

## USS New Jersey Veterans, INC “THE JERSEY BOUNCE”

Fall 2005 / Winter 2006



Philadelphia is a stereotype all on its own. You think of the Eagles, Shipyards of Days gone by, Rocky, The Declaration of Independence and the birth of our Nation. You also think of Cheesesteak, Italians and a melting pot of what was America in the early 1900's. During our



visit for our annual reunion, I think we saw and tasted it all. For those who took a tour of Philadelphia, or of Amish Country, each tour had a guide who was helpful and was willing to share the knowledge they had acquired about their city. Who knew that the actual day the Second Continental Congress agreed to the Declarations of Independence was July 2nd. It was only recorded into the history books as July 4th, because that was the date the printer printed the document. Or that George Washington, while claiming to not have interest in commanding the Colonial Army, John Adams wanted the position, yet he was the only member of congress to show up in full military uniform.

In the Christ Church, services have been held there every Sunday for over 261 years. The “Fun Fact”, Benjamin Franklin created a lottery to help by for its steeple, yet he used to arrive at church and sit in the very back pew so he could leave early without being noticed. Keep in mind, in those day's, your community status was partially determined by how close to the alter (to God) you could afford to sit.

Between the friends, the sights and seeing our beloved ship it was another successful reunion. After all, isn't that why we all get together each and every year? I hope it is for everyone.



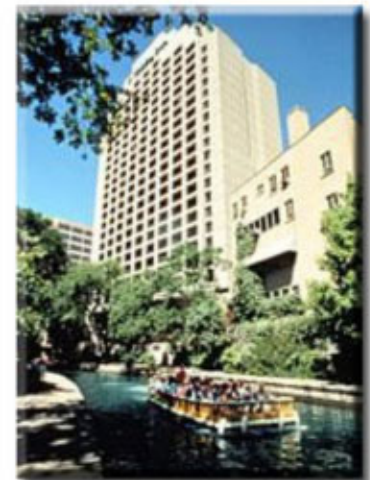
The sight for our next reunion, scheduled for September 6 - 10th is San Antonio. Home to Lackland AirForce Base, Ft. Sam Houston, Brooks City Base and nearby Randolph AirForce Base. Did you know that Fort Sam Houston is the birthplace of Military Aviation?

The River Walk is the piece that transformed San Antonio into a destination. With its shops, cafes, sights and sounds, it is an amazing visit. For us, it is simply a walk out of our hotel, The Holiday Inn Riverwalk. Don't forget the Alamo.



From hot air balloon rides, to river cruises or just a great round of golf, you'll find it in San Antonio. Be sure to plan a stop in at the Buckhorn Saloon and Museum. We will publish a great deal of information in the next Jersey Bounce, but be sure to contact the

San Antonio Visitor and Convention bureau for a free information packet at [www.sanantoniocb.com](http://www.sanantoniocb.com) or call 1-210-207-6748.



*Holiday Inn Riverwalk*



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*From The President  
Mike Prime  
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Ahoy Shipmates!

Well, the old girl looked pretty good for her age. There were a couple of spots on her deck that could use a lot of repair. Not much call for teakwood these days, I guess. But overall, she seems to be in good shape.

We put to bed another reunion that was as good as some of our others. It's always good to go aboard the ship and go back in time, to maybe a simpler time, when things didn't seem to go as fast, even if we just sat and remembered all our times aboard and reminisced, with old friends and new, regardless of what era we belonged.

Our service aboard went smoothly. I thought we had a good rendition of Taps and a real smart looking color guard. There will be some changes in our service for next year but I'll touch on that at a later date. Our tours in Valley Forge seemed to go pretty well and the food was very good (again, some changes next year). As usual, our seating plan seemed to cause some problems. Next year we will have an association member planning that part of the program for our meals.

In our spring issue, we will have all the facts and pertinent information for our next reunion in San Antonio, Texas, including dates, registration and tour information and places of interest in this beautiful city.

Some of our reunion didn't go as smooth as we had planned. We had some spirited discussions in our board meeting and also away from the meeting room. Although we don't always agree on everything, I want everyone to know that the board members and I have one common goal: The forward progress of this organization to bigger and better things. Having said that, I want you to know that the 2006 San Antonio reunion will be put on by shipmates from the organization. I have four experienced volunteers, including our Vice President, John Hagen, all ready and eager to take on this project for next year. I am also hoping that any other local Texans may jump up and pitch in. I believe the reunion for 2007 will be in San Diego, CA and I am sure that Larry K. will spearhead that undertaking, in his own backyard, with help from other members. I think in the next two years, we can make some money for the organization and future reunions and cut down on some of the costs and expenses for our members by planning the reunions ourselves.

In closing, this was my first year as President and I may have messed up a few things but please bear with me as I learn the ropes and strive to improve all the way around.

Fraternally Yours,

Mike Prime



John Hagen / Vice President USS New Jersey Veterans Inc  
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From The Vice President

Howdy Shipmates,

Sorry I missed the reunion in Pa., but Rita decided to come a calling. She missed us, but was close enough to cause us to change our plans.

“To perpetuate the memory of the USS NEW JERSEY (BB62) and ships company from commissioning date in perpetuity and to exchange mementos and memories of tours of duty.”  
This statement is from the Bylaws.

I checked on board the New Jersey January 1989, took the Chiefs test for the third time and put my anchors on in September. The ship was deploying on Westpac the week of the initiation, so we did it a week early so I was initiated on board the ship. That was the proudest day of my naval career. The saddest day was February 8, 1991, when I had to walk off the ship for the last time after her decommissioning. The short time I was on board we had a few firsts; the first battleship to enter the Persian Gulf and the first battleship to steam up the Columbia River to Portland, Oregon. But, nothing to compare to the WWII, Korea, or Vietnam Era's.

Take a look at the number of names in the e-mail list for the 1980's; there are six pages worth. Now, look at how many of these names were at the reunions, or did you not know that there were any there?

Of the reunions I was able to go to, the thing I looked forward to the most were stories from the Veterans of eras long ago. I can read a book, watch a movie, but they do not compare to listening to someone who was there. What I am trying to say, is that those memories will be lost if there is no one to listen to them.

The era that I was in has been called the Lebanon era, the Persian Gulf era, or the Peace Time era. I was not onboard when the ship went to Lebanon for payback. The ship was in the Persian Gulf a year before the war. We sat in dry dock after being told by the Secretary of Defense, Dick Cheney, we could not be part of the war because of budget cuts, now that hurt. We don't have the stories that you have, but we do have something in common; we all served on the best Battleship in the Navy.

