

# USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.



## “THE JERSEY BOUNCE”

Fall 2008 Issue

Email - [WWW.USSNEWJERSEY.ORG](mailto:WWW.USSNEWJERSEY.ORG)



The organization enjoyed a very successful 21st reunion with approximately 400 attending the memorial service held on the fantail of our famous ship. In addition to the memorial service, the reunion provided Tours, a Welcome Aboard Dinner, a Blind Auction, and a Dinner Dance Banquet with outstanding entertainment. However, most important it provided crewmembers and guests a forum to make new friends, become reacquainted with old friends and reminisce sea stories and bygone days.

USS New Jersey Veterans Inc Officer & Directors

<p>President / Director            Joe Di Maria            645 Brisa Ct.            Chesapeake, VA 23322            757-549-2178  <a href="mailto:joedimaria@msn.com">joedimaria@msn.com</a></p>		<p>Vice President / Director            John Pete Vance            1541 Hayden Road            Deland, FL 32724            386-736-3231  <a href="mailto:jvance916@cfl.rr.com">jvance916@cfl.rr.com</a></p>
<p>Secretary/Director            Joe Di Maria            645 Brisa Ct.            Chesapeake, VA 23322            757-549-2178  <a href="mailto:joedimaria@msn.com">joedimaria@msn.com</a></p>	<p>Treasurer/Director            John Pete Vance            1541 Hayden Rd            Deland, FL 32724            386-736-3231  <a href="mailto:jvance916@cfl.rr.com">jvance916@cfl.rr.com</a></p>	<p>Membership/Director            Steve Sheehan            1209 Cumberland RD            Abington, PA 19001            215-887-7583  <a href="mailto:stevebwsinc@verizon.net">stevebwsinc@verizon.net</a></p>
<p>Master at Arms            Joe Porambo            1503 Elder Ave            Chesapeake, VA 23325            757-420-1706  <a href="mailto:porambo@msn.com">porambo@msn.com</a></p>	<p>Liaison/Director            Mark Babcock            5231 El Monte St.            Roeland Park, KS 66205            913-432-4462  <a href="mailto:mbabcock50@earthlink.net">mbabcock50@earthlink.net</a></p>	<p>Small Stores/Director            John Chase            174 School St            Tilton, NH 03276            603-286-7065  <a href="mailto:Rangertrukin@aol.com">Rangertrukin@aol.com</a></p>
<p>Web Master/Director            Bert Trottier            2530 W Atchison St            San Bernadino CA 92410            909-381-5554  <a href="mailto:bugler@buglerusn.us">bugler@buglerusn.us</a></p>	<p>News Editor/director            Nick Rasch            18310 Candice Dr            Triangle, VA 22172            703-221-5239  <a href="mailto:triengr@aol.com">triengr@aol.com</a></p>	<p>Dir of Veterans Affairs            Mike Prime            703 Seneca St            Fulton, NY 13069            315-598-2037  <a href="mailto:bb62sailor13@aol.com">bb62sailor13@aol.com</a></p>
<p>Reunion Coordinator            Vacant</p>	<p>At large Director            Dick McDowell            83 Queens Way            Port Orange, FL 32129            386-756-1144  <a href="mailto:Macbb62@aol.com">Macbb62@aol.com</a></p>	<p>Seating coordinator            Bill Myers            4021 Vernon Ave            Omaha, NE 68111            402-676-0082  <a href="mailto:williamjmye@msn.com">williamjmye@msn.com</a></p>
<p>Chaplin            Vacant</p>	<p>Scholarship Chairman            Vacant</p>	<p>Legal Council            Vacant</p>

World War 11  
 Robert LaVine  
 92 Old Stirling Rd  
 Warren, NJ 07059  
 908-755-9498  
[blavinebb62@aol.com](mailto:blavinebb62@aol.com)

Korean War  
 Richard Esser  
 3930 Meister Rd  
 Lorain, OH 44053  
 440-246-5594  
[esser3@hotmail.com](mailto:esser3@hotmail.com)

Viet Nam  
 William Meredith  
 22 Emjay Lane  
 Rochester, NY 14612  
 585-225-9210  
[wam@rochester.rr.com](mailto:wam@rochester.rr.com)

Lebanon/Persian Gulf  
 Danny Fielder  
 5198 Bethesda Rd  
 Crystal Springs MS 39059  
 601-892-6086  
[gulfstatesdanny@aol.com](mailto:gulfstatesdanny@aol.com)

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
<b><u>REUNION:</u></b>	
Table of Contents	1
USS New Jersey Plaque Dedication	2
Memorial Service	2
Welcome Aboard Dinner	4
Tours	4
Banquet	4
Business Meeting	
Secretary's Report	6
Reunion Pictures	8
Hospitality Room	9
Ships Store	9
Donations	9
2009 Reunion Information	10
<b><u>DIRECTORS MESSAGE:</u></b>	
President	11
Vice President	12
Membership Director	13
Renewal and New Member Application Form	13
Liaison Director	14
Veterans Affair	15
Web Master	16
News Editor	18
Vietnam Area Director	19
<b><u>MISCELLANEOUS:</u></b>	
Meritorious Member	20
Scholarship Information:	
2008 Selections	21
Application Information	22
Small Stores:	
Name Plates	23
Plate History String	24
Items Available	25
New Members:	26
Taps Listing:	27
Home Port Alliance History	28
District Volunteers	29



### ***USS NEW JERSEY PLAQUE***

Mr. John Hagen, Vice President, presented the plaque to the Admiral Nimitz Museum in Fredericksburg, Texas on May 2008. The plaque was procured from private and organizational funds and dedicated in memory of our WW II Veterans.

### **21<sup>st</sup> Reunion**

For various reasons, many of our members were unable to attend the reunion. The reunion was considered very successful. In an effort to keep these members informed, the following is a brief synopsis of the reunion:

### **Memorial Service**

This was a very special Memorial Service as Mr. Donald Oesterwind Sr. and his family was able to attend and participate in the service. Mr. Donald Oestewind's brother Robert was the only sailor killed by hostile forces through five conflicts (WW II, Korean War, Vietnam War, Lebanon, and the Persian Gulf). Although Seaman Robert Oesterwind was killed in the Korean War (May 21, 1951) the Oesterwind family knew little of the details. They wondered how this happened. After 47 years of wondering and pondering questions concerning this tragic event, their question was finally answered. They saw the spot where Seaman Oesterwind died and talked to crew members that witnessed the event. Although Seaman Oesterwind was the only USS New Jersey sailor killed in combat another crewmember died in the US Marine barracks bombing in 1983. Mr. Dick Esser, past President, gave a very emotional rendition of the events that fateful day. He then presented Mr. Oesterwind with his brother's medals and a folded flag. In addition, to Seaman Oesterwind, the memorial service honored more than 26 Seamen that had died since

the 2007 reunion. Among these 26 Seamen was Admiral Snyder who commanded the ship during the Vietnam operations. The Vietnam sailors felt a special relationship to Admiral Snyder as he was a sailor's sailor. Approximately 400 attended the memorial service.

Mr. Bertrand Trotter played Taps at the ceremony. Mr. Trotter was the ship's last bugler and served under Captain Snyder. A Marine Corp. Color Guard was present throughout the entire ceremony.

Mr. Donald Oesterwind and Mr. Frank LaRosa tossed wreaths overboard at the conclusion of the service.



