"