**My question is, what do we need to do to bring in the crew members from the 1980's and 1990's to the reunions?**

Is it the timing of the reunions: kid's just starting school is it that they came once and did not feel welcome, or is it they just don't care? I am open to suggestions. We need new blood to carry on the memories and tradition of the USS NEW JERSEY (BB62). We are not getting any younger.

I will be at the next reunion come hell or high water.

I wish you all a safe and Happy Holiday.

Respectfully,

John Hagen MMC SW USN RET

Vice President USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.





*From The Secretary's Desk*  
**Joe Dimaria**  
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**757-549-2178**



Well the reunion is over and from what I have heard everyone had a good time. During our stay while walking around the hotel and on the buses there was a lot of talk on why the Viet Nam group was taking over. During the Washington DC reunion in 2004 there wasn't enough people to run for office. I was approached to run for Secretary to keep a full slate of officers I accepted this position. During the next election maybe we can get more members to run from all eras. During the General membership meeting it was brought up that this is turning into era grouping. It is not, but it may appear that way to some.

I understand that most of the members that come to the reunion come to visit with the men they served with and know. Most of us wish to sit with our friends. We all have something in common, and we do bond together but we still will always group together with the men we served with.

Over the last few reunions it has been brought up that we should change the reunion time frame to August, when our children, grandchildren are out of school. I do believe this is a good idea for a few reasons. We have a 10 year period that the ship was in service during the 80's and 90's. As of this day we don't have very many members. The ones we do can't always attend since their children are in school during the time we meet. We only have a little over 100 members from the 60's. We need to get more of these shipmates to join the association or in the future there will not be a **USS NEW JERSEY VETERENS ASSOC.** I think starting with the 2007 reunion we should start have one year in August and the next in the end of September. Let's see if this helps to bring more members to the reunions. And I do hope that everyone agrees with me on this.

Joe DiMaria  
BTCM, USN RETIRED  
Secretary



*From The Chaplin  
Will Clark  
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One evening there was a community supper in the big activity center. The two were at the same table, across from one another. The gent was a new arrival to this complex. He had taken notice of this woman on several occasions, and liked what he saw in her. As the meal went on, he made a few admiring glances at her and finally gathered his courage to ask her, “Will you marry me?” After about six seconds of careful consideration, she answered. “Yes. Yes, I will.” The meal ended and, with a few more pleasant exchanges, they went to their respective rooms. Next morning, he was troubled. “Did she say ‘yes’ or did she say ‘no’?” He couldn’t remember. Try as he would, he just could not recall. Not even a faint memory. With trepidation, he went to the telephone and called her. First, he explained that he didn’t remember as well as he used to. Then he spoke about the lovely evening past. As he gained a little more courage, he inquired, “When I asked if you would marry me, did you say ‘Yes’ or did you say ‘No’?” He was delighted to hear her say, “Why, I said, ‘Yes, yes I will’ and I meant it with all my heart.” Then she continued, “I am so glad that you called, because I couldn’t remember who had asked me.

They say that our memory is the first thing that goes with age. At times I think that it is not so bad to become forgetful. After all, there are many things about my past that I would love to forget. But then again, I certainly would like to hold on to many very special memories.

Memories are one of the major components that bring us together every year at our reunions. We share memories of our times on our Battleship. And as time goes by we develop new and cherished memories of our yearly gatherings all around our country.

I look forward to many years of sharing our lives together. And with that, I challenge all to find ways to weather the rough storms that create the “not so pleasant” memories. Let us focus on the relationships we enjoy and to consider how you might be an instrument of joy and gladness

*Paster Will Clark*





*From The Liaison Officer / Director*

Larry Kalakauskis  
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Greetings! from your Liaison Officer/Director,

Yes! Another trip to our beloved ship, the hand clasping, hugging and kisses had taken place again at the Valley Forge Hilton Hotel, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania. The reminiscing of old times, the sharing of the tears for our missed shipmates and friends and the joy of being together again one more time. For some, this reunion would have been a last time to see and talk with each other as the years have gotten by to many of us.

The Ole Gray Lady, the hum of her electrical motors, the vibration of the many decks, the familiar odor of the gray and white paint, the nearness of her beating heart that was felt and heard through the various veins of her piping, brought tears to many an eye. Who say's "Grown men don't cry"?

I was happy to see the many Viet Nam shipmates and their families. Both of our Skippers were a blessing to many of the new attendees and also the past attendees of previous reunions. It seems that we too are getting on in years, just like our predecessors of the 1940's and 50's, it was a joy to see some of the springing spirits and the smiles of old friends, especially the couple that brought me my "MOXIE TONIC" from New England, I enjoyed it tremendously. It was a pleasure to see "John", our young honorary New Jersey man, take his first taste of the moxie and he enjoyed it. This is a tonic (soda) that I grew up on and it requires a special taste and "John" did it with glee. Also, there were a few of the 1980's shipmates and brother in arms there to show solidarity. I was happy to see our past treasurer, Richard "Bos'on" Dick McDowell back on his feet and raising cane like old times. Many thanks, Mrs. Frances Flora, for remembering the Red Rose and Vase for our "EMPTY CHAIR" setting remembrance theme.

One of our shipmates, John "Jack" Murphy, Korea Conflict, became very sick after the reunion and was admitted to the hospital while in Phil. PA., I wish him a quick and healthy recovery.

Our new President, Mike Prime, Viet Nam Era, did a fine job overseeing at his first reunion as well as could be expected considering that his father had passed away Friday night, 30 September, 2005. Everybody and I send our deepest condolences to you and your family, and especially to Mikey, on the loss of your grandfather.

To all my Board of Directors, thank you for being a part of this organization and to the fine gentleman of the Era District Volunteers and the three "Search Helpers" thank you for your time and endless searching for our past shipmate. "E" division of both the Korea Conflict and Viet Nam Era were quite well represented at this reunion.

Welcome back again to Brian Fogelson, our College Scholarship Chairman and for our Chaplain, Rev. Will Clark, it was a pleasure to have you officiate at the Sunday Non-denominational Church Service during the General Membership meeting.

I hope to see you all at the next reunion in San Antonio, Texas.

Until we meet again and share our friendship of "Brothers in Arms" may the God of our fathers bless you all, our ship, our Men and Women in troubled lands, and "GOD BLESS AMERICA."

Respectfully in Camaraderie,  
Larry "Ski" Kalakauskis, BTC USN Ret. 1967-69  
Liaison Officer.





