

If you are talking to a nonmember of this association please ask him to consider joining you as a member. Next Reunion will be held at Norfolk 2018, time and hotel to be determine. For those missing medals on their dd 214 see below for an address to request them to added

As of this date we have.

Active member with email 710

Active member no email 39

Decease 156

Non Members (found by other media) 124 ( not in our data base)

Please welcome Paul Whittington (hn,76-77)

Added Jim Wark to the memorial page, please read below found on Facebook. Added William Ealey to the memorial page, please read below. Added Jim Fenson to the memorial page, please read below.

## From The President's Desk

The 2016 reunion in Branson is over. We had a great time and saw some pretty good shows. The banquet had plenty of great food. I would be remiss if I didn't thank once again, the reunion committee for providing two bottles of wine at each table at their expense. Coordinating a reunion takes time and dedication. Sometimes things change day to day, so one needs to stay on top of things and believe me there were a few last minute changes which meant the coordinators had to scrambled to make sure everything went smoothly.

We saw some new faces at the reunion. That was very gratifying. As I said during the business meeting we need to see new faces. We do have a new face on the executive board, that person being Mike Robertson who was elected to the vice president position which is a four year term. Bob Sheard was re-elected to the secretary position and has guaranteed us at least two more years of his four year term. Thanks to both Mike and Bob for serving on the board. It's like aboard ship. When it was time to get off the ship whether it be for a new ship or your enlistment was up, there was always someone else coming aboard to take your place. That is what this association needs in order to continue on after we old salts decide it's time to leave the work to a younger shipmate.

Another point of business was a venue for the 2018 reunion. The reunion is set for Norfolk, Va. Somewhere around the middle of June, 2018. Jim Kress will be working with Sarah Hord from Ozarks Travel which is based in Branson. Together they will put together our hotel and tours. Jim has said he wants to get everything together by the end of this year. As soon as everything is in place, we'll get the information out to you all. Jim will also be providing ongoing information about what has been done in regards to the reunion.

The executive board and the ships store operator want to thank all who made purchases at the reunion. The ships store brought in almost \$1200.00. Todd Fowler is ordering more merchandise including post-ram hats, shirts etc. So check out the ships store on our website. If you don't know, Todd loads up his pickup with the merchandise and drives to each reunion so that we can buy whatever strikes us. He also brings those artifacts you see on a display table. Great job Todd. Thank you.

I was asked to provide a list of attendees at this past reunion. I am only providing the names of those attendees as e-mails addresses are password protected and available in our website.

RON ABLE  
ANN ABLE

TOM BERNARD  
SUSAN BERNARD  
KATHERYN BERNARD

ERINE CARTER  
SYLVIA BLACKMON

GLENDON CHESTER  
BARBARA CHESTER  
ROBERT EASTMAN

JENNA EASTMAN  
FRANK BROSTIN  
GAYLA BROSTIN  
RYAN BROSTIN

DAVE CRAWFORD  
CAROL CRAWFORD  
SKYE CRAWFORD

JOHN CRAWFORD  
CHRISTINA CRAWFORD

TERRY CUTHBERTSON

ALAN DAVIDSON

KEN LOLLMAN  
KAREL LOLLMAN  
MICHELLE CHANCE  
DARRIN CHANCE  
MIKE LOLLMAN  
PAGE LOLLAMAN  
MATT LOLLMAN  
TONY LOLLMAN  
WILLIAM LOLLMAN  
HANNA LOLLMAN