The Oesterwind Family at the Memorial Service



Attendees at the Memorial Service

## WELCOME ABOARD DINNER

On a lighter note: The Welcome Aboard Dinner was held in the Riverside Banquet Hall and was very well attended. For a change of pace, and a little diversity and excitement a Blind Auction was added. The proceeds from the auction was dedicated to the scholarship fund. Mr. Larry Kalakauskis (known as Larry 'K') participated as the auctioneer. He was assisted by Julie Gonzales, Nick Rasch, and Mike Prime. All the items auctioned off were donated from various organizations. The auction provided a unique twist and added some fun and excitement to the evening. In addition, the auction provided \$718.00 to the scholarship fund.

---

## TOURS

Over 200 seamen and guest took advantage of some splendid tours. The Amish Country tour was considered highlight tour. We had to get a larger bus to accommodate all the members. A tour guide met the bus in Lancaster, Pennsylvania and provided information and little known facts of both the area and the Amish people. The Kreider Farm was visited and an outstanding Amish lunch was held at the Plain and Fancy Farm.

The Atlantic City Tour was also a success with the bus being overcrowded. Passengers had to relocate to accommodate everyone. The Trump Plaza was the casino of choice for the tour. Everyone was provided with a \$20.00 voucher to be used in any manner desired. On the return trip to the hotel the driver provided some unscheduled excitement. The police blocked the road and the passengers watched a high speed police chase with over 9 police cars involved.

DUCKS did I say Ducks? These were World War II vehicles used by the Marines during the Island hopping campaign. The 2 ducks toured the Philadelphia area by both land and sea. Initially, this was not considered a highlight tour, but it turned out to be the best attend with everyone having a great time.



**The DUCKS are ready where is everyone**



**Our gang 'Ready To Go'**

---

## DINNER DANCE BANQUET

The banquet was outstanding with entertainment provided by the JuBo's. In case anyone does not know the JuBo's are our own Julie and Bob Gonzales from Santa Fe, New Mexico. The food was good, music great, and company outstanding. How could anyone not have a good time? The music was outstanding, the kind our generation appreciates and this was shown by the crowded dance floor. Some of the veterans and guest wanted to dance all night. But like everything else, all good things have to come to a close with the entertainment ending at midnight. We want to thank Julie and Bob for a job well done.

Mrs. Barbara Ashby conducted the 50/50 drawings. The total prizes for this event were \$1489.00 and has always happened the winners were not present.

Mrs. Barbara Ashby was presented with a bouquet of flower to recognize the effort she has expended helping her husband with the treasure duties throughout the past years. We want to thank Barbara for her efforts as we realized that this reunion wouldn't have been possible without her.

A large plaque of the battle ribbons and combat stars was presented to Mr. Jason Hall from the Home Port Alliance. Mr. Hall accepted the plaque and stated that it would be displayed in a prominent position on the ship.



Plaque Donated to the Home Port Alliance



Enjoying the Great Music

## **CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL SEPTEMBER 20, 2008**

### **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Mike Prime, President.

The annual Secretary's report was read and accepted by all.

The annual treasurer's report was read by Mr. Lou Ashby (Treasurer) and accepted. A copy of the treasurer's report is on page 8.

The President informed the membership that the board approved a motion to reimburse all members the \$20.00 for the ship tour. A motion was made by Mr. Frank La Rosa to donate this reimbursement to the Home Port Alliance for deck restoration (teak wood replacement). Mr. Nick Rasch, 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. After a lengthy discussion, the motion was approved.

Mr. Nick Rasch (Reunion Co-Coordinator) asked for comments concerning the reunion (good, bad, or recommendations). None were received.

Mr. Chuck Smith, Election chairman, directed the election process. Mr. Smith stated that the board had previously approved a recommendation that a member sending in a letter or Email, stating acceptance, for the position, could be elected. Mr. Joe DiMaria made a motion to accept this recommendation. Mr. George Stavros 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The motion was approved.

Mr. Joe DiMaria made a motion, if only one person is nominated for a position, that the Secretary cast a single vote. Mr. George Stavros 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it was approved.

#### The Following Officers Were Elected:

President: Robert Gonzales  
Secretary: Joseph DiMaria  
Membership Chairman: Steve Sheehan  
Liaison Officer: Mark Babcock  
Web Master: Bert Trottier  
Dir of Veterans Affairs: Mike Prime  
Seating Coordinator: Bill Myers

Vice President: George Stavros  
Treasurer: John Peter Vance  
Master at Arms: Joe Porambo  
Small Stores: John Chase  
News Editor: Nick Rasch  
At Large Director: Dick McDowell

#### Era Directors:

WW11: Robert LaVine  
Viet Nam: William Meredith

Korean: Richard Esser  
Lebanon/Persian Gulf: Danny Fielder

Mr. John Hayes, Membership Chairman, gave the following membership report:

The total membership as of October 1, 2007 was 1,067 active members.  
We received 35 new members, 11 quit, 26 died, and 73 were transferred to inactive.  
The total membership as of September 15, 2008 was 992 members.

The President then dissolved all committees.

#### Awards

Youngest Member, Danny Fielder: Oldest Member, Mike PaziENZA: First Reservation, George Stavros: Farthest Distance, Frank La Rosa. In addition, all outgoing officers received plaques.



**Secretary's Report (continued)**

**The Meeting Was Open for Comments**

Mr. Danny Fielder stated that he will work to get more of his era members to join the association. Mr. Frank La Rosa spoke about the problems Viet Nam Vets are having when trying to get assistance from the VA. He recommended that any member, of the organization, having problems with the VA contact him.

The date and site for the 2009 reunion will be announced in the spring issue of the Bounce.

A motion was made by Mr. Bob LaVine to close the meeting. Seconded by Larry Kalakauskis and approved.

Submitted By

Joe DiMaria, BTCM, USN Retired  
Secretary



**The USS New Jersey passing through the Panama Canal on the Way to Korea March 1953**



Joe and Ellie Porambo



Mike Oesterwind During Memorial Ceremonies



**Big 'J' Ready To Destroy The Ben Franklin Bridge**



**Visitors Enjoying Our Ship**

## Hospitality Room

The Hospitality Room was well attended and well supplied and with coffee, tea, soft drinks, and snacks. Mr. Tom Gallucci (WAWA senior manager) gets credit for providing these items, at no cost, to the organization. Mr. Gallucci had various organizations provide gratuities for this event. There were snacks throughout the entire reunion. In addition, Mr. DiMaria and Mr. Rasch provided a flat screen television, DVD player, and the entire Victory At Sea series. Friday, after the visit to the ship was concluded the organization provided liquid refreshments.

## Ship Small Stores

Adjacent to the Hospitality Room was the Ships Small Store, managed by Mr. Joe Poramabo and his staff. Joe has been doing this job since the beginning of time and deserves a lot of credit for providing members with an opportunity to purchase quality items related to the ship. This will be the final year that Joe will be maintaining the store and he will be surely missed. Thanks 'Joe' for all these years of service. Not to worry, Joe will be found somewhere around the store at future reunions.

## Donations

The following organizations or individuals donated to either the Blind Auction or the Hospitality Room:

It is highly recommended that these businesses be supported by our members for their contribution.