*From The Treasurer / Director*

*Lou Ashby  
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Girard, IL 62640  
Coalmanvp@yahoo.com*



To My Fellow USS New Jersey Vets Members and Associate Members:

Since becoming your Treasurer in Sept. 2004, this is what has transpired. With the money I received,(that belongs to this organization) I put the majority into a interest bearing checking account and one thousand into a savings account. After paying all outstanding bills including both the 2004 and 2005 reunions and when I have received all dues money from John Hayes our membership chairman, I will be putting \$4000 into a CD. Right now our organization is financially doing very well.

Now on a different note, I just returned from San Antonio TX.. As your treasurer I had to set up all of the financial business work at the hotel for our 2006 reunion. While in San Antonio I was able to visit many of the local restaurants as well as several of the area sites. The hotel sits on the River Walk, and has an elevator that goes to the River Walk level for those who have a difficult time with stairs. Most of the restaurants and sites are within a 5 block walking area. There is a walk way on both sides of the river. there are Water Taxi's that are very reasonable in price, that will take you to any place on the river these stop anywhere you wave than over. There is shopping,sights and dinning for ever taste. the 2006 reunion site in my opinion is one of the best we ever had.

Hope to see all of my shipmates, and their wife's and associate members at our 2006 San Antonio Reunion.

LouAshby





*From The Membership Director*

*John Hayes  
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**Membership News**

As of October 1, 2005 the USS New Jersey Veterans Inc membership was 1,304. This includes 1,176 "Active Members" (current members who served aboard USS New Jersey) and 128 Associate Members (relatives of Active, Veteran Members). Unfortunately, the total membership has dropped 77 members from a year earlier. The new members for the year more than offset the number of members who passed away during the year. So what is causing this decline in members? A growing problem is that members tend to not pay their dues when they fall two or more years behind. Please pay your \$20 dues every year so we can at least slow this potentially ominous trend.

I have mailed out over 700 member dues statements this week of November 4. The rest of the dues statements will be mailed in the next few days. To make processing easier for us this year, please send your payment to me at the address listed on the dues statement. I will record your payment and send the checks to our Treasurer, Lou Ashby. Of course, whether you send your check to Lou or to me, we will work together to give you proper credit for your payment.

Thank you.

John Hayes, Membership Chairman



***USS New Jersey Membership Coupon  
Membership Dues is \$20 Per Year***

**Make Checks Payable To:**  
*USS New Jersey Veteran's Inc*  
**Mail To:**  
*John Hayes  
Membership Director  
162 E Grand River  
Williamston, MI 48895-1450*

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code** \_\_\_\_\_

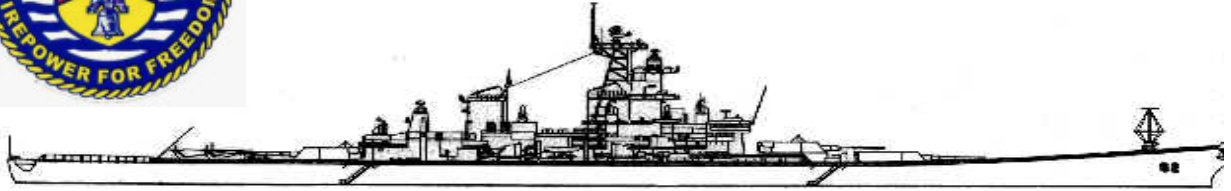
**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-Mail** \_\_\_\_\_

**Division:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rate / Rank** \_\_\_\_\_ **Era On Board** \_\_\_\_\_

**Years on Board** \_\_\_\_\_ **Spouse:** \_\_\_\_\_

*The USS New Jersey Bounce will be made available on line at [www.ussnewjersey.org](http://www.ussnewjersey.org). If you would prefer to have your issue of the ships newspaper mailed to you, please check the box.*

\_\_\_\_\_ **I would prefer to get the Jersey Bounce On-line**



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### FROM THE WEBMASTER

Dear Shipmates,

As many of you know, I've been maintaining the Web Site for the last six years. It's been a lot of fun and a lot of work. In three short years my second term of office expires and I will definitely be ready to hand off the job to (hopefully) a younger man with good skills and a fresh approach. If you think you're that man please contact me. I'd like to hand off the job to someone I've worked with for a while.

I said this in my last two missives but I'll say it one more time. The ability to post the Jersey Bounce on our Web Site represents a potentially significant saving in our operating budget. However, we will continue to mail it to those of you who do not have computers with internet access and even those of you who do but don't feel ready to trust the computer over the USPS. **If you haven't already contacted Pete VandeWalle about your preference, please do so soon.**

E-mail address change notification continues to improve, as does TAPS information. In the very near future we will probably be updating our Web Site Roster, no mean task that may take several weeks. You could reduce that time if you'd just **double check your entry and make any necessary corrections yourself**. I know many of you are doing that already and I thank you. However, I may look for two or three volunteers to do the on-line data entry. If you're interested let me know.

If any of you took pictures in Valley Forge that you'd like to share please e-mail them to me so I can post them on the Web Site.

For those of you viewing this on the Web Site, you'll notice the Financial Statement is missing. That's because it's only available to the Members. If you want a copy mailed to you just ask Peter.

Fall is upon us and Christmas is just around the corner. I wish you all a very Happy Holiday Season.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Ed Campbell".





# EDITOR'S CORNER



As is probably the case with most people, I tend to call things as I see them. Listening to others opinions and using that to form my own thoughts usually puts me in a place were I believe I can make an informed decision. OK, so were I am going with this one?

In September I was honored to take my wife, Diane, to Maui in celebration of the wonder life she has provided for me and our family. On the way back, I had the chance to visit the USS Missouri. What a treat that turned out to be. Not only did I meet some very nice people, I learned a bit more about our history. I was amazed by the differences in how the USS Missouri ran as a museum compared to the USS New Jersey. The USS New Jersey has a much more spectacular entrance way and appears more glamorous from the pier. The USS Missouri has a beautiful deck that looks fantastic and there is more to do on board. The USS New Jersey has Camden, NJ while the USS Missouri had Ford Island, HI and the USS Arizona off her bow. They have a better gift shop too.

At the reunion on Friday, I had a chance to sit down with Jack Shaw, Vice President of Operations for the USS New Jersey and the Home Port Alliance. I am thankful for the time he took with me and the honesty of which he answered my questions. Jack talked about the purpose of what he and the other members of the Home Port Alliance do each day, maintaining the USS New Jersey as a museum and a memorial to the sacrifices and dedication of the crew that served aboard her the work she accomplished in her 48 years of military preparedness. With a operating cost of over \$5 million, the work continues in attempting to raise funds and make sure that the state helps in covering some of the expenses it promised to provide. This year, the State



*Jack Shaw  
Vice President of Operation*

of New Jersey finally provided some funding that eased the burden and allowed the Home Port Alliance to pay its creditors. When the discussion came up in regards to replacing the deck, it was shared with me that the cost would be approximately \$7 million, while the USS Missouri had her deck replaced just before she was deactivated. If the annual budget is \$5 million and the deck alone would be \$7 million, you get the picture.