MAUREEN MCKENNA

TONY MOTSCO  
JOAN MOTSCO

JEFF MESSINGER  
DEBORAH MESSINGER

HEINZ PARK  
MOLLIE PARK

WORTHY PAUL  
SHARON PAUL

GEORGE PAVLOVICH

SHARILYN DAVIDSON

CARL DEGE  
PAT DEGE

KEN DONITHAN  
KAREN DONITHAN

TOM FADLEY  
CHARLOTTE FADELY  
LARRY SNEAD  
RUTH SNEAD  
DENNIS WICK  
DEBBY WICK

JOHN FASCE  
TINA FASCE

TODD FOWLER

DEWAYNE GARDNER  
ELENORE WITHERSPOON

BERRY GENE HART  
THELMA HART  
TRICIA MEALOR  
KATIE MEALOR

BERT HEYMAN  
JENNY HEYMAN

EPHRAIM HOLMES  
ANN HOLMES

JERRY HORTON  
MAUREEN HORTON

RUSTY HOWELL

DEAN JUSTICE  
SUSAN MCKAULEY

KERMIT KING  
JODY KING

JIM PLANK  
SHERI PLANK

DALE PRESCOTT  
BETTY PRESCOTT

MIKE ROBERTSON  
LYDIA ROBERTSON

MIKE ROBINSON  
DEBBIE ROBINSON  
MOLLY ROBINSON  
KATE ROBINSON

JACK SANDERS  
PATSY SANDERS  
CYNTHIA SANDERS

BOB SHEARD  
LES SHEARD

MIKE SHULTS  
CINDY SHULTS

DON SIEMS  
CATHY SIEMS

BEN SMITH  
BOBBIJOE SMITH

BILL TRACY  
AMY HANDLEY

MIKE TREADWELL

JERRY VANN  
ALICE VANN

MIKE WAITE  
PAM WAITE

DAVE WILLIAMS  
UNKNOWN GUEST

ROGER WILSON

MARTIN KOMAREK  
TERI KOMAREK

JIM KRESS

DON KRUGER  
CONNIE KRUGER  
BILL LAMBRECHT  
DEB LAMBRECHT

During get togethers in the hospitality room we exchanged sea stories. Believe me when I say a person could write a book, a hilarious book, about what went on aboard ship. There were lots of goodies to nibble on, plus an extra beverage from anonymous sources which was also present at the banquet.

All in all, it was a great reunion. Our reunions seem to get better and better. Jim Kress is striving to make the 2018 reunion in Norfolk the best ever. We hope to see more new faces in Norfolk as well as those who appear at every reunion.

A final thanks go out to the reunion coordinators, Rusty Howell, Ken Lollman, Jack Sanders, Jim Kress and those who wish to remain anonymous. Well done!

Joe

## **From your Reunion Coordinator**

I have already started planning the 2018 Reunion in Norfolk, Va. The dates for the reunion are June 20, 2018 to June 24, 2018. Sarah and I have been checking on Hotels so we will have a base to plan tours from then. There are so many things to do and sites to see that I was thinking of scheduling some tours and activities to start on Monday the 18th and Tuesday the 19th of June for early arrivals, with the kickoff for the reunion to be on Wednesday evening the 20th of June. So if you want to see more sites than three days will allow please come early. Of course if you wait until Wednesday to arrive you will not be disappointed.

Once we decide on a Hotel I will update everyone on the tours we are looking a

New coordinator will be Jim Kress for 2018 Norfolk

## **Web Site**

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.

**Sent Rob, last years email newsletters to be added to newsletter list.**

- **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

As you can see have 121 nonmembers by such media as face book, hull number, and so proud we serve navy websites. If you know someone on these sites or in contact with shipmates who are not members please ask them to join us. Sent out 8 letters this for correction to email address or new member contacts. Received 1 address/phone number correction this month

## Treasures Report

June 08, 2016 - July 13, 2016

Beginning Balance	\$ 20,268.86
Income	1,808.78
Expenses	11,974.21
Ending Balance	\$ 10,103.43

Jim Kress

## Ship's Store

Received an email today claiming to be our ship's store out of Texas, please do not be fooled by it. This is not our ship's store and has nothing to do with us or the Edwards. Please contact a board member if you need help in using our ship's store.

## Membership

If you are having trouble accessing the membership page on the Ship's home page @ [WWW.DD950.com](http://WWW.DD950.com) please contact me or a member of the executive board for help

## Missing shipmates

Donald B Vanbuskirk no email, address, or phone. Does anyone know or as heard from him?

## Notes from Last Month Newsletter

Michael Wark, 61, of Marietta, passed away after a short illness on Monday (Jan. 28, 2013) in Marietta Memorial Hospital. He was born on April 3, 1951, in Marietta, a son of William J. and C. Pauline Wood Wark.

Mike served in the U.S. Navy during the periods of Nov. 19, 1969 through Sept. 9, 1973 and was honorably discharged with the rank of BM-2 (E-5). He served two tours in Vietnam, one onboard the USS Endurance, a wooden hull mine sweeper and the 2nd tour was aboard the USS Richard S. Edwards, a destroyer. Awards included: National Defense Service Medal, RVN Service Medal, RVN Campaign Medal, Navy Combat Action Medal. Decorations included: Navy Achievement Medal with a Combat V, Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation Medal, RVN Gallantry Cross

Unit Citation, Service Recognition awarded during a firefight and sinking of a NVA Trawler while serving aboard the USS Endurance.

He was a lifetime member of the Elite 115th Riverine Warfare Brown Water Navy, lifetime member of the VFW #5108, Lifetime member of the Disabled American Veterans #WV32, lifetime member of the American Legion #64. He was a member of Faith Bible Church in Williamstown

Bull below is the address I have to request medals you have earned.