## Businesses

**Darden Restaurants**

**Coca-Cola**

**Jiffy Lube**

**Pepsi Cola Sales**

**Mary's Flower Shop**

**Frito Lay Inc.**

**Sam's Club**

**Herrs**

**Wal-Mart**

**Taste Baking Co**

**WAWA Inc.**

**Crowne Plaza Cherry Hil**

## Individuals

Larry Kalakauskis

Joe DiMaria

Nick Rasch

Julie Gonzales

Bob Gonzales



Oesterwind & LaRosa throwing wreaths



Marine Corp. Color Guard

# USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS INC.

## 22<sup>ND</sup> REUNION

**WHERE:** Crowne Plaza Hotel, Jacksonville, Florida

**WHEN:** October 7<sup>th</sup> through October 11<sup>th</sup> 2009

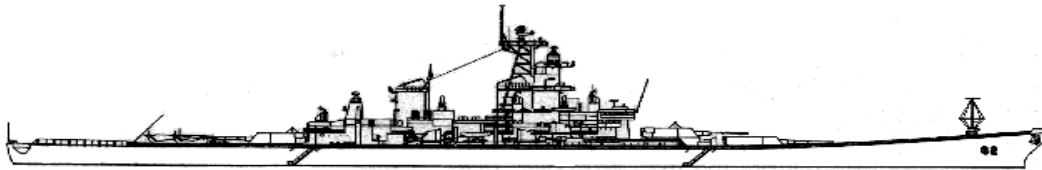
**MARK YOUR CALANDERS AND RESERVE THESE DATES**



**CROWNE PLAZA**

**THE PLACE TO MEET -- JACKSONVILLE RIVERFRONT HOTEL**

**LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL THERE**



## **NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT**

I would sincerely like to thank one and all who voted for me as President of the organization and I'm looking forward to working with the Board of Directors in making this organization something that others will envy and try to emulate.

My first year as President will be a fast moving experience in that many things that I want to implement will hopefully make the organization run more efficiently and make it better for the Directors to do their jobs and overall more enjoyable for the members at large.

All too often the things that need to be done cannot get done at one or two small meetings at the reunion site.

Therefore I am trying to get the board to meet six months before the actual reunion itself at the chosen reunion site and hotel itself in order to conduct business and only business so that the reunion is not fraught with anxiety and apprehension over business that should have been dealt with long before.

This will be a one time shot at conducting nothing but business so that when reunion time comes around, everyone can enjoy seeing and meeting old friends and not attending lengthy meetings at what should be a joyous occasion.

The remaining three years will be my endeavor as well as the boards to get more members to sign up and attend reunions by getting members from the Lebanon and Persian Gulf era to sign up and participate in all phases.

There are still many members from previous eras that have not been contacted and sadly some that were in the organization but have since left for unknown reasons-----this hopefully will be rectified and we will once again be a thriving organization that will be envied by many others.

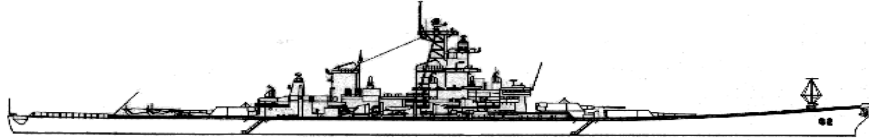
To simply just be the President and go through the motions is not now or will ever be in my plans. Membership has to increase, participation has to rise while making members want to get involved and make the reunion a fun filled event is my goal-----and with the board and membership's help, this will be accomplished.

I thank you and look forward to moving things along and making more and more members want to attend and participate in all phases.

One other note-----both Julie and I are extremely happy you enjoyed our show and entertainment at the Banquet.

With your help and God's blessing, this will be done.

Robert "Speedy" Gonzales  
President



## **NOTES FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT**

Dear Shipmates:

Thank you for the honor of electing me as your Vice President for the next four years. I also wish to acknowledge the tremendous contribution of time and effort from the previous Board members who have served so faithfully for so many years. The 21<sup>st</sup> annual reunion in Cherry Hill was especially enjoyable as it always is when we have the opportunity to return to the ship that binds us together from WWII to Lebanon. I can report that despite severe budget cuts from the State of New Jersey, the loyal cadre of volunteers continues to maintain our ship as well as they can and the changes in the areas open to visitors and the types of tours and exhibits have been greatly expanded. I urge you if you have the opportunity to visit our ship on your own.

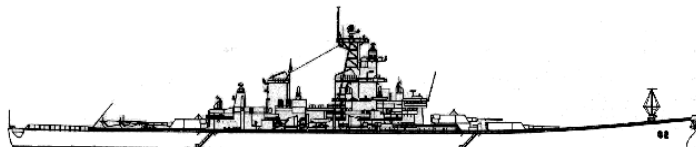
We have an exciting new team of Board Members which also includes many experienced past members and together we can and will achieve great things for our association. My goal and vision for the next year under the leadership of our new President, Robert (Speedy) Gonzales, is to begin a complete review of our bylaws to make needed changes, maintain core principles and make them flexible to meet the challenges and opportunities we will face in coming years. Two other things we intend to do in the next year are lay the groundwork for our 2009 reunion and hold a special Board meeting before then to discuss and agree on necessary administrative and policy matters so next year's annual meeting can focus on the reunion and relaxation/fun aspects and make it enjoyable for all.

On a longer-term and continuing basis we will seek out new ways to 1) spread word of our organization to shipmates who do not know it exists. 2) encourage shipmates who have drifted away from participation to become active again and 3) actively solicit opinions and suggestions from our shipmates on how we can do all of the above. This organization is extremely important to me as it is to you and I pledge my best efforts, dedication, diligence and willingness to work with all to achieve these goals. Please start thinking about the 2009 reunion now and I would love to have any ideas, thoughts, opinions you may have on how to do that.

George J. Stavros  
Vice President  
RM1, OR Division, 1967-69



Atlantic City Tour Bus



## **NOTES FROM THE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR**

Greetings Shipmates;

I'm Steve Sheehan, I served on our ship from '68 to '69, The Viet Nam era, in E Division. As your new Membership Director, I would like to thank our new President Bobby Gonzales for my nomination and the membership for their faith in me.

In 2003 our reunion had 1300 attendees, today our membership is less than 1000. There are shipmates out there that you know who are not members and could be. Our work is to reach out to them and bring them into the organization.

Before the 2003 reunion two members of 'E' Division worked at contacting everyone from our division to encourage them to join the association and come to the reunion. Their efforts increased our membership and made that reunion one that 'E' Division will always remember.

Seeing friends for the first time in thirty years, meeting their wives, sharing pictures of children, telling and retelling stories so many times we started to believe them. We need a similar effort from all the Vietnam and Lebanon divisions, as that is where most of our potential future members will be from.

Our upcoming request for dues can be two way communications. Feel free to include your comments both *good and bad* with your payment; I'll pass on your concerns to the directors.

Membership is more than dues payments. Membership is an opportunity to get involved with the organization, stay informed about the ship and future reunions and events.

Membership is an opportunity to reconnect with old shipmates either through reunions, the Internet, or the Bounce. If every member would bring in an old shipmate the organization membership would double.

Thank you in advance for your help, more attendees make better reunions.

**Please make that phone call or send an Email today.**

### **APPLICATION FORM FOR PRESENT & NEW MEMBERS**

Fee: \$20.00 Make Checks Payable To: USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.