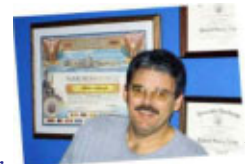
The ship is still inspected annually by the Navy in order to make sure that she stays up to code with regulations for inactive ships. I think as you have a chance to tour her, you will find she looks pretty good. Thanks to the dedication of the crew and the extreme efforts of the volunteers who work very hard to maintain her.

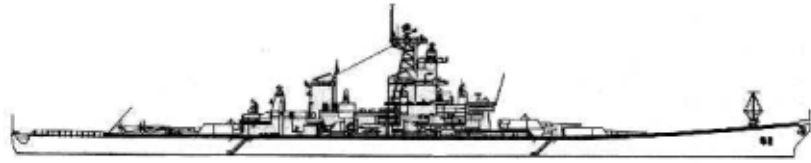
All in all, as I concluded my interview with Mr. Shaw and had a chance to walk the decks and see the spaces I remember. As I watched others of you show off your old bunk space or marvel had how much easier life must have been for the 80's - 90's crew with their soft racks and almost private heads vs the hammocks and open stalls of the real Navy. As I watched a little boy sitting on his dads lap in a Navy Dixie Cup and waving a flag, I soon realized that we as former crew members owe a tremendous debt all our own.

Here's to the Home Port Alliance and its amazing staff of volunteers. THANK YOU!

*Peter V*

*A Very Special Thank You To My Assistant Editor and Spell Checker Lacy Schaefer*





## How Does Your USS New Jersey Scholarship Work?

By Brian Fogelson, Scholarship Chair

I've been asked to provide the membership with a brief description of how our scholarship works. It's relatively simple.

Up to now, the applications have been either obtained through the *Jersey Bounce*, on our website at [www.ussnewjersey.org](http://www.ussnewjersey.org) or directly from the President. Completed applications have been returned to him. After the deadline for application, the applications are forwarded to the committee members. Next, we read the applications and scan them for several key factors:

1. The student's overall Grade Point Average (GPA). Is this weighted or unweighted?
2. The student's class rank.
3. The difficulty of the student's course load. A student who has a 3.6 average and has taken Advanced Placement (AP) courses or a full load of Honors courses will stand a better chance than a student who has not taken the most challenging courses that his/her school offers.
4. Next, we look at activities. We are looking for well-rounded students. These students have achieved academically, while participating in athletics, music, drama, community activities, or their church or synagogue.
5. Recommendations count as well. Students solicit recommendations from favorite teachers, counselors, etc.
6. We read the essay carefully. Students who are very focused in their future plans usually rate better than those who are attending college with no particular major in mind.

After we've read all the applications and ranked them individually, we confer and compare notes. It's usually amazing to me that we usually come down to the same two or three students. We often have them ranked in the same order. In that case, it's easy. When we don't, we talk about the candidates and discuss their relative strengths and weaknesses and reach a consensus decision. That's the process in a nutshell.

To date, we have provided \$12,250 in scholarship funds to some very deserving students.

Carolyn Lilley, Jack Feys, and Joe Santucci have been part of the selection team over the past number of years. I would like to publicly thank them for their service.



October 6, 2005

Shipmates:

Another Reunion has come and gone so fast.

Our newly elected President Mike Prime did an admirable job handling his first Reunion. He was only in the pressure cooker once and handled that.

The trip to the U.S.S. New Jersey was great. There were 500 attending. Bob Lavine and I knew that we could not surpass the first ship Reunion with 1300 attending. However, this Reunion was very successful with awards going to Admiral Snyder and Captain Pentison on a warm sunny day.

The hotel was comfortable. A large shopping mall and plenty of restaurants nearby was a big plus.

Our next Reunion will be in San Antonio, Texas September 6-10, 2006 at the Holiday Inn Riverwalk. All necessary information regarding San Antonio will be forthcoming in the 2006 Spring Edition of the Jersey Bounce.

Smooth Sailing,

Dick Esser  
Past President  
Reunion Coordinator

# The Future of the US Navy Littoral Combat Ships (LCS)

*At our reunion in Valley Forge, Rear Admiral Nathan Jones; Deputy Chief of Naval Information spoke on the future of the US Navy and her ships. In particular, two of the newest ships that will soon be tying up pierside, The Littoral Combat Ships (LCS) and the DDX Destroyer Ships.*

*I will begin with the LCS, while our Spring Issue of the Jersey Bounce will discuss the DDX Destroyers.*

*The Navy has come along way sense the analog computers used to fire the 16" Guns of the Battleships and the requirements of 2500 crewmen to operate at sea.*

The Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) is the first of a new family of surface ships for the US Navy. The LCS is a fast, highly maneuverable, networked surface combat ship, which is a specialized variant of the family of US future surface combat ships known as DD(X). LCS is designed to satisfy the urgent requirement for shallow draft vessels to operate in the littoral (coastal waters) to counter growing potential "asymmetric" threats of coastal mines, quiet diesel submarines and the potential to carry explosives and terrorists on small, fast, armed boats.



The keel for LCS 1, to be called USS Freedom, was laid in June 2005 at the Marinette Marine shipyard in Wisconsin. It is scheduled for delivery in late 2006 and commissioning in 2007.

A full load displacement draft of 10ft allows the ships to access very shallow waters. The ships will have a top speed of about 50 knots and the range at sprint speed is 1,500nm. At an economical speed of 20 knots, the range is 4,300nm.

The ships are configured with a helicopter deck and hangar. The deck is capable of the launch and recovery of the MH-60R/S helicopter and a tactical unmanned air vehicle. The ships can carry out aircraft launch and recovery in conditions up to Sea State 5, i.e. in winds up to 27 knots and average wave heights between 6.4ft and 9.6ft. The ships will be capable of launching and recovering watercraft, for example 40ft high-speed boats, within 15 minutes in conditions of Sea State 4, i.e. waves up to 5ft and winds up to 21 knots.

The ships will carry provisions for 21 days before replenishments and will also be able to replenish underway. The crew size will be between 15 and 50 and accommodation is provided for up to 75 ship and special mission crew. The operational availability will be 95%.



