

I DON'T SEE THE 1961-1962 WESTPAC CRUISE BOOK. KEN RM-2 APRIL 1960-OCT 1962 does anyone have a copy for our website?

As of 7/08/14 active members stand 641. Added one new member, please welcome Jerry Vann (58-60; B t 2)

We have 13 on your memorial page. Added to Memorial page William Buschmann, James R Miller (Doc), William Stubblefield, Mike Ingram. See notes below

## From The President's Desk

I am glad to report that room reservations can now be made for the 2016 reunion in Branson, to be held Wednesday, June 8, 2016 to Sunday, June 12, 2016. Wednesday will be check in day and there will be no official activities unless something changes.

Room rates are as follows:

Room type-Run of the house (Standard) \$109.00 per night, plus any applicable tax.

-Leisure Suite, \$159.00 per night, plus any applicable tax.

This room rate will apply to three days before and three days after the reunion.

There are two ways to reserve your room. You may call 1-800-967-9033, 24 hours a day. Be sure to mention you are part of the 2016 USS Richard S. Edwards reunion.

Well, to start off with, I hope all of you in the northeast are staying warm and having younger folks shovel your snow. God knows you have been getting hit pretty hard. We in Wyoming have had a fairly mild winter so far. I hope it stays that way.

I checked out the hotel on-line room reservation site for the 2016 reunion in Branson, and to be honest I opted to call the hotel to make my room. The reason for this is the room rates as quoted on the site reflect the cost of the morning breakfast buffet. I had requested that when the hotel put together the on-line reservation form, they also include the room cost without the morning brunch, giving our group the option. Obviously that didn't happen. The cost of the morning brunch is \$10.00 per person and so their room rates are quoted \$20.00 more on the site based on double occupancy. The room rates I alluded to in the last newsletter included the cost of the breakfast buffet.

So if you do not want to have a buffet, please call the hotel reservation line and make your reservations by phone. The number to call is 1-800-967-9033. Be sure to mention you are with the USS Richard S. Edwards reunion set for June, 2016. If you still wish to use the hotel on-line reservation form, go to [www.radisson.com/ussrse](http://www.radisson.com/ussrse). Just remember the room cost as shown includes the breakfast buffet for each day of your stay.

From what I hear, the breakfast buffet is excellent. The head chef is a former Marine stew-burner and he is going to prepare something special for us on one of the days we are there. I could divulge what it will be, but you'll just have to come to the reunion to fine out.

In the last newsletter, there was a piece about Admiral Chester Nimitz. He was born in Fredericksburg, Texas. Just to let you know there is a museum in Fredericksburg that is dedicated to the Admiral and the war. So if you happen to be traveling in that area, give the museum look. They are quite proud of their Admiral. They are also quite proud of their peach ice cream, so give that a shot too.

We are trying to find a business in our area that we can work with and get the pictures from the 2014 reunion put on a DVD. Living out here in the sticks makes it a bit difficult. We will need to work with that business person and determine what pictures to include. All the pictures we have, are there are many, are on a thumb drive, so once a business has been identified, we'll get hot on it. Once we get a DVD put together, we'll make a limited amount of the DVD available through the ship's store.

Smooth sailing to you all.

JJ

## From your Reunion Coordinator

- > Things have been slow this last month, but a trip to Branson is planned for February. We have secured two venues, and are talking to a third. We also have secured transportation to one venue and are working on the others.
- > We want you to have time to do things individually or with your family. We will be glad to help you with these selections, and the hotel staff will also help you.
- > As stated before, the website would be ready in January 2015, and I understand it is available now and reservations can be made at: <http://www.radisson.com/ussrse>
- >
- > Rusty Howell, Jack Sanders, Jim Kress, Ken Lollman
- >

# Web Site change

We want your thoughts on this as were you would like to see these items and what you would like to see worked on first, This is your web site and we do not want to hear later that maybe this should have gone here, why was this added, or why was still done at all? See comments in red for status and or question, bull