(Mail the following form to Steve Sheehan, 1209 Cumberland Rd., Abington, PA 19001)

---

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

DIVISION: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

ERA & Calendar Years Aboard: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

RATE/RANK: \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE \_\_\_\_\_:

---

## NOTES FROM THE LIAISON/DIRECTOR (RETIRED)

FELLOW SHIPMATE, FRIENDS, AND LADIES,

Well, another Reunion has come and gone and what a relief for some of us.

First I want to thank Joe DiMaria and Nick Rasch with a BRAVO ZULU for their time and energy to make this reunion a great one. Now they know what it was like to coordinate a reunion and I bet they won't want to do it again, at least not for a while.

I was happy to do what I could to make your reunion enjoyable and am sad that I have finally had to bow out of the administration as a member of the Board of Directors.

For those who saw the Board of Nautical Knots at the Welcome Aboard Scholarship Auction.

If you remember it, I can purchase them here in San Diego, CA. \$26.00 + \$7.00 shipping and handling. I believe it has 26 knots and a few other decorations on canvas with two poles, one on top and one on bottom. Brings back that old sailor knowledge again. (MAKE OUT YOUR CHECK TO: LARRY KALAKAUSKIS, \$33.00).

I started getting involved in 1990 by trying to get a reunion in San Diego, but lost the bid. In 1991 I started getting involved with procuring names and addresses of the Viet Nam/1960's Era and Lebanon / Persian Gulf Crisis/1980's. Eventually, evolving into W.W. II/1940's and Korean Conflict/1950's Eras. Started helping out at the ship's store where I got to meet a lot of fine fellow shipmates, and ladies. (One in particular is Dick McDowell one of my new found running mates and a very close friend. "Thank You Dick!")

After that I became a Reunion Coordinator for 1994 at San Diego, and again in 2007 at San Diego, CA. Dick McDowell and I were doing the reunions after 1997 for a total of 7 reunions and we had a blast doing it. Became a Board member, Vice President in 1997 and Liaison Officer in 2002, still doing what I could to make reunions enjoyable for everyone.

I will be missing that for a while as its time for me to be with my wife and doing more for her. When I returned home Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> at 23:00, my wife, Donna, wasn't feeling well. So on Monday I took her to the Dr.'s office and Dr. had to call an ambulance to take her to Balboa, Naval Hospital. Donna had a Heart Attack that Sunday while I was gone. Thank God, it was not a major one but a minor heart attack. Never the less. She was operated on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup>, and given three stints. This was something we never anticipated as she has always had good physical exams. It was always predicted that I would be the first to be done in. She has been doing well these days and taking life easy.

I want to thank Mike Prime for his years of Presidency; I know it was a hard and tedious position. I also enjoyed the Company of my past Board of Directors and look forward to the new Board of Directors, as they have a chore to do for future reunions.

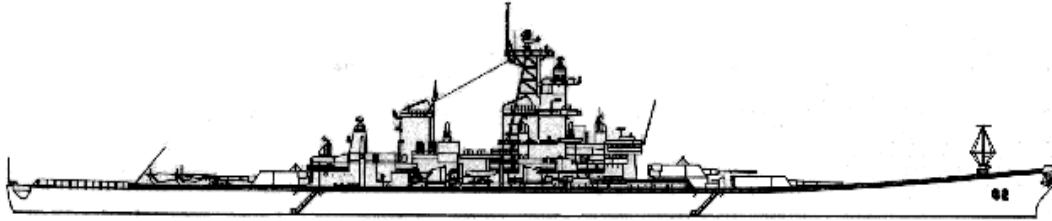
Now as for the Reunion Photos: Every year, as a very well know president said, **"You won't have me to kick around anymore!"** I would like to change it a little. **"You won't have to hear me Bellow anymore about getting your group photos!"**

It has been a pleasure serving you, and I salute "The W.W.II Greatest Generation," "The Forgotten Warriors of Korea," my "Viet Nam Shipmates, Welcome Home" and the "Lebanon/Persian Gulf Crisis shipmate." Smooth sailing and following Seas be given to you all.

**MAY GOD BLESS AMERICA, THE USS NEW JERSEY BB-62, THE USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS SHIPMATE AND THE ORGANIZATION!**

SAYONARA!!!  
LARRY KALAKAUSKIS, BTC USN RET.  
VIET NAM 1967 -1969  
#2 FIREROOM





## **FROM THE DIRECTOR OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

Shipmates;

This will be my final note as your proceeding President.

It was a good run as long as it lasted as your President. I enjoyed myself. Its time to turn over command to Speedy Gonzales and move onto my next duty station. Give Speedy a chance and support him, like you supported me in the past.

There will be no negatives in this note as I choose to dwell only on the positives. I truly enjoyed each reunion, going from table to table and speaking with everybody was very special to me. I am very proud to have reinitiated the Hospitality Room. There was always someone in the room that you could talk ship stuff with or reconnect with old friends over a beverage or two.

I have always enjoyed working for Little Joe in the Ships Store. Everyone came through the store at one time or another so I got to see most everyone. I all ways looked forward to watching Little Joe and his child bride Ellie on the dance floor. Although, I think Joe just stands there and Ellie circles him but it still looks good.

I also want to thank all my fellow officers that I served with. A special thanks to Lou and Barb Ashby who are great friends and tireless workers. I would also like to thank Chief Larry as he taught me much about reunions. He showed me how to put them on and not to sweat the small stuff. I think Larry will be back in this organization doing something to further the group.

In closing, I wish all the new officers good luck and for all of us to support them.....

Fair Winds and Following Seas  
MICHAEL F. PRIME, MA1 (USNR-RET)



## **NOTES FROM THE WEB MASTER**

Our website is our face to the world. How the world perceives the USS New Jersey Veteran's, Inc. will be determined by the look, articles, links, forms, Ships Stores, and photographs. How each of these is presented and how easy it is to navigate through the website. Hopefully, our enhanced site will bring new members into the organization as well as a source of increased revenue. This site will act as a world resource for information on our ship, with stories and pictures. Copies of the Bounce and scholarship information will be provided.

**I've formulated the following for our website:**

1. **Define Purpose:** Our new website will fulfill several important purposes:
  - 1) To present the USS New Jersey Veteran's organization to the world in a professional, world class way.
  - 2) To encourage new membership through upgrades, presenting a modern and current in appearance. Our target audience will be those sailors from the Vietnam and Lebanon.
  - 3) We will make it simple and easy by using Pay Pal and similar resources.
  - 4) Provide members an outstanding and primary vehicle to keep in touch, keep up-to-date, easy access to everything that has to do with our beloved ship. It will be done with a style and feasibility never approached before by our organization.
2. **Complete Overhaul.** This means a complete redesign from scratch using high-end professional web authoring programs on our website, allowing easy adding interactive content meaning faster and easy links to files, and other data. Our site will have a completely different and professional appearance, designed to attract visitors and new members. .
3. **Adding Pay Pal.** We want to sell WORLD WIDE. You don't have to be a member of PayPal to use it. You can purchase merchandise from the Small Stores with your credit card. The Director of the Small Stores will take care of all orders, shipping and setting up the PayPal/Ebay/Bank accounts
4. **Promotion.** I have access to programs (some for a fee) that will allow OUR site to be the most prominent on the Internet in regard to US Navy ships, merchandise, etc. There's no hocus-pocus to this as it entails simply a lot of time and work...
5. **New navigation.** more everything that makes our organization what it is. This will take hundreds of hours of work but it'll be Site navigation is always a challenge I'll be building the site with growth in mind as expansion is inevitable and it's my hope that we have plenty of content (information, data, pictures, items for sale etc.) that will make our site a RESOURCE for folks to come back to again and again.