Photo By: Frank LaRosa

It is her history that helps to shape her future! 14



## USS New Jersey Reunions

*Merriam Webster defines reunions as follows: an act of reuniting : the state of being reunited.*



At our reunion this year over 500 people found their way to Valley Forge. Even more came aboard USS New Jersey to tour our battleship. As we prepare for the next reunion, drop me a note at [peter\\_v\\_bb62@yahoo.com](mailto:peter_v_bb62@yahoo.com) and tell me why you attend our annual reunions. If you haven't attended one, drop me a note and tell me why not. We will publish some of your responses in the next issue of the Jersey Bounce. Our reunions are about getting together with old friends, meeting new friends who share a common interest and introducing our families to a part of our life that will always remain special. I look forward to sharing your responses.



Photo By: Frank LaRosa



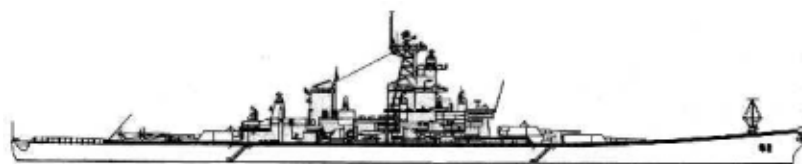
USS New Jersey Veterans Association, Inc.

**Items Presently On Hand in Small Stores**

Golf Shirt: Embroidered on front over pocket	\$22.00
Colors: Navy Blue, Green, Ash, Light Blue, Maroon, White (Sizes Medium to XXL)	
Ladies Scoop Neck Short Sleeve Shirt:	\$18.00
Colors: Butter & Red (Sizes Medium to XXL)	
Ladies Scoop Neck Long Sleeve Shirt:	\$20.00
Colors: Pink & Sky Blue (Sizes Medium to XL)	
T-Shirts:	\$18.00
Colors: Light Blue, Tan, Maroon (Sizes Medium to XXL)	
Sweatshirt: Embroidered	\$22.00
Colors: Blue or Ash (Sizes Medium to XXL)	
Sweaters: Pullover V-Neck	\$36.00
Cardigan Button Down	\$36.00
Colors: Navy Blue (Sizes Large to XXL)	
Satin Baseball Jacket ( Navy Blue or Royal Blue) –	\$36.00
Embroidered on Front / Screen Print of Ship on Back (Sizes Medium to XXL)	
Coach Style Jacket (Navy Blue) USS New Jersey Silhouette	\$26.00
Embroidered Left Chest (Sizes Medium to XXL)	
Hat – (Blue) USS New Jersey on Front	\$12.00
<b>Sizes Small – Medium - Large</b>	
“WWII” on back	“Plankowner” on back
“Korea” on back	“Vietnam” on back
	Blank (For 80’s – 90’s Crew)
Hat – (White) USS New Jersey	\$12.00
<b>Sizes Small – Medium - Large</b>	
“WWII” on back	“Plankowner” on back
“Korea” on back	“Vietnam” on back
	Blank (For 80’s – 90’s Crew)
Socks (White W/ Blue Lettering) – USS New Jersey BB-62	\$12.00 pair
<b><u>PINS:</u></b>	\$4.00 ea.
Lone Sailor	USS New Jersey BB-62
Cross Flags Navy	Cross Flags WWII Veterans
Cross Flags Vietnam Veterans	Cross Flags Korea
Vietnam Veteran	Korea Veteran
USS New Jersey Reunion Lapel Pin	Yellow Ribbon W/ American Flag Support Our Troops
<b>Ribbon Pin – US Navy or US Navy w/ Anchor</b>	\$4.50 ea.
<b><u>Tote Bags:</u></b>	\$10.00

**SHIPPING AND HANDLING – ALL ITEMS \$4.95**





USS New Jersey Veterans Association, Inc.

**Mark Your Required History String (s)**

Indicate your required Reunion History Badges by placing an “X” in the appropriate Column next to the Reunion City you attended

**(Note: Each of the Following Strings are \$2.00 Each)**

Attachment Name	Crew	Guest
Plankowner	_____	_____
<u>City:</u>	<u>Year</u>	
Long Beach, CA	'82 _____	_____
Atlantic City, NJ	'84 _____	_____
Indianapolis, IN	'86 _____	_____
New Orleans, LA	'88 _____	_____
Daytona Beach, FL	'90 _____	_____
Nashville, TN	'92 _____	_____
Cherry Hill, NJ	'93 _____	_____
San Diego, CA	'94 _____	_____
Norfolk, VA.	'95 _____	_____
Fort Mitchell, KY.	'96 _____	_____
Danvers, MA.	'97 _____	_____
Colorado Springs, CO	'98 _____	_____
Seattle, WA.	'99 _____	_____
Daytona, FL.	'00 _____	_____
Branson, MO.	'01 _____	_____
Cherry Hill, NJ.	'02 _____	_____
Las Vegas, NV	'03 _____	_____
Washington, DC	'04 _____	_____
Valley Forge, PA	'05 _____	_____
San Antonio, TX	'06 _____	_____

If ordering more than (1) Guest String, please make attachment listing Guest Data for Badge and Associated Reunion History Required. Include contents of the attachment in Total Cities / Guest Badge QTY In Pricing.

PLEASE BE SURE TO INCLUDE YOUR PHONE NUMBER WITH ALL SMALL STORE ORDERS

Total Cities Selected \_\_\_\_\_

The Ship Small Stores  
Available on line at:

<http://www.ussnewjersey.org/store/default.htm>




# USS NEW JERSEY (BB-62) NAME PLATE ORDER FORM

## Select Guest Plate

- Provide Standard Style I 2.0" X 3.0" Guest Member (Navy), (White/Blue Letters)

USS NEW JERSEY  
BB-62




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- Provide Style II 1.0" X 3.0" Guest Member Badge

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(Guest Name)

## Section #1

(Complete Section #1 by selecting any desired Plate(s) for both Crew Members and Guests/Spouses)

- Provide Standard Style I 2.0" X 3.0" Crew Member Plate, (White/Blue Letters)

USS NEW JERSEY  
BB-62




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Please print desired text as you wish it displayed on the (3) lines provided. We reserve the right to re-arrange text as required for purposes of clarity and to minimize letter distortion. Enter such data as Name, Rate, Theater of Service, Service Years, etc.

## Section 2-- Complete Back of Form for any required attachments.

### Section 3--Pricing

	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Ea.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Style I Badges	..... X	\$5.00 =	.....
Style II Badges	..... X	\$3.00 =	.....
Attachments (From Back of Form)	..... X	\$2.00 =	.....
Shipping/Postage			<u>\$2.00</u>
Total			.....