Navy Personnel Command  
Retired Record Section  
Pers 312B  
9700 Page Avenue  
St Louis, MO 63132-5000

Include a copy of your DD214, name of ship you were on, years you were on ship, and medals you think you are entitled to if you know them. If not request any medals you earned. Then plan on waiting a few years to hear from them.

Jim

> On May 31, 2016, at 11:41 AM, <crawford828@cox.net> <crawford828@cox.net> wrote:

>

> Spoke with Nancy Ealey this morning and she told me that Bill Ealey passed away unexpectedly from kidney failure on 5/18/2016. They lived in Florida. She requested they both be in our prayers. John Crawford

Joseph I learned through facebook that Jim Fensom died yesterday after fighting cancer. He was in the ship's office from 70-74 as a PNC, I worked with him 2 years as a YN along with YNC Vitelli. Just thought everyone who know or served with him would like to know, thanks, Jimmy Quick

It was well recognized that Martha Raye endured less comfort more than any other Vietnam entertainer.

I did not know this, I bet you didn't either. Don't let the sun go down without reading this about Martha Raye.

The most unforgivable oversight of TV is that her shows were not taped.

I was unaware of her credentials or where she is buried.

Somehow I just can't see Brittany Spears, Paris Hilton, or Jessica Simpson doing what this woman and the other USO women, including Ann Margaret & Joey Heatherton did for our troops in past wars.

Most of the old time entertainers were made of a lot sterner stuff than today's crop of activist bland whiners.

The following is from an Army Aviator who takes a trip down memory lane:

"It was just before Thanksgiving '67 and we were ferrying dead and wounded from a large GRF west of Pleiku.

We had run out of body bags by noon, so the Hook (CH-47 CHINOOK) was pretty rough in the back.

All of a sudden, we heard a 'take-charge' woman's voice in the rear.

There was the singer and actress, Martha Raye, with a Special Forces beret and jungle fatigues, with subdued markings, helping the wounded into the Chinook, and carrying the dead aboard. Maggie had been visiting her Special Forces (SF) 'heroes' out 'west'.

We took off, short of fuel, and headed to the USAF hospital pad at Pleiku.

All these dead and wounded to process, there would not be time for your show!"

To all of our surprise, she pulled on her right collar and said "Captain, see this eagle? I am a full 'Bird' in the US Army Reserve, and on this is a 'Caduceus' which means I am a Nurse, with a surgical specialty.... now, take me to your wounded!"

He said, "Yes ma'am.... follow me."

Several times at the Army Field Hospital in Pleiku, she would 'cover' a surgical shift, giving a nurse a well-deserved break.

Martha is the only woman buried in the SF (Special Forces) cemetery at Ft Bragg.

Hand Salute! A great lady.

I did not know this about Martha Raye...

I have been in touch with Cdr. Herman Sudholz and he would like to know who the ET1 was who was onboard in 1971 and 1972.

Can you get his name and email address? I will forward it to him.

Jim Kress

Mixed feelings on seeing the Edwards being sunk. Have a photo of it on my wall when it was in it's prime. I look at it every day and knew every inch of that ship. Seeing it being sunk would be a tough one but she was put to good use on the bottom of the ocean. Just my thoughts.

Thank,  
Steve Wooldridge  
E-5 OS – CIC

I e-mailed in an article on when the Edwards collided with the Bennington off the west coast August 1960-We came up to Seattle to the Seafair Celebration- 4 Tin Cans and 2 Subs-On our way back while refueling from the Bennington we lost steering on the bridge and it didn't transfer to after steering and our bow hit the carrier and damaged the whole port side \$3 million dollars- wiped out the after officers quarters and the gally-took 3 days at 8 knots to get to Long Beach for 3 month over haul- no one was hurt- Mike Treadwell EM2

I served aboard the Ready Eddie in 1964-1965 as Yeoman 3 Class. I left ship as YN2 in 1965. What medals and ribbons can I display. i was the Capt's. phone talker on the bridge during the Famous Tonkin Gulf incident. I saw all of the action. There have been many comments that are incorrect. Yes, we destroyed several of the enemy gun boats. Yes, they fired tracers at us. We destroyed 3 and damaged 1. I have not been able to attend the reunion due to kidney failure and kidney transplant. Please provide me the name and e-mail address of the person who operated the post office during my sea duty. I have been unable to locate any information about Shell Back awards to crew members. Any information will be appreciated.

Kelly Reed YN2 1964-1965 USS R.S. Edwards