This is just the beginning. My goal is to have our new Home Page, Contact Page, Officer's Page and few additional pages up and running by the end of October. I'll do as much as I can and keep adding more pages, photos, stories, The Bounce updates and . With YOUR help, on our new site by the end of November, 2008. As time goes on there will be more content and worth it!

Thank you for making this opportunity available to me at the recent election.

Bertrand R. Trottier, Webmaster  
(Bert the Bugler)



Bert Aboard the USS Midway



Lunch After The Memorial Service



Visitors Viewing Our Ship in Camden New Jersey 2009

## FROM THE EDITORS DESK

This is my first attempt at editing the Bounce. It is an honor to have been elected for such a prestigious position. I have confidence in my ability to do a yeoman like job, bringing in a broad background and skills coupled with a fresh approach. Mr. Pete WandeWalle, my predecessor, did an outstanding job in this position and we are looking forward to collaborating in this endeavor. However, your active participation will be instrumental in making the Bounce an interesting publication. As Editor I will need all of you to help by providing pictures, information, and stories you would like to share with your shipmates.

Prior to the reunion, I was fortunate to be able to assist the docents in giving a Fire Power Tour to my son (resides in Idaho) and daughter residing in New Jersey. I had signed the 'Wall of Honor' on a previous visit and it took us about 30 minutes to find where I had signed. They were very impressed with the size and condition of the ship but were amazed that the ship had a wooden deck. I explained that in those days the Navy had wooden ships and Iron Men. I was very proud at the overall condition of the ship and that the Home Port Alliance had been doing an excellent job in keeping her ship shape. The following week I took my brother-in-law aboard the ship. He had served on the USS Wisconsin BB 64. He explained that the USS Wisconsin was the only United States war ship to have a bathtub (installed for Franklin Roosevelt) for the trip to the Summit with Churchill and Stalin. I just laughed and said that the Jersey was a Ship-Of-The-Line, a Man-of-War and our guns spoke in anger and she was not a troop transport ship like the Wisconsin.

Each of you has many little stories hidden in your memory that our shipmates and friends would enjoy. Along these lines - I recall during a gun strike near the 'bomb line' (in Korea) with the Combat Information Center (CIC) controlling the secondary battery. We fired about 20 round of secondary battery 6 miles behind our lines. The spotter congratulated us on an outstanding job as we had annihilated an enemy patrol. What impressed me the most that day was not how accurate our gunners were nor the rapid fire of the weapons, but how fast the Gun Boss got from the 08 level to the CIC room on the 4<sup>th</sup> deck. He traveled down 12 decks in about Zero seconds. Was he excited with us firing 6 miles behind our line? YES HE WAS. Fortunately, we did everything by the book, and after he regained his composure he congratulated us on doing a find job.

To make the Bounce a publication that everyone is anxious to receive and enjoy, we have to work together. I need your inputs, and you need this information put into a format that makes enjoyable and informative reading for everyone.

Nick Rasch  
Editor of the Bounce



Liberty in Sasabo Japan (1953)



Relaxing going through the Panama Canal (1953)



Shipmates,

For those of you who had the opportunity to attend this year's reunion, I hope you had a memorable time. I unfortunately had to cancel my plans at the last minute due to health concerns about my mother-in-law. All I can say at this point is that she is holding her own and we're taking one day at a time. Donna and I have our sights set on next year's reunion, so hopefully we will see you there.

I want to thank each of you who took the time to attend the business meeting following the festivities at the reunion and helped to elect me as your new Vietnam Era Representative. Serving as your Northern District Vietnam Era Volunteer Representative was an honor, but this is even more so. Like icing on the cake you might say! I know that I can continue in the tradition of dedicating my time and energies to the organization as my predecessors have done in the past. Do not hesitate to call me or Email me if there is anything I can help you with.....anytime!

God Bless and have a wonderful holiday season.

Stay well,

Bill Meredith



*Boarding the Amish Tour Bus*



*Enjoying Banquet Entertainment*

## MERITORIOUS MEMBER

### ROBERT LIVINE

Mr. Robert LaVine is recognized the *Meritorious* Member of the USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc. for the Fall Issue of the Bounce. Mr. LaVine was instrumental in having the ship returned to New Jersey and declared a National Museum and Memorial. In appreciation for Bob efforts, he was invited to the Governors Mansion to help celebrate the Governor's acceptance of the ship for the State of New Jersey. Bob was heavily involved in the 2002 reunion, which has been, considered the most successful reunion with over 1300 crewmen and guests in attendance. This was the first time veterans were able to go aboard the ship, locate old duty and General Quarter stations and reunite with their fellow shipmates. The effort is to be commended as well as remembered.

Although, Bob was not one of the 35 original founders of the USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc. his contribution in helping to guide the organization is finally being recognized.

Prior to the state of New Jersey gaining acceptance of our ship, Bob went to Seattle, Washington to visit the ship before it started its long journey to the East Coast. The Governor invited Bob and several other dignitaries to join their party on the voyage through the Panama Canal. YES, Bob was there when the ship was towed up the Delaware River to Pier 4 in Philadelphia. YES, Bob joined the Governor and other dignitaries in a celebration dinner on the ship.

He worked with other volunteers in preparing the ship for its new role as a museum and learning center and moving from Pier 4 to its present location on the Delaware River in Camden. This was all accomplished prior to the Home Port Alliance assuming management of the ship. We all thank Bob for his effort and diligence in helping to obtaining the ship, preserve the ship, and upgrading the ship for future generation to enjoy and learn about the history of this magnificent ship.

Bob served with distinction through WW II as a gyro compass expert in 'E' division. Bob always said that without an operational gyro compass the navigator wouldn't know the location of the ship. Bob always felt that the magnetic compass was for the ancient warriors that relied on celestial navigation.

It has been very difficult to get Bob to provide any information on his past but one little antidote was an incident that could have ended or severely impacted Bob career in 'E' division. With the ship underway, Bob took the liberty of sitting in Admiral Halsey chair. Had the Admiral caught Bob he might have had a Marine escort to the brig for a diet of bread and water. With a lot of pride, Bob sat in the same chair when the ship returned to New Jersey. Bob felt safe as Admiral Halsey had long since passed.

So when you enjoy your reunion remember the members who created the organization and maintained it for all the Veterans of the USS New Jersey.



**Shore Bombardment**

## SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

### ***BRIAN D. FOGELSON***

*4 Alexander Lane  
Blairstown, NJ 07825*

To the Officers and Members of the U.S.S. New Jersey Veterans, Inc.

The following is the report of the Scholarship Committee for 2008:

There were nine applications for the U.S.S. New Jersey Veterans, Inc. Scholarship this year. They represented a broad cross-section of the Class of 2008. The committee recommends the awarding of the two scholarships to

**1. Katie Elizabeth Daigle of Mandeville, LA.**

Katie is the daughter of Hubert and Barbara Daigle and the granddaughter of U.S.S. NJ Vet Alan Coldwell. Katie graduated twentieth in her class from St. Scholastica Academy, where her weighted G.P.A. was 4.21.