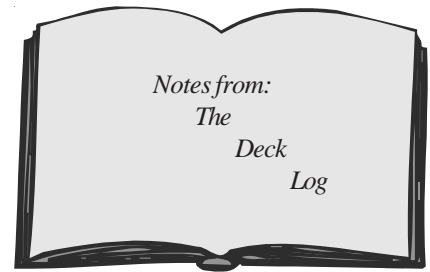
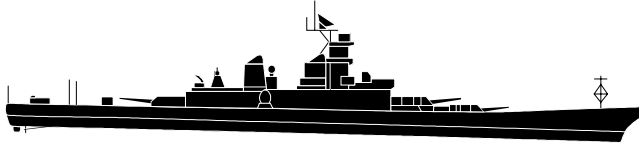
Make Checks/Money Orders Payable to:  
**Joseph Porambo**

### Section 4--Mail Badges to: (Please Provide Your Address)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail (if available) \_\_\_\_\_

### Mail Completed Order Forms To:

**Joseph S. Porambo**  
 1503 Elder Avenue  
 Chesapeake VA 23325



**From Debbie (Neff) Browning**

My father, Joseph Allen Neff Jr., served aboard the USS New Jersey from the time it was commissioned until 1945 or 1946. He was a radar tech. I'm not sure if that is the proper name for it or not—my father passed away June 6, (D-day) 2001. I have a couple of his journals, but there is a lot of time lapses between his entries. If there is anyone who might remember him or knew him during this time, I would love to hear from them. My e-mail address is [dbrowning@tls.net](mailto:dbrowning@tls.net). Thank you so much for the opportunity to maybe find someone who served aboard the New Jersey with my dad. I miss him VERY much and it would be a great honor to be able to be in contact with those who served aboard the New Jersey.

**From Curt Constantino:**

My Father, Bernard J. Constantino, served on the New Jersey during WWII. I would be interested in any info you may have on him. I believe he was assigned to the mail room. [cc531@cox.net](mailto:cc531@cox.net)

**From Andy "Toby" Tobias**

Is there anyone out their from the Vietnam era who remembers the ceremony on board for GMSN Wayne Johnson? He was the 3rd Division gunner who was awarded a medal from Capt. Snyder for saving my life in Turret #3 Jan. 14,1969. Anyone have any pictures of that ceremony? What type of medal was he awarded? Anyone know of his whereabouts today? [TPSTOBI@DOT.STATE.NJ.US](mailto:TPSTOBI@DOT.STATE.NJ.US)

**From Oneil Leonard:**

Does anyone know what happened to Bill Fogel (WWII 8th Div). He lived in Colorado Springs, Co. and was reunion chairman in 98. He was at reunion in Vegas but don't remember him being in DC. Have tried writing but got no answer. [Blackiebb62@hotmail.com](mailto:Blackiebb62@hotmail.com)

**From Kathy Knoll:**

If anyone remembers my father, Richard Zarr, please email me with any stories about him during his time on the U.S.S. New Jersey in WWII. I am his daughter, and I remember the log he had with pictures from the War. Would appreciate any input. He was born March 6, 1925 and passed on April 8, 1995. I Will always love him and miss him. I have three sons of which he was able to cherish. I Finally had my daughter, but grandpa never had the chance to experience her. He was the greatest dad one could ever know. [ladyblueize@yahoo.com](mailto:ladyblueize@yahoo.com)

**From Chris Healey:**

My Grandfather... Vincent Joseph Healey was stationed aboard the New Jersey I think in the late 50's while touring with the 7th fleet off Korea. I have GREAT color footage that I would like to share with you or the archives dept. In return I would love some education and details as to specifics about his rank, purpose of the tour, etc. Please contact me with whom I could send a DVD copy of this footage. This would mean alot. He has since past on several years now but this footage was just found. [chris@chrishealey.net](mailto:chris@chrishealey.net)

## In Case Anyone Forgot

Why do we all get together at reunions? Why did Russell Brown create this great organization? Why do the Directors and Officers put in so much work into keeping everyone interested in the USS New Jersey Veterans; Incorporated? The two letters from the Website Deck Log are a pretty good clues as to what we as an association are and should be all about. I hope someone out there can make a difference for them too.

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### From Laura Keib:

I am the youngest daughter of Ernest R. Keib, who served on the New Jersey during WWII. My family has been trying so hard to find ANY information with regard to his naval service. When he passed away in 1987, he took with him all his stories and any information on his time in the Navy and aboard his ship. We know he received some medals and citations, but do not know which ones, we also do not know if any of his shipmates are still alive and if there are any stories they can tell us about him, since he never spoke of his time in the service, nor of any friends of his. Same goes for any photos of him that his shipmates might be able to share with us. My father died almost exactly 1 year before his one and only grandson, Kurt was born. And his only son's daughters were both born in the 1990's and never knew their grandfather. The only grandchild that he ever got to know, was, of course, his favorite (since she was his first and only at that time), was Melanie, the first child of my middle sister Michelle. Melanie was only 2 years old when her "Pa" died. My mom, his widow Eleanor, passed away 3 years later. My sister Michelle first found your website, just by chance, and told me about it. And I thought that just maybe, your website could help tell his children and grandchildren, any stories or information about Seaman First Class (I believe), Ernie Keib, who rests in peace, next to his wife at Resurrection Cemetery in Justice, Illinois. Thank you so much. Laura A. Keib Crest Hill, IL lak121765@yahoo.com



### From George Stavros:

Like many of you, I found out about this website and USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc. and the annual reunions by accident. This year I attended the reunion in Valley Forge which included a visit to the ship, which looks pretty good. The reunion was more than I ever dreamed. Spending time with the WWII, Korea, Vietnam (my era) and Gulf War era vets was an absolute joy. We were all brothers in arms and we spent hours swapping sea stories and just enjoying each other. One highlight was spending time with Admiral Snyder and Captain Penniston (Vietnam era COs) who both attended. I personally saw good friends I had not seen in 37 years. Shipmates, it is up to ALL of us to keep this group alive as long as possible. The WWII and Korean vets provide a good chunk of the attendance. But WWII vets are dying at the rate of 1,000 a day. I saw 70- and 80-year old vets (even an elderly widow of a WWII vet) there in force. We have around 1,300 members in this group but around 50,000 men served aboard Big J in her long proud history. There are thousands of our shipmates out there who do not even know this group or these reunions exist who would come at the drop of a hat if they knew. But with the passage of so many years, addresses and contacts are lost. The only way we can grow this group is for EVERY crewmember to search the internet, get out old contact information and CONTACT any crew member you know. I have found many crewmembers know of others and can contact them. If you DO have contact with a crew member, I urge you to ask them to join the group and update their contact information on the website and above all to come to these reunions if possible. We had so much fun you can't believe it. You are missing a great time by not coming. If your shipmates you know belong, urge them to come to the 2006 reunion in San Antonio, Texas and you be sure and come too! We had around 500 people this last time and many of those were family members of crew who brought them and they also enjoyed themselves. PLEASE, PLEASE do everything you can to grow and build this organization, search out and contact other crew, and promote participation in the reunions! Thanks!