- **Awards Page** - has not been started yet. Based on an email thread from 2013, you were going to send materials for me to use. However, the only items I received were a USB drive with Newsletters, and a few printed newsletters. I acknowledged that I did not receive any awards content, but did not follow up with you on it, and thus was quickly forgotten
- **2012 Reunion Group Photo** - scanned the photo into the computer, but have not created an image map to associate faces to names. Primarily a lack of free time. However, a lack of reunion photos to post from members indirectly lowered the priority of the task.
- **Agent Orange exposure** - not added to Ship Info. As far as I know, I am still waiting for the content to post onto the website. **Info found, were to put it so that members can find it?**
- **List of Commanding Officers** - Last I knew, you were still compiling data for this list. I have not heard anything about it, or where to post it on the website. **Bob has the list in one of the newsletters, need help with the finding their pictures**
- **Admiral Edwards** - I have attached a photo and bio to this email. Is this the content you want posted on the website? **yes, where do you want it placed?**
- **Bon Hon Refueling** - I have attached a photo of the Bon Hon Refueling in 1959. **Where would you like the photo posted?**
- **Turley & Capt. Deal** - I have attached a photo of Jack Turley that was submitted. Where would you like the photo, **Please hold on to it until we decide about commanding officers list and then add it next to his bull name**

**CHINFO\_DD950** - I have attached a PDF document that details the sinking of the ship. **Do you want this posted on the Ship Info page yes,**

**Secretary Desk**

I am asking for any leads of shipmate that you are in contact, who are not members of the Edwards' Association. If you moved or changed phone number please take a few minutes and email me at [bullcs3@hotmail.com](mailto:bullcs3@hotmail.com) .

Sent out 26 letters either for new members or update of information received 3 email back. 1) death notice and 2) email address correction.

## Treasures Report

> April 1, 2015 - April 30, 2015  
>  
> Beginning Balance \$ 6,572.44  
> Income 6.00  
> Expenses 0.00  
> Ending Balance \$ 6,578.44

Jim Kress

## Ship's Store

Todd' knee replacement is going good.

### Memories

*Van T. Barfoot died*

*Remember the guy who wouldn't take*

*the flag pole down on his Virginia*

*property a while back?*

*You might remember the news story several*

months ago about a crotchety old man in Virginia who defied his local Homeowners Association, and refused to take down the flag pole on his property along with the large American flag he flew on it.

Now we learn who that old man was.

On June 15, 1919, Van T. Barfoot was born in Edinburg , Texas . That probably didn't make news back then.

But twenty-five years later, on May 23, 1944, near **Carano** , Italy , that same Van T. Barfoot, who had in 1940 enlisted in the U.S. Army, set out alone to flank German machine gun positions from which gunfire was raining down on his fellow soldiers.

His advance took him through a minefield but having done so, he proceeded to single-handedly take out three enemy machine gun positions, returning with 17 prisoners of war.

## Notes from Last Month Newsletter

Bob, it is with regret that I must inform you that Bill passed away January 4, 2014.

I received your membership form in the mail as I had his mail forwarded to my house.

Bill was not a healthy person and passed away peacefully in his sleep.

I am Bill's ex-wife and remained his friend after our divorce.

Bill was cremated and our daughter and I took him to Wisconsin where most of his family resided and he had a Catholic funeral. I then brought him back to Battle Creek where he was laid to rest with our son. He had a full military service.

I just wanted to let you know.

Kind regards,

LuAnn Buschmann

Is there any way to save the USS Barry? Only 3 Vietnam era destroyers left. Just another way to erase the Vietnam war. If it is hard to keep in water, take it out, put it in a building. Have the Smithsonian put it in a building.

I am Jim's wife and I wanted to let you know that Jim passed away on 12/8/14 - heart failure. He really enjoyed getting the newsletters but he wasn't much of a computer user so never replied to much.

Thanks for everything.

Diana Miller

LTJG William Stubblefield (1971-1974) passed away Monday evening, April 27<sup>th</sup>. Bill had been battling pulmonary fibrosis cancer since September 2014. Reported by 2 members, Thanks you guys for the info, Bill's name has been added to the memorial page

Added Mike Ingrams name to the memorial page was contacted by TogetherWeServe of his passing.