While at St Scholastica, Katie was a member of the National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta and received other academic awards. She participated in the Key Club and the soccer team. She also served a Student Minister and Eucharistic Minister.

Katie is attending the Louisiana State University where she is studying Communication Disorders and hopes to be a Speech Communications Therapist. Congratulations, Katie.

**2. Olivia Marie Morales of Bakersfield, California.**

Olivia is the daughter of Jose and Laura Morales. Her father served aboard the U.S.S. NJ. Olivia attended Stockdale High School, where she graduated 90<sup>th</sup> in her class with a G.P.A. of 3.976 (unweighted).

Olivia distinguished herself at Pacifica in many areas. She was a member of the California Scholastic Federation, the National Honor Society, and was named a Scholar-Athlete. Olivia was also the 2007-2008 Homecoming Queen. She was also active in Student Council, band and a host of other activities.

Olivia is now a student at the University of California at Santa Cruz where she is pursuing a degree in Teacher Education. Congratulations, Olivia.

I wish to thank the other members of the committee, Joseph Santucci, and Jacques Feys for their insight and hard work in choosing the winners.

Thank you for the honor of serving the U.S.S. New Jersey Veterans, Inc.

Respectfully Submitted,



---

**Thanks to Mr. Brian Fogelson and his committee for their effort in the selection process.**

## **SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES, ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION INFORMATION**

**USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC will continue providing annual Scholarship Awards. A committee, appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors will make recommendations to the assembled Members at a General Membership meeting for approval. Applications for the Scholarship Awards must be received by the committee not later than July 25, 2009.**

### **GUIDELINES:**

- 1 No committee member's family or relatives are eligible for an award.
- 2 Scholarship will be awarded to deserving students who have maintained at least a "B" or 3.0 grade point average.
- 3 Students must be a graduating senior, attending an accredited high school / vocation technical institution. Graduating in the Class of 2009.
- 4 Applications must be recommended by their high school guidance counselor.
- 5 Award must be used at an accredited education/ technical institution for undergraduate studies.
- 6 Awards are not available for graduate study.
- 7 The award will be paid directly to the institution selected.
- 8 Publicity will be accomplished through the USS New Jersey Veterans Newsletter and on the Internet. Information and application forms are available on the Internet reference:

E-MAIL [WWW.USSNEWJERSEY.ORG](http://WWW.USSNEWJERSEY.ORG)

### **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Any son, daughter or grandchild of a member in good standing, included children of a member in good standing who passed away during the current membership year. (Must be a USS New Jersey Veteran)
2. Must be a high school senior graduating in class of 2009.
3. Official transcripts for the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades, submitted with application.
4. Two (2) academic references.
5. Student's Personal Resume
6. Student's essay completed on the internet
7. Name of educational/technical institution to be attended.
8. Scholarship winners will be notified by phone and a follow-up letter from the President of the USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.

### **APPLICATION SUBMISSION:**

**Eligibility Requirements, items 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 must be submitted to the secretary, Joe DiMaria ([joedimaria@msn.com](mailto:joedimaria@msn.com)) by either standard mail (postmarked July 18, 2009) or Email by July 25, 2009.**

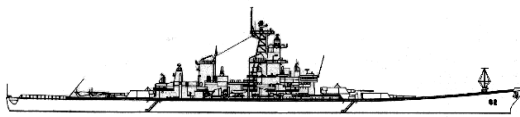


# USS NEW JERSEY BB 62      NAME PLATE ORDER FORM

## SECTION # 1 - Complete this section by selecting any designed plate for Crew Members, Spouse, or Guest.

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

Provide (Style II) 1.0" X 3.0"  
Guest Member Badge



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please print desired text as you wish it displayed on the 3 lines provided. We reserve the right to rearrange text for clarity and to minimize disorder

Please print desired text as you wish it displayed on the 3 lines provided. We reserve the right to rearrange text for clarity and to minimize disorder

Provide (Style III) 1.0" X 3.0" Guest Member Plate

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Guest Name)  
\_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION # 2 - Complete back of form for any required attachments

### SECTION # 3 – Pricing

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Badge Style I</b>	_____	X \$5.00 =	_____
<b>Badge Style II</b>	_____	X \$5.00 =	_____
<b>Badge Style III</b>	_____	X \$3.00 =	_____
<b>Attachments</b> (From Back of Form)	_____	X \$2.00 =	_____
<b>Handling and Shipping</b>			<b><u>\$2.00</u></b>
<b>TOTAL</b>			_____

### SECTION # 4 –Mailing Information

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Complete Order Forms and checks To:

John Chase, 174 School Street, Tilton, NH 03276  
Phone: 603-286-7065  
Email: [Rangertruken@aol.com](mailto:Rangertruken@aol.com)



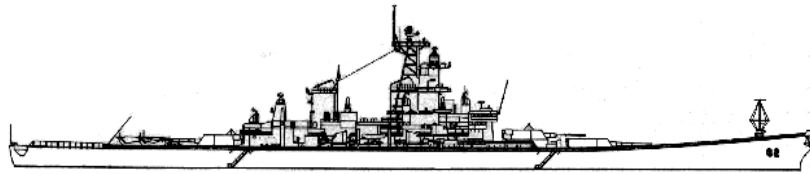
## ITEMS IN SMALL STORE

Golf Shirt – Embroidered on front over pocket available in Navy Blue, Green, Ash, Light Blue, Maroon, White, Sizes Medium, Large, Extra Large & XX Large	\$22.00
T-Shirt – Light Blue, Tan, Maroon, White, Sizes Medium, Large, Extra Large &XX Large	\$18.00
Sweatshirt – Available in Ash Embroidered, Size Large	\$22.00
Pullover V Neck Navy Blue Sweater, Sizes Extra Large & XX Large	\$36.00
Button down Cardigan Navy Blue Sweater, Sizes Large, Extra Large &XX Large	\$36.00
Satin Baseball Jacket - Navy and Royal Blue – Members Only – Embroidered on Front/ Screen Print of Ship on back, Sizes Medium, Large & Extra Large	\$37.00
Coach Style Jacket – White USS New Jersey Silhouette Embroidered Left Chest Size Medium	\$27.00

### LADIES SHIRTS

Scoop Neck Tee – Short Sleeve Butter or Red, Sizes Medium, Large, Extra Large and XX Large	\$20.00
Scoop Neck Tee – Long Sleeve, Pink or Sky Blue, Sizes Medium, Large, Extra Large and XX Large	\$20.00
<hr/>	
Hat – USS New Jersey on Front – Black “WWII” on back “Plank owner” on back - Blank (80’s – 90’s Crew) “Korea” on back “Vietnam” on back	\$13.00
Hat – USS New Jersey on Front – White “WWII” on back “Plank owner” on back “Korea” on back “Vietnam” on back Blank (80’s – 90’s Crew)	\$13.00
Pins - Lone Sailor USS New Jersey BB-62 Cross Flags Navy Cross Flags Korea Cross Flags Vietnam Vietnam Veteran Korea Veteran USS New Jersey Reunion Lapel Pin Yellow Ribbon w/American Flag Support our Troops	\$ 4.50 \$ 4.00
Tote Bags -	\$10.00
Patches – All Era’s	\$5.00 ea/or \$22.00 set
Chrome License Plate Frames – Blue Background W/White Letters Battleship Sailor (Top) - USS New Jersey BB-62 (Bottom)	\$ 9.00
USS New Jersey MUGS Ceramic white with black wrap around picture of our ship	\$ 5.00