# Letters to The Editor



Gentlemen,  
On behalf of myself, my wife and our friend we want to thank you all for a GREAT reunion. I don't care what some of the others think but we had a great time and we like the job that Ray and Dixie did related to their part.

We are already looking forward to next year. Keep up the GREAT work.

Bob Williams  
Vietnam Era, "B" Div.  
East District Rep.  
USS New Jersey BB-62  
E-mail: robert382@adelphia.net  
Phone: 603-382-5018  
[www.ussnewjersey.org/](http://www.ussnewjersey.org/)

*From Claire Campbell:*

It is a disgrace that a beautiful lady like The USS New Jersey be berthed in the most crime ridden city of New Jersey. Were is this organization in trying to get her out of Camden, NJ. In fact, Camden lead the country in crime. I think that a ship that has done so much service in so many wars deserves more respect then this.

I was born and raised on New Jersey. All of us New Jerseyites should hang their head in same.

Clair E Campbell  
Husband Patrick R Campbell



San Antonio Sounds Pretty Good To Me



## Recipe Corner



### CORNED BEEF SCRAMBLE

**100 Portions / 6 to 8 ounces Servings**

**Corned beef, canned, 20 pounds**

**Peppers, green, 1 pounds, (approx 1 quarts)**

**Onion, 1 pounds (approx 1 ½ pints)**

**Lard, melted, 8 ounces, (approx 1 cup)**

**Corn, whole kernel, drained (save liquid), 13 pounds 4 ounces, (approx 1 ½ gals.)**

**Rice, cooked, 27 pounds, (approx 4 gals.)**

***(Note: Divide by 100 for single serving and multiply by amount of servings needed)***

**Chop together corned beef, green peppers and onions. Cook in fat until Corned beef is browned, stirring frequently.**

**Stir in corn and cooked rice.**

**Heat thoroughly. If dry, add the liquid from corn. Serve in mounds.**

***The cookbook of the United States Navy; 1944***

*The letters posted here are views of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or the Officers / Directors of the USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc. E-mail your letter to the editor to: peterv\_bb62@yahoo.com*

# The Latest from Our Sister Battleships USS Iowa



While still moored at the inactive ship facility in Suisun Bay, California. The USS Iowa will eventually find a home in California. While the debate in congress works its magic, the wait is for the US Navy Donation Program to authorize and the USS Iowa be set aside as a museum and then to award her to a city.

Currently, the work is still on going with the Historic Ships Memorial at Pacific Square (HSMPS) continuing its efforts to place her in the harbor of San

Francisco and the Port of Stockton, California working to place her on Rough & Ready Island, a WWII Navy Supply and Communication Center.

There is a great deal of information on The USS Iowa Veterans Association web site [www.uss-iowa.org](http://www.uss-iowa.org). I urge every member to go to their website and read what is planned. If you live in California, contact your representatives to help move this process along. If you live in the Northern California area, look into how you can help by donating your time, energy and knowledge to bring about a well deserved promise of the future for The USS Iowa. As our sister ship, she deserves a place to call home as much as the Missouri, Wisconsin and New Jersey have been fortunate enough to enjoy. As members who have gone through this process, we know the work and the rewards of putting this all together. Lets wish her well and offer up a hand in the process.

## USS Recruit A Historical Landmark



Affectionately known as USS Neversail, the Recruit was a two-thirds scale mock-up and served as a Sea Daddy to new recruits. When completed in 1949, it was 225 long, had a 24-foot, four inch beam and a 41-foot mast.

During construction, Sailors in NTC's seamanship division supervised the rigging with standard Navy fittings obtained from salvage and mothballed ships.

It served as a school for all recruits going through basic seamanship indoctrination. The ship's deck was an exact replica of what a Sailor could expect in the fleet. The Recruit had cleats, chocks and mooring lines and operated as any standard Navy ship. Sailors learned rnarlinspike seamanship, ground tackle operation, cargo booms, deck fittings, lift boat handling and signal equipment.

For almost 18 years, the Recruit served the Navy, but in 1967, something unusual happened: automation got the better hand. Technology is supposed to advance one's life, but in this case, it marked the end of the Recruit's commission.

Navy civilian employees making a card-index inventory of vessels in the San Diego area, found themselves baffled by one particular card, which, when placed through the computer for classification, was continually rejected.

The computer determined that the ship was neither afloat nor tied up ashore. It was not in drydock, not undergoing repairs or rehauling, not in 'mothball' and was crewless! The ship had no boilers, engines or screws and when they discovered the computer could not classify USS Recruit as a commissioned vessel, it was decommissioned on March 7, 1967.



# USS Missouri BB-63

Ford Island; Pearl Harbor Hawaii

The *Missouri* was decommissioned for the final time on March 31, 1992, after serving with distinction during the Gulf War. On May 4, 1998, the ship was officially transferred to the USS Missouri Memorial Association in Honolulu. The USS Battleship Missouri Memorial opened to the public on January 29, 1999.



While traveling in Hawaii this past September, I planned a long layover in Honolulu so that I could take a look at the differences in our sister ship, the USS Missouri. I had corresponded via e-mail with a tour guide aboard the ship who had left messages on our website. Marc Weintraub was to be on duty the day that I would be coming on board and was able to introduce me to Vickie Lynn Landcaster. I couldn't have met better people. Vickie was heading for a meeting, but she did send me on their "Explorer Tour" of the Battleship. USS Missouri had just celebrated the 60th anniversary of the signing of the end of World War II.



*USS Missouri Ships Store*

### **Missouri Mission Statement:**

Crete and maintain a fitting memorial to the people and historic events reflecting our nations legacy of duty, honor, strength, resolve and sacrifice.

Last year, 386,000 visitors came aboard and that number is expected to grow to over 400,000 this year. Of those, approximately 36% of all visitors purchase one of the guided tours. From the one hour "Chiefs Tour" (\$22) to the 90 minute "Explorers Tour" (\$49) which includes a bottle of USS Missouri water and lanyard, plus lunch in the ships galley. The tour guides are extremely knowledgeable and proud to answer any questions. Don't forget to get your picture taken by the photographer as you stand in front of Turret 1.

Part of the success of the Mighty Mo can be attributed to what the USS Missouri Memorial Association sees its role as in relation to its veterans. According to Mr. Lee Collins Sr, Vice President of Marketing and Sales; "The role of Missouri is to honor and memorialize our Veterans and their SERVICE to our country so that future generations will always understand and remember the great sacrifices that have been made to secure our freedoms."



The Ships store, the best I have ever seen, features a very complete selection of books, newspaper reprints, t-shirts, hats, postcards and very nice collection of forget me nots that isn't to be missed. They also feature a Gedunk and Simulator out near the lounge area on the pier.



*Marc Weintraub USS Missouri*

General Admission price is \$16 for adults and \$8 for children. However, Historic Naval Ships Association "HNSA" members and active duty military receive special discounts. World War II Veterans and USS Missouri Veterans are offered FREE general admission. Hours are 9:00 a.m... until 5:00 p.m. daily. Purchase your tickets along with tickets to the USS Bowfish, a World War II Submarine, next to the Mess Hall and entrance to the USS Arizona Memorial. From there you will ride the trolley and enter the US Navy Base at Ford Island.

## *USS New Jersey Taps List*

James SCHATZMAN;	WWII
Herschel Homer CALDWELL;	WWII
Samuel DRURY;	WWII
Emmett DOSTER;	WWII
Daily BROUSSARD;	WWII
Robert HARRISON;	WWII
Martin HAYES;	WWII
Lewis SUTER;	WWII
Thomas E. DOLAN	WWII
Glenn M. FISHER;	Korea
Robert BIEBER;	Korea
Anthony BUONAIUTO;	Korea
William "Bill" SOCKO;	Korea
John M. HERNANDEZ;	Korea
John CONZATTI;	Korea
George R. HELD;	Vietnam
Ronald F. BOUCHARD;	Vietnam
John CANADAS;	Vietnam
Russell CHARRON;	Vietnam
Raymond HOPKINS;	Vietnam
Richard SCHLOTTERBACK;	Vietnam
John Thomas CURRAN;	Vietnam



### Burial At Sea Prayer.....

"We therefore commit his body to the deep, looking for the general Resurrection in the last day, and the life of the world to come, through our Lord Jesus Christ; at whose second coming in glorious majesty to judge the world, the sea shall give up her dead; and the corruptible bodies of those who sleep in him shall be changed, and made like unto his glorious body; according to the mighty working whereby he is able to subdue all things unto himself."





*“...Well, the call has been sounded. America needs the battleship once again to provide firepower for freedom.”  
~President Ronald Reagan 28 Dec 1982*

## The USS New Jersey Story

### *Lebanon Persian Gulf Era*



New Jersey’s fourth and final career began 28 December 1982 when she was recommissioned by President Ronald Reagan at Long Beach Naval Shipyard with Captain William J. Fogarty in command.

This time, she was modernized with 16 Harpoon Missiles with a range of nearly 60 miles and 32 Tomahawk Missiles each with the capability of hitting its target from 500 miles away. Also including in this yard period was the 4 new Mark 15 Vulcan Phalanx close-in Weapons Systems.

After a shake down cruise to the exotic ports of call in San Diego and San Francisco, California, New Jersey steamed out on The Guest Pac / West Pac tour of 1983. The cruise was fairly routine with port visits in Hawaii; Subic Bay & Manila, Philippines (Who knew that a Shakey’s Pizza Parlor could be so much fun!); and Line City, Singapore. It was in Pattaya Beach, Thailand that things began to take a turn for the different. There were rumors running about the USS New Jersey heading back to the Philippines. Most of us thought we were heading to Hong Kong. We should have known with the tight security and closed mouth nature of the Navy that the people of the Island would know better than us. Upon steaming away from the Islands, it was Capt. Fogarty who announced we were heading to Cubic Bay and Pearl Harbor to await orders. I guess it was the t-shirts for sale just off the base in Cubic showing USS New Jersey at Banana Station; Nicaragua that gave it away as to where we were heading. After firing a number of practice / attention getting 16” rounds and handing out a few more ball caps, USS New Jersey headed for Panama. Maybe it was all the welding going on over the side of the ship or maybe it was all the stores coming on board. Personally, it was the Change of Command Ceremony on September 15, 1983 bringing aboard Captain Milligan to relieve Captain Fogarty that gave us a clue that our 3 months cruise just might be extended. We knew we were in deep trouble when Captain Fogarty announced; “If I were a bett’n man, I would say that New Jersey would be home for Thanksgiving.” Christmas with Bob Hope and Wayne Newton on station in Lebanon was incredible. The love from home was amazing. If it wasn’t the newspaper of letters from the Long Beach Press Telegram it may have been the cases of Nestles Chocolate Chips to make cookies with. Or the heart shaped box that contained 1500 mini boxes of candy for the crew. Letters from school children and visits from celebrities and dignitaries continued.

However, the reason for us being there became clear on October 23rd when a terrorist ran his truck into the barracks of the Marine Headquarters killing 241 Marines, Sailors and Solders including our own ETC (SW) Michael Wayne Gorchinski. On December 14th, New Jersey fired 11 projectiles at positions inland of Beirut. It was the first time since the end of her time on the gunlines of Vietnam in 1969 that New Jersey had fired for effect.

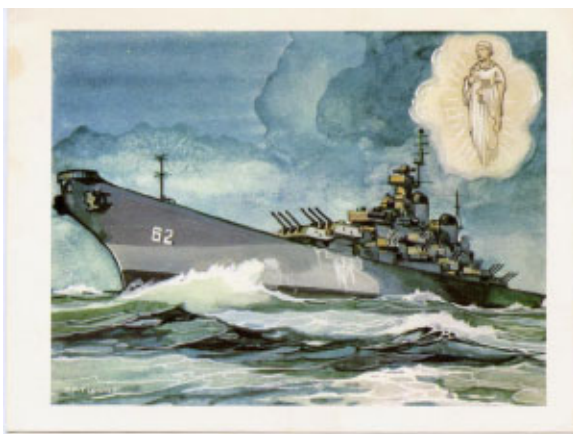


However, it wasn’t until February 8th that New Jersey let loose its cannons and fired over 280 16” shells onto the beach and into the terrorist hide-outs killing the general commanding Syrian forces in Lebanon and several other senior officers in what was her heaviest bombardment since the Korean War.



New Jersey was relieved by her sister ship, the USS Iowa, and returned home to Long Beach on May 5th, 1984. But, she wasn’t done yet. With nearly seven more years of service to go, the story will need to continue in our next issue.

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All!*



*May the Christmas hope for  
Peace to men of goodwill  
be fulfilled in our time*

USS NEW JERSEY (BB-62)

USS New Jersey Christmas Card 1968