Shipping and Handling 1-2 items \$6.99, 3 items or more \$8.99



**WELCOME ABOARD NEW MEMBERS**  
to the  
**USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.**

---

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>ERA</u></b>	<b><u>DIVISION</u></b>
Harold Gill	WWII	K Division
Robert Forsman	Korea	A Division
Marc Sviland	Lebanon	OE Division
Robert R. Guay	Vietnam	1st Division
Jessie Robie	Associate Member	
Thomas C. Stephens	Korea	6th Division
Helen B. Leverton	Associate Member	
Martin Kerry	Vietnam	CSSN
John Moccia	Associate Member	
Gary Moody	Vietnam	R Division
William D. Ferguson	WWII	8th & A Divisions
Kenneth J. "Jim" Schrader	Vietnam	5th Division Dale L.
Whitfield	Korea	2nd Division
Lula Leeds	Associate Member	
Joseph V. Blanks	Vietnam	1st & 6th Divisions
Edmond B. Moses Jr.	Korea	C Division
Tony Olshefski	Korea	FM Division
Michael A. Mitchell	Lebanon	1st Division
Daniel Fielder	Lebanon	M Division

---



Enjoying the Banquet

## USS New Jersey Taps Listing

*When I come to the end of the day  
And the sun has set for me  
I want no rites in a gloom-filled room  
Why cry for a soul set free?  
Miss me a little, but not too long  
And not with your head bowed low.  
Remember the love we once shared –  
Miss me, but let me go.*

*For this is a journey we all must take  
And each must go alone  
It's all a part of the Maker's plan,  
A step on the road home.  
When you are lonely and sick at heart  
Go to the friends we know  
And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds—  
Miss me, but let me go.*

### **FORMER MEMBERS - USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS INC.**

#### WORLD WAR II and 1940'S

Robert C. Abercrombie.	WWII	8 <sup>th</sup> Div.
ThomasThomas Alcamo	WWII	B Div.
Andrew Budnik	WWII	M Div.
Lloyd Buisson	WWII	1 <sup>ST</sup> & 8 <sup>TH</sup> -Div.
Gordon Decorsey	WWII	5 <sup>TH</sup> .DIV.
Clarence E Deters.	WWII	FM-Div.
William Dumoulin	WWII	CS-Div.
Donald Gerber	WWII	CR-Div.
Richard G. Gillis	WWII	SC-Div.
Martin Gohlke	WWII	N-Div.
Joseph R. Johnson	WWII	6 <sup>TH</sup> . & R-Div.
Ruben Jones,Jr.	WWII	Div.Unk.
Elmer A. Massey	WWII	5 <sup>th</sup> Div.
Robert Miller	WWII	CR-Div.
Carroll Morgan	WWII	Mar.Det.
Arthur Scott	WWII	8 <sup>TH</sup> .Div.
Charles Thommen,Sr.	WWII	4 <sup>TH</sup> Div.
John Truman	WWII	K-CS Div.
William Robie	WWII	H-Div.
Edward Young	WWI	1 <sup>ST</sup> Div.
J Wilsom Leverton	1947	XO & CO.

#### KOREA CONFLICT and 1950'S

Albert H. Allewelt	Korea	3 <sup>rd</sup> Div
Max Benator	Korea	S-Div.
Richard Brockman	Korea	4 <sup>th</sup> Div
R..R. Dickson	Korea	3 <sup>rd</sup> Div.
Harold W. Harmon, (Leitu)	Korea	6 <sup>th</sup> Div.
Thomas Marler	Korea	B Div.
Bart A. Porpora	Korea	B Div.
Joseph Sherron	Korea	4 <sup>th</sup> Div.
H. G.(Tom) Wallace	Korea	7 <sup>th</sup> Div.
Jack L. Wilson	Korea	B Div.

#### VIET-NAM ERA

J.Edward Snyder RADM	Viet Nam	(Commander)
Lester J. Strauss	Viet Nam	B-Div.
Stewart Nieman	Viet Nam	

#### LEBANON CRISIS / PERSIAN GULF and 1980'S

None



USS NEW JERSEY SHIPMATES, (NOT A VETERANS INC. MEMBER)

W.W.II & 1940'S = 10

CASE,	JOHN H.	W.W.II C-DIV.
HALL,	FRANCIS	W.W.II MAR.DET.
O'NEIL,	EDWARD J.	W.W.II X-DIV.
MITCHEL,	JAMES A.	W.W.II GUNNERY DIV.
PHARR,	MARVIN W. (PLANKOWNER)	W.W.II DIV.- UNK
TRUMAN,	JOHN	W.W.II N-EX
ROGERS,	E. LEE	W.W.II DIV.-UNK
SCHROEDER,	LEROY	W.W.II 8 <sup>TH</sup> .-DIV.

KOREA & 1950'S

BUSHER,	JAMES	KOREA R-DIV.
COURTER,	WALTER "BUD"	KOREA DIV.- UNK.
DICKSON,	R. R.	KOREA 3 <sup>RD</sup> .-DIV
DUGAN,	VINCENT	KOREA E-DIV.
DONLON,	JOSEPH T.	KOREA GUNNERS MATE
GURNARI,	JOHN	KOREA N-DIV.
HUNTINGTON,	RICHARD	KOREA E-DIV
MAJOR,	FRANK A.	KOREA S-DIV.
OESTERWIND,	ROBERT	KIA-- KOREA S-DIV
SAFFIRE,	R.G.	KOREA K-DIV.
SMITH,	E.O.	KOREA 4 <sup>TH</sup> .-DIV.
VAUGHAN,	JAMES	KOREA N-DIV.
VIGLUCCI, Sr.	MICHAEL J.	KOREA GUNNERY
WHAPLES,	DONALD R.	KOREA T-DIV.
WYNNE,	JOSEPH M.	KOREA DIV.-UNK.

VIET NAM & 1960'S

BRED,	SAMUAL	VIET-NAM X-DIV.
JOHNSON,	HAROLD	VIET-NAM DIV.- UNK.
JOHNSON,	WAYNE A.	VIET-NAM 3 <sup>RD</sup> . DIV.
PEDERSEN,	ROBERT K.	VIET-NAM B-DIV.

## *The Battleship New Jersey Museum and Memorial*

*Jack Willard Vice President, Marketing & Sales*

### Organizational Background and History of Programs

In October 2001, the Home Port Alliance opened the *USS New Jersey* to the public as the Battleship New Jersey Museum and Memorial. On December 22, 2003, the *USS New Jersey* was placed on the New Jersey Register of Historic Places. This designation confirms the State of New Jersey's commitment to the Battleship and her place in New Jersey history. Over the Battleship New Jersey Museum and Memorials (BNJMM) initial five-year period, the museum focused on restoration, preservation, education and interpretive programming.

The mission of the BNJMM is to restore, preserve, exhibit, and interpret the history of the *USS New Jersey* and her veterans. This mission statement was formally and unanimously adopted as an integral component of the BNJMM's new *Strategic Plan*, approved on September 6, 2006. Emphasis over the first three years had been to achieve its immediate preservation, education, attendance and financial goals through key components of its initial business plan. As the BNJMM moves forward, our *Strategic Plan* provides that we will continue to develop educational programs on her role in preserving peace and freedom throughout the world as America's largest and most decorated Battleship; interpret the Battleship in the context of Battleships, the US Navy, the US Armed Forces and militaries around the world, insuring that BB-62 remains a hub for Veterans activities; and support the economic growth of the City of Camden. It is the conviction of the BNJMM to utilize the *USS New Jersey* as resource to understand history in a broad context, while expanding public awareness of the resources available from such a unique venue.

As America's most decorated battleship, the *USS New Jersey* earned a combined nineteen Battle and Campaign Stars from her involvement in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and, the Beirut Crisis. The Battleship is now a "floating classroom" on the Camden water front, local history comes alive through educational endeavors, which focus on teaching history, mathematics and sciences along with social and cultural studies. These courses not only place the Battleship and her genesis within the context of New Jersey history, but also pay tribute to the men native to the Garden State who served aboard her. The museum is resolute to educate the New Jersey community about the significance of the *USS New Jersey* to her namesake state and promoting pride in her accomplishments.

Tour operations represent the Battleship New Jersey to our visitors as she appeared in 1990, her last year of commissioned service. In order to maximize visitor experience and educational impact, the BNJMM provides three tour options, General Quarters/Audio Guided, Docent Guided *FirePower* and *City at Sea* Tours. The new audio tour for adults and children, sold as the General Quarters option and creatively narrated for each audio tour stop, has recently been added and has proved very successful. For guided tours, Docents serve in a mandatory eight week training course with tour operations, shadow a current docent and must pass written and oral examinations to be qualified to lead tours onboard.

The BNJMM *Overnight Encampment* experience: Since opening in 2001, over 150,000 children ages 7-18 (including chaperones) have enjoyed a one-of-a-kind overnight experience onboard. Overnight Encampments follow standard navy routines, imparting the flavor of shipboard and Navy routines, imparting the flavor of shipboard and Navy life to the campers. From boarding on Friday or Saturday evening to Reveille at 0630 in the morning, children and their chaperones experience life like a sailor. Following Evening Colors, campers wade through the Chow Line in the Ship's Galley for dinner, enjoying their meals in the Crew's Mess. Campers and chaperones are then given a guided tour with an experienced docent, often a Ship veteran, and experience a ride in the 4-D Flight Simulator. The evening concludes with Taps and "Lights Out!" at 2300, when campers retire to sleep in sailor berthing areas.

Educational opportunities for students and teachers include a distance-learning program for students via video-teleconferencing technology in partnership with the Educational Technology Training Center (ETTC) in Sicklerville, NJ, developed by Battleship Education Staff and Volunteers. Notably, in 2004 the role of the *USS New Jersey* in World War II became a mandatory part of core curriculum for History in the State of New Jersey. Prior to school group visits teachers receive a comprehensive teacher's handbook and CD-Rom, along with activity sheets designed to meet academic standards for each specific grade level in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware.

## **VOLUNTEERS; FOR USS NEW JERSEY VETS. INC.**

### **ERA REPRESENTATIVE, DIRECTOR;**

#### **W.W.II ---1940's**

Robert La Vine  
92 Old Stirling Rd.  
Warren, NJ. 07059  
908-755-9498  
Blavinebb62@aol.com  
E-Div.

#### **KOREA---1950's**

Richard Esser  
3930 Meister Road  
Lorain, OH. 44053  
440-282-8272 (H) 246-5594 (W)  
esser3@hotmail.com  
M-Div. (Fax-440-246-0737)

#### **VIETNAM ---1960's**

William Meredith  
22 Emjay Lane  
Rochester, NY 14612  
585-225-9210  
wam@rochester.rr.com  
X-Div.

#### **LEBANON /PERSIAN GULF --1980's**

Danny Fielder  
5198 Bethesda Road  
Crystal Springs, MS 39059  
601-892-6086  
gulfstatesdanny@aol.com  
M-Div.

### **DISTRICT VOLUNTEER: Non-Director;**

#### **W.W.II**

##### **EAST:**

Henry B. Pierce  
75 Shady Hill Drive  
West Warwick, RI. 02893-2336  
401-821-4256  
jhp341@cox.net

#### **KOREA**

##### **EAST:**

Donald Eggleton 195?-195?  
P.O. Box 362(29 Riverside Dr.)  
Roscoe, NY. 12776  
607-498-4507  
no1Eggie@yahoo.com

#### **VIETNAM**

##### **EAST:**

Robert Williams 1967-1969  
P.O. Box 280 / 9 Whittier St.  
Newton Jct., NH. 03859-0280  
603-382-5018 H- 978-463-6331W  
robert382@adelphia.net

#### **LEBANON - PERSIAN GULF**

##### **EAST:**

Carl "Chip" Heald 1987-1989  
1639 Duke Memorial Rd.  
Spring Hope, NC. 27882-  
919-853-6655  
mardet88@gmail.com

##### **WEST:**

R-Div.

##### **WEST:**

Bill Hixon 1952-1954  
903 Emory St.  
Imperial Beach, CA. 91932  
619-424-3571  
billhix@cox.net  
7<sup>th</sup>.- Div.

B-Div.

##### **WEST:**

Mark R. Babcock 1968-1969  
5231 El Monte  
Roeland Park, KS. 66205  
913-432-4462  
mbabcock50@earthlink.com  
B-Div.

Marine Detachment

##### **WEST:**

Duane Cunningham 1987-1989  
15220 N. Neptune  
Mead, WA. 99021  
509-466-0585  
bb62guns@yahoo.com  
X2- Div.

##### **NORTH:**

William J. Myers 1967-69  
4021 Vernon Ave  
Omaha, NE. 68111-1017  
402-453-3124 H/ 402-676-0086 C  
williamjmye@msn.com  
E-Div. (EM)

##### **NORTH:**

Larry Kalakauskis (TEMP)  
6160 Roberts Dr.  
San Diego, CA. 92139-1733  
619-470-3659 H / 619-994-3659 C  
kalskibb62@aol.com  
B-Div.

##### **NORTH:**

William A. Meredith 1967-1969  
22 Emjay Lane  
Rochester, NY. 14612  
585-225-9210 H / 585-722-1098 W  
wam@rochester.rr.com  
X-Div.

##### **NORTH:**

Dirk Gunderson 1981- 1985  
5557 Oakwood Ave.  
Stevens Point, WI. 54481  
715-343-6106  
iamdirkster@msn.com  
S2-Div.

##### **SOUTH:**

Walter Bardin 1945-1946  
2814 Live Oak Dr.  
Rowlett, TX. 75088  
972-475-7181  
mlsanbar@msn.com  
L-Div.

##### **SOUTH:**

Hugh Selman 1955-1956  
2008 W. Louisville St.  
Broken Arrow, OK. 74012  
918-258-5757  
selman@cox.net  
C-Div

##### **SOUTH:**

John C. Canadas 1968-1969  
35 Pine Rd..  
Billerica, MA. 01821-5156  
976-667-3938  
blue\_husky31@hotmail.com  
.E-Div (EM)

##### **SOUTH:**

Scott Henson 1986-1991  
2307 NW. Stimpson Lane  
Portland, OR. 97229  
503-804-4080  
Scott.Henson@nike.com  
X2-Div.

